

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2015

ADVENT WORSHIP

Sunday November 29 is the first Sunday of the Advent season. Barbara Haak will offer special music and Pastor Lynch will preach on “Emmanuel, God With Us.”

Sunday December 6 has Pastor Lynch speaking on “What Will You Find For Christmas?” from Romans 5:1-8.

Sunday December 13 has us looking at Isaiah 11:1-6 and Romans 15:12-13, “Hurting-Happy-Hopeful.”

Sunday December 20 will feature our Sunbeam Choir presenting “The Little Drummer Boy” and Pastor John’s message, “Christmas Gives Us a New Picture of God.”

Christmas Eve worship is on Thursday December 24 at 7:00. The service of carols and lights will feature a choir and Pastor John’s message, “The Gift.”

Sunday December 27 takes a look at Luke 2:22-38, “Waiting on God.”

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR

Would you like to sing in a choir on Christmas Eve? Helen Lutz will be holding brief practices prior to morning worship at 10:15 on Sunday December 6, 13, 20.

MITTEN TREE

The Loyal Workers are collecting mittens, hats, gloves and scarves for the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey. The Mitten tree is located to the right of the sanctuary until December 13. Thank you for helping to decorate our mitten tree.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SPECIAL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF BETHANY

Stop at the information table by the sanctuary and pick up a list of homebound folks who would enjoy a Christmas card greeting from you. “Behold, I bring you good news of great joy.” (Luke 2:10)

BETHANY PEOPLE

Thank you to Paul Leicht for repairing several holes in our lovely stained glass windows. Blessings upon Cindy Anspach, Vicki Smith and friends for providing refreshments on Veterans Day Sunday. And many thanks to Barry Smith for projecting our veterans on the screen.

Supportive prayers are extended on behalf of Amber Schell upon the passing on to glory of her grandfather. How nice to see the many pilgrims included in the thanksgiving decorating of Bethany by Barb Brubaker.

Wasn't it wonderful to not only worship with Helen Lutz once again, but to hear her play the piano and accompany the choir. Praise the Lord!

Congratulations to Susan Knipe who won the National Championship at the Arabian Horse Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma. And congratulations to Chantelle Brandt, recently inducted into the Palmyra High School branch of the National Honor Society.

REDNER'S FUND RAISER FOR BETHANY

If you ever shop at Redner's, please save your sales slip and put it in the drawer marked "Redners" in the Railroad Street entrance to Bethany or drop it off in the church office. We receive 1% of the sales slips we turn in. Last month Bethany was sent a check for \$157.00. What an easy way to bless and support the life and witness of our church family!

BETHANY CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please save the date of Sunday, December 13 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Room. It is a night of fun, fellowship and refreshments. If you sing, play an instrument, have a poem of Christmas reading or a joke to share with us please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Room. The evening will close with a carol sing to help prepare for the Christmas season.

Again this year, please bring a gift (something for the Caring Cupboard) and place it in the manger for the Christ Child. ~ Selma Patrick



DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Acolyte: Michele and Samantha Patrick

Greeters/Ushers: Miranda and Seth Schell,
Jill and Richard Funck

Sound People:

DECEMBER 6: Barry Smith
DECEMBER 13: Don Brubaker
DECEMBER 15: Dick Lasher
DECEMBER 20: Barry Smith

Readers:

DECEMBER 6: Miranda Schell
DECEMBER 13: Don Brubaker
DECEMBER 20: Pastor John
DECEMBER 27: Ed Kaylor

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - W. Michael Peiffer	10 - Kelly Finney	26 - Miranda Schell
2 - Michael Scipioni	13 - Mary Carl	29 - Nathan Berkheiser
2 - Linda Walker	14 - Samantha Patrick	29 - Vicki Wright
4 - Luke Scipioni	16 - Charles Hallman	
5 - Michael Long	19 - Vicki Smith	
7 - Chad Schell	21 - Edward Frazier	



FACTS AND FIGURES

Did you know that our Loyal Workers earned \$1,751 for our church through their Christmas Bazaar? They sold 86 quarts of ham and bean soup and 76 quarts of vegetable beef! We need to average \$1,800 a week to meet our church budget. Did you also know that our weekly income for October and November averaged \$2,782.00? And our attendance average for worship in October and November was 85 up from 73 last year. We praise the Lord for these positive trends and we look forward to going to a 1/2 time pastor this coming summer.



A PRAYER FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS

Dear Lord, fill our hearts and homes with
the light of Christmas
which is faith,
the joy of Christmas
which is hope,
the warmth of Christmas
which is love,
the all of Christmas
which is Christ!
Amen.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTAS

You are invited to help decorate our church for Christmas by contributing red poinsettias in honor or in loving memory of your loved ones. Please fill out this form, and place it in an envelope with \$8.00, put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by Sunday December 13. The flowers are in a 6 1/2 inch pot and are 5+ blooms.

Your Name(s) _____

In Honor of _____

In Loving Memory of _____

CAN YOU NAME THAT CHRISTMAS TUNE?

(Answers on the last page of the Newsletter)

1. Far off in a feeder.
2. Arrival time: 2400 hours; Weather: cloudless
3. Bantam male percussionist
4. Nocturnal noise lessness
5. Query regarding identity of descendent
6. Delight for this planet
7. Our monarchial triad
8. Frozen precipitation commence

CHRISTMAS CARD LIST FOR HOMEBOUND

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ED AND BEV BOSHA
101 SOUTH RAILROAD STREET
145
PALMYRA PA 17078

ERIC MILLER
1865 LARIMER STREET
APT. # 1002
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

SANDY LONG
C/O TERESA BILLMAN
242 MILL ROAD
MT. JOY, PA 17552

ALMEDA LONG
249 EAST SPRUCE STREET APT 1
PALMYRA PA 17078

CAROLYN BLANTZ
550 EAST MAIN STREET #10-B
ANNVILLE PA 17003

LUCILLE PEIFFER
CEDAR HAVEN, 590 S. FIFTH AVENUE
LEBANON, PA 17042

MRS BETTY SCHAFFNER
2880 HORSESHOE PIKE
PALMYRA PA 17078

MARION LEMONS
LEBANON VALLEY HOME
550 E MAIN STREET
ANNVILLE PA 17003

JAMES AND LINDA WALKER
1851 MARTIN DRIVE
LEBANON PA 17046

KENNETH SCHAEFFER
HILL FARM ESTATES RM 201
200 KAUFFMAN ROAD
ANNVILLE PA 17003

ROY TICE
1200 GRUBB ROAD
PALMYRA PA 17078

DIANE NEIDIGH
110 EAST OAK STREET
PALMYRA PA 17078

MRS ETHEL FUNCK
SPRANG CREST
945 DUKE STREET
LEBANON PA 17042

CHRISTMAS TUNE ANSWERS

1. Away in a Manger
2. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
3. Little Drummer Boy
4. Silent Night
5. What Child is This?
6. Joy to the World
7. We Three Kings
8. Let it Snow

**It
came
to pass
in those
days that
there went
out a decree
from Caesar
Augustus that all
the world should
be taxed, and this
taxing was first made
when Cyrenius was gov-
ernor of Syria. And all
went to be taxed. Everyone
into his own city. And Joseph
also went up from Galilee out
of the city of Nazareth, into Ju-
dea, unto the city of David which
is called Bethlehem, because he was
of the house and lineage of David, to
be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife,
being great with child. And so it was
that while they were there, the days were
accomplished that she should be delivered.
And she brought forth her first-born Son,
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and
laid him in a manger, because there was
no room for them in
the
inn.
Luke 2:1-7**