

TRUCKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

" Making Disciples and Making a Difference"

THE BEACON

Volume 129

Issue 5



Christmas Eve
CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH
4:00 pm 7:00 pm 11:00 pm
with communion at the 11:00 pm service



Christmas Day Service
10:15 am
"After the presents and before Grand-ma's"

**CHURCH
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 6th beginning at
5:30 pm in memorial Hall

Bring a Dish to Pass and
your own table service.
Also bring a 1 lb exchange
gift. (Be creative and fun.)

Willy will be present to
provide the evening
entertainment.
Who is Willy? Come find out.
You will be glad you did.



TUMC
★ Christmas
Pageant



Sunday, December 13th
At 4:00 pm

Advent Sunday School Class

beginning November 29th

This 4 week class will use Adam Hamilton's book and DVD study, "The Journey", to take a fresh look at the familiar events of Christmas. You can purchase the book at Barnes and Noble, or online at Amazon.com. (Need help with the purchase cost? Contact the church office.

From the book description: Journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. As he did with Jesus' crucifixion in 24 Hours That Changed the World, Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

We will meet in the Conference Room in the Education Building at 9:45 each week of Advent. Please see Ian with any questions!



Thank You!

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your thoughtfulness and faithfulness during this summer of illness and treatment. We recognize God's presence in each of you. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the times God's love has been shown to us through your acts of caring and kindness—cards, meals, calls, visits, gifts, texts, Facebook likes, comments, and most of all prayers. You have been the arms of Jesus holding us up and carrying us through.

Pam and Dick Williams

PJ Mission

Christmas is coming and our Back Mountain Food Pantry Children are in need of PJ's and slippers (or socks)!

This year so far we have 69 families with children of all ages to clothe in new, warm pajamas for Christmas!

Our Pajama Committee will be at our Educational Facility Sunday between services on November 22nd and November 29th with children's names, ages, and sizes!

We are not putting a limit on the number of families you wish to help this year so please stop by the P.J. Table on your way into or out of Worship!

All P.J.'s are due back wrapped in one box per child please no later than Sunday, December 6, 2015!

If you would like to contribute, but you are unable to shop, we are accepting donations and we will shop for you!!



College We Care box THANK YOUs

Hello, Church Family,

I am aware that this email is a bit delayed, but I just wanted to express my gratitude for the thoughts, care, and prayers in the care package. It is always a nice surprise to open a box from you guys and see all of these goodies. It is nice to see that we are still in your thoughts.

Thank you very much,
Steve

Many thanks to all who helped fill my care package with the wonderful goodies. I was able to "share the love" with other students on my floor. This card is actually enclosed with many "Yums & Thank-You's".

The spirit of love and God's greatness is present!

Thank you!
Olivia Birdsall

Dear Church Family,

I just wanted to thank you all so very much for the amazing care package I received yesterday. It couldn't have come at a more perfect time because I had been having such a stressful week. I can't tell you how much it means to me that you are thinking of me while I'm away at school. I'm really looking forward to seeing you all again when I'm home on break! Thank you again; you are all such wonderful and thoughtful people!

See you soon,
Cortlyn

Hello Church Family,

Thank you so much for the college box! It's always an amazing surprise every year and I really appreciate everyone's continued support.

Thanks again,
Ashley Jackson

Please give a big thank you to those who sent out the college care packages. I've been too busy ravaging through mine and forgot to say thank you when it came in!!

Sam Savoy

Good Morning!

I want to thank you all very much for my college box! I greatly appreciate all of the goodies along with your thoughts and prayers. I am so blessed to have so much support.

Thank you,
Courtney

Hi!

I just wanted to say thank you so much for the gift box of snacks and goodies! It means a lot knowing the church is thinking of me! Miss you all!

Thank you!
Kiera Gross.

Dear Trucksville United Methodist Church,

I have received my care package and would like to thank everyone who helped to put it together. I love everything in it and so do my roommates whom I happily shared with!! Thank you all very much and thank you for the prayers!

Sincerely,
Jaime Levitski
East Stroudsburg University

Hi Church Family,

I wanted to take a moment and thank you for the beautiful care package that you sent me. I truly appreciate the constant support, love, and prayers that I receive from my church family every day. Whenever I get an email from mail services at Ursinus telling me I have a package to pick up, I get extremely excited. After picking up the package and I see it is from my church family, I get even more excited and a smile is on my face as I walk back to my dorm room. On Wednesday my roommates and I host a "Athletes Bible Study" each week. I received my care package on a Wednesday and was able to share it with the ten others that meet each week. Everyone within the study wants to express their thanks as well. The missions our church family provides reaches far beyond the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area. Thank you for brightening my day as well as the ten other athletes that gathered together to grow closer to God. Enjoy the remaining of the fall weather, I cannot wait to return home for Thanksgiving to see everyone!

Love and Peace,
Marcus



Confirmation classes will begin in early January 2016. These classes are for teens, grade 7 and up, who would like to become more involved in the ongoing ministry of Trucksville United Methodist Church. The classes will be held in the Educational Building beginning at noon on Sundays. A light meal will be served and the class will conclude by 1:30 pm each week. The confirmation classes will discuss basic faith questions, church history, Bible study, and personal faith sharing.

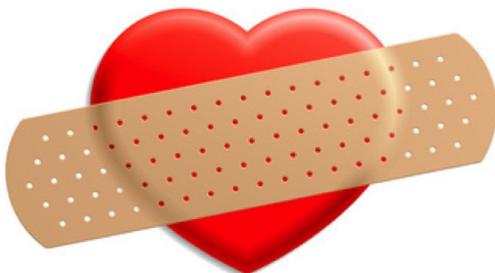
Students will choose a mentor, (an adult whose faith walk inspires them). Students are to ask this person if they will join them in the confirmation process. If you don't know whom to choose the pastors will help you in this decision.

Some parents may ask what is the best age to begin confirmation classes. Because teens mature at different rates, I suggest that you and your teen decide if they are ready to make a membership commitment.

If you would like to be a part of confirmation class please let the church office know by December 30th.

HEALTH CARE KITS

Some people in Mexico have never even seen a band aid before but with your help, we were able to collect two large boxes of health care supplies for Rev. Marian Hartman's (Rev) November mission trip. Thank you to all who donated supplies! Because of you, we can make a difference!
Holly Daubert



Project DJ

Our hand-quilting group is now meeting Tuesday mornings. We have several jobs to complete over the next few months. This is part of our fundraising. We had a successful day at Penn State on November 1, closing out our craft shows for the year.

November 12 will be our last Thursday evening meeting until March of the New Year. Our Christmas party will be held after quilting on Monday, December 14, at Leggios. That will be our last session until Monday, January 4, 2016.



With winter coming on, if the Dallas School District is closed because of snow, we will not meet.

Angel Tree

Susanna Fellowship Angel Tree Benefits the Back Mountain Food Pantry

Consider giving an Angel along with a monetary donation in memory or in honor of someone special such as your Sunday School Teacher, Friend, or Neighbor.

Angels will be available in the Sanctuary on the Entrance Table and in our Educational Facility Lobbies.

Write the name of your loved one on the banner, carefully cut out the angel and place it in the Offertory or hand it in in the Office with your donation.

Angels will be on display on the Christmas Tree in our Educational Facility.

All donations benefit the Food Pantry!



Crossing Guard



Did you know on average 40+ people join us for worship on Saturday afternoons?

Much has been completed to ensure everyone crossing the street before and after worship is safe:

- * A new street light
- * Updated pedestrian crossing signs
- * Free standing blinking lights
- * Volunteer crossing guards
- * Sunset is earlier through the end of March 2016!
- * We need volunteers to serve as crossing guards for several weeks including our Christmas Pageant, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter!
- * We provide everything you need!

Please contact Jim Barto if you can help:
570-696-4983 or james.barto@frontier.com.

TUMC's 2015 Christmas Pageant

Rehearsals Dates in our Sanctuary:
Sunday, 12/6/15 at 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, 12/12/15 at 9:00 a.m.

Our Pageant is on Sunday,
December 13, 2015 at 4:00
p.m. at our Sanctuary!
Refreshments immediately
following the performance.



Food Pantry

Activity is picking up at the food pantry after a very slow summer. Food drives are scheduled for the middle of November and we are in need of the food. To cover our client's needs this summer we received food from CEO and had to purchase food from Aldi's.

We are busy getting ready for our Thanksgiving distribution on Tuesday November 24. We anticipate two hundred families will receive food. They will receive a turkey, potatoes, vegetables, stuffing, cranberry and rolls. This is when all volunteers are called on to help.

The PJ project has ninety six families participating. The families really appreciate the gifts for their children.

The food pantry will be closed the Friday after Thanksgiving and we will close December 18 at noon and remain closed until January 5, 2016.

I want to thank all the people who volunteer and the community for your continued help.

Carol Eyet, Manager
Back Mountain Food Pantry

End of the Year Non Perishable Food Item
Collection for the Back Mountain Food Pantry

Breakfast Foods:
Syrup
Pancake Mix
Cereal
Pop-Tarts and the
like

Lunch & Dinner
Food
Canned Vegetables
Instant Potatoes
(All Varieties)
Pasta
Sauce
Boxed Stuffing
Holiday Baking
Supplies



Crocheting Ministry

Marge Coolbaugh invites all willing participants to join her in a crocheting ministry for Ruth's Place and Medical Oncology Associates. For Christmas and all throughout the winter months Marge crochets hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, slippers and sweaters for the women of Ruth's Place and Medical Oncology Associates as well as afghans for patients undergoing chemotherapy.

If you would like to join Marge in this Ministry working from home or meeting to work together, please call her at 570-410-1165.



Cedar Crest Cemetery – Summer/Fall 2015

Since 2010 a great deal of time and effort has been spent to coordinate the maintenance of the burial grounds surrounding the church. This has been a collaborative effort between the Board of Cedar Crest Cemetery and the Trustees of Trucksville United Methodist Church. This summer one can begin to see evidence of all these years of planning.

The mowing has continued to be done by the same contractor April through September. Six trees have been removed along with many bushes and over growth of greens. The much needed repair of the drive way was done by Todd Chamberlain.

The big problem faced in 2009 was to stabilize the financial problem facing the board. The Trust Fund established in 1929 by Cedar Crest Cemetery Association was reviewed with BNY Mellon. It was determined that it was in the best interest of the Association not to make any changes in Trust. Through the efforts of the Cedar Crest Treasurer, Dr. Mark Law, an application was filed for an EIN Number and Tax Exempt Status. With these in place the "Fund for Annual Giving" was established with a goal of \$7000.00 set for each year. We are happy to report this goal has been reached for the first time in 2015. This is applied to our \$9,700.00 annual maintenance budget. The Trustees contribute toward the maintenance budget for which the Cedar Crest Board is most grateful.

In progress for the year ahead is the restoration of the small shed built at the rear of Cedar Crest in the 1920's. A subcommittee composed of Richard Harrison and Robert Law for Cedar Crest and Ray Metzgar from the Trustees agreed that shed could be used for the storage of small items which must be stored for use throughout the burial grounds.

Volunteer help is important. We have "divided" the burial grounds into sections. The fall clean-up was assigned by sections: the Youth Group of the Church, another to Scout Troop #155, and a third section to the Honor Society of Penn State Wilkes-Barre. If you belong to a community group who would like to take a section during the year (primarily April to November) please contact Louise Hazeltine at 570-696-1332 for information.

Again both the Board of Cedar Crest and the Trustees are grateful for all of the help they received to keep the eight acres surrounding the church in good condition. The cemetery is operated 12 months a year!!



Recent Memorial Gifts

In Loving Memory of Shirley Ayers

Louise Hazeltine
Ruthie & Stephen Gordon
Linda & Dave Schuler & Family
Kathy & Mike Barlow
Trucksville Early Child Education Center
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Kovalchek

In Loving Memory of Derrick Fox

Ms. Nancy L. Burkel
Kathy & Mike Barlow

In Loving Memory of Allan Nichols

Kathy & Mike Barlow

In Loving Memory of Ann Metzgar

Ray Metzgar donated all of the materials for the sidewalks installed at our Educational Center and Sanctuary in July of this year in memory of Ann.

In Loving Memory of Betty Baird

Dr. John Rhoads



We only see a little of the ocean,
A few miles distance from the rocky shore;
But oh! out there beyond the eye's horizon
There's more
there's more.

We only see a little of God's loving,
A few rich treasures from His mighty store;
But oh! out there beyond our life's horizon
There's more
there's more

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind
has imagined the things that God has prepared
for those who love Him." 1 Corinthians 2:9

In Loving Memory of Betty Metzgar

*Magdalen M Benish
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne E. Harrison
Molly K. Desarro
Richard E. Kerpovich, Jr.
Rose A. Yarmel & Herbert J. Wiedlich
Richard & Rosalie Kerpovich
William & Jean Long
Barry & Heidi Wagner
Jeffrey S. Dickson
Shirley A. Gardner & Amy L. Crake
Back Mountain Youth Soccer
Dennis & Clydette Wagner
George & Martha Baird
Ron & Judy Rhone
Jeff & Joyce Pace
Wayne & Diane Long
Madelyn Roote & Jim Barto
James & Christine Mary Balavage
Melba Dickson
Judy Dickson
Francis Carrozza
Anthony Neare
William & Pauline Thomas
Betty Ward
Luzerne Lumber Co. ACE #6339 E
Susan & David Skidmore
John M. Rhoads
The Employees of House of Bricks
Clarence & Morag Michael
Louise Hazeltine
Rev. Charles Gommer & Viola Gommer
Dan & Gail Kistler
Alice M. Evans
Brenda & Dale Williams
Linda Wardell
Newell Fuel Service, Inc.
Sandy & Bill Race, Jr.
Tom & Mary Oliver
Lucas & Rachel Malishchak
Joseph & Virginia Mazza
Mary R. Mathers
Tracy & Jason Crispell
Isabelle & Tom Kreidler Jr.
Jill & John Kryston Jr.
Lorraine Jolley
Jim & Deb Jury
Mark & Linda Rossick
Ann Hudock
Steven & Diane Thompson & Family
Frank & Jessica De Sarro
Mr. & Mrs. David Morgan
Richard & Dawn Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Gonzalez
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Morgan
Kathy & Mike Barlow*



MADDY'S GIFT

*Last day is
December 11th*

**I would like to announce our second annual toy drive
in memory of our daughter**

Madison Benjamin.

From now until Dec. 11th, we will be collecting new, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages. **These gifts will be donated to the Janet Weis Childrens Hospital in Danville** to be distributed to the children who are in the hospital on Christmas.

Lets help these kids enjoy their Christmas.

Drop offs can be made at:

The Kingston Fire Dept.
on Wyoming Ave, Kingston

CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING
190 S Sprague Ave. Kingston

TRUCKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
located on Knob Hill Rd in Trucksville

or

**Please contact me, Tracy Benjamin
at 570-991-5529, and I can pick up.**

Your donations are much appreciated,

*Falafel, Jessica's
Vegetarian Meatballs*

*1 cup mashed chick
peas
1 cup chopped onions
4 T parsley
4 T cilantro
1 tsp salt
4 cloves minced garlic
(about 2 T)
1 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp baking powder
4 T whole wheat flour (or
more, if the balls don't
stick together well
enough)
Olive oil for cooking on
the stove top until crispy.*

*Chef's Note: Jessica
adds a pinch more of
this or that when they
"don't taste right" until it
works. We wind up
eating 40 balls as a test
sample and she always
deep fries them in about
3" of oil. We never tried
baking them on a cookie
sheet even though the
recipe calls for that.*

Theresa Bronson

Thank you for your help.

If your ministry team or group uses an area of our church for your program, it is very much appreciated if you handle the set up and clean up. We have a large campus and our maintenance person's (Dan) work load is already stretched. Please note if you are not able to physically do-set up or tear-down you may contact Dan.



Trucksville Early Childhood Education Center

November 2015 Beacon

We would like to thank Firefighter Larry Long and the Trucksville Fire Department for visiting us during our Fire Safety week. The children benefit greatly from seeing him dressed in his Firefighter gear, dispelling any fears they may have had should they ever be in a situation where they need help from a Firefighter. They love seeing the Firetruck and learn so much about Fire Safety during this visit. We would also like to thank Officer Robert Spencer for visiting and doing a Seat Belt Safety Program with our Kindergarten class. We are so fortunate to have such wonderful community workers who are willing to give of their time for our children.

All of our Fall Field Trips and Programs were great with perfect weather. They were enjoyed by all! Some of the other themes we have been exploring are Insects, Literature & Role Playing, Home and Families Around The World, Dinosaurs, and Hibernation & Migration. We recently held "Come To School Night" for our families which allows our parents to come to a typical class with their child. It was very well attended and a good time was had by young and old alike.

As the holidays approach, our Kindergarten class is preparing for their Thanksgiving Program, and our Preschoolers for their Holiday Program. It is such a joy to hear the sound of children's voices singing adorable holiday songs! We are happy to have Dr. Paul Reinert join our staff as a substitute. He has already experienced why we all love to come to work! Paul will also be providing some entertainment during our preschool Holiday Programs.

All of us here at TECEC wish all of you at TUMC a very Merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year!

Marjorie Adams, Director



Prayerfully consider baking a batch of cookies to support our Penn State Student's Cookie Break during finals week!

Please place cookies in a disposable container you don't need returned, no plastic bags please, and **drop them off in the Educational Facility Kitchen on Sunday, December 6, 2015.**

Please call or email the Office if you can bake!

Mission Donation Form

Donor Name: _____ Phone: _____

BULLETIN LISTING:

- In Memory of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Memory of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Honor of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Honor of: _____ From: _____
Please print name

Please forward my \$7.00 Donation to the Following Mission:

Shoemaker Mission Central Hub

The Hub is a wonder ministry located right down the road at 571 W. 8th Street in West Wyoming, PA. In the Fall of 2009 the District Superintendent Rev. Greg Myers of the Wilkes-Barre District of the then Wyoming Conference of the United Methodist Church invited a number of people interested in the Mission Central ministry to gather at the previous Shoemaker United Methodist Chapel. The group toured the building. Then, during the meeting which followed, decided that rather than let the facility go into disrepair it would be used as a satellite ministry or HUB connected to Mission Central located in Mechanicsburg, PA.

A group of people soon traveled to Mission Central to obtain the training needed to operate the HUB. They learned the proper way to put together UMCOR health kits, school kits, birthing kits, cleaning buckets, layette kits and sewing kits. The Mission Statement of the HUB is: Locally Focused* Globally Responsive* Faith in Service. Our vision is: Continued Growth in Helping

Mother Teresa Haven

Mother Teresa Haven provides emergency shelter and supportive services to homeless adult males within Luzerne County. The program utilizes churches and temples throughout Luzerne County on a weekly rotating schedule to provide overnight shelter to this population. Transportation for clients to and from the designated shelter site is provided 7 days a week. Supportive services such as intake and assessment; job search and employment; referrals for transitional and permanent housing and counseling are available

Special Note: If you are making multiple donations in honor or in memory of a loved one, please indicate their name by the Mission selected to ensure we properly note it in the Bulletin.

Poinsettia Gifts, Memorials and Missions

Final Date to Order/Donate: Sunday, November 22, 2015

Select the way you want to honor your loved ones at Advent.

Option 1 – Poinsettia	Option 2 – Mission Donation
Purchase a poinsettia for \$7.00 in honor or in memory of your loved one. These beautiful plants will adorn our Sanctuary Altar.	Make a \$7.00 donation to one of the mission projects listed on the reverse side of this sheet in honor or in memory of your loved one.

Note: Our Christmas Eve Bulletin will list all donors; poinsettia dedications and mission donations.

Poinsettia Order Form

Donor Name: _____ Phone: _____

BULLETIN LISTING: Additional forms are located on the Sanctuary Entrance Table & in the Office!

- In Memory of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Memory of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Honor of: _____ From: _____
Please print name
- In Honor of: _____ From: _____
Please print name

TOTAL ORDER: Red Poinsettia _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____
 6 ½ Branched White Poinsettia _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____
 Pink Poinsettia _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____
 Total Amount Due \$ _____

Donor to Take Share with Home Bound

If you take your flowers after worship kindly rearrange the remaining plants.