



People's to People

*The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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Dover, Delaware, 19904*

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Under the Bell Tower

DECEMBER 2017

Dear Friends,

So many good things to look forward to this month at People's Church:

Join the decorating crew on Saturday morning, December 2nd at 10 a.m. to ready our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work! Our beautiful sanctuary always looks even more glorious every December!

Worship with us every Sunday this month as we begin our service by lighting the Advent Candles—hope, peace, joy and love.

Sunday, December 3rd, Suzanne Schwarz-Green will preach. We will welcome the search committee from a church who is discerning whether to offer her a call to ministry in their congregation.

Join the Women's Fellowship for a Christmas Brunch at the home of Jean and Glenn Hitchens on Sunday, December 3rd at 11:30 a.m. Men are also invited!

Sunday, December 17th, will feature special music from our choir and musicians. Afterward we will all have the opportunity to go home with delicious treats and do good for others through our Cookie Walk Fundraiser. We'll send the proceeds to Caring Hearts-Helping Hands to use for last minute Christmas gifts for families in need.

Throughout December we'll be collecting gifts of dress shirts and socks for the men at Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing. Sizes L, XL, XXL are especially needed. The shirt and nice socks will enable the men to look good at job interviews. Bring your shirts/socks to the church office at anytime, wrapped, and indicate the size on the card. I'll bring them over to the shelter.

December 24th is the Fourth Sunday of Advent as well as Christmas Eve! At our 10 a.m. service we will light the fourth candle on the Advent Wreath. The service will be child/family-friendly. Our 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service will include lighting

of the Christ Candle, Holy Communion, Candlelight, and, of course, the telling of the story of the birth of our Savior—and lots of Christmas carols!

We'll sing more carols during a Hymn-Sing Worship Service on December 31st!

Our turn for Code Purple is from December 24th through the 30th, whenever the temps are 32 or below. It's a big job and your help is appreciated. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway—please take a look and sign up wherever you can. The men are very appreciative of a warm place for the overnight, dinner, snacks, breakfast and company. Not sure where/how you can best help? See or contact Sue Harris.

As we go through this month, my prayers are with each one of you for God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to be evident each day. Look for God in the people you meet, have patience with those who are rushed and cranky. Leave yourself a little time each day to be still with God. Be a friend to someone who needs one. Donate to a worthy cause. Be forgiving. Be a gift to others. Be kind, gracious and generous.

It is such a joy to be your pastor.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Ellen

STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH – NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$155,906			
	Budgeted YTD	Actual YTD	Difference YTD	Comments
Income Weekly Budgeted	\$4167			
Income Received from Members	100,244.14	78,795.07	- 21,449.07	Under donated
Transfer from Invest. Savings	45,000.00	93,500.00	48,500.00	Taken more than budgeted
Total Income	145,244.14	172,295.07	27,050.93	
Expenses to Date	-196,725.41	-172,098.83	-24,626.58	Underspent
Net Difference	- 51,481.27	196.24	-51,677.51	Underspent

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 2017					
10/2016			10/2017		Offerings
11/06	73		11/05	48	2,128.60
11/13	69		11/12	43	1,295.27
11/20	67		11/19	46	1,946.75
11/27	57		11/26	52	856.00
			Savings		10,000.00
	266			189	16,227.62
AVERAGE	67			47	\$ 1,622.40
Y T D BUDGETED					\$145,244.14
UNDER BUDGETED INCOME					\$ 27,050.93

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS 2017

12/04	Bruce COLE	12/07	Theresa LLOYD
12/07	Nancy OTTO	12/07	Dylan ALLBEE
12/07	Rev. Ellen Witko	12/11	John DODD
12/11	Thomas DODD	12/16	Stephanie Hotchkiss
12/18	Amanda LINDSEY	12/22	Carol SKADSBURG
12/24	Meghan HANEBUTT	12:26	Dori Hill
12/28	Alexander SENATO		

May God Bless You on Your Birthday

If we missed anyone, please notify the church office to get your name on the list.



The Prayer List for Members & Friends of the Church

The list is kept current. For a copy please call the church office: 674-4177; office@peopleschurchofdoover.org

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

Philip Betts

Cawood Cosden - Courtland Manor

Judy Downs – recovering from surgery

Amanda Middleton – recovering from medical procedures

Rose Mary Ressel –

Lily Stewart – Betsy Stewart’s 2 year old great granddaughter

Gertrude Weissenfluh

Ronald Zink

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Ted Brickhuse - a longtime family friend of Bonnie Pennewell, age 93

Zachary A. Davis – Bill Hufnal’s grandson, son of Michelle, is home to heal before more surgery

DeWayne Hogue – Virgil Hogue’s brother had open heart surgery May 18th.

Verna James – The Hufnal’s aunt: reoccurrence of Breast Cancer and other health issues due to aging

Roberta Klees – Kathy Hanebutt’s mother

Jeff Leonard – Cleah Muntz’s nephew - M S

Barbara Moore - Carol Skadsberg’s mother, healing for many health problems

Bob Ritz - friend of the Pennewell’s, recovering from bypass surgery, and Larry Regan, as he cares for Bob during his recuperation.

Tiffany Rumbley – Cleah Muntz’s daughter – health issues

Jayne Schrantz – Cleah Muntz’s sister – seizure disorder

Christine Shannon - Cleah Muntz’s niece - Parkinsons

Kayla Storr – friend of Chip & Ginny Stewart, with many health problems

Chloe Sharp – Sally Childears: 9 year old friend, receiving chemo and radiation in prep for surgery

Karen Trittenbach – Cleah Muntz’s sister – Thyroid problems

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Rella Goodson – friend of Lyn Arnold

Warren Hoover – friend of Ginny and Chip Stewart

Willard Irwin – Lyn Arnold’s colleague

Pat Morrison - friend of John Downs, Jr.

Diana Oswell – Vicky Healey’s sister

VOLUNTEERS

<u>Flowers</u>		<u>Liturgist</u>	
12/03	Lyn Arnold	12/03	Rev. Ellen Witko
12/10	Ginny & Chip Stewart	12/10	Jim Caldwell
12/17	Poinsettias	12/17	Vicky Healey
12/24	Poinsettias	12/24	Peg Green
12/31	Poinsettias	12/31	Marie Myer
If anyone would like to donate the flowers or a Sunday or two during the year , Please call the office to give the details. Thank you.			

Ushers

12/03

Sunday Lessons

December 03

First Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Isaiah 64:1 - 9

12/10

December 10

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1 - 11

December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1 – 4, 8 - 11

12/17

December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1 – 11, 16

12/24

December 31

First Sunday after Christmas

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

12/31

We are in **NEED** of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings to **USHER**. Please choose an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, or call the church office.

FROM THE TRUSTEES

There will be a Congregational meeting on Dec. 10th. after service in the Chapel. We will be voting on by-Laws changes, the budget and new members for the committees.

BOARD OF DIACONATE

The Diaconate continues to be very busy

CHURCH VAN MINISTRY

We continue to need someone to help with our Sunday morning Transportation Ministry. Please call or email the office if you are able to help fellow members

enjoy worship or know of someone in need of a ride. 302-674-4177 or office@peopleschurchofdover.org.

If you have ideas about how to make our worship more meaningful please feel free to contact someone on the Diaconate or complete one of the index cards in the pews and drop in the collection plate.

Peace,
Judy Zingaro,
Chairperson

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I would like to take this time to say thank you to everyone in the congregation that has helped the Board of Christian Education this year. Your time, talents and treasures are most appreciated by us because without your support of our projects, we would not be able to impact the spiritual lives of the children we interact with. May you each have a blessed holiday season full of love, laughter and life.

A special thank you to Cheryl Goldsmith for planning and running our Advent workshop on Nov 26th. It's always a great way to start off the holiday season.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will be starting a new unit in Sunday school this month using the Deep Blue Kids curriculum. Sunday school is every Sunday, including the first Sunday of the month*, unless otherwise announced. Class runs from immediately after "Time with Young Disciples" to 11:15. Children 4 to 12 are welcome to join us.

*The first Sunday of each month will be a special class dedicated to learning songs and prayers. We will break for communion and continue our lesson afterwards. All children are welcome to join us on these Sundays for singing, dancing and praying.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Jennifer Childears, via email jenniferchildears@yahoo.com or by text at 302-535-2988.

BOARD OF FINANCE

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

FOOD BANK

We will continue collecting food for the Christmas baskets for First Baptists Church Food Bank. Items needed are canned green beans, sweet potatoes, turkey gravy, boxes of mashed potatoes and stuffing and boxed cake mixes and frostings. Cash is needed to purchase turkeys. Thank you.

Code Purple

People's Church will again be a sanctuary for the homeless this winter for Code Purple. See Sue if you would like to volunteer. We will be needing the following items through March – paper dinner plates, dessert plates, and bowls, hot cups and plastic silverware. Bathroom cleaning supplies and toilet paper. Large bags of chips, pretzels, popcorn for snacks and granola bars and other snacks. Coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and cereal. And SOCKS. Please put these items in the Food Bank bins. We will also need dinners for 25 which can be frozen ahead of time. Please see Sue about dinners. Thank you for all your help.

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship had a busy November. On November 2, several members met to make cranberry relish, to be sold at church and the Spaghetti Dinner.

At the regular meeting, on November 12, Suzanne Schwartz-Green led the group in assembling gifts for our home bound members. Suzanne and Pastor Ellen had painted Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, and stars. The group glue and tied the trio together, backed with a star. This gift, along with a bag of Christmas goodies will be taken to our home bound members. The assignments for visits were also made.

On December 3, after the worship service, the Women's Fellowship will enjoy **Christmas Brunch, at the Hitchens' home**. It will be a celebration for women and spouses. Any woman of the church is welcome at the Women's Fellowship meetings and at the brunch. Please let Jean Hitchens know if you plan to attend.

In January, on the second Sunday, Pastor Ellen will present a program on **Women of the Bible**, and all in the congregation are invited to attend.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP WISHES EVERYONE THE MERRIEST OF CHRISTMASSES. PEACE AND BLESSINGS TO ALL!

Dec. 3: After worship, Christmas Brunch at the Hitchens' home, 630 N. State St. Spouses and friends included.

Women's Fellowship is open to all women of the church. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Jean Hitchens, Secretary

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

DECEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 7:00PM – Choir Practice	2 12:15 PM-NA MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
3 10:00 AM – Worship Holy Communion 11:00 am – Coffee – Women’s Fellowship 11:30 AM-Victory Church	4 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	5 07:00 PM-AA	6 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	7 7:00PM – Choir Practice	8 12:15 PM-NA MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
10 10:00 AM – Worship 11:00 am – Coffee – Women’s Fellowship 11:00 AM – Congregational Meeting 11:30 AM-Victory	11 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	12 07:00 PM-AA	13 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	14 7:00PM – Choir Practice	15 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
17 10:00 AM-Worship 11:00 am – coffee Women’s Fellowship Cookie Walk 11:10 AM – Diaconate meeting 11:30 AM-Victory Church	18 12:15 PM- NA – MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	19 07:00 PM-AA	20 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	21 7:00PM – Choir Practice	22 12:15 PM-NA – MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
24 10:00 AM-Worship 11:15 AM-Coffee – Women’s Fellowship 11:30 AM-Victory Church 7:00 PM – Christmas	25 12:15PM-NA MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	26 07:00 PM-AA	27 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	28 7:00PM – Choir Practice	29 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
31 10:00 AM-Worship 11:15 AM-Coffee – Women’s Fellowship 11:30 AM-Victory Church	JAN. ↓	2 07:00 PM-AA	3 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	4 7:00PM – Choir Practice	5 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA
7 10:00 am - Worship 11:15 AM-Coffee – Diaconate Board HOLY COMMUNION 11:30 AM- Victory Church	8 12:15PM-NA- MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	9 07:00 PM-AA	10 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	11 7:00PM – Choir Practice	12 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA

