

TIDINGS

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10:00 am Sunday Worship



“Advent: A Journey from Darkness to Light”

We wait “in December darkness,” as the poet tells us, “peering from our windows watching for an angel with rainbow wings to announce the Hope of the World.”

The poet reminds us that Advent is about actively preparing for and anticipating God coming into our lives – not only preparing for the celebration of Christ’s birth in a few weeks but actively preparing for God to come into our lives EVERY DAY! God’s presence with us – and our presence with those who are precious to God – brings us closer to God. We grow spiritually, love deeply, and work for peace and justice for all God’s people.

During this Advent season we hear God’s message of love, peace, and justice from the Prophet Isaiah. Isaiah challenges us with a message of peace that demands us to work for the well-being of everyone, not simply to set aside our weapons (Isaiah 2:1–5).

God’s peace requires our participation and energy – expending as much energy as we might have spent fighting. Isaiah also shares a vision of power that’s up-ended, reversed – “And a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6). But how can this be? This is the hope filled vision of a new world, a world of peace and harmony. A world we’d like to live in today.

We hear Mary, becoming a prophet, proclaiming a message of liberation to the poor and marginalized (Luke 1:47–55). She carries the great Liberator in her womb and following God’s will she’ll nurture and protect that hope for us all. Along with Mary, Joseph responds to God’s message, received in a dream, to welcome and care for Jesus (Matthew 1:18–25) in act of faithfulness and love. The example of Mary and Joseph guides us to lean into God’s will for us today, seeking to live God’s way of being fully human in a community cherishing each life as valuable and important in acts of faithfulness and love.



May we walk our Advent path that begins in darkness until we arrive in the light of Christ to the place where God awaits us with intriguing possibilities for a new life of peace and joy.

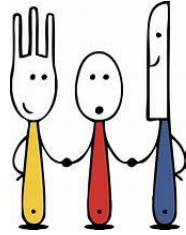
Peace,
Pastor Carson

Identity Statement

We are a loving family of God,
following Christ by practicing our
legacy of worship, education, and
mission to neighbors.

Community Dinner

The November Community Dinner was quite successful. We served 123 meals: 14 home deliveries (thanks to Victor Jenkins), 55 take-out dinners and 54 people who dined in our Fellowship Hall. It was an absolutely gorgeous day, which probably helped boost our numbers.



Many thanks to the Apple Shack on Gates Road who donated the apples for the applesauce. And a big thank you to Tom Eckrote for donation of the fresh rolls.

Everybody loves Pork Roast and Mashed Potatoes! But some people also discovered that spinach isn't quite as bad as they thought. Many people requested the recipe so here it is!

CHEESY SPINACH BAKE

- 24 oz. frozen chopped spinach
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 2 large sweet onions, chopped and sautéed until limp
- 1 1/2 cups (6oz) shredded mozzarella cheese
- 2 cups (8 oz) shredded cheddar cheese

1. Lightly grease 9x13 pan
2. Preheat oven to 350
3. Boil spinach in water; Using the back of a large spoon, press through colander to remove as much water as possible
4. Stir all ingredients together in a large bowl
5. Spread in prepared pan
6. Bake 35-40 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.



The Book Club peeled potatoes for the dinner while discussing Bill Bryson's novel.

December Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 – Emily Soeder | 19 – Doris Hildebrandt |
| 05 – Samuel Pennock | 19 – Rush Pond |
| 10 – Luella Oakes | 20 – Joshua Prah |
| 11 – Lily McCoy | 27 – Jean Castro |
| 13 – Leonard Houck | 28 – Janne Murphy |
| 15 – Bob Pelcher | 28 – Anthonia Todd |
| 17 – Lynda Barry | 30 – Alyce Bullis |
| 17 – Christine McGivney | |

We do not have any known anniversaries to celebrate in the month of December.

Add your or a loved one's birthday or anniversary date to our list by contacting the church office.

A HUGE thanks to everyone who helped with Fall cleanup. And a special thanks goes to the Scouts of Troop 107. Without their help, we probably could not have gotten the job done this year, because absolutely all the leaves from all the trees had fallen. Not only did we fill the village dump truck we had a huge pile along the parkway on Elizabeth Street. Thank you everyone.

-Buildings and Grounds Committee

From the Deacon's Desk



- **Bee-full-** please continue your generosity by supporting this project now that school has started. We will take food as well as Aldi gift cards! Don't want to go shopping? Let Marty Pond do your shopping for you!
- **Angel Tree:** During Advent we will be supporting local families with our Angel Tree. This is a yearly event for us as a congregation to give Christmas gifts to those people in our community who would otherwise not receive gifts. This year we are supporting a family from **Peace, Inc.** and the **Bee-Full** program.



There are angels on the trees in the Chancel hallway and the lobby of the CE center. Please take an angel from the tree, buy the gift, and return it to either tree

by **Sun., Dec. 18, 2022.** If you would like to wrap the gift, please do BUT make sure the angel is still attached to the gift so we know who the gift goes to. Thank you for supporting this cause.



Congratulations to Harry and Bea Boak who welcomed a new grandson, Levi Whalen Boak, 6 lbs, 10 oz.!

2022 Board of Deacons

Peg Brussel	Pam Keckison	Martha Stevens
Marge Calkins	Matt McGivney	Peggy Suddaby
Mark Chamberlin	Marty Pond*	Barb Winegard
Heidi Henderson	Joanne Rodriguez	
	*Moderator	

The December Calendar

Sundays 10 am

Worship in the sanctuary

Mondays

6:30 p.m. - Bell practice in the Sanctuary
7-9:00 p.m. - Scouts in the Fellowship Hall

Sun., Dec. 4

10:00 a.m. - Worship and Communion

Mon., Dec. 5

10:00 a.m. - Music & Worship Committee in the Media Center
11:00 a.m. - Acts of the Apostles Bible Study in the Media Center (every Monday this month)
5:45 p.m. - Girl Scout Troop 60735, Media Ctr

Tues., Dec. 6

10:00 a.m. - Book Club in the Media Center

Weds., Dec. 7

5:45 p.m. - Girl Scout Troop 60867, Room #6

Sun., Dec. 11

10-2 p.m. - Craft Fair in the Fellowship Hall hosted by PNS

Tues., Dec. 13

7:00 p.m. - Session, Media Center
7:00 p.m. - Deacons, Fireside Room

Weds., Dec., 14

2:00 - Parkinson's Support Group, Media Ctr.

Sat., Dec. 31

5:00 p.m. - Emily Soeder's Wedding Ceremony in the Sanctuary

Dec. 4 - Matt 3:1-12

Dec. 11 - Matt 11:2-11

Dec. 18 - Matt 1:18-25

Dec. 25 - John 1:1-14

Pastor Appreciation!

On the last Sunday of October, as part of Pastor Recognition Month, we thanked and honored our amazing interim pastor, Rev. Dr. Carson Mouser. We thanked Rev. Dr. Karen Chamis as well. She has guided us through some difficult times recently and has been very supportive of our congregation.



Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence,

since our last newsletter

- ♡ GRIEVING
Heidi Henderson, upon the loss of her father,
Allan Henderson

- ♡ HEALTH CHALLENGES
Barry Bullis
Nancy Dobbins
Freida Mason
Anthonia Todd

- ♡ RECOVERING
Rush Pond
Mimi Dundon – temporary address
Syracuse Home, Rehabilitation Unit,
7740 Meigs Road, Room 308,
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

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Generally, names remain on the prayer list for one month. Please let the church office know if you wish otherwise.

H.E.L.P. Project



Thank you to all who contributed to the H.E.L.P. project. Your response was wonderful. We were able to collect and donate over 500 items to individuals that needed them!

“Hanging of the Greens”

On Sunday, November 20, members participated in the annual Hanging of the Greens to prepare the church for Advent and Christmas seasons.



Bob Brussel and Harry Boak



Tom Eckrote & Rush Pond hanging garland.



Marge Calkins climbing the ladder!

Christmas Tree Lighting



All are invited to the Plainville UCC on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. for the Christmas Tree Lighting program. A quartet of our bell ringers will be playing a couple times during the program and there is a nice variety of musical offerings. It is a free program and good cookies are served after the service. Come and join us for some holiday fun!



Nursery School News

December is a magical time of year at preschool. The kids are bubbling with excitement and we work to tie holiday themes into our learning whenever we can.

The 4's will have a gingerbread day and get to decorate a gingerbread person and eat it! Our last day before break the 3's and 4's will join together for a Grinch day that culminates with the classic movie and popcorn.

The preschool is hosting a craft fair this month in the Fellowship Hall. It will be on Sunday, December 11th from 10am-2pm. Santa will be there from 11am-1pm. Please feel free to stop by after church services and do some holiday shopping.

-Jessica Newcomb, Director

Christmas Bureau

For over 50 years, the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau has provided needy families in our community with toys, clothing, books, food and household items. Last year, because of generous donors like you, we were able to help over 150 families in the Baldwinsville community have a happy Christmas and Holiday Season. Each registered family received toys for the children, food for the family, boots and winter coats if needed, and household items such as towels, sheets and warm blankets.

We depend on local businesses, churches, school groups, organizations and individuals to help make the holidays a little brighter for those not as fortunate as ourselves. Any size donation can help our local families. Monetary donations are used to buy specific items that we need that are not donated such as winter coats, snow boots, warm blankets, or even a specific toy that a child has asked Santa for!

Another way to help support our endeavor is by encouraging a team effort with employees/groups by adding an extra non-perishable food item or paper or cleaning product to their weekly grocery shopping. By the time that our Christmas Bureau

drop off starts, we would have a tremendous start to our food/household collection. For other team/group efforts, please call Lauri Bernstein, Christmas Bureau Coordinator, at 727-5435. We always have plenty of specific needs and requests.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to the Baldwinsville Volunteer Center and note "Christmas Bureau" in memo area and drop it off at 8200 Loop Rd. Suite 101 in Baldwinsville or dropped off to our site during open hours. This year we will be located on the Baldwinsville School District main campus in the District Operations Building on Albert Palmer Lane. We will begin accepting donations on Sat., Nov. 26th through Mon., Dec. 12th. Please call me at the phone number above with any questions.

Donation Drop off: November 26 – December 12
 M-W-F 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 T-Th 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

-Laurie Bernstein, Coordinator



From the Mailbox

Thank you to everyone who worked at the Samaritan Center on Nov. 5. Our help was much appreciated. Our next date to serve is April 20, 2023.

-Kathy Bowen

Thanks to Barb Winegard and crew for another fantastic dinner. I miss being there to help!

God Bless,
 Mary Hamilton

Hello,
 Thank you so much for your generosity towards Bee Full Food Pantry. We continue to help students at Baker who have food insecurities and your kindness help a great deal. We could not do it without your support.

-Bee Full

Mountains of thanks to all who have agreed to be liturgists this past year. Also, thanks to the talented musicians of our congregation and friends who have enriched our worship this past year. Looking forward to having these people and others share in worship leadership in the coming New Year. Wishing everyone a safe and blessed Christmas season.-Rheta Jenks, Music Coordinator

From the Scouting World!

With the new school year, a couple months in, the Scouts have gotten back together and started a new year as well. Over the summer they went to a new camp, Onteora, down in the Catskills, and had a fun time. When the school year started, they elected new leaders to represent them as well as have done multiple Scouting activities. In September, the Scouts participated in the POW ceremony to honor soldiers that have been lost during the wars and went on a backpacking trip at Cascade Lake. In October, the Scouts carved pumpkins for Canton Woods Senior Center, as well as going up to Wellesley Island to celebrate the Brotherhood of Scouting.



Now in November, the Scouts have gone to Scouting O in Highland Forest, where they tested their Orienteering skills, and look for markers out in the woods. Just recently, they went to the Crunch game where they helped with the Flag ceremony at the opening of the game and the Crunch Took home the victory. The Scouts plan to stay busy coming into winter with lots of work, projects, and fun ahead of them.

- Josh Armpriester
 Assistant Senior Patrol Leader