

# THE UNITED MESSENGER FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DONATION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS  
MONDAY - THURSDAY, 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WEBSITE: <http://www.15thstreetunitedmethodistchurch.com/>  
E-MAIL: [meth15st@verizon.net](mailto:meth15st@verizon.net) (Pastor Barbara Servello)  
December, 2024

LINK TO FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/>  
E-MAIL: [secretary15@verizon.net](mailto:secretary15@verizon.net) (Miriam Fetzter)  
(814) 643-3690

## FROM THE PASTOR..., DECEMBER DEVOTIONAL

"Joy to the World" has four verses, although the third verse is occasionally omitted.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, x3

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, x3

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, x3

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, x3

It's that time of year again as we begin to anticipate Christmas. Some folks love this time of year and others do not look forward to the Holidays. For some, it means a lot of work and parties, and anticipation of family and friends gathering for a meal either at Thanksgiving or Christmas, or both.

For many, the holidays are a reminder of Christmas's past and the love ones that are no longer with us to celebrate.

Many people ask me why we do not sing Christmas Carols before Christmas Eve, and the reason is because we are in Advent! For four weeks, we have a time of anticipation of the arrival of the baby Jesus. I so look forward to singing "Joy to the World" the Sunday after Christmas because the Lord has come. That is the time we receive our king. Let us celebrate!

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Pastor Barb Servello



*Adopt a Family*



As in the last few years, we, again, are going to adopt a family for the Christmas season through the Salvation Army.  
If you are interested in contributing, just mark your check or envelope accordingly.



Food Bank Item For December - Canned Fruit

## FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2024

December 1, 2024	First Sunday Of Advent Scripture Lessons – Jeremiah 33:14-16 NRSV; Psalm 25:1-10 NRSV; I Thessalonians 3:9-13 NRSV; Luke 21:25-36 NRSV Sermon – “Preparations Anticipation”
December 8, 2024	Second Sunday Of Advent Scripture Lessons – Malachi 3:1-4 NRSV; Philippians 1:3-11 NRSV; Luke 1:68-79 NRSV; Luke 3:1-6 NRSV Sermon – “Passion”
December 15, 2024	Third Sunday Of Advent Scripture Lessons – Zephaniah 3:14-20 NRSV; Isaiah 12:2-6 NRSV; Philippians 4:4-7 NRSV; Luke 3:7-18 NRSV Sermon – “Presence”
December 22, 2024	Fourth Sunday Of Advent (Donation UM Church) Scripture Lessons – Micah 5:2-5a NRSV; Luke 1:47-55 NRSV or Psalm 80:1-7 NRSV; Hebrews 10:5-10 NRSV; Luke 1:39-55 NRSV Sermon – “Promise”
December 22, 2024	Fourth Sunday Of Advent (15th Street UM Church) Cantata – “Rejoice Believers”, by John E. Coates under the direction of Shirley McBrayer
December 24, 2024	Christmas Eve Service Holy Communion Scripture Lessons – Isaiah 9:2-7 NRSV; Psalm 96 NRSV; Titus 2:11-14 NRSV; Luke 2:1-20 NRSV Sermon – “Joy Has Come”
December 29, 2024	First Sunday After Christmas Day Scripture Lessons – I Samuel 2:18-20, 26 NRSV; Psalm 148 NRSV; Colossians 3:12-17 NRSV; Luke 2:15-21 NRSV Sermon – “Preparations”



### CHRISTMAS KETTLE SEASON – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING AT ACE HARDWARE – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH – 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. AND  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH – 11:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

SIGN UP SHEETS ARE ON THE RADIATOR AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH SANCTUARY.

### Cancer Care Ministry

You don't have to feel alone. Come and find support with those who are experiencing what you are going through.

McConnellstown First Church Of The Nazarene – 5851 Newtown Avenue – Huntingdon, PA;

3rd Sunday Of Each Month – 4:30 p.m. – Church Fellowship Hall

For More Information – call (814) 643-7171 or (814) 386-7573.

## OCTOBER, 2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

					<u>INCOME VS EXPENSE</u>	
	<u>ACTUAL INCOME</u>		<u>ACTUAL EXPENSES</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	
		<u>YEAR</u>		<u>YEAR</u>		
	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>PLUS</u>	<u>MINUS</u>
<u>CURRENT INCOME</u>	\$9,852.52	\$183,609.00				
<u>CURRENT EXPENSES</u>			\$16,465.47	\$187,109.51		
						-\$3,500.51
<u>BENEVOLENCE INCOME</u>	\$1,128.96	\$4,722.24				
<u>BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES</u>			\$723.96	\$3,593.24		
					\$1,129.00	
<u>TRUSTEE INCOME</u>	\$15,739.00	\$22,568.00				
<u>TRUSTEE EXPENSES</u>			\$15,739.00	\$22,568.00		
					\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>COMBINED INCOME</u>	\$26,720.48	\$210,899.24				
<u>COMBINED EXPENSES</u>			\$32,928.43	\$213,270.75		

### SPECIAL OFFERINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

- December 8, 2024 Advent Offering – (An offering received to assist with current expenses.)
- December 8, 2024 Christmas Offering – Benevolent Homes of the UMC (This is a collection received to help provide loving care to children and senior citizens who otherwise may be alone and without proper care or shelter.)
- December 15, 2024 Forum Fuel Assistance – (Assisting aid to those in our community that are in need.)
- December 24, 2024 Christmas Eve Offering (Celebrating the birth of Jesus into the world.)

### Special Offerings for October

Annie Maize	\$ 5.46
Ham 'n Cheese Sandwiches	\$ 358.50
UMCOR-Disaster Relief	\$ 300.00
UM Student Day	\$ 25.00
World Communion	\$ 10.00
World Hunger	\$ 25.00

### REPORT FROM THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SPREE / USED BOOK SALE EVENT

Profit From The Kitchen Sales Was \$2,120.45 For Rise Against Hunger.  
Used Book Sale To Be Announced After The Cookie Walk.

## 15th Street United Methodist Church

### BIRTHDAYS

December 1 Anna Mary Kenyon    December 10 Cindy Knott    December 28 Paula Mohler  
December 8 Alexis Streightiff    December 22 Virginia Cramer

### ANNIVERSARIES

December 22 Bill and Peggy Hoffman    December 22 Howard and Beverly Reitenbaugh

## Donation United Methodist Church

### BIRTHDAYS

December 16 Erin McCool    December 16 Susan McCool    December 31 Emily Bickle

### ANNIVERSARY

December 24 Rick and Amy Johns

happy birthday

happy anniversary



## Events To Remember

**HOLY COMMUNION – DONATION / 15TH STREET UM CHURCHES**  
 Sunday, December 1st – 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m.

**TRUSTEE MEETING – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH**  
 Monday, December 2nd – 6:00 p.m.



**CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**15TH STREET UM CHURCH SOCIAL HALL**  
 Tuesday, December 3rd – 5:00 p.m.



**DEADLINE FOR BRINGING IN CHRISTMAS CARDS**  
**15TH STREET UM CHURCH**  
 Sunday, December 8th



**WRAPPING GIFTS FOR NURSING HOMES – DONATION UM CHURCH**  
 Sunday, December 8th – Following The Morning Worship Service

**BELL RINGING AT ACE HARDWARE (15TH STREET UMC)**  
 Wednesday, December 11th – 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**BELL RINGING AT ACE HARDWARE (15TH STREET UMC)**  
 Thursday, December 12th – 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**MAKING HAM 'N CHEESE SANDWICHES – DONATION UMC**  
 Thursday, December 12th – 4:00 p.m.



**HAM 'N CHEESE SANDWICH SALE**  
**PICK-UP FOR 15TH STREET UMC ORDERS**  
 Friday, December 13th – 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

**COOKIE DROP-OFF / SET-UP – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH**  
 Friday, December 13th – 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, December 14th – 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.



**COOKIE WALK / SOUP SALE / USED BOOK SALE**  
**15TH STREET UM CHURCH**  
 Saturday, December 14th – 9:00 a.m.-???

**ASSEMBLING FRUIT BASKETS – DONATION UM CHURCH**  
 Date / Time To Be Announced

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**  
 15th Street UM Church  
 Tuesday, December 17th – 5:30 p.m. – Meet At The Church

**COME TO THE STABLE**  
 Friday, December 20th – 15th Street UM Church  
 Living Nativity / Christmas Skit – 6:30 p.m.



**CANTATA – “REJOICE BELIEVERS”, BY JOHN E. COATES**  
 Sunday, December 22nd – 10:45 a.m. – 15th Street UM Church

**DONATION UM CHURCH – ADVENT DINNER/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**  
 Sunday, December 22nd  
 Meal – 5:00 p.m.; Christmas Program – 6:30 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – 15TH STREET UM**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
 Tuesday, December 24th – 7:00 p.m.



**SUMMER LUNCH BUNCH CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**15TH STREET UM CHURCH**  
 Friday, December 27th – 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**CHURCH LIGHTS AT HOUSES OF WORSHIP**  
 Sunday, December 29th – 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
 Details have not yet been finalized.

Churches Participating At The Time Of Printing:  
 Presbyterian; Holy Trinity; St. John's Episcopal; 15th Street UMC  
 Watch for more information in your weekly bulletins.

### WEDNESDAYS

Chancel Choir                      Bell Choir  
 4th, 11th, 18th - 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.;    4th, 11th, 18th - 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Come to the Stable – Friday, December 20th – 15th Street UM Church – 6:30 p.m.

For the evening of Come to the Stable, there will be a living nativity portrayed by the children of the community who participated in the Summer Lunch Bunch program. A skit will be included in the service by the children, as well. There will be several congregational songs to go along with the program.

As for many years in the past, the offering received will be given to the Heifer Project. Checks should be made payable to the 15th Street UM Church. The opportunity for you to give to this project will be open the entire month of December. Just be sure to mark "Heifer Project" in your check memo or envelope so proper credit is given.

Luminaires will, also, be placed on the curbing surrounding the church. If interested in purchasing a luminary to honor someone or in memory of a loved one, the cost is \$5.00 each. The name of each individual will be printed on the front of a luminary bag. Please provide the name to Trudy McElwain, as well as, payment by Monday, December 16th.

Heifer International is a global nonprofit work to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, value-based holistic community development. Heifer International distributes animals, along with agricultural and value-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency. Recipients must agree to "pass on the gift" by donating animal offspring, as well as, sharing the skills and knowledge of animal husbandry and agricultural training with other impoverished families in the community.





## Christmas Card MAIL



Christmas is Coming, (real soon)...

For many of you, the Christmas season has already begun in our homes..., decorating, baking, making candies, listening to Christmas music, and writing our Christmas cards. As in previous years, for those of you familiar with the tradition we have here at the 15th Street UMC to remember our members who are not able to attend church as often as they would like, it is that time to share our list with you. So, as a way to brighten the holidays for these special individuals, we are asking you, again, to send each one a Christmas card and let them know that you are thinking about them. A box has been placed at the back of the sanctuary on the radiator at the 15th Street UMC and will be there until Sunday, December 8th at which time they will be sorted and either hand delivered or mailed in time for Christmas. (please, do not place a stamp on the envelope).

Mrs. Virginia Cramer  
11702 Standing Stone Road  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Isenberg  
1310 Oneida Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Beatrice Ross  
1817 Penn Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Mary Gladfelter  
1426 Mifflin Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Ms. Beverly Lightner  
A209 Valley View Terrace  
Belleville, PA 17004

Mrs. Nancy Salter  
400 9th Street – Apartment 808  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Irene Grissinger  
210 17th Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Louise Mateer  
Preserve at Cedarwood  
925 S. Lincoln Avenue  
Room 107  
Tyrone, PA 16686

Mrs. Lena Whitesel  
6599 Towne Center Boulevard  
Apartment 323  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mr. Walter Houck  
8952 Walnut Lane  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reitenbaugh  
8373 Stone Creek Ridge Road  
Huntingdon, PA 16652



The "Mitten Tree" is placed at the Educational Unit entrance of the 15th Street UMC for your "decorations".

Hats, scarves, gloves, and even socks are the items to be placed on this tree. It will be up until Sunday, December 8th, at which time all "decorations" will be removed and given to a local charity for distribution.

### Additional Dates To Keep In Mind For Activities and Church Related Services

for those of you who have signed up –

15th Street Church Christmas Party – Church Social Room  
Tuesday – December 3rd – 5:00 p.m.

Cookie Walk / Soup Sale / Used Book Sale  
15th Street UMC – Saturday, December 14th - 9:00 a.m.-???  
Soup will be available in carry out containers:  
\$8.00 a quart; \$4.00 a pint; cookies \$10.00 a box.

Donation UM Church will be Wrapping Gifts for Local Nursing Homes  
on Sunday, December 8th, Following the Morning Worship Service.  
Please, Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Assist with this Outreach Ministry.

ASSEMBLING FRUIT BASKETS AT THE DONATION UMC  
THIS ACTIVITY IS HAPPENIN', BUT, THE DATE AND TIME HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED.  
BE WATCHING YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN!

Christmas Caroling In The Neighborhood  
Tuesday, December 17th – 5:30 p.m. – Interested?? Meet At The 15th Street UMC



### HAM 'N CHEESE SANDWICH SALE

Donation UM Church will be assembling them on Thursday, December 12th, at 4:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in participating, please mark the date.

Orders for 15th UM Church be available for pick-up on Friday morning, December 13th, at the church from 9:30 – 11:00. The price remains the same, \$4.00.

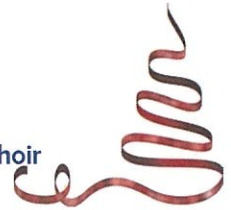
THERE ARE SIGNUP SHEETS FOR ORDERING AT BOTH CHURCHES.



### “Rejoice Believers”

Sunday, December 22nd – 10:45 a.m. – 15th Street UM Church

Mark your calendar for this date and plan to come and hear the Chancel Choir as they present their Christmas cantata, directed by Shirley McBrayer.



ADVENT DINNER – DONATION UM CHURCH – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

5:00 P.M.-MEAL; 6:30 P.M.-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Meat, rolls, butter, and beverage will be provided. Everyone is to bring a covered dish or dessert to share. Following the meal, there will be a Christmas program of carols, special music, readings, and candle lighting.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH – 7:00 P.M. – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH

Service of Scripture, Carols, Holy Communion, Candle Lighting

As mentioned on another page, CHURCH LIGHTS AT HOUSES OF WORSHIP will be on Sunday, December 29th, from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. At this date, a complete listing of churches that are participating have not been yet determined. As additional details become available, they will appear in your weekly bulletin.

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### COMMUNITY EVENTS

Holiday Shoppe – Huntingdon County Arts Center – 313 12th Street

Monday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; (continues every week through Saturday, December 28th)

Large Collection of Local Art & Hand-Crafted Items



Stone Church of the Brethren  
Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar

Saturday – December 7th – 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall Of The Church

Support Mission-Driven Organizations That Serve Local, Regional and Global Communities.



Community Cookie Walk

Westminster Woods – Monday – December 9th – 8:00 a.m.-???

The Huntingdon County Historical Society & Standing Stone Garden Club Invite You To A Victorian Christmas!  
Huntingdon County Library and the Historical Society, 4th and Penn Streets  
Friday-December 6th and Saturday-December 7th – 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. – Annual Hometown Holidays Open House!  
Both HCCHS and the Gallery will be decorated to the hilt by the Standing Stone Garden Club.

Santa Is Coming!

11251 Ward Street McConnellstown UM Church

This event is designed for people of all ages with disabilities or sensory concerns.

Dates For The Event Are: December 1st – 2nd – 8th – 13th

For additional information and time slots available, please go to [tinyurl.com/Sensory-Santa](http://tinyurl.com/Sensory-Santa).

Each reserved time slot allows for 15 minutes to visit with Santa followed by receiving a golden ticket allowing each guest (and accompanying siblings) to fill a stocking with small gifts to take home.

Sponsored by the McConnellstown and Twelfth Street UM Churches.

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looking several months ahead...

Altoona District HUB is sponsoring a bus trip to see, “NOAH” at Sight and Sound in Lancaster, on Thursday, April 3, 2025. Cost: \$175.00 includes bus, meal and show ticket.

The bus will be picking up interested travelers that day in the parking lot behind Wendy's.

More ticket information or questions? See or call Carol Yoder, 814 627-0584.



# December 2024



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 Holy Communion 9:15 a.m. Donation UMC 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC	2 6:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting	3 5:00 p.m. 15th Street UMC Christmas Dinner At 15th Street UMC Social Room	4 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	5	6	7
8 Donation UMC Wrapping Gifts For Nursing Home Residents Following The Morning Worship Service.  15th Street UMC Deadline For Bringing In Christmas Cards	9	10	11 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Bell Ringing At Ace Hardware (15th UM Church)  6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	12 4:00 p.m. Donation UMC Assembling Ham 'n Cheese Sandwiches  11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Bell Ringing At Ace Hardware (15th UM Church)	13 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Ham 'n Cheese Sandwich Pick-Up For 15th Street UMC  5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Cookie Drop-Off / Set-up	14 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Cookie Drop-Off / Set-up  9:00 a.m. 15th Street UMC Cookie Walk / Soup Sale
15	16	17 5:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling In The Neighborhood (meet at 15th Street UMC)	18 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	19	20 6:30 p.m. Come To The Stable – Living Nativity / Christmas Skit	21
22 10:45 a.m. Cantata: "Rejoice Believers" 15th Street UMC  Advent Dinner/ Christmas Program 5:00 p.m.-Dinner 6:30 p.m.-Program Donation UMC	23	24 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 15th Street UMC	25 	26	27 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Bunch Christmas Party 15th Street UMC Social Room	28
29 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Church Lights At Houses Of Worship	30	31		-Food Bank Item- Canned Fruit	15th Street UM Church 9:30 a.m.-Sunday School 10:45 a.m.-Worship  Donation UM Church 9:15 a.m.-Worship 10:45 a.m.-Sunday School	



The United Messenger  
FIFTEENTH STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1500 Moore Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

- ☐ This newsletter is sent FREE to you each month. If you no longer wish to receive it, please mark an (x) in the circle at the left, tear off this portion with your address and mail it to us. We will then remove your name from our monthly mailing list. Thank you.

