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From the Pastor's Desk



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

Have you been listening to Christmas Music yet this year? There is Christmas music running through my mind because we have been rehearsing the Christmas Cantata and I am getting excited about sharing this message in word and music with you! It is somewhat hard to imagine that we (as I write this message) are days away from Thanksgiving and, of course, we are then one month from Christmas Day. We do affirm that this is the busiest time of the year because we not only have our normal, daily activities, but we are often invited to visit or take in parties of friends and family. So, we truly are in "the Most Wonderful time of the year!" Now I will put my twist on that song.... It is not because of the "parties for hosting, marshmallows for toasting and caroling out in the snow." (The previous line you may recognize as lyrics from the song) But, this is the MOST wonderful time of the year because "God came down at Christmas." For those who like technical terms, theologically this is called the INCARNATION - the embodiment of God (the Son) in human flesh as Jesus Christ. Up to this time, belief was that only the priests could be in the presence of God in the midst of the temple. But now, with the birth of Jesus, God has come down from heaven and is living and dwelling with humankind. And what an entrance to the world he made. He did not come in a state of the art hospital, but just the opposite.... He was placed in a manger in a stable. His birth did take on a very notable difference from most human's births though... his birth was announced by Angels visiting shepherds watching their flocks by night. His birth was announced by a Star that led wise men from afar to come to the little town of Bethlehem (not a major metropolitan city of that time). Just the knowledge and understanding of the circumstances of His birth I think should be enough to convince people of how much God loves us!

Unfortunately, there are circumstances of our daily life that sometimes challenge us enough to feel that the good news we are supposed to proclaim this time of year is, to use a current term.... fake news. We are sometimes so challenged by whatever demands our time and attention with health, finances, suffering, or whatever comes our way. We spend so much time thinking about our challenges or problems that we do not have any time to give to thinking about God and His love for us that brought about this awesome celebration! What we need to try to do is to put anything and everything that takes our attention away from God's love for us and the fact that God is with us 24-7-365. (hours, days a week and a year)

We hope to be able to keep our focus on God and His love for us because then we will always remember that God is with us ALWAYS!!!! God does not step away when we get the medical diagnosis. God does not step away from us when we get those debilitating pains. God does not turn His back on us when our finances are running low and there are still bills to pay. NO! God never turns away from us. God never leaves us on our own. We do affirm that God is ALWAYS with us and when the struggles of life are many and burdensome, that is when God carries us through! This message is one I have been sharing quite often, but with the number of our faith family who are recovering from or facing surgeries and recovery time, this message bears repeating (especially as we celebrate the birth of our Savior) because God did come down to live among us and teach us the truth about His love for us! At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus. At Christmas what we celebrate is — **GOD WITH US!**

So, no matter what may be affecting your life, my prayer is that you #1 know that God is with you ALWAYS and #2 God has strength for you to call upon that outlasts any human strength.

God Bless you ALL!

With love - Pastor Lou Ann

MERRY CHRISTMAS everyone!!!



SPECIAL SERVICES in DECEMBER

December 2, 2018 - Advent 1

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: "WATCH"

Choir Anthem: "Standing on the Promises" Carter/Hayes

December 9, 2018- Advent 2

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Sermon: "PREPARE"

Choir Anthem: "We Want to Be Ready" Besig/Price

December 16, 2018 - Advent 3

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

CANTATA: "Rhapsody in Bluegrass" by Joseph Martin

December 23, 2018 - Advent 4

Gospel: Luke 1:39-55

Sermon: "BLESSED"

December 24, 2018 - Christmas Eve-9:00 PM at the Red Brick Chapel

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Sermon: "Ponder This"

December 30, 2018 - Christmas 1

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

HYMN SING

SCHEDULE OF DUTIES for DECEMBER

GREETERS:

December 2 - Nancy Taylor
December 9 - Jane Picking & Joan Schell
December 16 - Heather Matthews
December 23 - Donna Sleeth
December 30 - Diana Myers

GIFT COLLECTORS:

December 2 - Ed & Barb Adams
December 9 - Greg & Sonja Ness
December 16 - Charlie Diehl
December 23 - Kevin & Renne Myers
December 30 - Janie Montgomery

LAY READERS:

December 2 - Barb Adams
December 9 - Janie Montgomery
December 16 - Heather Matthews
December 23 - Ginny Weber
December 30 - Sonja Ness

ACOLYTES:

December 2 - Greg & Sonja Ness
December 9 - Joan Mickey & Lynz Leader
December 16 - Ed & Barb Adams
December 23 - Randi & Eric John
December 30 - Janie Montgomery

COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS

December 2 - To be announced
December 9 - To be announced
December 16 - To be announced
December 23 - To be announced
December 30 - To be announced

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:

December 2 - Terry Doll
December 9 - Ed Adams
December 16 - Chase Matthews
December 23 - Eli Matthews
December 30 - Wyatt Myers

LIGHTING OPERATORS:

December 2 - Joel Frey
December 9 - Greg Ness
December 16 - Greg Ness
December 23 - Sterling Boyd
December 30 - Sterling Boyd

CAMERA OPERATORS:

December 2 - Greg Ness
December 9 - John Sterling
December 16 - Greg Ness
December 23 - Greg Ness
December 30 - Greg Ness

VIDEO OPERATORS:

December 2 - Sydney Brown
December 9 - Jeri Jones
December 16 - Judy Bishop
December 23 - Nelson Leader
December 30 - 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 - 52 years

Dec. 18 - Pastor Curt and Ginny Weber - 48 years

Dec. 26 - David and Susan McDowell - 49 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

| Month-2018 | Income | Expense | Income | Expense | Income | Expense |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| January | \$10,386.24 | \$12,278.60 | \$3.48 | \$549.36 | \$698.29 | \$770.40 |
| February | \$10,166.17 | \$9,496.26 | \$3.09 | \$312.96 | \$100.11 | \$445.00 |
| March | \$8,831.00 | \$12,747.00 | \$3.37 | \$453.81 | \$0.09 | \$535.40 |
| April | \$10,801.11 | \$9,383.39 | \$3.22 | \$280.76 | \$3,000.08 | \$0.00 |
| May | \$9,512.60 | \$13,731.94 | \$3.30 | \$158.01 | \$800.21 | \$926.86 |
| June | \$10,680.70 | \$14,267.26 | \$3.17 | \$277.13 | \$0.15 | \$2,855.40 |
| July | \$11,207.87 | \$9,960.37 | \$153.26 | \$77.51 | \$9,006.58 | \$1,956.02 |
| August | \$8,548.49 | \$11,412.86 | \$1.62 | \$102.76 | \$0.19 | \$1,930.00 |
| September | \$15,239.05 | \$14,198.21 | \$0.42 | \$362.95 | \$2,000.05 | \$2,518.49 |
| October | \$9,533.61 | \$7,543.43 | \$0.43 | \$107.50 | \$500.05 | \$1,930.00 |
| November | | | | | | |
| December | | | | | | |
| Total | \$104,906.84 | \$115,019.32 | \$175.36 | \$2,682.75 | \$16,105.80 | \$13,867.57 |

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ November 1, 2018

(in September transferred \$4234.57 from CD interest)

\$744.23

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ November 1, 2018

(Includes \$49,039.31 Endowment)

\$74,119.57

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ November 1, 2018

(Includes \$774,028.76 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation-in July transferred \$9000 from the UCC Foundation to BB & T Bank)

\$779,127.10

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2018

| | # | Total | Monthly | Available |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| | Families | \$\$\$ | Donations | Balance |
| Beginning | | | | \$ 376.57 |
| January | 2 | \$ 175.00 | \$ 62.55 | \$ 264.12 |
| February | 4 | \$ 150.00 | \$ 67.65 | \$ 181.77 |
| March | 1 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 69.01 | \$ 200.78 |
| April | 2 | \$ 75.00 | \$ 79.82 | \$ 205.60 |
| May | 5 | \$ 225.00 | \$ 382.60 | \$ 363.20 |
| June | 1 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 62.21 | \$ 375.41 |
| July | 1 | \$ 25.00 | \$ 82.27 | \$ 432.68 |
| August | 3 | \$ 150.00 | \$ 90.86 | \$ 373.54 |
| September | | | \$ 61.55 | \$ 435.09 |
| October | 3 | \$ 75.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 360.09 |
| November | | | | |
| December | | | | |
| Total | 22 | \$ 975.00 | \$ 958.52 | |

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Freda Berry

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

Doris Harper

Arlington Court-Room #121
Senior Commons @Powder
Mill
1775 Powder Mill Road
York, PA 17403



Emerson Knaper

855 New School Lane
Dallastown, PA 17313
717-244-5003

Peggy Luckenbaugh

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



Remember
and pray for
Our Members
in the
Military

A1C Ness, Brandon

6907 S Camino de la Humanidad
Tucson, AZ 85756



.... to **Marti Leader** for planning the Fall Fest, to **Diana Myers** for doing the kids' craft, to everyone who helped set up and prepare the food and to everyone who brought food and participated in the indoor trunk or treat.

.... to the **Sisters of Service** for organizing the bazaar and to everyone who donated food, crafts, books, and other items. Thanks to many others who spent countless hours sorting items, setting up, collecting money, and cleaning up. Thanks to the **Men's Group** for taking charge of the kitchen and waiting on tables. Your work was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to everyone who came out to purchase things.

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

Wouldn't it be nice to receive a surprise each month. Beginning January 1 and ending December 31, 2019, we will be starting a Secret Pal Exchange. We will be exchanging names with others who are interested in joining the fun.

You are asked to spend at least \$10 a month, more if you like, on a gift for your Secret Pal. The main idea is to not let the other person know who has their name.

There will be papers in the Gathering Room to be filled out during the coffee social. They will have important information for anyone who wants to join the fun. Some of the questions will be your name, address, birthday, anniversary, hobbies, favorite colors, foods or any allergies. That way your Secret Pal can get ideas as to what to give you.

There will be a location in the church to place your gifts. If you send anything in the mail, remember not to sign your name or put your address because it's a secret. There will be a book that will have a copy of everyone's information in case someone loses their paper. Also if anyone for some reason has to drop out of the exchange, your name will still be there.

I have done the Secret Pal at different jobs where I worked and it was so much fun. If you have any questions, please call me at 717-741-1840. Diana Myers



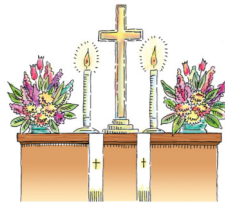


Our offering envelopes for 2019 have arrived. Anyone who requested envelopes last year will automatically be given them again this year. If you received envelopes for 2018, but don't wish to use them in 2019, please call the church office. Likewise, call the office if you did not use envelopes in 2018, but would like some for 2019.

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.

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.



HOMEWOOD AUXILIARY

You hold the key to success. The Homewood Auxiliary is the heart and soul of Homewood and their membership drive is now underway. When our representative, Linda Eichelberger, asks for your support of the Auxiliary please say "YES." It only costs \$3.00 to join. Thank you.

WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE

MINIMIZE the use of fragrances, perfumes, or colognes when you come to church. These strong odors are dangerous irritants that can trigger asthma attacks in some of our members. Thank you for your consideration.



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. Thank you for supporting this project."

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 for supporting this project.



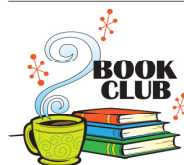


S.O.S. (SISTERS OF SERVICE)

The SOS will not be meeting again until March 2019. Thank you to everyone who helped with the bazaar and other holiday activities.



FAITH KIDZ will be holding their meetings on December 5 and 19 at 6:30 PM. We will be working on gifts for the shut-ins, have a Christmas celebration and other activities.



Our Women's Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, December 11, at 10:00 AM. And . . . just like the Book Club in Mary Ann Shaffer's novel, The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, we are reading our own book choices and discussing them with the group. New members are always welcome.

Crafty Chicks will not be meeting in December, but will resume again on January 27. Watch for more details about this special meeting in upcoming bulletins and the January newsletter.



TOWN MEETING

On Sunday, January 6, 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 2019. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!



MEN'S GROUP



The Men's Group will not be meeting in December because of the holidays. They will resume again on January 8. See you then and have a great holiday season.

Our all church Christmas party will take place on Saturday, December 1, at 5:30 PM. Meats and drinks will be provided, but please bring a side dish to share and a gift for our surprise guest to give to your child. After dinner there will be a special visit from the North Pole and a movie for the children. Bring your friends and camera to get that magical Christmas photo.



Cookie Walk



This holiday season would you like to serve delicious homemade cookies to your family and friends? Don't have time to bake all those cookies yourself? Baking is not your thing? Your problems are solved!!

Come to our annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 8, from 9:00 AM til 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 \$9.00 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. Cookies may be dropped off at the church on Thursday, December 6, or Friday, December 7.

Our SERRV sale will also be part of our Cookie Walk this year. Come and browse the beautiful handmade items from other countries. Each purchase you make will help these craftsmen and their countries.

If you missed the Book Nook at our bazaar a few weeks ago, you will have another chance to purchase books during the Cookie Walk. New books have been added, so even if you have already looked through them, you may want to check them out again.



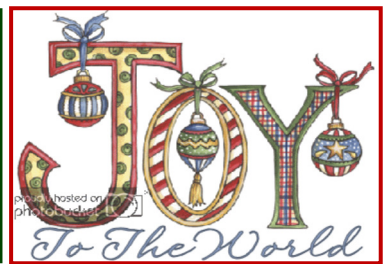
December
2018

KING SIZE BED



He who has not Christmas
in his heart will never
find it under a tree.

Roy Smith



Healing Hearts Inspirations

TRUE LOVE WAS BORN IN A STABLE

EVERY HEART A MANGER

When Christ was born, so was our hope! This is why I love Christmas. The event invites us to believe the wildest of promises! He did away with every barrier, fence, sin, bent, debt, and grave. Anything that might keep us from him was demolished.

He only awaits our word to walk through the door. Invite him in. Escort him to the seat of honor, and pull out his chair. Clear the table; clear the calendar. Call the kids and neighbors. Christmas is here. Christ is here. One request from you, and God will do again what he did then. He'll scatter the night with everlasting light. He'll be born in you.

Let "Silent Night" be sung! Every heart can be a manger. Every day can be a Christmas. The Christmas miracle— a yearlong celebration!

Max Lucado

CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

"It's sharing your gifts,
not purchasing gifts;
It's not wrapping presents,
It's being present and wrapping
your arms round the ones you love;
It's not getting Christmas cards
out on time,
It's sending any card, anytime at the
right time;
It's not having the biggest and
best Christmas light display,
It's displaying the Christ light that
comes from your heart;
It's not Santa coming down the
chimney,
It's Jesus coming down from heaven,
and giving us the gift of eternal
life."

One December when my daughter Ann was six, she tucked two gifts beneath the Christmas tree, one for her daddy and the other for me. "What do you suppose they are?" I asked my husband. He shrugged, as puzzled as I.

On Christmas morning I open my gift to find a pair of slightly familiar looking earrings. In her daddy's package was a navy tie with little tan ducks on it.

"Why Ann," I exclaimed, genuinely amazed. "Where did you get these lovely gifts?" "The cedar chest," she answered.

That's when I recognized the earrings as a pair I'd retired to the chest a least ten years before. The tie had been discarded long ago too. Ann had given us gifts we already possessed!

The incident caused me to consider how much my life was quietly caught up in wanting, seeking and acquisition. That trinity of American pursuits not only undermined my sense of what is enough, but seduced me into an artificial sense of discontent. Thanks to a six-year-old, I discovered the clean, simple wisdom of waking up to what I already have!

Sue Monk Kidd



HEALING HEARTS LADIES

Please note: Our December 5th
meeting will be a Christmas luncheon
starting at 12:30
instead of the usual 2 pm
Please RSVP to Kathi
717-577-0183
kathil8899@gmail.com

GOD'S INVISIBLE GIFTS

IN ADDITION TO THE GIFT OF HIS SON TAKE TIME TO CONSIDER SOME OTHER AMAZING GIFTS FROM GOD

Whenever you receive a beautifully wrapped gift, you are eager to open it and you are well aware that the wrapping — no matter how attractive it is — is not the gift. The gift itself is invisible to the eyes and the receiver of the gift will eagerly remove the wrapping in order to reveal its content; the lovingly wrapped gift brings the assurance that the gift has been carefully chosen just for you.

Aren't you curious to see what has been lovingly 'wrapped' within your soul? Your personality is your first amazing gift — a unique edition. This gift comes with many accessories, including your talents. The Divine Fragment of God who indwells your soul is your second priceless gift — a fragment of Paradise lives within you! Can you fathom how blessed you are? The Father is an anonymous Giver and does not blow His own horn. He lovingly endows you with potentialities and leaves it up to you to develop them so as to bring forth your own soul beauty, as a heartfelt acknowledgment that His gifts have not been taken for granted and have been put to good use.

The Father does not gift you with the finished product. In His wisdom, He gifts you with kits that will require you to put your God-given intelligence, your God-given energy, your God-given intuition and your God-given imagination to good use. The Father provides you with all the parts and all the tools needed to put the gift together. He also lives within you to read to you the owner's manual whenever needed. There is a constant hotline that is accessible to you whenever you find yourself at a loss. All that you have to do is to turn within and clearly ask for His help. The Father is truly your enduring friend and such an eternal friendship is the best sounding board you could ever have — unconditionally loving, inspiring, understanding, encouraging and non-judgmental.

11:11 Progress Group

SNOWFLAKES



The outfitting season was winding down for the year and everything was going along smoothly, I'd ridden this trail so many times, I was a bit bored and felt like I was on autopilot. Czar trudged just over three miles an hour through the familiar stand of pines. We skirted the same hillsides, the only difference being that the pine boughs now sagged with snow and the rocks were hidden under a white blanket.

Snowflakes drifted lazily from the sky, piling up on my shoulders and Czar's mane. I held my mittened hand in front of me; snowflakes clustered in the wool fibers. The clouds overhead parted and a few rays of sunshine glittered off the flakes, each prism radiating different colors. They seemed to me to be priceless promises from God in my palm. The snowflakes danced on the breeze, swooping and twirling to the music of the wind through the pine boughs. They seemed to be messages of love from God, a God who cared so much that He created each snowflake unique—just as He created each person.

Czar's hooves swooshed through the snow. I leaned back and rode the rest of the way in awe of this world that was frosted with the glittering promises of God. The sunshine made the snow sparkle like a sea of diamonds between the pines. God's creation was shouting His love.

Why have a gray day when I can turn it into an incredible day? I decided.

Now when I'm feeling bored or blue I put on God's spectacles and marvel at the magnificent details God created for me to enjoy.

Lord, when I have gray, ho-hum days, please open my eyes to see your glory and your love!

Rebecca Ondov



EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

December 2018



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 10 and 17. The extra Christmas bags will be given out on December 8 and 15.



We Need Your Help!!

This past summer we had problems with the air conditioning and humidity in the food room. We have since purchased a dehumidifier and that was a big help. However, moisture had gotten in a lot of the boxes of food and they had to be thrown out and replaced. Also, when Tammy took over the food room, she discovered that many of the items of food were expired and couldn't be given out, so she had to replace them as well.

Because of having to buy all this extra food, our funds are getting low and with the holidays fast approaching, we will be spending even more money than usual. We are asking you to consider giving an extra donation to Emmanuel's Closet this holiday season. Food is good, but monetary contributions are even better because we can use them to buy gift cards for the holiday meals and also to supplement Christmas gifts for the children and youth.

In addition to helping personally, perhaps you could ask your employer and any civic or social organizations to which you belong to sponsor a food drive to help restock our shelves.

Thanks in advance for all your help.

E.C. Continuing Needs

Juice
Cereal/Oatmeal
Peanut Butter/Jelly
Pancake Mix
Spaghetti Sauce
Boxed Dry Pastas
Helper Meals
Dessert Items
Condiment Items
Canned Tuna/Meats
Canned Fruit/Vegetables
Soap
Shampoo
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Dish Washing Liquid
Laundry Detergent
All-Purpose Cleaners
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.

Below is a list of items that we are especially in need of right now:

Tuna Helper
Canned sweet potatoes
Bagged macaroni
Canned carrots
Hot cocoa
Instant vanilla/chocolate pudding
Shampoo

THANKS FOR CARING!



Revelations for December from “Bly Mire” Mouse

“Here comes the light. Here comes the light!” I bet any of the choir members are now singing this song..... I walk around singing it because I hear them practicing it for the cantata in December. So mark your calendars and plan to attend either the worship service at 8:45 am on DECEMBER 16 or plan to attend at 7:00 pm that evening when they present “Rhapsody in Bluegrass” for the public. I guarantee, experiencing this will add to the meaning of your holiday season!

How was your Thanksgiving? Mire and I had a great day with all that we were able to do! We had plenty of good food to eat and were surrounded by loved ones all day. But now we are looking ahead to our December activities..... the church Christmas Party, the Cookie Walk, the worship services! WOW! I LOVE December! There is so much going on this month and it is hard to take it all in. But we will try! And, I will remind you of our Christmas Eve service.... again this year, we will worship in the Red Brick Chapel and our service will begin at 9:00 pm. I sooo enjoyed the service last year with Mire and the little ones! It was a gorgeous sight to see all their faces in the candles’ glow!

Now, even though there are many activities throughout the month of December, we also know there are a number of people we need to keep in our prayers! We keep the following faith family in our prayers.....Frank Bosley, Greg Ness, Pastor Curt, Bernie Noll, Kim and Tracey Dilling, Maddie and Ron Heindel, Fred Kerchner, Jay Innerst, Steph Frey, Janie Montgomery.... (I hope I have not overlooked anyone!) Whoa! A lot of people from Blymire’s are going through trying times so PRAYERS to all! Of course, we keep everyone who may be feeling down this time of year in our prayers too because we know the holidays are so hard to face when we are grieving the loss of our loved ones! So, HUGS and prayers to all going through difficult times!

Maybe this will help to lighten things..... Our monthly humor..... A four year old child often forgot to close the door when coming in from the outside. Finally, her father scolded her, “Shut the door! Were you born in a barn?” She replied, “No. But Jesus was!”

We do remember that Jesus is the reason for this season and no matter how busy life may be or what we may be facing this time of year, if we keep our hearts and our lives focused on Jesus, he gives us a peace that passes all understanding!

GOD BLESS and MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With our love, your faith-friends,



BLY and MIRE and family!

CHRISTMAS

joy

Make this fun decoration as a reminder of the joy Jesus brings.



What you need:

- Pencil
- Poster board
- Scissors
- Craft pompoms (red, white, green, silver, gold)
- Glue

What you do:

1. Trace large capital block letters J, O and Y on the poster board.
2. Cut out the letters.
3. Glue pompoms on one side of each letter, completely covering it.
4. Share JOY by displaying the letters in your home.

Joy to the
WORLD

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

Directions: Circle all the complete small "joy" words — forward only.
Count the total. Bonus: See if you can find "Jesus" amid all the joy!

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TOTAL JOY=_____

Answer: 36 (10 in the J, 15 in the O, 11 in the Y); Jesus is at the bottom of the large O