

December 2017 Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP 10:45 AM

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From the Pastor's Study

One of my favorite places to go during the Christmas season is Roots Country Market outside of Manheim. The closer to Christmas the better because the joyful frenzy of the market intensifies as December 25 grows nearer. Roots Market, pronounced "*ruts*" by the locals has numerous old wood framed buildings filled with vendors selling items of all kinds. The market is a feast for the senses; sight, sound, and smell. There are bakeries, meat markets, candy shops, Greek food, pretzel and chip vendors, toys, leather goods, furniture, and much more.

Food is often piled high, especially at Christmas, to emphasize the great wealth of food that is available. Last year a produce vendor piled broccoli three feet high in the shape of a Christmas tree. Stacks of meats and cheeses fill refrigerated display cases. The smell of caramel corn, oranges, apples, pears, coffee, pizza, baked soft pretzels, onions, meats, flowers, cookies, chocolate and homemade soaps scent the air.

The sounds and actions of the shoppers are especially joyful at this time of year. People are laughing, holding conversations in the aisles, hugging each other, sharing information about their purchases, telling their plans for the holidays. They converse with and smile at the vendors as they pass money over the counters. Babies are crying, children are giggling, parents are reprimanding. It is a joyous place in every sense. One cannot escape the abundance of good will and the wealth of wares to be had.

Outside the market buildings are more vendors. Some sell branches of holly and pine. Some are selling produce, apple cider, whoopee pies, Christmas trees, wreaths, articles of clothing, and gift items. If the weather is bitter cold the shoppers hurry to make their purchases so they can return to the warmth of the buildings. By 10:00 AM the market is at its peak and customers start heading for their cars to hustle their treasures home.

A farmer's market has always been a favorite place for me. I attribute my love for them to my grandmother taking me with her to the market where she sold produce, pies, noodles, and eggs. As a toddler I sat on the counter behind her and watched her interact with the customers and make sales. It was one of the few times she stopped doing physical work and spent time in conversation with people. Sweet memories of that time in my life have stayed with me for a lifetime.

Farmer's markets must hold a fond place in the hearts of many other people as well. The number of markets in the United States is growing every year. They are popular because people love the sense of community and oneness they feel when they come together once a week at a special time and place to talk and shop for their weekly sustenance. People like the idea of supporting local farmers, bakeries, and craftspeople. But more than anything they love the feeling of community they experience at a farmer's market. It is my belief that is why so many people love Black Friday. It is as much the fellowship they experience while shopping as the bargains they are looking for that day.

That same sense of community and fellowship is also experienced during the Christmas season. We come together as one in the pursuit gifts, and the pleasures of the season. We spend too much, we do too much; plan more activities in a few weeks than we should. We wallow in a sense of abundance, cast aside until next year our concerns about how we will pay for the excess we have incurred, we take chances with showing our true feelings for one another, and relish the warmth we only experience this special time of year. A popular Christmas song expresses in its words, *"I wish it could be Christmas every day."* And we ponder the question. Why it is not possible to feel like Christmas all year through? It is possible if we keep Christ in our hearts and in our minds every moment of every day. For it is he who is responsible for all the joy we feel at this time of year. It is his birth that has given us hope, the source of joy.

Christmas Blessings, Pastor Michael

*Fear not: for behold I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the
Lord.-Luke 2: 10-11*



Mercersburg Academy Candlelight Service



If you have never experienced the magnificent candlelight service at the Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg I greatly encourage you to do so this year. The service is held in the Mercersburg church which itself is a magnificent piece of architecture; a gothic building built in the 1920's to honor the alumni of the school who lost their lives during WW I. The church is lit with hundreds of real candles and decorated with numerous live Christmas trees and pine boughs. The services are on December 10 at 4:30 and 7:30. I encourage you to arrive as much as one hour before the service because of its popularity. People come from all over to attend this beautiful and meaningful service.

Abram Cromer Fund

Pastor Michael's nephew, Abram Cromer, has been recovering from a very serious accident that happened this past summer.

Consistory recently voted, by email, to approve inviting the congregation to make a donation to help support his young family.

All donations are payable to the church,
with notation: Abram Cromer Fund.

Deadline is December 17, 2017 to be mailed to him before Christmas.



Glove and Mitten Tree

We will again collect gloves and mittens of all sizes for those in need in our community. The Mitten Tree will again be standing in the narthex for you to attach your donations. In previous years we have collected close to 100 pairs of gloves and mittens as well as scarves and knit hats. Many of us assume that everyone has the winter wear they need because we have never been without those basic necessities but that is not true for those living on the edge of society.



50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The former St. Paul - Harbaugh Charge of the UCC officially became The Church of the Apostles, UCC at a Uniting Service held at Trinity, UCC, Waynesboro on March 26, 1967.

The Legal Committee is shown in the following photo. Our celebration will continue with monthly newsletter photos of the Finance and Building Committees as well as progress photos leading up to the Building Dedication in 1969.

A 50th Anniversary committee will be formed to plan a Service of Celebration to commemorate the Building Dedication in 2019.



Back Row: Bruce Barr, Roy Hawbaker, Sterling Moyer, Omar Eshleman, Lynn Hartle.
Front Row: David Patterson, Ruth Potter, Fannie Harbaugh, Cleo Martin, Lloyd McCleaf.

***Birthdays &
Anniversaries
in
December***



15 Shirley Zeigler

**Calendar of Events
December**

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 2 Hospital Greens Sale | 8 AM |
| 3 Worship | 10:45 AM |
| 3 Hanging of the Greens | |
| 10 Worship
Cristmons Service | 10:45 AM |
| 11 Social Seniors at
Trinity Waynesboro | 2-4 PM |
| 17 Worship | 10:45 AM |
| 19 Silver Express Delivery | 1:30 PM |
| 24 Worship | 10:45 AM |
| 24 Christmas Eve Service | 7 PM |
| 31 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 December*



Ushers & Greeters

December 3: Donna Levick & Randy Cramer

December 10: Bob Stum & Bob Benchoff

December 17: Judy Fitz & Ernie Fitz

December 24: Nevin & Sondra Monn

December 31: Donna Levick & Randy Cramer

Communion Assistants

December 31: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

January 7: Tony & Donna Haugh



Social Seniors

Social Seniors
will be held
on December 11

at

Trinity Waynesboro
From 2 - 4 PM.

The history of Chrismons will be shared and the group will be decorating Chrismons. Supplies will be provided.

“Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their
bowls!



Donations for this month
will be delivered **December 19.**

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

Monthly donations are much appreciated!



CONSISTORY
MEMBERS



Julia Cramer

Jean High

Mary Lou Misner

Martha Smith



Donna Levick

Sondra Monn

Nevin Monn

Brian Jacobs

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

November 5, 2017

Minutes and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Property Committee proposed budget cuts for lawn care and outdoor ministry.

Stewardship and Finance reported that Barry Radcliff at Edward Jones Investments is the new financial advisor for the church.
The previous advisor, Dave Green, moved out of town.

NEW BUSINESS

Approved to change the some wording in the Use of Facilities contract.

Approved to change the Secretary Job Description to add responsibility to manage, file and maintain all facilities contracts in the church office.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

October 1, 2017

Approved to end the pastor's Full Time Call Agreement, effective December 31, 2017.

Christmas Worship Services

- December 3: 1st Sunday of Advent
Hanging of the Greens
- December 11: 2nd Sunday of Advent
Christmons service
- December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent
- December 24: 10:45 Worship to celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent
- December 24: 7 PM Candlelight service to celebrate Christmas Eve



2017 STAFF GIFTS !!!

Let's thank the church staff for all they do!
Please, use the pew STAFF GIFT envelopes
for your donation.
Place in offering plate.
Deadline is December 17
to be distributed by Christmas.





ST. RITA'S WOMEN'S SOCIETY INVITES
YOU TO OUR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS MART

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017

St. Rita's Parish Hall

13219 Monterey Lane

Blue Ridge Summit

9:00A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

LUNCH AVAILABLE

**LIVE WREATHS & ARRANGEMENTS,
CRAFTS & BAKED GOODS,
RAFFLE AND LIVE MUSIC**

PLUS

**A RELIGIOUS ARTICLES SALE SPONSORED BY
FAMILY MINISTRY**





Donation Receipts for Tax Statements

Please submit any receipts to the office that you want to have included on your 2017 tax statement **by December 31**.

Any receipts submitted in January will be included on your 2018 tax statement.

Reimbursement for Receipts

If you purchase a budgeted or In-Out donation item for the church you can submit the receipt to the office for reimbursement. Please include a note with your name, what the purchased item is (if it's not clear on the receipt) and write "Reimbursement" on it.

All receipts need to be submitted for reimbursement **during the calendar year the purchase was made** for our budget purposes.

REIMBURSEMENT

ELMCROFT™ OF SHIPPENSBURG

SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

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Virginia Bruneste's high school graduation photo.

Virginia Bruneste was born in her grandparents home on Old Pen Mar Road in Maryland in October 1923, and Pen Mar would ever after be an important part of her life. When she was just 11, she got her first job-renting field glasses on the overlook at Pen Mar Park. From there she went on to work at the photography studio within the park. When the park closed permanently after the 1942 season, many of the smaller hotels were turned into boarding houses for the wives of soldiers stationed at what was then Camp Ritchie, as there was no housing on the base for families.

Virginia's mother owned one of these boarding houses, and it was there that Virginia met Bernard Bruneste, a young Army Air Corps officer who came with a friend who was visiting his wife. When Bernie was transferred in August 1943, he and Virginia eloped (a marriage that lasted 50 years until his death in 1993). After spending the war years stationed at various bases in the U.S., they returned to Pen Mar to make their home. Following the birth of their children, a daughter and son, they purchased the very old Pen Mar Hotel where they first met, and it was there that they raised their family.

While raising her children, Virginia volunteered her time at various local organizations. She was a Sunday School teacher for 25 years, sang in the choir and played the piano at church services for 25 years. She was a Brownie & Girl Scout Leader, a school volunteer and PTA officer. She also worked as a substitute at the Pen Mar Post Office.

Her husband, Bernie, wrote a petition that eventually resulted in the establishment of Pen Mar County Park where Virginia volunteered and started an annual picnic for former employees of the old Pen Mar Park. This summer marked the 40th anniversary of that picnic. (Continued on

When Virginia was in her fifties, she took up oil painting. Many of her paintings grace the homes of her family and friends. Her painting of the Pen Mar Carousel won a ribbon in the Historical Category and was voted favorite painting at a Waynesboro Art Show. At the urging of collectors of Pen Mar Park postcards, she had a postcard made of her Carousel painting because there was no postcard of the carousel at that time. She likes participating in arts & craft activities at the community, and likes to sit and watch the sites, as there is never a dull moment at Elmcroft!



This is the postcard that was made of Virginia's Carousel Painting. The carousel was in use in Pen Mar park in Maryland from 1907-1942. Virginia painted this picture in 1981. The postcard was published by Ziegler Photography Studio in Waynesboro, PA.



Pastor Michael,

Thank you again for opening the Church of the Apostles to Michael and I as we celebrate our union before God. As we shared with you in our first email, it was important to both of us to share our vows in a church setting, officiated by a pastor. We are so appreciative of your kindness and willingness to marry Michael and I and share our first moments as husband and wife.

Bless you!

- Chasity &

- Michael Terry

- From
Chasity (Burns) Terry



God's Love Colors Everything



The United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance
presents this certificate with sincere thanksgiving to



Church of the Apostles United Church of Christ Waynesboro, Pennsylvania

For its generous and faithful support of the 2016 Christmas Fund
with gifts totaling \$255

Brian R. Bodager

Brian R. Bodager
President and CEO

The Pension Boards—United Church of Christ, Inc.

Krista L. Betz

The Rev. Krista L. Betz
Director, Ministerial Assistance

The Pension Boards—United Church of Christ, Inc.

Thank
you



Pastor Michael and
Congregation of
Church of the Apostles UCC -

We very much appreciated the
All Saints Day service. We
were glad to attend and
to take part in remembering
our aunt, Mae Kauffman and
the gentlemen too.

Your services are always
instructive and encouraging.

Most sincerely,
Kaye Reuler & Dick Reuler
for the family of Mae Kauffman

Thank you
for the
beautiful flower
arrangement,
prayers,
cards,
visits
and
phone calls
following
my recent
hip surgery.

With sincere
appreciation,

Martha Smith

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please forward an address change to the Church office.



December 2017

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.