

IN THIS ISSUE

- ≡ Pastor's Message
- ≡ December Services
- ≡ Advent Candles
- ≡ Sponsors Needed
- ≡ Offering Envelopes
- ≡ Gift Cards
- ≡ Homewood Needs
- ≡ Schedule of Duties
- ≡ Birthdays and Anniversaries
- ≡ Shut-Ins & Military
- ≡ Thank You's
- ≡ Toiletries Collection
- ≡ Homewood Auxiliary
- ≡ Financial Report
- ≡ Cookie Walk
- ≡ Christmas Caroling
- ≡ SOS & Men's Group
- ≡ Faith Kidz
- ≡ JEEUS
- ≡ Healing Hearts
- ≡ Yuletide Concert
- ≡ Shut-Ins & Military
- ≡ Town Meeting
- ≡ Healing Hearts
- ≡ Emmanuel's Closet
- ≡ "Bly's" Report
- ≡ Just For Kids
- ≡ December Calendar

From the Pastor's Desk



Greetings to you and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

How was your Thanksgiving???? I am writing this month's message before the holiday so, I can only assume that we all had a wonderful day. One message that Nelson shared with me is sticking in my mind. We used this as the thought for the day on November 19th..... "What if all you have for today is whatever you gave thanks for yesterday?" It is a very profound thought. We all, no matter how little or how much we have, we always seem to have enough or even more than enough for today. But, have we TRULY given thanks for what we have? We certainly think about how thankful we are as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, but unfortunately, our thankfulness usually diminishes quickly after the leftovers are put away, the naps taken, the football game over, or, whatever our Thanksgiving traditions may be. Many people spend much of their day planning the black Friday sales stops and which stores open earliest and are the closest. Needless to say, the crush of the Christmas season has begun.

But, as we make our plans for the shopping, the parties, the traditional Christmas events we attend, etc., is this all done with our hearts focused on the true meaning of Christmas? It is easy to get so "wrapped up" (pun intended) in all of the busyness of the Christmas season. It is easy for us to kind of forget that Christmas is about the love of God. Christmas is when God said to his people - forget the burnt offerings; forget the sacrifices; forget that you have been taught that I am a God of wrath. Christmas is when "Love came down"; "Love has come - a light in the darkness!"; "Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel". Christmas is when God said to his people that we had misinterpreted His commandments and his directives for the living of our lives because we had focused on living to the "letter of the law" instead of basing our lives on two commandments: "We shall love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength" and, "we shall love our neighbors as ourselves." We spent so much of our time trying to live our lives according to what we thought God would expect of us and we missed the mark. So, in order to lead us to a true understanding of what God expects and desires from us, He came to live among us and was "born of the Virgin Mary". The Messiah, the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, was born of a human mother. He lived among us and taught us the truth about God and showed us how we misunderstood God's hopes and



expectations of us. All of us know by memory John 3:16 which reminds us: "God so loved the world (each one of us) that He gave His only begotten Son!!!!"

Now, certainly, there is nothing bad or wrong about giving the gifts we do at Christmas. There is nothing bad or wrong in the number we give or the extravagant nature of what we give UNLESS our giving is done for the wrong reasons. A hand made gift given from the heart and wrapped in love is just as beautiful and valuable as a three carat diamond! So, as the countdown to Christmas begins or continues, let us keep our hearts in the thankful mode and keep Christ in the center of all that we do this Christmas season!

Jeri and I wish all of you a very, MERRY CHRISTMAS! - filled with love and joy because we know Jesus IS the reason for this season!

God Bless! **With love,** Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in DECEMBER

December 3, 2017 - Advent 1

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Sermon: "Are You Watching?"

Choir Anthem: "Emmanuel" Price/Besig

December 10, 2017- Advent 2

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Sermon: "The Beginning of the Good News"

Choir Anthem: "Comfort Ye" Williams/Barrett

December 17, 2017 - Advent 3

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon: "Being God's Messenger"

Choir Anthem: "Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?" Lau

December 24, 2017 - Advent 4 - Cantata

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Anthems: "On a Night of Wonder"	Haismith
"Way Down Yonder in Bethlehem"	Barrett
"A Quiet Invitation"	Martin/Nix
"Simple Gifts for Christmas"	Gilpin
"Manger, Cross and Tomb"	York/Johnson
"Let the Earth Resound with Praise"	Williams/Martin

December 24, 2017 - Christmas Eve-7:00 PM at the Red Brick Chapel

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Sermon: "Hope and Action . . . PRAISE GOD!"

Special music for the service

December 31, 2017 - Christmas 1

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Special Program by KEITH GRIM



The following families will be lighting the
Advent candles this year.

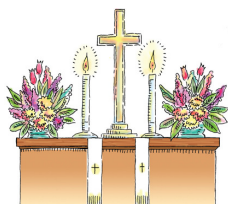
December 3 - Joan Mickey, Lynz and Alys Leader

December 10 - Tarry & Sandy Ness family

December 17 - To be announced

December 24 - Kevin & Renne Myers family

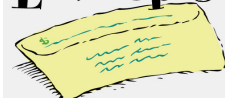
Christmas Eve - Brad & Michele Leader family



SPONSORS NEEDED

If you would like to become a sponsor for the Bulletin and/or Altar Flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of an occasion, please fill in your information in the book located on the podium in the Gathering Room. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins for a week is \$10.00. Altar flowers are \$25.00 for a half set and \$35.00 for a full set. You may place your payment in an envelope marked "Altar Flowers" or "Bulletin" in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. You may also sponsor a choir anthem in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion. The cost is \$50 for each anthem.

Offering Envelopes



Our offering envelopes for 2018 have arrived. Anyone who requested envelopes last year will automatically be given them again this year. If you received envelopes for 2017, but don't wish to use them in 2018, please call the church office. Likewise, call the office if you did not use envelopes in 2017, but would like some for 2018.

Using offering envelopes helps to ensure the privacy of your donations and also makes it easier for us to keep track of what you have given for tax purposes. Envelopes will be available for pickup the middle of December. Thank you.

Would you like to help our church without spending any extra money? You can do this by buying gift cards to use for everyday purchases. For every card sold we earn a profit from 1½% all the way to 16%, depending on the merchant.



To get your cards, just fill out an order form and attach a check or cash. Checks should be made payable to St. John's Blymire's UCC. You may drop the orders in the offering plate, place them on Wanda's desk in the office or mail them to the church. Payment must be included with your order. Orders will be sent to the Great Lakes Scrip Center each Monday morning.

You may pick up your gift cards from Sandy Innerst at church the following Sunday. **If you are planning to give gift cards to family or friends for Christmas this is an easy way to do your shopping.** For more information about the program, you may call Wanda at the church office or check out the website www.glscrip.com.

HOMEWOOD HOMES NEEDS YOU

If you can do simple sewing, Homewood Homes needs you! The skilled care facility needs soaker pads and laundry bags for the residents. The directions for each are on the bulletin board in the main hallway. There is a box of material located in the fellowship hall—flannel for the soaker pads and cotton for the laundry bags. Any questions, please see Steph Frey or Trudy Wise. Thank you for supporting this project."

SCHEDULE OF DUTIES for DECEMBER

GREETERS:

December 3 - Nancy Taylor
December 10 - Beth March
December 17– Carol Barnhart
December 24 - Lynz Leader & Joan Mickey
December 31 – To be announced

GIFT COLLECTORS:

December 3 - Linda Rost
December 10 - Trudy Wise
December 17– Mike & Heather Matthews
December 24 - John & Kathi Sterling
December 31 - David & Susan McDowell

LAY READERS:

December 3 - Barb Adams
December 10 - Barb Marshall
December 17 – Jeri Jones
December 24 - Cantata
December 31 - Keith Grim

ACOLYTES:

December 3 - Jeri Jones
December 10 - Michele Leader
December 17– Ed & Barb Adams
December 24 - Janie Montgomery
December 31 - Michele Leader

COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

December 3 - To be announced
December 10 - To be announced
December 17- To be announced
December 24 - To be announced
December 31 - To be announced

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:

December 3 - Terry Doll
December 10 - Ed Adams
December 17- Chase Matthews
December 24 - Eli Matthews
December 31 - Wyatt Myers

LIGHTING OPERATORS:

December 3 - Joel Frey
December 10 - Greg Ness
December 17- Greg Ness
December 24 - Sterling Boyd
December 31 - Sterling Boyd

CAMERA OPERATORS:

December 3 - Greg Ness
December 10 - John Sterling
December 17- Todd Miller
December 24 - Greg Ness
December 31 - Greg Ness

VIDEO OPERATORS:

December 3 - Sydney Brown
December 10 - Jeri Jones
December 17- Judy Bishop
December 24 - Nelson Leader
December 31 - Chase Matthews

ALTAR GUILD: Jean McDowell & Barb Adams

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER: December 15

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



*May God
Bless You on
Your
Birthday!*

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|----------------|
| 2. | Sundi Neuhaus | 26. | Thomas Miller |
| | Judy Bishop | 27. | Donna Sleeth |
| 5. | Natasha Brenner | | Sylvia Kohler |
| 6. | Cindy Luckenbaugh | 28. | Jessica Giese |
| 7. | Jamie Klyeman | 31. | Herbert Bosley |
| 10. | Kevin Myers | | |
| 12. | Carl Criswell | | |
| | Jennifer Roelke | | |
| | Katie Stoops | | |
| 14. | Jennifer Knickel | | |
| 16. | Lori Corso | | |
| 17. | Hannah Marshall | | |
| | W. Edwin Bishop | | |
| | Stephen Flinchbaugh | | |
| 18. | Brett Innerst | | |
| | Kortney Troop | | |
| 19. | Danielle Marshall | | |
| | Zachery | | |
| | Luckenbaugh | | |
| 21. | Craig Rost | | |
| 22. | Carol Barnhart | | |

CELEBRATING DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Dec. 16 - Rod and Linda Eichelberger - 50 years
Dec. 18 - Pastor Curt and Ginny Weber - 46 years
Dec. 26 - David and Susan McDowell - 47 years

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Freda Berry
The Haven at Springwood
2321 Freedom Way
York, PA 17402
717-718-3615

Peggy Luckenbaugh
Room 704B
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403



Anita Spahr
36 West Main Street
Dallastown, PA 17313
244-7392



**Remember
and pray for
Our Members
in the
Military**

A1C Ness, Brandon
98950 East Harmony Lane
Tucson, AZ 85748



.... to **Barb Marshall** for planning the Fall Fest, **Joel Frey, Nelson Leader, Keith Markey and Greg Ness** for helping set up and prepare the food and to everyone who brought food and decorated their trunks.

.... to the **Sisters of Service** for organizing the bazaar and to everyone who donated food, crafts, plants, and other items. Thanks to many others who spent countless hours sorting items, setting up, collecting money, and cleaning up. Thanks to **Heather Matthews** for taking charge of the kitchen and **Barb Adams and Pastor Lou Ann** for waiting on tables. Your work was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to everyone who came out to purchase things. We made over \$1700 profit.

.... to **Brenda Miller** for leading our very own "Best Kept Secrets Tour of Lancaster County." She introduced many unique shops to those on the tour.

.... to **Marti Leader** for organizing the SERRV Sales. Thanks also to everyone who helped with the sale and who bought items.

TOILETRIES COLLECTION



We are still collecting toiletries for Helping Hands to give out at Christmas. We would love to be able to give everyone a bag. You may put your donations in the boxes under the coat rack in the hallway. Please try to keep items gender neutral. We will also be giving out bags to children, so kids' toiletries are needed as well. Thank you.

HOMWOOD AUXILIARY

Let your light shine" is this year's theme of the Homewood Homes Auxiliary. For Homewood health care center residents, the Homewood Auxiliary is a light that brings joy and compassion to them. When our representative, Stephanie Frey, asks for your support of the Auxiliary please say "YES." It only costs \$3.00 to join. Thank you.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2017	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$13,069.96	\$14,011.17	\$503.43	\$181.75	\$354.55	\$850.00
February	\$10,907.93	\$5,404.56	\$3.09	\$211.14	\$0.29	\$0.00
March	\$11,915.46	\$13,831.65	\$1,153.48	\$423.97	\$0.32	\$251.56
April	\$9,693.50	\$9,902.05	\$528.42	\$293.05	\$40.30	\$376.81
May	\$11,958.80	\$8,938.88	\$1,003.57	\$100.58	\$0.27	\$947.00
June	\$8,679.72	\$13,211.83	\$353.54	\$284.53	\$0.19	\$2,515.00
July	\$11,233.38	\$8,194.28	\$3.64	\$144.18	\$6.56	\$2,121.58
August	\$10,150.20	\$8,481.16	\$3.62	\$124.75	\$100.39	\$1,965.00
September	\$8,703.07	\$13,161.93	\$3.47	\$374.09	\$0.29	\$2,556.58
October	\$12,988.46	\$10,561.04	\$3.56	\$115.95	\$800.22	\$1,965.00
November						
December						
Total	\$109,300.48	\$105,698.55	\$3,559.82	\$2,253.99	\$1,303.38	\$13,548.55

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ November 1, 2017

\$10,288.41

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ November 1, 2017

(Includes \$47,060.21 Endowment)

\$74,967.90

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ November 1, 2017 (Includes \$760,367.67 CD's,
Trusts, UCC Foundation—transferred \$9000 from UCC Foundation to B B & T Bank)

\$765,262.46

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2017

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 397.38
January	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 84.27	\$ 431.65
February			\$ 116.61	\$ 548.26
March			\$ 71.58	\$ 619.84
April	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 115.87	\$ 710.71
May	3	\$ 75.00	\$ 20.02	\$ 655.73
June	3	\$ 75.00	\$ 139.95	\$ 720.68
July			\$ 109.37	\$ 830.05
August	2	\$ 75.00	\$ 55.02	\$ 810.07
September	2	\$ 625.00	\$ 55.40	\$ 240.47
October	3	\$ 100.00	\$ 61.21	\$ 201.68
November				
December				
Total	15	\$ 1025.00	\$ 829.30	



Cookie Walk

Come to our annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 9, from 9:00 AM until noon (or sold out). A large selection of all types of homemade cookies will be available. Buy as many as you like, mix and match flavors, all for just \$8.00 per pound.

In order for this to be a success we need lots of cookies, so get out your cookbooks, mixing bowls and cookie sheets. If you need any ingredients, there will be donations on the table in the Gathering Room for you to use.

If you were unable to attend the SERRV sale on November 25, SERRV items will also be available for purchase during the Cookie Walk. Come and browse the beautiful handmade items from other countries. Each purchase you make will help these craftsmen and their countries. This is a good way to do your Christmas shopping and also help others at the same time.

A reporter from Channel 8 News will be visiting our church on Wednesday, December 6, at 10:00 AM to do a news segment about our Cookie Walk and SERRV Sale. She would like to tape people baking and setting up for the Cookie Walk, so we are asking if possible for you to bring your cookies to the church before then. We also need volunteers to come bake cookies here at the church that morning. Please let Nelson know if you can help.



You are invited to join us on Sunday, December 10, for Christmas caroling at the homes of our shut-ins. We will leave the church parking lot at 5:30 PM. Contact church office you are interested in joining us.



S.O.S. and MEN'S GROUP



Neither the Sisters of Service nor the Men's Group will be meeting in the month of December.

The Men's Group will resume with their meeting on January 10. The next meeting of the SOS will be held in March 2018. Watch for their Book Fair in February.



FAITH KIDZ will be meeting at 6:30 PM on December 6, 13, and 20. They will have their Christmas party on the 20th. After a break for the holidays, meetings will resume on January 3.



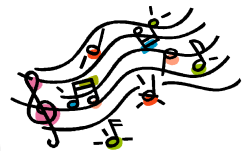
The TEENS have tentatively scheduled meetings on December 3 and 10 at 6:30 PM.



HEALING HEARTS

The Healing Hearts meeting on December 6 will be a Christmas Tea Party. It will begin at 12:30 instead of the usual 2:00 PM. Please let Kathi Sterling (717-577-0183) know if you will be attending!

YULETIDE CONCERT

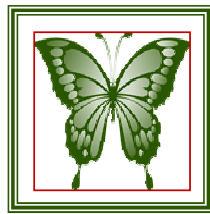
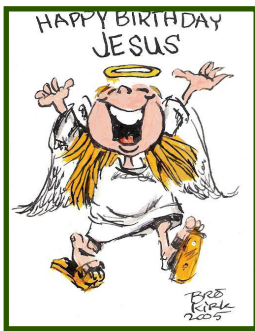


The Dallastown High School String and Choral Ensembles will present a Yuletide Concert here at the church on Friday, December 15, at 7:00 PM. Please invite your friends and join us for this holiday concert. We are in need of volunteers to make cookies or cupcakes for refreshments after the concert. Please let Nelson or Marti Leader know if you will be bringing anything.



TOWN MEETING

On Sunday, January 7, there will be a Town Meeting immediately after the worship service to discuss and approve the budget and the members of the Coordinating Ministry Team for 2018. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!



HEALING HEARTS INSPIRATIONS

December 2017



"There is no greater gift
at Christmas than to have
everything you want before you
open the gifts."

Flavia

WE DIDN'T DESIGN THE HOUR

Hollywood would recast the Christmas story! Joseph's collar is way too blue. Mary is green from inexperience. The couple's star power doesn't match the bill. Too obscure. Too simple. The story warrants some headliners. And what about the shepherds? Do they sing? A good public relations firm would move the birth to a big city. The Son of God deserves a royal entry. Less peasant, more pizzazz. But we didn't design the hour. God did. And God was content to enter the world in the presence of sleepy sheep and a wide-eyed carpenter. No spotlights, just candlelight. No crowns, just cows chewing cud. If God was willing to wrap himself in rags, then all questions about his love for you are off the table. When Christ was born, so was our hope. That is why I love Christmas!

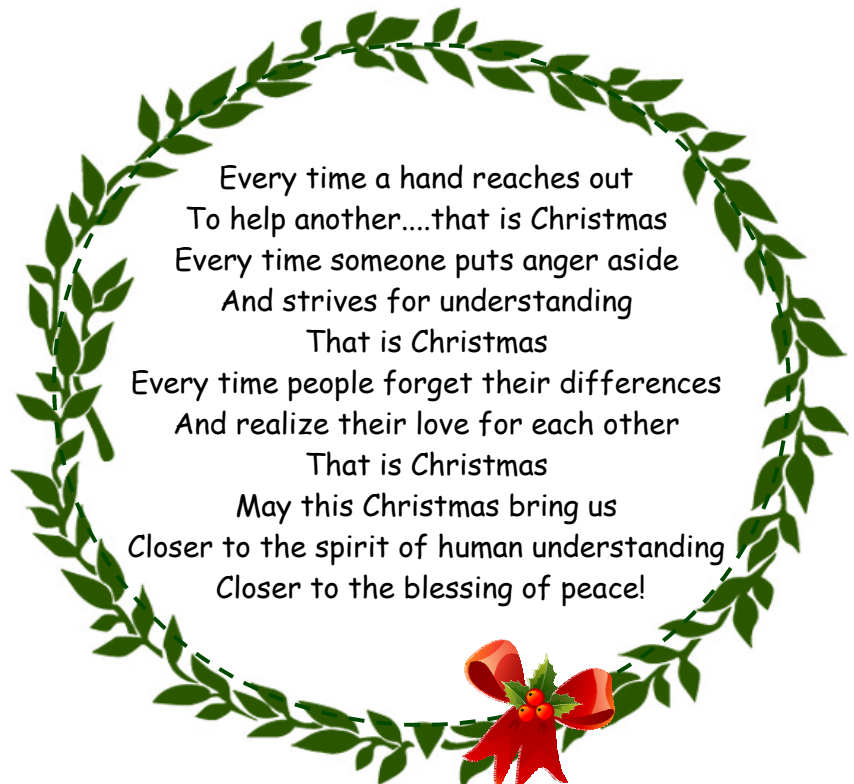
Max Lucado

CRADLE OF LOVE

The baby Jesus lay in a manger. Perhaps the moist breath of an ox nearby warmed the air, which smelled of the animals and hay. We don't know that for sure, but we know Jesus' birth was a scene of poverty. It was not kingly at all. How significant that the story of Christian love begins with the humblest seed of hope. So often, the Lord tiptoes into our lives without fanfare. Yet if we look up, a bright star is shining light into our lives. It is unbounded Love, heralded by the angels and recognized by a few, like the poor shepherds and the wealthy Magi; traveling, following the Light wherever it leads them. The star shines for the poor and the rich; this symbol of hope asks only that we follow it relentlessly and steadfastly, until we, too, kneel before the cradle of Love.

Lisa Bowman

Christmas is when God came down from heaven with
a baby in his arms.



Every time a hand reaches out
To help another....that is Christmas
Every time someone puts anger aside
And strives for understanding
That is Christmas

Every time people forget their differences
And realize their love for each other
That is Christmas
May this Christmas bring us
Closer to the spirit of human understanding
Closer to the blessing of peace!

JESUS vs. SANTA

Santa lives at the North Pole...

JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh...

JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year...

JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies...

JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited...

JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa...

JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap...

JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or girl, what's your name?"...

JESUS knew our name before we were born. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly...

JESUS has a heart full of love

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO...

JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says "You better not cry"...

JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa's little helpers make toys...

JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa may make you chuckle but...

JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree...

JESUS became our gift and died on a tree...the cross.

We need to put Christ back in CHRISTmas, Jesus is still the reason for the season.

GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF YOU!

"Stop trying to be what others want you to be, do not swim against the tide.

Be you, and only you. Sometimes you waste your time trying to fulfill the expectations of others, wanting to be who they want or expect you to be, just to please them. Such a thing is an exhausting and meaningless way of living your life on Earth. Be yourself, flow with life! Trust, flow, let yourself go, and enjoy your journey so unique and personal.

11:11 Progress Group



**"ALL I NEED
TO KNOW I
LEARNED
FROM A
SNOWMAN"**

- * It's okay if you're a little bottom heavy.
 - * Hold your ground, even when the heat is on.
- * Wearing white is always appropriate.
- * Winter is the best of the four seasons.
 - * It takes a few extra rolls to make a good midsection.
- * There's nothing better than a foul weather friend.
- * The key to life is to be a jolly, happy soul.
 - * We're all made up of mostly water.
- * You know you've made it when they write a song about you.
 - * Accessorize! Accessorize! Accessorize!
- * Avoid yellow snow. Don't get too much sun.
 - * It's embarrassing when you can't look down and see your feet.
- * It's fun to hang out in your front yard.
 - * There's no stopping you once you're on a roll.

~ Unknown ~

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

December 2017



Christmas Project

We would like to thank everyone who took a name and bought a Christmas gift for one of children at Emmanuel's Closet.

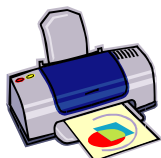
You will help to make their Christmas a little brighter.

Food Donations

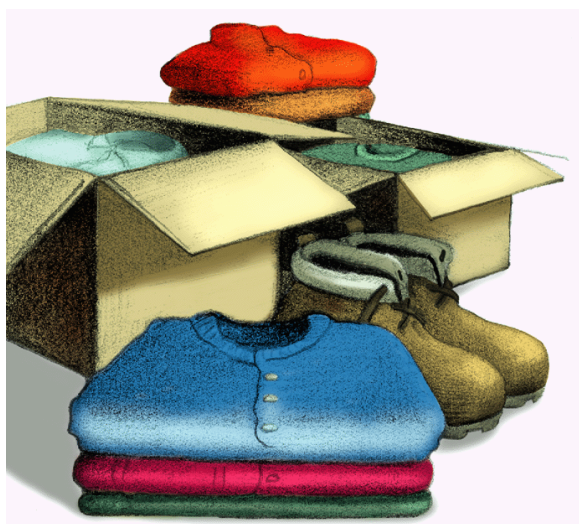
Thank you to everyone who helped with extra donations of food and money so we could buy gift cards for our clients to use when preparing their holiday meals. The extra Thanksgiving bags were given out on November 11 and 18. The extra Christmas bags will be given out on December 9 and 16.



Cartridge Recycling



Don't forget to bring in your empty printer cartridges and place them in the Emmanuel's Closet bin in the Gathering Room. Thank you for your support of this project which will not only raise money for those in need, but also help to keep our planet "green."



E.C. Continuing Needs

Juice

Cereal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Spaghetti Sauce

Boxed Dry Pastas

Helper Meals

Dessert Items

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Broth

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Coffee/Tea

Deodorant, Soap, Shampoo

Toothpaste, Toothbrushes

Toilet Paper, Tissues, Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

Baby food, formula, diapers, etc.

Children's books/toys

Small household items

Please, NO Expired Food Items

We are now accepting fall and winter clothing. They should be clean, in good repair and unstained.

THANKS FOR CARING!



Revelations for December from “Bly Mire” Mouse

BLY’S HEALING HUMOR — TRICK OR TREAT!!!! I know that I am a little behind time since trick or treat was a month ago. But, I have a “funny” to share with you for the healing humor! Some of you may not be aware that there was a bit of a problem in the kitchen during the month of November. Janie had placed something in the freezer November 1st in order to have it here for the family reunion on Saturday. Well, when the family gathered, there was no need to thaw what she had placed in the freezer because that was already accomplished! As a matter of fact, everything in the freezer was thawed. Investigations uncovered that the plug had been pulled out and, of course, without power, the freezer cannot do it’s thing. Now, forgive me if I chuckle while sharing this, but,.... Mire and I tried to pull a Halloween prank! We had spied on all of the goodies placed in the freezer and we kind of felt that if the freezer quit working, everything (all the cakes, cupcakes, pies, EVERYTHING) would have to be thrown in the dumpster and we would have our Thanksgiving feast a little early this year! Well, the prank did not work as we hoped. Most of the stuff in the freezer was refrozen and used later. So, Mire, myself and our little ones didn’t fare as well as we had hoped. So, I guess now we just have to..... ARE YOU READY FOR AN EARWORM..... we just have to.... “LET IT GO!!!” HEE-HEE! (Get it???? The song from the movie FROZEN!!!!)

How was your Thanksgiving? Our day was great as always. Mire made another feast for us to share. Of course, plans were to watch football all day BUT, you know when those turkey enzymes kick in, the eye lids do not stand a chance! So, after a nice nap, I helped to clean up in time to reheat everything for the evening meal! Of course, our hearts were all focused on how thankful we are for the loving God we serve and how blessed we are to have our family and our wonderful faith family at Blymire’s!

We definitely give a shout-out of THANKS to everyone who helped in the set-up and the operation of the Bazaar on the 11th. SUPER JOB, EVERYONE!!!! AWESOME! Even with eliminating Granny’s Attic, we made a good amount for the church!

And, as we enter the month of December, our hope is that this holiday season finds you surrounded by love! God showed us how much He loves us by sending Jesus to earth. And, in celebrating the birth of our Savior, we reflect on God’s love in our lives and how we reflect His love to others. So, Mire and I truly hope your Christmas season is packed with love of family and friends! Special hugs and prayers for all who lost loved ones this year because the holidays are especially hard with the void left by a loved one’s passing. GOD BLESS EVERYONE!!! and, MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

With our love!

Your faith-friends, BLY and MIRE and family!

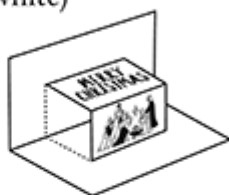


POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.

