

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
110 ROUTE 61 SOUTH
SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PA 17972
Rev. Ms. Shawn D. VanDyke, Pastor
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

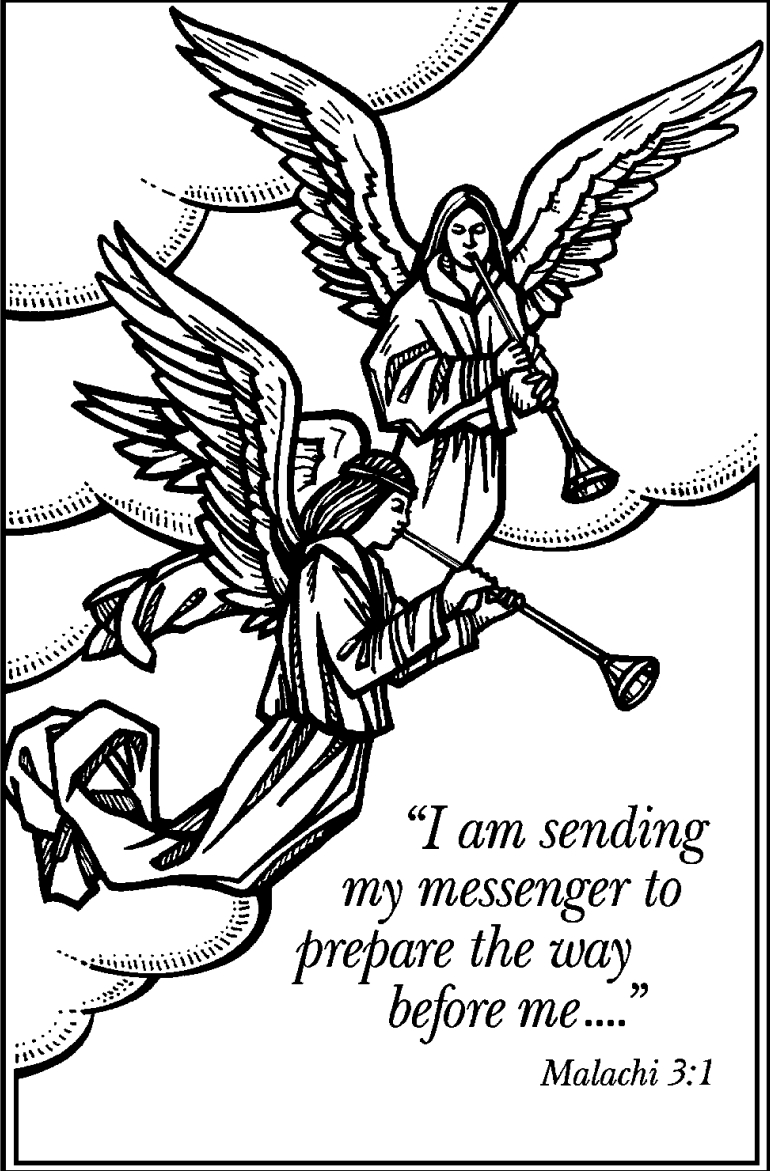
Serving God through Christ; Serving Others with Love

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Information Deadline for the LENT (FEBRUARY/MARCH) 2016 NEWSLETTER is Sunday, January 17!!



FIRST CHURCH HERALD
Vol. 34, Issue 6 Newsletter of First UCC Sch. Haven, PA
DECEMBER 2015 & JANUARY 2016



FIRST UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST
Serving God through Christ; Serving Others with Love
110 Route 61 South, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

PHONE – (570) 385-2049 **FAX #** – (570) 385-3019
OFFICE HOURS – 9 AM - 1 PM (Monday-Friday)
EMAIL – firstuccschuylkillhaven@verizon.net
WEBSITE – www.firstucc-haven.org

*If we are not in the office or have stepped away from the phone,
please leave a message on the answering machine
and we will get back to you as soon as possible.*

Rev. Ms. Shawn D. VanDyke, Pastor
25 S. Margaretta St., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
(570) 385-5425 firstuccpastor@verizon.net
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OTHER STAFF
Minister of Music – Chris Evans
(Chrisevans838@gmail.com or 717-329-6904)
Church Secretary – Jen Semanco
Sexton – Linda Lopez

WORSHIP – Sundays, 9:30 AM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH – Sundays, 9:30 AM

2015 CONSISTORY MEMBERS
Elders- Harris Bradley (385-1494), Bobbie Donati (385-7956), Linda Pritiskutch (366-2032), Kim Quinn (622-8650) & Kelly Schaeffer (385-0953)
Deacons- Brian Edling (385-7343), Keith Edling (385-1199), Carrie Ann Klinger (385-5979), Kenny Klinger (385-5979), & Kris Sonon (294-1243)

2015 CONSISTORY OFFICERS
President – Keith Edling **Vice President** – Kim Quinn
Recording Secretary – Bobbie Donati
Treasurer – Carrie Ann Klinger (firstucctreasurer@verizon.net)
Special Funds Treasurer – Jen Semanco

SALUTATIONS FROM SHAWN

Sanity Sunday

With gratitude, I've welcomed the announcement by several major retail stores that they will not be open for Thanksgiving. Not only is it a national holiday, it's a day when we can all pause for much needed time with loved ones, rather than squeezing in a few brief moments to eat before we shop.

Still many stores will be open for those who can't wait to snatch up dubious bargains as Thanksgiving becomes "Green Thursday." Then pandemonium begins in earnest with "Black Friday", "Small Business Saturday" (please shop locally and support our community), and "Cyber Monday" for those who prefer to buy online.

As Christians, we aren't just preparing for what has become a largely secular holiday. We are preparing for the celebration of the birth of our Savior. That's where "Giving Tuesday" comes in. Tuesday, December 1 is designated as a day to remember the many wonderful charities at work in the world to help children, fight disease, support veterans, and much more, a good opportunity to use some of our Christmas money for God's people in need.

In the middle of these re-named days sits Sunday, November 29, the First Sunday of Advent. At First Church we will hang the greens, sing joyful hymns, and pray for God's healing peace in lives that are often fragmented by grief and loss. Then refreshed and renewed by God's grace we will go out in the world to proclaim Christ's good news of salvation and hope.

For that reason, I'm proposing we add "Sanity Sunday." Starting our holy season in worship, hearing the words of the prophets promising God's Savior, singing choruses which proclaim our faith, joining with both family and friends to put scripture into action: these are ways that we find peace in a hectic season and rest in the calm of God.

Maybe we should do more than observe "Sanity Sunday." Maybe we should strive for a "Season of Sanity" clothed in the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Then we will hold dear the reason why we prepare for Christmas: we prepare for Christ, Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Shawn



WORSHIP IN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

A PEOPLE PREPARED

The angel said, "John will go before the Lord, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
--Luke 1:16-17

November 29 *Wondering at the Delay*
First Sunday of Advent – Hanging of the Greens, Healing Service
Isaiah 57:14-19 Prepare the Way
Luke 1: 1-25 The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

December 6 *Perplexed at the Greeting*
Second Sunday of Advent – Communion
Isaiah 40:1-11 The Greatness of God
Luke 1:26-38 The Birth of Jesus Foretold

December 13 *Sing A Song of Christmas!*
Third Sunday of Advent – CE Advent Worship; NO Confirmation Class
Isaiah 11:1-10 The Peaceful Kingdom
Luke 1:39-56 Mary's Song of Praise

December 20 *Overwhelmed with Joy*
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35 The Highway of Holiness
Luke 1:57-80 The Birth of John the Baptist

December 24 *Suddenly Glory*
Christmas Eve (Thursday) 7:30 PM and 11 PM
Candlelight, Carols and Communion
Isaiah 9:2-7 The Righteous Reign of the Coming Child
Luke 2:1-20 The Birth of Jesus; The Shepherds and Angels

December 27 *Searching for Treasure*
First Sunday after Christmas Day, Carol Sing
Isaiah 49:1-7 The Future Redeemer
Luke 2:41-52 The Boy Jesus in the Temple



2016 Offering Envelopes are in the hall next to the Sanctuary. Please find your envelopes and deliver envelopes to friends and family. This will save the church mailing expenses. If you do not find envelopes for yourself or someone else who wants envelopes, **PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (385-2049)**. If you are unable to pick up your envelopes by the end of January and wish to have them mailed to you, please call the church office.

WORSHIP IN EPIPHANY

PREPARED FOR LIGHT

January 3, 2016 *Overwhelmed*
Epiphany Sunday, Communion, Everybody Birthday
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 A Season and a Time
Matthew 2:1-12 Visitors from the East

January 10 *Unquenchable*
1st Sunday after Epiphany/Baptism of Christ
Renewal of Baptismal Vows; Installation of Consistory
Isaiah 43:1-7 Restoration Promised
Luke 3:15-22 Jesus is Baptized

January 17 *Filled*
2nd Sunday after Epiphany, New Member Recognition
Isaiah 62:1-5 A Prayer for Jerusalem
John 2:1-11 A Wedding at Cana

January 24 *Fulfilled*
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 61:1-11 Good News
Luke 4:14-21 Jesus Preaches in Nazareth

January 31 *Unacceptable*
4th Sunday after Epiphany, Healing Service
Isaiah 61:1-11 The Spirit of the Lord
Luke 4:18-30 Jesus Rejected in Nazareth

February 7 *Changed*
Transfiguration Sunday; Communion
Exodus 34:29-35 Moses' Shining Face
Luke 9:28-36 Jesus is Transfigured

LENT BEGINS

Wednesday, February 10 *Sound the Alarm*
Ash Wednesday, 7 PM Worship
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 A Call to Repentance and Prayer
Psalm 51:1-17 Prayer for Cleansing and Pardon
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Giving, Prayer, and Fasting



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Communion & Food Pantry Donations

December 6

As we come to be fed at the Lord's Table, we remember those in our community who have difficulty feeding themselves. Our donations of non-perishable foods to the SH Food Pantry are much needed and appreciated.

Bethany Children's Home

December 13

Our gifts support Bethany's ministry to neglected and at-risk teens who can no longer live at home. At Bethany they receive love and education that teaches them to be self-sufficient. Your offerings provide a home for children in need.

The Compassion Fund

December 20 & January 17

This Special Offering is placed in an emergency fund for church members' use.

Christmas Fund

Love Shines Through

December 20

A ministry of the Pension Boards, the offering provides direct financial assistance to retired and active UCC authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium supplementation, emergency assistance, and Christmas thank-you checks.

OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission)

January 31

The OCWM offering is used within the PSEC for local ministries.

Advent Offering Envelopes

Advent offering envelopes will be sent out as part of a special mailer. The envelope offerings collected for the **Advent Offering** will be used to support the on-going ministry of First UCC.

Special Offerings

The envelope offerings collected for **Christmas Eve** (December 24), **Christmas Day** (December 25), **Epiphany** (January 3) will be used to support the on-going ministry of First UCC. The envelope offerings collected for **Meat Bingo** (January 10) will be used to help supplement the fundraising efforts of those who spend a lot of time and effort in making each fundraising effort a success.

Initial Offering

The money collected for **\$5 Initial Offering** is used to offset the cost of printing the offering envelopes.

Church Change Special Offering

During the months of December, January & February our Church Change offering will be donated to the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Community Ministries.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

HELPING CHILDREN LIVE LIKE JESUS

Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. And nothing is more important than helping children develop a deep, lasting relationship with Him. In *Helping Children Live Like Jesus*, children will experience lessons right from the Gospels about the life of Jesus. Jesus' life will become real to our children as they learn biblical truths through activities that appeal to every learning style, like crafts, skits, art projects, interactive stories, object lessons, and group dialogue. When kids know, follow, and live like Jesus they will understand that they too are God's children.

November 29 **Hanging of the Greens; NO Children's Church**

Children are invited to participate in worship as we decorate the sanctuary.

December 6 **The Promise of a Savior**

Matthew 1: 20-23; Luke 1: 26-56

December 13 **BCE Advent Worship; NO Children's Church**

The young people of the church will lead worship.

Please come to church at 9 AM to prepare for 9:30 AM worship.

December 20 **Jesus Is Born!**

Luke 2: 1-20

December 27 **NO Children's Church**

Children can sing their favorite Christmas carols in worship.

January 3 **Jesus Grows Up**

Luke 2: 41-52

January 10 **Jesus Calls the Disciples**

Matthew 4: 18-22

January 17 **Jesus Calms the Storm**

Mark 4: 35-41

January 24 **Jesus Raises Lazarus**

John 11: 1-45

January 31 **Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand**

John 6: 1-13

February 7 **Transfiguration; NO Children's Church**

Thank you to our faithful teachers and their assistants who share God's love with our children: Austin Boyer, Delia Edling, Lisa Edling, Linda Lopez, Mackenzie Nye, Malaki Nye, Rachel Sonnon, and Gavin Fry.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Annual Congregational Meeting Summary

On November 15 during worship the congregation met to review the past year and plan for the coming year. Minutes from the 11/9/14 annual meeting were approved, as were the 2015 YTD Financial, Consistory and Committee reports. The 2016 Proposed Budget was accepted. Bobbie Donati and Kim Quinn were elected as elders while Harris Bradley was appointed to finish an elder's term. Brian (Fred) Edling and Kris Sonon were elected as deacons. The vote for the Kline Fund Tithe will take place Sunday, February 21, when the final 2015 YTD Financial Report will be presented for approval. Consistory will be installed Sunday, January 10.

BIBLE STUDY

Monday Night Bible Study, 7–8 PM in the Weiser Board Room

We'll take a break for December renewing our time together starting January 5. We will explore "You Mean That Isn't In the Bible? 10 Popular Beliefs That Simply Aren't True" written by David A. Rich.

Drop in whenever it fits your schedule; weekly participation is not essential. If you are in need of a Bible, please talk to Pastor Shawn.

CHRISTIAN PASSAGES / SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS

Baptisms – **Tristan Jaylee Alexander** was baptized on Sunday, November 8, 2015. Tristan, born October 6, 2014, is the son of Jaylee & Heather Alexander. His sponsors are Ronnie Alexander & Billie Ann Engle. Tristan is the grandson of Robin & Alex Alexander, and great-nephew of Mary Saul.

River Athena Daniels was baptized on Sunday, November 8, 2015. River, born May 2, 2015, is the daughter of Vernell Alexander & Ryan Daniels. Her sponsors are Gino D'Aurizio and Andrea Kline. River is the grandson of Robin & Alex Alexander, and great-niece of Mary Saul.

SERVICE CANCELLATIONS

When it snows we may need to cancel Sunday services. If this situation should arise we will notify local radio stations. Please listen to 1360 AM or 105.5 FM for any cancellation information. We will also have cancellation information on the church answering machine and our Facebook page.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION

Thursday, December 24 - TWO WORSHIP SERVICES
7:30 PM with Traditional Carols
AND 11 PM with Traditional and Contemporary Carols

With beloved carols and special music, with communion and candlelight, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior as we gather on Christmas Eve. In addition to our traditional 7:30 PM worship service, we will once again offer an 11 PM worship service. This service ends at midnight as we greet the first minutes of the day of Christ's birth with grateful praise.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Surviving the Holidays,

Tuesday November 24, 7-9 PM & Sunday, December 13, 1:30-3:30 PM, Bethesda EC Church, Reedsville. The seminar helps those who are grieving deal with emotions and find hope for the future. For more information call 570-739-2241 or email pmjmcc@hotmail.com.

Tree of Light Ceremony of Remembrance

Thursday, December 3, 7 PM, Garfield Square, Pottsville

Each year Hospice of Central Pennsylvania provides an opportunity for families whose loved ones have died to come together to remember and honor those who are special to them. The Tree of Light provides a visible display and reminder of the light our loved ones shared with us.

Wreaths Across America

Monday, December 7, Noon

Remember the Fallen, Honor Those Who Serve

Schuylkill Haven American Legion Post 38 will welcome the Wreaths Across American Convoy and place wreaths at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The community is invited for the ceremony.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETINGS: 6 PM

Tuesday, December 2 & Tuesday, January 5

Church members are welcome to attend BCE Meetings as we work together to provide Christian nurture to all ages in the congregation.

CONSISTORY MEETINGS: 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 9 – Christmas Dinner @ Hoss's

Wednesday, January 13

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, known as LIHEAP, helps low-income families pay their heating bills. People may apply online at www.compass.state.pa.us for LIHEAP and other services. The Schuylkill County office may also be contacted for an application at 877-306-5439.

Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

On the third Friday of the month, the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches distributes food at their Food Pantry, located on Market Street behind Evans Delivery (the old Walk-In Shoe Factory), and beginning at 1 PM.

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP

The following totals are up to and including the end of October 2014 plus a comparison to October 2013 & 2012.

	Oct 2015	Oct 2014	Oct. 2013
TOTAL EXPENSES –	\$187,760.81	\$197,699.05	\$196,173.78
REVENUE –	\$ 67,185.39	\$ 64,434.50	\$ 78,660.49
Resources from Kline Fund –	\$118,950.00	\$130,875.00	\$116,692.12
TOTAL REVENUE –	\$186,135.39	\$195,309.50	\$195,352.61
Gain/Loss –	\$ -1,625.42	\$ -2,389.55	\$ -821.17

STEWARDSHIP – CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

Hoss's Fundraiser. Consistory will be holding a Hoss's Fundraiser at the Cressona restaurant on **Wednesday, December 9**. This will be an all-day fundraiser. You must present a fundraiser card at the restaurant when ordering. Cards are in the narthex and the church office.

Cookbooks for sale. Cookbooks are \$5 each. Cookbook topics include: 5 or Less Ingredients, Best of the Holidays, Cookies & Bars, Diabetic Recipes, Homemade Classics, Kids in the Kitchen, One Dish Dinners, Quick Fix and Slow Cooker. See Carrie Ann if interested.

Shank's Vanilla. 8 oz. bottles of vanilla are being sold for \$6 per bottle. The vanilla is a great ingredient for the upcoming holiday baking season.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Class meets in the Weiser Board Room on Sundays after worship until noon. Please note the exceptions below.

Hanging of the Greens Service Project after Worship **November 22**
With the help of others in the church, we'll prepare the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens on November 29. Then there will be time for games and pizza before we head to **Roller Roost 2 for 1 PM**.

CE Advent Worship REHEARSAL, Sun., Dec. 6, after Worship

BCE Advent Worship, Sunday, Dec. 13, 8:45 AM Walk-Thru

NO CLASS – Sunday, December 13. Take gifts to Rosewood.

December 20 – worship & class

NO CLASS – Sunday, December 27. Happy New Year!

January Classes resume SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 after worship.

*See the "Fellowship" and "Teen FORCE" pages for Activities in December and January. *Bonus Points can be accumulated to offset absences when you help with church fundraisers and service projects.*

If a confirmand is ill or will be absent from either class or worship, please call Pastor Shawn. Church: 570-385-2049. Home: 570-385-5425.

HEALING SERVICES

Sunday, November 29 and January 31, Fifth Sundays

For people who have experienced the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, the pain of illness or a broken relationship, the holiday season can be anything but joyful. Depression is not an uncommon experience over the holidays. During worship on November 29, the First Sunday of Advent, we will offer a service for healing of those who struggle to find hope. Through prayer we turn to God to fill our needs, knowing God sent Jesus Christ the great healer to live among us for this reason.

On January 31 once again we will seek God's healing and restoration as winter's darkness gives way to new light and the promise of new life.

EVANGELISM

All Were Invited to the Manger

Angels announced the glorious news of Christ's birth to shepherds, outcasts from society. Magi arrived much later to see the Promised Savior of Israel, yet they were not of the Jewish faith. Mary and Joseph greeted all of their guests graciously, trusting that God was reaching out to all people.

This is the time of year when people visit churches looking for a church home, guests we can welcome as Mary and Joseph welcomed Jesus' visitors.

If you notice someone you haven't met before, please introduce yourself. Even if they are church members who are unable to attend worship regularly, they will appreciate your friendliness.

FELLOWSHIP

Annual Christmas Party, Friday, December 4, 6:30 PM

All ages are welcome. While Santa visits the children, adults and teens participate in a gift exchange and Chris leads us in caroling. Parents and grandparents, Santa would like to give a gift to every child but the church does not provide gifts: PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS. Adults and teens, please bring a wrapped gift costing \$5 or less suitable for male or female for the gift exchange. Hess Catering will provide the food. Please sign up by Sunday, November 29. A free will offering will be received to help defray the cost of the meal.

SOUL (Seniors Out to Lunch)

SOUL consists of senior members of the congregation who like to get together at local restaurants. If you would like to join SOUL for any of their upcoming luncheons, call Iris Weller (366-0897) so that they can save a seat for you!

Wednesday, December 9, Noon – Hoss's Please note the change in day in order to participate in the Hoss's fundraiser.

Tuesday, January 12, Noon – Location to be determined

Christian Rock and Bowl, Sundays, January 10 and February 14 2-4 PM at Strike Zone Alleys in Pottsville.

\$10 covers unlimited games for two hours and shoe rental. Bring extra money if you want snacks. The Board of Christian Education will cover the cost of bowling for church teens and children who are in high school or younger.

MEAT BINGOS

The profit for the November Meat Bingo is estimated to be around \$2,900. Profits from the bingos are placed in the church's general budget to be used towards the everyday expenses. ***Thank you for your support!!***

Our next Meat BINGO is scheduled for Saturday, January 23. Doors open at 11 AM; games begin at 1 PM. The prizes will be packages of meat. There will be 20 games for \$15. Specials & Raffles are extra. Food and refreshments will be available. We are looking for helpers age 13 and older. Please call the church office if you are able to volunteer.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Chime Master Carillon Dedication, Sunday, November 29

For many years, hymns and carols were chimed throughout the community from the First United Church of Christ. The old Paramount Carillon, lovingly maintained by Milt Seltzer and Howard Shaup for decades, is no longer repairable. At the suggestion of family members, a new Chime Master Carillon will be installed as a memorial, once again to ring joyous sounds of Christmas carols, Easter alleluias, and songs of faith four times a day. In addition, a "Call to Worship" bell will chime at 9:15 AM Sunday mornings. The carillon will be dedicated in worship on Sunday, November 29, in loving memory of Kenny Confehr, Donna Dixon, Mary Ebinger, Robert Ebinger, Joseph Frasnelli, Floyd Fryer, Florence Houser, Betty Krammes, Fred Krause, Robert Kull, Jack Paul, Frank Perry, Howard Shaup and Althea Sunday.

MEAT BINGO

Saturday, January 23, 1 PM

Doors open at 11 AM

Tickets - \$15

**Raffles & Specials are extra
Food & Drinks are available**



MISSION

Angel Tree Gifts

Gift cards are already hanging on the Angel Tree in the Narthex for children from the Pottsville Salvation Army, the Gaudenzia Treatment Center in Ashland and Bethany Children's Home Emergency Shelter in Womelsdorf. The cards note the age and gender of the children along with their clothing size and wish list. Please return your gifts unwrapped for the Salvation Army and Bethany Children's Home by December 6 and for Gaudenzia by December 20. Also, Seeds to Grow has designated \$400 of church mission money to care for children at Bethany Children's Home.

Christmas Treat Donations, Sunday, December 13

As you make Christmas cookies this year, could you spare a dozen to share for fellowship after worship on December 13 and for the residents of Rosewood? The young people will lead worship and would enjoy a time of fellowship for the church before they head up the hill to Rosewood (formerly Rest Haven) to give gifts to the residents. Please sign-up in worship or call the church office if you can donate Christmas treats.

Visit to Rosewood (formerly Rest Haven)

Sunday, December 13, after Worship

During Vacation Bible School and in Children's Church, the children have made cards, sun catchers, and treats for residents at Rosewood. After worship, meet with Delia Edling in the Narthex to organize a carpool up the hill to distribute the children's gifts and offer a few carols to the residents.

Undie Sunday, December 20

The First Church tradition continues of collecting men's, women's and children's new underwear, in all sizes, to pass on to the Salvation Army and Schuylkill Women in Crisis. Please place your donations in the marked box in the Narthex.

The Winter Family HOPE Project

Bethesda E.C. Church in Reedsville is providing housing for a mother and her 17 year old daughter while The Community Mission in Pottsville helps them work to move to stable housing and employment. The family will be housed for a maximum of four weeks. Help is needed to provide occasional meals and transportation. Talk to Pastor Shawn for more information.



MISSION, cont'd.

Care Packages for Soldiers, January

In January, we will gather items needed by soldiers stationed in remote areas of the world. Check Sunday worship bulletins in January for details.

Souper Bowl of Caring, Sunday, February 1, 2016

Most of us will gather later in the day to watch the Superbowl, stuffing our faces with tasty snacks. Many people in our county are unable to feed themselves, so we are asking everyone who attends worship on February 1 to bring a dollar for a special collection for the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry as we feed our neighbors in need.

National Disasters

The UCC has a fund which assists with national disasters. Donate online at ucc.org/donate_to_disaster_relief or designate your gift to the UCC Emergency USA Fund.

TEEN FORCE

Hanging of the Greens Service Project

Sunday, November 22, after Worship

See the Confirmation page for information.

Annual Church Christmas Party, Friday, December 4, 6:30 PM

This party is for all ages! Invite your friends to come for good food, carols and a gift exchange. Bring a gift, suitable for male or female, costing less than \$5 to exchange with other teens and/or adults.

BCE Advent Worship REHEARSAL, Sun., Dec. 6, after Worship

Walk through the service in preparation for worship on December 13.

BCE Advent Worship, Sunday, December 13, 8:45 AM

Walk through the worship service before you lead worship at 9:30 AM.

Soldier Care Packages, Sunday, January 31, after Worship

Stay after worship to pack donations into care boxes for soldiers serving in remote areas. Time for snacks and games can be planned.



SCHUYLKILL HAVEN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

CROP Walk Report, Sunday, Oct. 5

Thank you for your support of the CROP Walk. While Pastor Shawn initially raised \$186, more money than the Confirmands, a last minute fund raising effort by the Confirmands led to a total of \$209.80. As a result, all contestants were coated in whipped cream after worship on October 25. One-quarter of the CROP Walk donations will be given to the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Food Pantry. The rest of the donations will fight hunger around the world through Church World Service. First Church's total contribution was \$695.80 thank to \$300 designated by Seeds to Grow from church mission money. Thank you all!

Monthly Food Pantry Third Fridays, 1 PM, Dec. 18 & Jan. 15

The Council offers free food to those in need in the community. At present, the Food Pantry is located on Market Street, behind Evans Delivery on Columbia Street (the old Walkin Shoe Factory).

Bloodmobile Thursday, January 7, 12:30-5:30 PM

Every two seconds someone in America needs blood. Council holds a Bloodmobile for the American Red Cross every other month at Jerusalem Lutheran Church. You must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and be healthy in order to donate blood.

Bi-Monthly Council of Churches Meeting, Tues., Jan. 26, 7 PM

First United Methodist Church will host the Council of Churches as members meet to ensure that the food pantry, blood mobile, and other community ministries continue to meet local needs. If you are interested in learning more about Council, please talk to Pastor Shawn.

All Church Christmas Party

For All Ages



Friday, December 4, 6:30 PM



Gather together for a great meal, some Christmas carols and everyone's special guest...Santa Claus.

Consistory asks that you register by calling the church office (385-2049) or signing up in the narthex by Sunday, November 29. A free will offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the meal. Bring your favorite dessert to share.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 12/03- Herm Morgan, Jr. (1949) | 1/01- Elizabeth Reichert (2001) |
| 12/08- Ronnie Alexander (1977) | Lisa Edling (1964) |
| Lilly Edling (2006) | 1/02- Cindy Brozana |
| Stacey Ebling (1983) | Bud Lopez (1950) |
| 12/13- Ewen Dougherty (2007) | 1/04- Carol Donati (1949) |
| 12/15- Russ Coover (1961) | 1/05- Casey Moyer (1976) |
| 12/16- Mike Gossard (1975) | 1/06- Mary Achenbach (1936) |
| Olivia Lang (2003) | 1/07- Cole Paul (2006) |
| Katie Miholics (2008) | 1/08- Gil Beury (1957) |
| Tim McCord (1969) | Russell Coover III (1987) |
| 12/18- Ed Hummel (1921) | 1/09- Jane Ellinger (1970) |
| Donna Spotts (1959) | 1/10- Pam Strong (1964) |
| 12/20- Doug Stewart (1984) | 1/11- Gary Keller (1964) |
| 12/21- Elleona Pritiskutch (2001) | 1/13- Patsy Wingle (1973) |
| Robert G. Riegel (1959) | 1/14- Scott Lopez (1970) |
| 12/22- William Spotts (1985) | Renee Mohl (1970) |
| 12/23- Mary Cramer (1963) | 1/16- Jon Spotts |
| John Donati (1947) | 1/17- Matthew Madenfort |
| Michael Madenfort (1963) | 1/18- Elizabeth Harner (2002) |
| 12/24- Joseph Mattera Jr. (1979) | Dale Mordosky (1942) |
| 12/25- David Nye | 1/19- Kath Owens (1949) |
| 12/26- Dennis Truscott | 1/21- Richard Rohrer (1958) |
| Sierra Pritiskutch (1993) | 1/22- Mae Deatrich (1928) |
| Amanda Gossard (1983) | Joe Mattera, Sr. (1955) |
| 12/27- Adriana Darcangelo (2006) | Rich Scott (1966) |
| Austin Keller (1993) | 1/23- Cindy Fisher (1957) |
| Angela Moyer (1974) | 1/24- Michelle Dougherty (1980) |
| 12/28- Bill Coffey | 1/26- Norah Dougherty (2009) |
| Jacob Moyer (1995) | 1/27- Agnes Masler (1931) |
| Kelly Schaeffer (1968) | 1/28- Tina Kluge (1972) |
| Shirley Wildermuth | 1/29- Harold Schrader (1942) |
| 12/29- Carrie Ann Klinger (1952) | 1/30- Tom Stewart, Sr |
| Greg Semanco (1969) | Pam Swirsky (1974) |
| 12/30- Jim Watkins (1982) | Robbie Wensel (1991) |
| 12/31- Emily Reichert (2002) | 1/31- Tricia (Moyer) Mentzer (1981) |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 12/17- Tim & Robin Bayliff (1983) | 1/07- Bob & Jeanne Gordon (1951) |
| 12/22- Jay & Diane Newswanger (2001) | 1/14- Scott & Melissa Lopez (2012) |
| | 1/24- Jim & Cindy Fisher (1976) |

If we missed a birthday or anniversary, listed an incorrect date or do not have the year, please call the church office so that we are able to correct and/or update our records.

