

December 2017 Newsletter

PENDLETON CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

If I could have one gift for Christmas...

What do you want for Christmas?

That question will be asked millions and millions of times all over the world over the next few weeks. The answer varies a million times. A video game, a big check, a trip to the Caribbean, my family all home for the holidays, or a magic Christmas dinner.

But what if you could have only one gift, and it could be anything you could imagine? At first thought some people would think of themselves: a great job, a new house, my health, or someone to love. Then often we start to think of others: success for my children, happiness for my parents, or blessings for my friends. At some point, we start to think real big: to end hunger and poverty in the world, peace on earth, a world without environmental concerns, or long life for everyone. If you could have one gift for Christmas, what would it be?

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. -Ephesians 2

Ok, I'm a pastor, you kind of expected that, didn't you? But honestly, all of the things we could ask for are wrapped up in that one answer. Blessings now and for eternity. Peace in our heart and a redirection of our priorities that gives us contentment in this life whatever is happening.

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through Christ who gives me strength. -Philippians 4

Christmas, or more clearly stated, "the worship of Christ," is the greatest gift. But like so many things we find in our lives, we neglect the greatest gift for less important things.

I pray this Holy-day season will bring you great blessings. That you will find the things you need in life and that you will experience love and hope in your lives and the lives of those you love. I hope it is a season of joy and celebration with cookies and parties and even some eggnog. But most of all, I wish you the Christ we worship. The greatest gift of all. Without this gift we really have nothing, and with it, all the dreams of God he has for you are fulfilled. You are God's handiwork, a creation of God to do good things.

*Merry Christmas,
Pastor Tom*

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
5, 7, & 11PM



CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING WORSHIP

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
9 & 11:15AM

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ADVENT NEWS

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Sunday, December 10 | 7pm

Save the date! This year's Cantata (or Christmas concert) is entitled, "God Speaking," and is a beautiful collection of music designed to help us hear from God during this festive and frenetic season. We have singers from several area churches and a live orchestra. Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENT PLAY

Sunday, December 17 | 10:15am | Sanctuary

Come join us in celebrating Christmas and be reminded of the true meaning behind it. Our annual Sunday School Advent play is almost here! We will begin practicing during our Sunday School time on Sunday mornings (10:15-11:15am). All kids are welcome ages 3 and up to join in on the fun! Kids are asked to be here at 10am on Sunday December 17 to prepare for the play.

Saturday, December 16 will be our dress rehearsal day. We will be starting our morning off with breakfast (pancakes, eggs, sausage, and applesauce) at 9am and then will be working on our parts, practicing songs, and running through it all to practice. We will also be doing some fun Christmas activities too! Pick up time will be 1pm. If you would like to practice our songs with us, and have a part assigned to you, you're welcome to come to Sunday School on Sunday mornings or just show up on Saturday, December 16.

After the children perform the wonderful story of Christmas, we will be having some cookies and juice to celebrate. If you are willing to donate cookies or drinks please bring them in when you drop/pick up your child on Saturday, December 16 to ensure we have enough.

Please let me know if your child would like to be involved. For more information or any other questions feel free to contact Adrienne Demmin at 727-8537 (text or call) or email adriennedemmin@pcumc.org

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

We need your help! We will be preparing and serving food on Saturday, December 2. We can use help at church anytime between 3-6:30pm for preparing and packaging up things to go. We will leave the church no later than 6:30 to hand out meals in downtown Buffalo. Help is also needed to "clean up" the kitchen at church around 6 for about an hour or so.

ANGEL TREE

There are angels among us! Want to help a needy child or family for Christmas this year? Our Angel Tree is up, but the tags go quickly! How does it work? Simply choose a child's tag from the tree; **sign your name** on the sheet near that tree with the tag number you chose. Purchase the gift or gifts listed (how many gifts you purchase is up to you as well as how much you spend). Wrap your gifts and please place all items in **one bag** to ensure your gifts get to the child intended. Securely attach the angel tree tag to the bag and return it to church by Sunday, December 10.

Want to do more? Family tags are available if you would like to help out an entire family. Please contact Gidget Hughes to obtain a family.

As always, if you do not like to shop but would like to help a child or family, we will shop for you! Donations can be made any time, just mark it "Angel Tree Donation." Tops cards are always needed and appreciated at holiday times and will be given to families who are in need. Tops cards can be purchased at the welcome center (in Mission Central) or through the church office during the week.

THE COLD WEATHER IS APPROACHING!

Our Joshua Connection Ministries is collecting new or gently used winter jackets, gloves, and hats for men, women and children. These items will be given to the less fortunate in the LaSalle area, distributed at First Church in our Clothes Closet. These items can be dropped off in our Mission Alley in the box labeled "coats." Thank you so much for your support! Any questions contact Gidget Hughes.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

We have had a great few months in children and youth ministries! Make sure to look below to see a list of what we will be learning, working on, and doing in the month of December.

We are actively growing in our relationship with God, as we learn together, serve together, and be together. There are opportunities each month to be together for fun, fellowship, and outings; learn together through lessons and small groups; serve together by doing mission projects, helping others, and performing small acts of kindness.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, December 2 | 4-9pm

Are you trying to finish up Christmas shopping, wrapping presents, making Christmas cookies and find yourself running out of time to do everything you need to?

Help support the Hot Chocolate with God program here at church. We will hold a fundraiser by babysitting your children. Bring your kids to church between 4-9pm for a fun-filled night of crafts, games, Christmas activities, and a Christmas movie! The cost will be \$4 per child/hour. Please feed your child(ren) before coming. Snacks and drinks provided.

Space is limited! Pre-registration required to attend. Please let Adrienne Demmin (text/call 727-8537) know how many children and what times you plan on bringing them and picking them up.

YOUTH RETREAT

January 12-14, 2018 | All youth 7-12 grade | Camp Asbury, Silver Lake, NY

This year we will be going to Camp Asbury for a fun-filled weekend, full of fellowship and learning God's word. The cost of the retreat this year is **\$85 per person due by December 10. After December 10 the cost will be \$100, and the cut-off for signing up is January 7.** For more information or for the permission slip, visit pendletonchurch.org or email Kristin Clark at kristinclark@pcumc.org.

SUNDAY EDUCATION

Sunday School | 10:15-11:15am

Come join in on the fun! We will be dancing, singing, and digging deeper in our knowledge of God, with lessons, snacks, crafts, and games! Children will be split up by ages: *3-5 year olds, K-1st grade, 2-3rd grade, 4-6th grade.*

This month we will be learning all about the journey to Bethlehem and what the very first Christmas was like in the Bible. We will also be working on some mission projects and acts of kindness we can do this holiday season.

Bible Studies are available for 7th-12th graders from 10:15-11:15am.

Confirmation Class | Sundays | 10:15-11:15am | Prayer Theater/Labyrinth | 6th grade and up

Saturday Church School | 5pm | 3 years old - 3rd grade

Nursery Care is available for infants to age 2 during Sunday School.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Jr. Church | Sundays | 9am & 11:15am | Begins down in Ark for children 3 years old - 3rd grade

The kids in Jr. Church have been having a great time worshipping God in their very own way! We dance, sing, and praise Jesus! The children are learning that Jesus is our friend, He loves us so much, and learning His special prayer for us: The Lord's Prayer.

4th - 6th graders will be worshipping in the sanctuary at all services. This will give them an opportunity to worship God and be a part of "big church." Children will be able to grab a clipboard each week and be actively engaged and follow along in the service. They will be able to bring that paper to their Sunday School class and discuss all that they learned!

7th - 12th grades will also be worshipping in the sanctuary at all services.

Nursery Care is available for infants to age 2 during during all services

CHILDREN & YOUTH (CONTINUED)

WEDNESDAYS

F.R.O.G.S. (Fully Reliant On God Singers) | **NEW TIME!** - 5:30-6:30pm | Choir Room

All elementary children are invited to sing with the group. Questions? Call Sue Phillips at 691-4850.

Angel Wings | 6:30-8:15pm | 3 years old - 6th grade

This is a fellowship program provided for children. Questions? Call Becky Heideman at 625-8312.

- Friday, January 12, 6pm - Saturday, January 13 | *Sleepover*
Bring a snack and breakfast item to share. Don't forget your overnight gear!
- Wednesday, January 17
Prepare our dish for First UMC Community Dinner.
- Thursday, January 18 | 5pm | *Serve First UMC Community Dinner*
Transportation is available. We will also need permissions slips filled out for each child.

Youth Group & Youth Band | 6:30-8:30pm | 7th-12th grade

Youth are invited for a fun night of fellowship, team building, devotions, scripture and snacks! The **youth band** is open to all youth musicians. They practice and play contemporary Christian praise and worship music where they will occasionally use their skills to lead worship music at different events and locations. We practice on Wednesday nights during youth group. Come join in as we worship our God!

FRIDAYS

Hot Chocolate with God and S'mores | K - 6th grade

- Friday, December 8 | 6-10pm | *Leaders' Night*
The leaders of Hot Chocolate with God and S'mores get together for lessons, team building, prayers, and discussion.
- Friday, December 15 | 6-9pm | *K-6th grade and leaders*
We will be finishing up our "Friend Me - Being a Good Friend - God's Way" curriculum this week with the topic of learning not to judge others.
- Friday, December 22 | 6-9pm | *K-6th grade and leaders | Christmas Party*
Celebrate Christmas with our Hot Chocolate with God and S'mores family and remember the true meaning of Christmas.
- Friday, December 29 | 6-9pm | *K-6th grade and leaders | New Year's Eve Party*
Come join us for a New Year's Eve Party as we "count down" the time to a new year, learn about how we can have a new beginning in our walk with God, and set up resolutions for the new year that we can actually accomplish!
- Friday, January 5 | 6-10pm | *Leaders' Night*

Leadership Sleepover | Friday, December 29, 6pm - Saturday December 30, 12pm | *Leaders*

If you are a teen or young adult leader and serve as a leader here at church within our many children's ministries, come join us for a sleepover that is all about leadership! Come expand on your thoughts about being a leader, new concepts on what it means to be a leader God's way, the idea that we were all created to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and how we apply that to our lives! We will be praying together, learning together, working in small groups together, and having some serious team building and bonding time!

MORE CHURCH NEWS

HANDBELLS

Wednesdays | 6:45-7:30pm | Bell Room

Would you like to make a joyful noise unto the Lord? Why not consider ringing handbells? You do not need to be able to read music (it helps) or have handbell experience. Come and try us out in January! If you're interested or have questions, contact Julie at 716-417-1648 or handbellgal@msn.com.

FELLOWSHIP

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thursday, December 7 | 12pm | Fellowship Hall

At our December meeting we will have our Christmas Party. Bring a lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided by our hostesses, Jane Smith, Beverly Spencer, and Jean McMorris. Bring a wrapped gift of at least \$5 for our Pirate Exchange. Also, instead of our monthly offerings, please bring \$5 for the Samaritan Fund, which goes to our own church families who may be having a hard time making ends meet at this time of year. Hope to see you there.

We will not have a meeting in January. Our first meeting in 2018 will be Thursday, February 1.

A heartfelt THANK YOU is due for all those who were so gracious to help out the United Methodist Women with their Fall Rummage Sale. Boy scouts, we are so grateful to you for setting things up for us. For all who donated items, helped with unpacking and pricing on Friday, donating baked goods, selling items, and cleanup, on Saturday, we are so thankful. So far, we have made \$2,100 on the sale, with some money still trickling in. All your work helps us to support all the missions we are committed to helping out.

PENDLETON FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Monday, December 11 | 6pm | Cammarata's Restaurant: 6336 Robinson Rd, Lockport, NY 14094

All are welcome to join the Pendleton Fellowship Group's Christmas Dinner. Please put your name on the list by notifying the Phillips at 691-4850 or the Smiths at 439-4151. Come join in the festivities.

TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Saturday, December 16 | 3pm | Key Bank Arena

We have a few tickets left. Contact Pastor Jean at jeanedmister@pcumc.org or 625-8306 for tickets.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Third Monday of each month | December 18 | 7pm

My Tomato Pie, 3035 Niagara Falls Blvd. (In Tops plaza at corner of Robinson/N. French)

On December 18 we will discuss: "The Christmas Candle" by Max Lucado. Questions? Please contact Yvonne Bova at ybova@kaleidahealth.org. Come join us! You do not need to read the book - we welcome all ladies at this monthly get together!

GENESIS PROGRAMS

GENESIS PRESCHOOL

Christmas is coming! The children have been learning songs and preparing for the Advent plays. We would like to thank Mrs. Olive Burbidge for volunteering her time and sharing her wonderful talent providing us with piano music for our Advent plays and music in our classes every Wednesday throughout the school year! Our classes will be presenting their plays at 10 am on the following dates, and everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Wed., Dec. 13 - Mrs. Miner's class. **Thurs., Dec. 14** - Ms. Hughes' classes. **Fri., Dec. 15** - Mrs. Guild's class.

We, the Preschool Staff, would like to sincerely wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

MOM'S MORNING OUT

The toddlers at Mom's Morning Out are enjoying our wonderful program. If you are looking for some time to shop, run errands, or just relax while your child is having fun, making new friends, singing songs, and running off energy in our huge gym area, then this program is for you! It all takes place under the watchful eyes of loving and nurturing trained adults. We are offering two options, with daily program hours of 9:00-11:30 am.

Choice 1: Mondays and Fridays, full-time (both days) or part-time (one day)

Choice 2: Tuesdays and Thursdays, full-time (both days) or part-time (one day)

For more information, please call our office at 716-625-8306.

CARE MINISTRIES

GRIEFSHARE

First and third Thursdays of the month | Thursday, December 7 and 21 | 7pm | Couch Room

It is never too late to join this group as the faith-based curriculum - GriefShare - is designed so that anyone can join at any time. We continue to expand our group, and anyone who is dealing with a sense of loss over the death of a loved one recently or in the past will find understanding, support, encouragement and love with us through Jesus Christ.

PRAYER TEAM MEETING

Monday, January 15 | 6:30pm | Office Conference Room

Our focus at our next meeting will be making final plans for the **24-Hour Prayer Vigil** to be held **January 19-20**. This team lifts up the prayer concerns that are submitted on friendship cards or called into the office during the week. If you are interested in helping with the ministry of prayer, you are welcome to attend.

CARE-GIVING TEAM MEETING

Sunday, January 21 | 1pm | Office Conference Room

Our PCUMC Care-Giving Team has been meeting monthly to receive support and training in taking care of the spiritual needs of our congregation. We provide visitation to shut-ins and those in the hospital. We also support these people with phone calls, cards, prayer, meals, running errands and other practical assistance. If you are interested in this ministry, please come to our next meeting in January. We will not meet in December. Contact Pastor Jean at jeanedmister@pcumc.org or 625-8306 for more information.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

*O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth*

O Holy Night is one of my favorite Christmas carols. However, it is the line "the soul felt its worth" that gets me every time I hear it. What does it mean for the soul to feel its worth? The line tells us that when Christ appears in our life, we feel our self-worth. I counsel with many people searching for a sense of worth who attempt to seek it in the things of this world. Success, drugs, alcohol, relationships and other "things." But how long will temporal things fill us up with worth? The world was indeed cursed after Adam's sin (Genesis 3:17-18), long before Jesus was born. The world didn't stop pining after Jesus' appearance. So many feel it is abnormal to lack self-worth but, the Bible tells us that "the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God." (Romans 8:19-21, 24) Our sin condition leaves us coming up short on self-worth.

Many of us find ourselves in similar situations this Christmas. Maybe it's anxiety due to hard financial times or uncertainty about the future. It could be that there's a sin or addiction - either your own or someone else's - that's weighing you down and making you feel hopeless. For some it's a blue Christmas.

Take heart, for there is hope for all of mankind. Two thousands years have passed and separate us from the birth of Christ - yet we have something in common with the Wise Men who sought Him, for we all share the same primordial struggles. The birth of Jesus was an answer to our longing for self-worth and our sin condition.

May the magic and heavenly gifts of Christmas gladden and fill your hearts with joyful songs, cheerfulness and laughter.

Lori Jagow
Christian Counseling
loriannjagow@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY ADULT STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

Awaiting the Already | *Begins Sunday, November 26 | 10:15am*

This is a special 4-week Advent Bible Study series for Sunday Adult Study and Fellowship. We will look at the way each Gospel writer leads us on the journey to the event of God coming to dwell with us, both in the past and the future. God with us becomes new and fresh for us each Advent season. It is not necessary to purchase the book to attend the study, but if you want to read it please feel free to do so. Pastor Lisa found it on Amazon.

Sunday School Advent Play | *December 17 | 10:15am | Sanctuary*

All are invited to celebrate the Advent Season with our children. This will take the place of our regular Adult Sunday School program.

Sunday, December 24

NO Adult Study and Fellowship, but if you want to make coffee and chat, no one's going to stop you. ENJOY!

Sunday, December 31 | *10:15am*

No study again this week. Please bring a snack to share, nothing fancy please. Just something folks can pick up without needing a fork or spoon. We need someone to put on the coffee and hot water for tea, and others to tidy up and wash coffee cups afterward. HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

Sunday, January 7 | *10:15am*

Sunday Adult Study and Fellowship resumes. Topics for January will be based on questions that have arisen this fall. If anyone has suggestions for future topics, please contact Pastor Lisa. Also, watch the church bulletin for info about new small group studies beginning later in the month.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Youth Bible Study | *Led by Dan & Kelli Putney | Sundays at 10:15am | Couch Room*

Women's Bible Study | *Led by Pastor Jean Edmister | Mondays at 10am | Sanctuary Expansion*

The Invisible War by Chip Ingram | *Led by Linda Barczykowski, CLM | Begins Monday, January 8 at 8pm*

The war we battle on this earth is a spiritual one. Wherever we turn, Satan is trying his best to steer us wrong. This series will prepare you to do spiritual battle with the enemy of your soul... and win! You'll learn to clothe yourself with God's spiritual armor so you can be confident of certain victory over the scheming enemy. If you would like to join this study, please contact Linda at rbarczykowski@roadrunner.com or 716-946-0124 as soon as possible so she can make sure you get a book.

CREED - Exploring the Apostles Creed | *Led by Pastor Jean Edmister | Wednesdays at 5pm | Disciple Room*

Adult Bible Study | *Led by Pastor Jean Edmister | Wednesdays at 7pm | Office Conference Room*

Adult Bible Study | *Led by Pastor Tom Kraft | Wednesdays at 7pm | Sanctuary Expansion*

BIBLE CHALLENGE

The reflections and notes for each week's readings may be found at biblechallenge.pendletonchurch.org. You can also join our Bible Challenge Facebook page from the same link. Pastor Lisa will check the page weekly to respond to your questions and comments.

Read 4 chapters per day:

Week 48 - November 26-December 2n Psalms 131-150; Mark 1-8

Week 49 - December 3-9: Mark 9-16; Zephaniah 1-3; 1 John 1-5; 2 John; 3 John; Daniel 1-10

Week 50 - December 10-16: Daniel 11-12; Joel 1-3; Obadiah; Zechariah 1-14; Revelation 1-8

Week 51 - December 17-23: Revelation 9-22; Romans 1-14

Week 52 - December 24-31: Romans 15-16; James 1-5; Hebrews 1-13

Week 1 - January 1-6 2018: Genesis 1-24

At our regular 4 chapters per day you will finish on December 28, so there's room to take a couple days off over Christmas and New Years! A blessed Christmas season to all! See you January 1 for a new focus as we read through the Bible in a year.

NEWS FROM FIRST UMC

First United Methodist Church is our sister church in Niagara Falls. All the events below take place there. Their address is 8210 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14304.

Lockport Community Band Christmas Concert | Sunday, December 3 | 6:30pm

Enjoy some music to start off the season, followed by refreshments. A freewill offering will be taken to show our appreciation to the band.

Youth Group Christmas Party | Friday, December 8 | 6-8pm

All youth in grades Kindergarten and up are invited for an evening of games, crafts, music, food, and gifts. Contact Holly Brittain at 930-4661.

Advent Sing-Along and Party | Wednesday, December 13 | 6:30pm

Bring a snack to share and your singing voice to enjoy the carols and songs of the season.

Free Community Dinners | Thursdays at 5:30pm | Worship at 6:15pm

Our Free Community Dinners continue each Thursday at 5:30pm, followed by Worship at 6:15pm led by Pastor Bill Edmister.

Christmas Community Dinner and Party | Thursday, December 21 | 5:30pm

We will have our annual Christmas Community Dinner and Party with gifts for the children. If you would like to attend, or help with dinner or gifts, contact Gidget Hughes at gidgethughes@pcumc.org or 625-8306.

Blue Christmas Service | Thursday, December 21 | 7pm

This will be an opportunity to find hope and healing, even in the midst of the grief we sometimes feel during the holidays. Contact Kathy Masur at 283-6021.

Sunday, December 24 there will be a morning worship service at 10am.

Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be held at 6pm and 11pm on Sunday, December 24.

New Year's Eve Family Event | Sunday, December 31 | 6pm

There will be a New Year's Eve family event starting at 6pm with a potluck dinner. We will have music, games, and a brief Watch Night service to end the year and begin a new one. Contact Holly Brittain at 930-4661.

FUNDRAISING INFORMATION

FALL FISH FRY SERIES 2017 UPDATE

Thank you, Thank You, THANK YOU to all who helped with our fantastic Fall Fish Fry Series. We served an average of 392 dinners each week, and we estimate a profit of about \$7,500 from our three October dinners. These results are fabulous, the most profit we've had since we started the fall series in 2007!!! Added to the record setting Lenten fish fry profit of \$29,669, our total 2017 fish fry dinner profit was about \$37,200, which is simply outstanding!!! All income from the fall fish fry series was applied to the General Operations account. You can see it takes many hands to provide the support our ministries need to be a powerful witness to Christ. It wouldn't be possible without all the generous help we receive. So again we say **many thanks!**

AMAZONSMILE

Pendleton Center UMC is now a part of the AmazonSmile program!

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile at smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. In the search box, type in "Pendleton Center United Methodist Church" to find the church!

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

FUNDRAISING INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

TOPS AND SCRIP RETAILER GIFT CARDS

How do these programs benefit Pendleton Center Church? We purchase Tops cards at a reduced price, and we sell them to you at face value, keep the difference, and use the money to fund programs here at the church. Cards are available in \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations.

Our Great Lakes SCRIP program works in much the same way. This program offers a variety of cards, including Target, Old Navy, JoAnn Fabrics, iTunes, and many more. We have some available for immediate purchase. If we don't have what you are looking for on hand, don't worry! You can ask for an order form, and the next time an order is placed, yours will be included! December orders will be placed on Monday December 4 & 11, and should arrive by the following weekend.

Questions? Call Heather in the church office (716-625-8306) or email her at heatherminer@pcumc.org.

CHURCH FINANCES

A YEAREND CHECKLIST FROM THE FINANCE TEAM:

- ✓ Loyalty Weekend was November 25-26. If you haven't already done so, please complete your **2018 Commitment Form** and place it in the offering plate or return it to the office. This allows us to better plan for the coming year.
- ✓ You will receive a giving summary soon so you can determine if your offerings are where you want them to be **before** the end of the year. In January you will receive a final 2017 giving summary for tax purposes.
- ✓ **2018 Offering Envelopes** will be available in the "Mission Central" hallway in the next couple of weeks. Some notes on envelopes:
 - ▶ If you give on a monthly basis, please consider using pew envelopes instead of getting over 50 envelopes. You can contact Mary Bobsein in the church office if you don't need your 2018 offering envelopes.
 - ▶ If you would like to start giving to the church using electronic offering, please contact Mary Bobsein in the church office for an enrollment form.
- ✓ Christmas is a time we often receive many requests for charitable giving, from both the church and the community. Please remember our church still needs your regular gifts to sustain our ongoing ministries.
- ✓ If you intend to claim a charitable deduction for your gifts to the church on your income tax return, it needs to be in the church office **by December 31**.
- ✓ If you have an extra gift you can give to an area or project you want to see happen, we appreciate that as well. Please refer to the enclosed "**wish list**" brochure to see if there are items you'd like to purchase with your extra gifts.

Please continue to support your church with your generosity and prayer as we continue to see God's blessing on the ministries of our church. With your help, we are making a difference in many lives. Thank you, and may God bless you all with the joy of Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who helps to make this newsletter possible!

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Happy Birthday!

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 - Andrew Foit
Adell Grear
Harshad Thacore
Susan Walck | 12 - Kaitlyn Sosnowski
13 - Bethany Beutel
Jeffrey Volpe Sr. | 23 - Vienna Volpe
24 - Stevie Jackson
Peggy Lockwood |
| 2 - Gail Brown | 14 - Loren Beutel
Rachel Rogowski
Sandy Roslund
Cindy Smist | 25 - Christy Fell
Richard Fischer
Paul Fuhrman |
| 3 - Phil Bova
Aaron Deak, Jr.
Richard Long | 15 - Roy Barczykowski
Tracy Finiki
Pam Marin | 26 - Luke Anderson
Cindy Gaston
Shawn Michalski |
| 4 - Jodi Miller | 16 - Hannah Thompson
Kevin Weller | 27 - Len Thornton |
| 5 - K'vion Elias
Kelly Keelty
Alyssa Smith | 17 - Bill Tubbs | 28 - Robyn Wagner |
| 6 - Miranda Manning
Holly Moss
Roy Swain | 18 - Marci Lorenz
Theresa Zimmerman | 29 - Connor Heinemann
Angela Ryman
Gene Smith
Jeffrey Walters |
| 7 - Layla Kranock
Dawn Maiolo | 19 - Pastor Matt Kofahl
Kevin Palm | 30 - Danielle Anderson
Jane Chadwick
Wendy DelPrince
Bill Edmister
Tracy Kneoppel
Karen Machaby |
| 8 - Lucas Clark
Molly Grear | 20 - Carrie Bazinet | 31 - Kevin Aleong
James Goehrig
Amber Mattina
Tim Paterson |
| 9 - Jonathan Diedrich
Madison Ellingson | 21 - Logan Ellingson
Natalie Hiltz | |
| 10 - Alecia Anderson
Brian Neese | 22 - Jan Fey
Robert Pusch
Jennifer Seegar | |
| 11 - Julie Parks-Larmond
Beverly Spencer | 23 - Doug Gillon
Nancy Riexinger | |

Happy Anniversary!

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 - Dennis & Amy (Deak) Falbo '16
Werdy & Bethania Rodriguez | 27 - Wes & Susan Terry '75 |
| 7 - Steve & Kelly Keelty
Gene & June Smith '57 | 28 - Tom & Becky Heideman '04
Frank & Mia Klawitter '12 |
| 11 - David & Diane Reed '98 | 31 - Pastor Matt & Mary Kofahl '00
Mike & Kelly Gold '03 |
| 14 - Steve & Sheri Cappon
Todd & Liz Fisher '91 | Bernie & Pam Marin '86
Rick & Sally Reid '88 |
| 23 - Bill & Rosie Heineman '07 | |

Congratulations!

Robert Boniface & Theresa Lyness
Married on
October 21, 2017

Amara Joan Ruth Walsh
Born November 6, 2017
Daughter of Amanda Walsh
Great-granddaughter of Joan Kirkland

Condolences

We offer prayers for the friends and families who have lost loved ones:

Bob Schroeder, father of Ann Perrington

December 2017

Full calendar available at
calendar.pendletonchurch.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 - Boy Scout Sleepover	2 - Boy Scout Sleepover 9am - Cantata Choir 1pm - Cantata Orchestra 3pm - Feeding the Homeless 4pm - Parents' Night Out
3 - 1st Sunday of Advent	4 SCRIP Orders Due 6pm - Prayer Service 7pm - Cantata Bells	5 12pm - Senior Nutrition Program	6 7:30pm - Line Dancing	7 12pm - UMW 7pm - Youth Retreat Planning Meeting 7pm - GriefShare	8 6pm - HCWG/S'mores Leaders	9 9am - Cantata Dress Rehearsal
10 - 2nd Sun. of Advent Mission Moment: Good Samaritan 7pm - Christmas Cantata	11 SCRIP Orders Due 7pm - Pendleton Fellowship Group	12 7pm - Trustee Meeting	13	14 7pm - Praise Team Rehearsal	15 6pm - Hot Chocolate with God & S'mores	16 9am - Children's Advent Play Rehearsal 10:30am - Seneca Street Cooking
17 - 3rd Sun. of Advent 10:15am - Children's Advent Play 1pm - Christmas Caroling	18 January Newsletter Deadline 7pm - Women's Book Club	19 12pm - Senior Nutrition Program	20 7:30pm - Line Dancing	21 7pm - GriefShare	22 6pm - Hot Chocolate with God & S'mores	23
24 - 4th Sun. of Advent Christmas Eve Mission Moment: Christmas	25 - Christmas Day Office Closed 10am - Worship	26 9:30am - Newsletter Assembly	27 No Wednesday Night Programs	28 7pm - GriefShare	29 - Teen Leadership Sleepover 6pm - Children's New Year Eve Party	30 - Teen Leadership Sleepover
31 - New Year's Eve						

Wednesdays

5pm - Bible Study - Creed
5:30pm - F.R.O.G.S. - **NEW TIME!**
6:30pm - Angel Wings
- Youth Group
6:45pm - Pendletones
7pm - Chancel Choir
- Bible Studies
- Nursery Care Available
8:30pm - Men of Hymn

Thursdays

5:30pm - Community Dinner
at First UMC

Saturdays

10am - Watercolors
5pm - Worship
- Church School - 3yrs. - 3rd gr.
- Nursery Care - 0-2yrs.

Sundays

9am - Worship
- Jr. Church - 3 yrs. - 3rd gr.
- Nursery Care - 0-2 yrs.
10:15am - Sunday School for children
- Bible Studies for youth
- Confirmation Class
- Adult Study & Fellowship
11:15am - Worship
- Jr. Church - 3 yrs. - 3rd gr.
- Nursery Care - 0-2 yrs.

Mondays

10am - Women's Bible Study
12pm - Knutty Knitters
7pm - Bible Study - *Bad Girls*

Tuesdays

10:30am - Sit, Sip, & Sew
1pm - Watercolors

Pendleton Center United Methodist Church

6864 Campbell Boulevard
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

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December 2017 Newsletter

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
5, 7, & 11PM



CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING WORSHIP

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
9 & 11:15AM

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 10
7pm

Children's Advent Play

Sunday, December 17
10:15am

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 17
1pm

Christmas Day Worship

Monday, December 25
10am