

**February 2016 Newsletter**  
**CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES**



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**WORSHIP 10:45 AM**

**336 Barnett Avenue**  
**Waynesboro, PA 17268 – 0288**

**(717)762-4113**

**Website:** [www.apostlesucc.com](http://www.apostlesucc.com)  
**E-mail:** [ApostlesUCC@gmail.com](mailto:ApostlesUCC@gmail.com)

## **From the Pastor's Study February 2016**

January has slipped by quickly and we are already coming to the end of the first week of February, the shortest month of the year. Despite the date, I still haven't put away all of my Christmas decorations at home. I had better get busy or there will still be a snowman and a Santa Clause on my mantle Easter morning.

Ash Wednesday is next week already, marking the beginning of the season of Lent. The florist has already given us a deadline for ordering Easter flowers. The UCC Lenten daily devotionals have arrived. The stores are already stocked with spring clothing, garden tools and seeds. I look forward to winter as a time to slow down, to go within and rest and be renewed from the busyness of the warmer months. Instead, I've had to shovel snow and make plans for a new season in the church.

In February we celebrate the secular holidays of Valentine's Day and Presidents Day; while the church has Ash Wednesday and the days of Lent. I am grateful for all the special days we celebrate throughout the year both secular and religious. If it weren't for those special days we set aside to honor someone or something important our lives would be a continuous, monotonous series of days, weeks, months and years. Those special days of celebration help to break the routine of our lives, to stop, reflect and hopefully rest for a while if only for a day.

Not everyone appreciates the significance of the special days of the year. Children will appreciate being off on Monday for Presidents Day although I doubt they will spend much time thinking about Lincoln or Washington. For many people Valentine's Day will just be a day to remind them of their single status.

But hopefully those of us who recognize the special religious days of February will find special meaning in them. Ash Wednesday and the forty days of Lent leading up to Easter should be significant for people of faith. Those special days invite us to slow down, reflect upon where we are in our faith journey, in our relationship with God. Not an easy thing to do in a world that continuously demands our time and attention to non-religious matters.

It does require a concerted effort on our part to slow down for the next six weeks, to change our daily habits. We can begin our Lenten journey by attending the Ash Wednesday service next week. By attending a special church service in the middle of the week we take the first step in changing our daily routine. The first words you will hear at that service will be; *“We have left many important pursuits to gather here. In these moments, worship is our first importance.”* The decision to take that first step away from the routine of the world we live in is always the hardest but the most important decision we must make.

It is easy for us as Christians to forget who we are, and *whose* we are. By participating in the disciplines of the Lenten season we are reminded that we are mortal, that we were created by God and will one day return to God. We are reminded that life is short and uncertain, that we need a savior, and that every day you and I do or say something that separates us from God. Those are truths that are easily forgotten in a world that is focused on self and gaining personal wealth and success.

We live in a world that needs a savior. The good news is that we have a savior, Jesus. I pray that you find time each day that leads to Easter Sunday to stop if only for a moment and remember the one who lived for you, the one who died for you, and continues to be with you for eternity.

In Christians Love,  
Pastor Michael

“Some of the Lord’s followers think one day is more important than another. Others think all days are the same. But each of you should make up your own mind.”-Romans 14: 5 (*Contemporary English Version*)

***Birthdays  
&  
Anniversaries  
in  
February***



7 Dylan Fitz  
9 Elizabeth Reecher  
10 Laurie Deaver  
13 Ashley (Ritchey) Walker  
16 Richard and Linda Hovis  
26 Hailee Leidig  
28 Chloe Lux

**Calendar of Events  
February**

7	Worship	10:45 AM
8	Social Seniors at Trinity Waynesboro	2-4 PM
10	Ash Wednesday Service	6 PM
14	Worship	10:45 AM
14	Luncheon & Clog Dancing	12 Noon
16	Silver Express Delivery	1 :30 PM
21	Worship	10:45 AM
28	Church Growth Com.	9:15 AM
28	Worship	10:45 AM



Weight Watchers meets every  
Tuesday at 5 PM  
and Wednesday at 9 AM

Al Anon meets every Thursday  
from 8-9 PM

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS *in February*

## Lay Readers

The scriptures will be given to you the week before you are scheduled to read.

***No assigned readers***

***for***

***February***



***The Nursery is Available if Needed.***



## Ushers & Greeters

February 7: Bob Benchoff & Randy Cramer

February 14: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

February 21: Dave Patterson & Bruce Barr

February 28: Nevin & Sondra Monn



## Communion Assistants

February 7: Bob Benchoff, Randy Cramer  
& Judy Fitz

March 6: Tony & Donna Haugh  
& Bob Stum

## Social Seniors

Social Seniors will meet in Harbaugh Hall, Trinity UCC in Waynesboro,  
on Monday Feb. 8 from 2:00 until 4:00.

Trinity's new pastor, Bruce Druckenmiller and his wife Narda,  
will be joining us.

Please also join us for an afternoon of good fellowship and refreshments.

## Church Staff & Committees



**Pastor:** *Michael Cromer* Home: 717-776-7612  
Cell: 717-816-2940  
Email: [mcromerm@aol.com](mailto:mcromerm@aol.com)

**Church Office:** 762-4113 Email: [apostlesucc@gmail.com](mailto:apostlesucc@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday - Friday 8:30 AM – 3 PM

**Secretary:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Volunteer Financial Secretary:** *Judy Fitz* 762-4028

**Treasurer:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Choir Director:**

**Organist:** *Jim Heefner* 765-9534

**Consistory President:** *Randy Cramer* 717- 387-1657

**Vice-President:** *Jean High* 762-7794

**Altar Guild:** *Danny & Laurie Deavers* 717-655-5078

**Archive:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Christian Education:**

**Christian Outreach:**

**Lay, Life, & Work:**

**Outdoor Ministry:** *Bob Benchoff* 749-5202

**Property:** *Bruce Barr* (301) 824-2849

**Spiritual Council:** *Randy Cramer* (717)387-1657

**Spiritual Council Vice-Chair:** *Dave Patterson* 762-1452

**Stewardship & Finance:** *Donna Haugh & Jean High*

## Winter Weather

We are in the season of inclement weather that might prevent worship services on some Sunday mornings. If you are not certain as to whether or not Sunday worship is being held, please call Bob Benchoff at 377-4729.



## Clog Dancing and Old Time Music on Valentine's Day

Join us on a February 14 beginning at noon for our annual Valentine's community potluck followed by entertainment by Rock, Candy and Slim who will provide us with entertainment after the meal. Beginning at 1:15 Rock and his partner Candy will clog dance; while Slim will provide the music using a variety of unusual instruments such as the jug, washboard, spoons, pots and pans, as well as the banjo, squeeze box and guitar. This is a great program for kids who will participate by playing a variety of homemade musical instruments. This event has been



continuously one of the most enjoyable special events of the year. Bring something to share at the potluck, bring a friend to share this fun afternoon.

## Volunteers Needed

Waynesboro New Hope Shelter needs volunteers to help the homeless in our community. Both shelters are currently full with 40 people in residence. There are 12 men, 6 women, and 2 families with 6 children waiting for openings at the shelter. One woman is known to be sleeping in her car. You can help by volunteering to serve the Room at the Inn which is a cold weather shelter for women and children, open only in February and March. You must, however, attend a training session. Call 762-5840 for more information and to schedule a training session that suits your schedule.

# The Lenten Season Begins

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



The 40 day season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday February 10, and ends on March 26. Daily devotionals from The United Church of Christ will be available as in previous years. The season of Lent is a time of personal reflection, a time to evaluate our lives and our relationship with God. Lent is a time for us to repent (turn back towards God) and prepare ourselves for Good Friday that commemorates Jesus' crucifixion, and Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

## Ash Wednesday

An Ash Wednesday service will be held at 6 PM on February 10 marking the beginning of Lent. Ashes will be placed on the forehead of those attending this brief service reminding us of our own mortality and that one day we will all return to ashes or dust. Ash Wednesday reminds us that all of us fall short in our relationship with God and that all of us are in need of a savior.



## Volunteers Needed

The Lunch Place in Waynesboro is in need of volunteers on Monday's and Thursday's. If interested in helping out contact Christ United Methodist Church at [UMCChrist@gmail.com](mailto:UMCChrist@gmail.com) or call 762-7042 and ask for the church secretary.



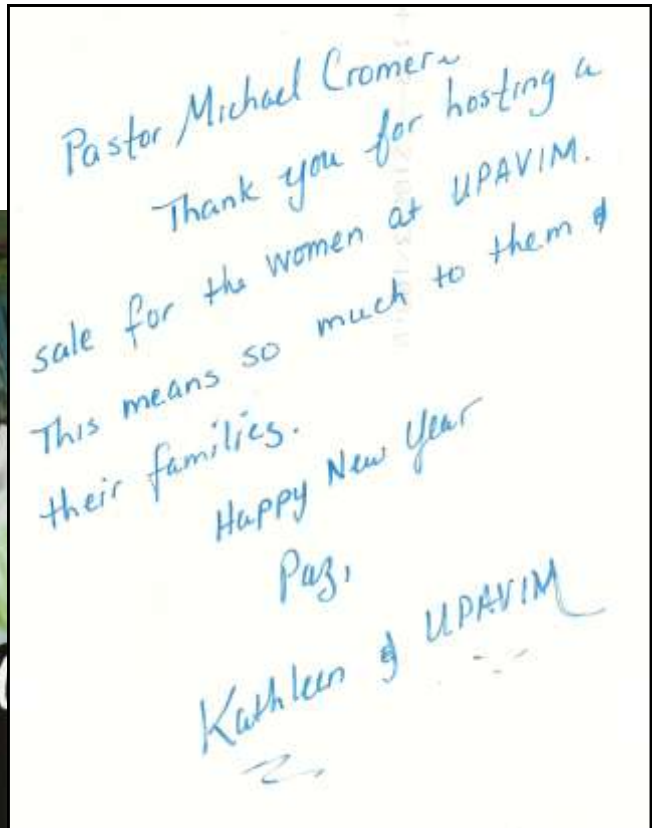


# Peace Garden

It's not too early to start thinking about the upcoming garden season. Greenhouses and nurseries have already started their bedding plants for spring. One of this year's new garden projects will be to plant a garden in the space surrounding the peace pole. Please share your ideas and make a commitment to help with this project. As with the community garden project, this project is also open to the public. Invite friends and neighbors to participate and make contributions of plants from their own garden to make this a true community project.



**From UPAVIM**  
(at the Peace Pole  
Celebration)





January 20, 2016

The Church of the Apostles  
United Church of Christ  
336 Barnett Ave  
Waynesboro, PA 17268

Dear Friends of St. Jude,

Happy New Year! Time is so precious to the children and families of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and I wanted to thank you for contributing \$4,411.67 in December 2015. You are helping provide more time for each of our St. Jude families to spend together with their children -- children like sweet Mason.

When Mason was just 4 years old, he was playing with friends when his mom noticed his coloring was off from the rest of the children. He also had some bruising on his back, but Mason was an active boy, so his mom initially thought the bruises came from rough-housing with his pals.

But his mom still felt something wasn't right, so she took him to a local clinic and hospital to run tests. And then his mom received Mason's terrifying diagnosis . . . acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a type of blood cancer.

Mason was immediately referred to St. Jude, where doctors told his mom that if he had not come to St. Jude when he had, he might have passed away in his sleep within days. Can you imagine hearing your child has days to live? Time is precious.

Mason received a two-and-a-half year treatment plan of chemotherapy, and he's ready to go fishing and play outdoors again. His mom said, "It's been an awesome place, and he loves it. A lot of times he wants to spend the night *inpatient*, because they have Wii and he loves the attention he gets. He really does love St. Jude."

Thank you so much for the compassion you have for our children, and for giving them a chance to spend precious time with their loved ones. I am truly grateful to know that we have your support in the New Year.

Very truly yours,



Richard C. Shadyac, Jr.  
President and CEO  
ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

## **THE WAY STATION MINISTRIES, INC.**

**Pastor Michael Cromer  
Church of the Apostles UCC  
336 Barnett Avenue  
Waynesboro, PA 17268**

**Dear Pastor and Congregation,**

**Greetings from the staff at The Way Station! We want to express our heartfelt appreciation for your most generous donation of \$3,308.76. This was a greatly needed answer to our prayers. May God richly bless you for your faithful obedience to Him.**

**You can be sure that your donation will be used to spread the Gospel in Word and song to the people in the community of Waynesboro. The Way Station provides local ministry in the form of Saturday evening Coffeehouse, as well as bible studies and prayer meetings throughout the week and various outreaches throughout the year. We also provide a Food Give-a-way on the second and fourth Fridays of the month.**

**The Way Station is a 501C3 non-profit, faith-based ministry established in January 2005 to serve the community of Waynesboro. Our mission is to provide a safe, positive environment where people of all ages can gather, fellowship, worship, pray and grow in their relationship with God and one another.**

**Thank you again for your continued support of our ministry. We would like to extend an invitation to all of you to come and participate in any or all of our activities.**

**Your partners in ministry for King Jesus,**

**THE WAY STATION MINISTRIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



## WAYNESBORO COMMUNITY AND HUMAN SERVICES

123 Walnut Street • Waynesboro, Pennsylvania 17268

Phone 717-762-6941 • Fax 717-762-1115

January 15, 2016

Church of the Apostles  
336 Barnett Avenue  
Waynesboro, PA. 17268

Dear Church of the Apostles,

Peace of mind.....A warm place to sleep, the shut off is stopped, and food on the table.

This is what your gift of eighty hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens, means to us and the families we serve. Thank you so much.

We're putting your donation to good use. With your help, WCHS is assisting families in the Waynesboro Area/Greencastle School Districts who have financial emergencies, or are in need of food, or clothing.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the families we serve.

Denise Esser, Director

Julie Mohn, Secretary

P.S. We invite you to visit our website at [www.wchs-pa.org](http://www.wchs-pa.org). There you can learn more about the programs, and services you support. Please call us at 717-762-6941 if you ever have questions. We're here to help. Again, our thanks to you.

*Please save this letter as a receipt for your tax records. Since you received no goods or services in exchange for this gift, it may be considered a charitable contribution to the extent allowed by IRS regulations.*





**Save the Children.**

Gift Date: 12/22/2015  
Amount Received: \$3860.21  
Lookup ID: 116348454

**THIS IS YOUR TAX RECEIPT**

Church of the Apostles United Church of Christ  
336 Barnett Ave  
Waynesboro, PA 17268-1810

Federal income tax law requires us to inform you that no goods or services were provided to you in return for your gift and that, therefore, the full amount of your gift is deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Dear Friends of Save the Children,

Thank you for your gift of \$3860.21. Your generosity helps Save the Children invest in childhood – every day, in times of crisis and for our future.

We know that children who have a healthy start, the opportunity learn and protection from harm are more likely to grow into productive, engaged citizens. Your contribution puts you by our side as we work to give children better health and education every day, along with safety and security in times of crisis.

Save the Children counts on compassionate supporters like you who understand the importance of long-term development programs approached holistically — programs that take into consideration the needs of the whole child. A child can't go to school if she is sick; a child won't be healthy without good nutrition; and a child won't eat well if his family can't put food on the table. That's why we integrate our education programs with health and nutrition programs, along with programs to help families break the cycle of poverty. Your philanthropy helps us do that, one child at a time.

On their behalf, thank you.

Carolyn Miles  
President & CEO



### **Hoffman Homes for Youth**

A Psychiatric Residential Treatment Program for Children  
815 Orphanage Road, Littlestown, PA 17340  
717-359-7148 • Fax 717-359-2600  
www.hoffmanhomes.com

C. Mitchell Snider, MBA, Chief Executive Officer

January 6, 2016

Church of Apostles  
United Church of Christ  
336 Barnett Avenue  
Waynesboro, PA 17268

Dear Friends,

**"There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children.  
One of these is roots, the other, wings."**

JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE

For more than a century, Hoffman Homes for Youth has offered shelter, caring and comfort—roots—to those most vulnerable of children. For the past 25 years, we have provided life-changing treatment and healing for thousands of children and youth who are struggling with mental illness and severe behavioral challenges.

We are proud of our legacy of caring—and equally as happy to embrace our future. Our newly opened on-site, private academic school was founded to ensure that our children receive a high-quality education during their stay with us. Hoffman Academy provides a differentiated and progressive curriculum focused on our students' health and positive growth. Recently, due to the generous support of donors and through a supplemental grant and Title 1 funding, we were able to provide our school students with individual iPads to support advanced learning. The integration of this technology into our curriculum allows faculty to engage students in a way that is relevant—keeping their interest and making them *want* to learn, even as they receive leading-edge, developmentally appropriate instruction. Coupled with our comprehensive creative therapies, which promote constructive self-expression, our program promotes the healing, personal growth and achievement of each and every child we serve, to give them the wings needed for a better life and a promising future.

#### **A brighter future, thanks to you**

Please know that your support is helping to make a tremendous difference in the lives of our children and our community. Your contribution to Hoffman Homes is an investment in our children's future, and we couldn't be more grateful. On behalf of the children we serve, **THANK YOU** for your gift of \$4,227.85 (check no. 6112 dated 12/16/15) to support our mission. We are grateful for your congregation's continued support and faith in the work we do.

Thanks to you, we have a long, deeply rooted history of caring—and, with your continued support, we'll have the brightest of futures, dedicated to the health and well-being of our children.

With gratitude,

  
Brittane Varano  
Director of Special Events  
and Community Development

*We are so blessed for the  
support and faith provided by  
your congregation! Thank you!*

**From  
Al Anon:**



Dear Pastor Michael,

Our Al Anon group decided we needed to show you in some small way, our appreciation for your next-free hospitality in your Church for over 6 months now.

We have decided to contribute to our host church as well as our world service organization which struggles financially.

Thank you and your leaders for your support & hospitality!

Sincerely,  
Paula & Neil +  
The Antistone  
AFB

## “Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their bowls!



Donations for this month will be delivered **February 16.**



All canned/boxed food on the shelves will be delivered each month to ensure freshness.

**THE CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES  
336 BARNETT AVENUE  
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268-0288**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Please forward an address change to the Church office.*



# **February 2016**

## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We are called together to worship God, united by the Holy Spirit, and chosen as instruments of our Lord's purpose to teach, support and serve all people. We witness to the church, the community and the world by showing joy in the faith and using our talents to praise God.*