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The Vineyard

A publication of Myerstown United Church of Christ
304 West Main Avenue, Myerstown PA
Volume 40, Issue 1

Paul's Epistle

I can't imagine that many of us would choose to live through the last year again. I suppose there are a few that would go back to spend precious moments, even if it meant returning to 2020. But in the days and years ahead, we will be able to tell stories about this dreaded year, and proudly wear our "I survived 2020!" shirts.

As this new year progresses, I pray, for our own community as well as our Nation and the world, that we will have learned important lessons about what is essential and how to work together for the good of all.

My hope is also that we have the opportunities, as a congregation, a Family of Faith, to look at our

direction, our mission, our calling as one expression of the Church of Jesus Christ. This is a process of looking at our membership and discerning what gifts, skills, loves and interests we have. We also need to look at the surrounding communities to assess the needs of our surrounds, then pray about how God might be calling us to use all of our resources: abilities, interests, buildings, and finances to shine the light of God through Jesus Christ on those needs.

It will be a joy if we can be ready, when this virus is conquered, to begin addressing the many needs which arose, or were exacerbated by the trials of 2020.

May your New Year be filled with the presence and joy of our Lord!!!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Paul

Office Closed

Beginning at noon on Thursday, 24 December 2020, the church office will be closed until 9:00 am on Monday, 4 January 2021. During this time, the church voicemail and email will **not** be checked.

In the event of an **emergency requiring pastoral support**, please contact Pastor Paul directly by phone [610.217.9717] or email [muccpastor@comcast.net].

Christmas Cheer Addition

Callie & Bonita
Beamesderfer
204 W Grant Ave
Myerstown
PA 17067



End of DECEMBER WORSHIP Updates

Dec. 27

1st Sunday after Christmas

Pre-Recorded Service **ONLY**

Service of Lessons, Stories, & Carols

This Service was pre-recorded; it will be posted on Facebook, YouTube, and our website. You may enjoy listening to the powerful lessons and stories of the Christmas season and singing along with the Carols in the comfort of your own home. This service is pre-recorded, to allow the Staff to fit in their vacation time.



Christmas Eve

In Person & Live stream **6:30 pm**

Sermon: **Barrington Bunny**

Scripture: **Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2:11-20**

Our Service this year will be in the parking lot, in our cars, listening to the Service on our radios. We will be surrounded by luminaries and will use glowsticks as candles for the singing of Silent Night to close our service.

If the weather works against us and we cannot be outside, we will **LIVESTREAM ONLY**. Changes will be posted on Facebook, Instagram, and our website. The church voicemail will be updated at noon with service information.

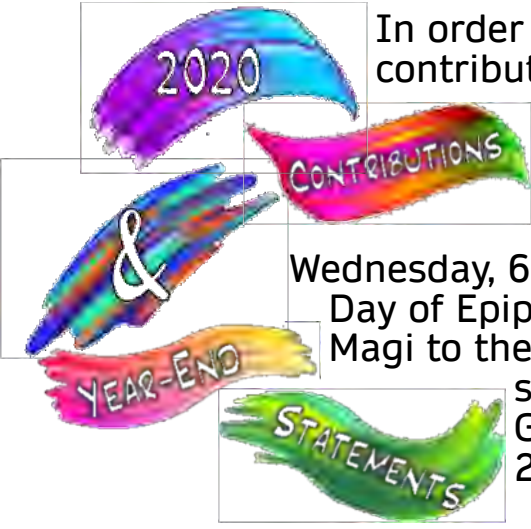


The Christmas Fund is a UCC offering to support retired clergy, **Veterans of the Cross**. It is also used as an Emergency Fund for clergy in crisis situations.

In the past there have been special envelopes to designate giving on Christmas Eve. This year, we ask that you write "**Christmas Fund**" on your regular church envelope.



- 4 Holly Hartman
- 9 Hannah Rosen
- 13 Carol Batdorff
- 14 Deborah Miller
- 15 Erin Nowack
- 16 Russell Brightbill
- 16 Kory Leppo
- 20 Pat Underkoffler
- 21 Kimberly Rittle
- 22 Donna Reigel
- 28 Jim Miller
- 29 Kristi Fields
- 30 Larry Eisenhauer
- 31 Pat Ryland, Jr



In order for offering and other contributions to be credited toward the 2020 budget and fiscal year, they must be in the church office by Wednesday, 6 January 2021, the Day of Epiphany! The gifts of the Magi to the Christ Child also signifies the Day of Gifts to MUCC for 2020!



THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Jan 2021

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

1	Luke 6:1-26;	Genesis 3-5;	Psalm 2
2	Luke 6:27-49;	Genesis 6:1-7:24;	Psalm 3
3	Luke 7:1-17;	Genesis 8-10;	Psalm 4
4	Luke 7:18-50;	Genesis 11;	Psalm 5
5	Luke 8:1-25;	Genesis 12;	Psalm 6
6	Luke 8:26-56;	Genesis 13:1-14:24;	Psalm 7
7	Luke 9:1-27;	Genesis 15;	Psalm 8
8	Luke 9:28-62;	Genesis 16;	Psalm 9
9	Luke 10:1-20;	Genesis 17;	Psalm 10
10	Luke 10:21-42;	Genesis 18;	Psalm 11
11	Luke 11:1-28;	Genesis 19;	Psalm 12
12	Luke 11:29-54;	Genesis 20;	Psalm 13
13	Luke 12:1-31;	Genesis 21;	Psalm 14
14	Luke 12:32-59;	Genesis 22;	Psalm 15
15	Luke 13:1-17;	Genesis 23;	Psalm 16
16	Luke 13:18-35;	Genesis 24;	Psalm 17
17	Luke 14:1-24;	Genesis 25;	Psalm 18
18	Luke 14:25-35;	Genesis 26;	Psalm 19
19	Luke 15;	Genesis 27:1-45;	Psalm 20
20	Luke 16;	Genesis 27:46-28:22;	Psalm 21
21	Luke 17;	Genesis 29:1-30;	Psalm 22
22	Luke 18:1-17;	Genesis 29:31-30:43;	Psalm 23
23	Luke 18:18-43;	Genesis 31;	Psalm 24
24	Luke 19:1-27;	Genesis 32-33;	Psalm 25
25	Luke 19:28-48;	Genesis 34;	Psalm 26
26	Luke 20:1-26;	Genesis 35:1-36:43;	Psalm 27
27	Luke 20:27-47;	Genesis 37;	Psalm 28
28	Luke 21;	Genesis 38;	Psalm 29
29	Luke 22:1-38;	Genesis 39;	Psalm 30
30	Luke 22:39-71;	Genesis 40;	Psalm 31
31	Luke 23:1-25;	Genesis 41;	Psalm 32

GIVING Attendance

Nov	IP	OL
1	32	24
8	34	15
15	28	22
22	26	26
29	26	19

General Fund	\$ 17,476.00
CIF	\$ 475.00
OCWM	\$ 610.00
Other	\$ 60.00

Oops! Two American Girl \$25 gift cards were ordered by mistake!

They are available for \$22.50 each or \$40 for the pair.

First come!



The 2021 Offering envelopes have been placed on tables in the Gathering Area. They can be picked up on Sunday mornings.

To pick them up during the week, contact the church office.



All-Church Christmas Food Drive Continues

Contributions for the food drive can be brought to the office the rest of this week and to worship on Sunday morning, 20 December. The offering will be taken to LCCM on Monday.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST HOMES

30 N 31st Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011
 (717) 303-1502 • (717) 303-1807 FAX
 www.ucc-homes.org

December 2, 2020

Myerstown UCC
 304 West Main Avenue
 Myerstown, PA 17067

Dear Members of Myerstown UCC,

Penn Central Conference has recently notified us of your 11/10/2020 gift of \$750.00 from the people of Myerstown UCC which was placed into our Benevolent Fund. Without congregations like yours, so many people would not be able to receive the assistance they need.

UCC Homes' greatest area of need continues to be the securing of sufficient funding to meet the growing financial need of residents who are unable to pay for the cost of their care and who do not have access to governmental assistance programs. We are able to meet this need because of your commitment to our ministry to the elderly.

Please convey our thanks to the members of your congregation and consistory. Helping people, reaching out a helping hand to someone who needs our concern is what UCC Homes is all about. Because of your continued support in this effort, it is what you are about also.

Sincerely,

Victoria M. Velez

Victoria M. Velez
 Director of Public Relations
 and Fund Development

To receive a current annual report or to make inquiry into UCC Homes, its facilities, or the Auxillary, please contact the President/CEO in care of UCC Homes; 30 N 31st Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011; (717) 303-1502.

The official registration and financial information of United Church of Christ Homes, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations, by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

• The Lebanon Valley Home • Thornyold Home • Ephraim Manor • Knotted Pine • Sarah A. Todd Memorial Home •



Ink & Toner

Thank you to everyone who continues to help us recycle printer cartridges. AND an **amazing** thank you to Kathy Grose for taking 20 every month to Staples. She is there like clockwork.

But there's a problem! Kathy's basement is EMPTY!

We need your help—NOW!

Cartridges can be brought to the church office anytime and left in the vestibule. We will be happy to bring them inside the next we're here!

Food Essentials Giveaway!

"During this Christmas season, help us share with our community and those in need. Thanks to many generous local businesses, **Keystone Hook & Ladder** will be holding another Food Essentials Giveaway on Saturday, December 19th from 8 AM to 11 AM.

8 am to 11 am



It will be held in the parking lot of **Friedens Lutheran Church**. No need to get out of your car; it's a drive through operation.



December 19th