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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church December 2011

## Pastor's Column

The department stores will tell you that the season of Christmas is upon us. We in the church, however, realize that it is the season of Advent we are entering. The Christmas season isn't here yet. First we have to get ready, to prepare for the birth of Christ into our lives.

You will find lots of ways to prepare for the birth of Christ offered here at UPC this Advent season. If you find yourself feeling rushed or frenzied, come join the Taize service for a time of quiet meditation, beautiful music, and tranquil candle light. If this is a season which surfaces painful memories, losses, or sorrows, you may find the Service of Peace, Hope, and Light a meaningful occasion.

Are you seeking time to spend with your family and friends, to enjoy laughter and good companionship? The Advent pot-luck and workshop will provide good food, a time for crafts and wreath-making, and a very special play, written by our own Howard Henry and performed by a wonderful cast of UPC members.

Maybe you are seeking a way to give joy to others. All members of the congregation are invited to go Christmas caroling to members and friends of UPC who are unable to join us each week in worship.

'Tis the season to fulfill the prophet's cry: Prepare the way of the Lord! Through quiet means and boisterous ones, let us ready ourselves for Christ's coming.

Shalom,  
Tracy

## Worship Column

### December 4<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Worship— Communion

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship – Communion

**Lectionary:** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;  
2Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

### December 11<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or  
Luke 1:46b-55; I Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,  
19-28

### December 18<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99;  
I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

### December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve

7:00 PM Lessons, Carols and Candle Light  
Service

**Lectionary:** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96;  
Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

### December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary: (Dawn)** Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97;  
Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2L1-7)8-20

**(Day)** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98;  
Hebrews 1:1-4(5-12); John 1:1-14



## Special Worship Times

Please note that there will be only one worship service held at **11:00 AM**. on both Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

## Annual Church Christmas Dinner

On **Sunday, December 18** we will gather for that annual holiday event at UPC—the Church Christmas Dinner. **Tickets are \$8, or \$20 for a family of four (2 adults, 2 children).** Tickets may be purchased after worship in the Holzwarth Room on Sundays or through the church office.



**“The Network”**  
is published monthly for friends and members of University Presbyterian Church. If you wish to submit an article, please contact the church office.

**Co-Editors:**  
Brian Belus  
The Reverend Tracy Daub



## Advent and Christmas at UPC

2011

- \* **Sunday, November 27—First Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- \* **Friday, December 2—First Friday Taize Service**  
5:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- \* **Saturday, December 3—Hanging of the Greens**  
9 a.m.
- \* **Sunday, December 4—Second Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (communion at both services)  
Advent Pot-luck lunch, workshop, and play
- \* **Saturday, December 10—Cookie Sale and Book Sale**  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in Reid Hall
- \* **Sunday, December 11—Third Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Christmas Caroling at 1 p.m.
- \* **Wednesday, December 14 – Service of Peace, Hope, and Light**  
7:00 p.m. at North Presbyterian Church
- \* **Sunday, December 18 –Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
11 a.m. worship will include a children's Christmas pageant  
Church Christmas Dinner at 12 noon in Reid Hall
- \* **Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve Service**  
Worship at 7 p.m.  
Carols, Candles, and Communion (child care provided)
- \* **Sunday, December 25—Christmas Morning**  
Single Morning Worship Service at 11 a.m.
- \* **Sunday, January 1—New Year's Day**  
Single Morning Worship Service at 11 a.m. (communion)



## Food Pantry By The Numbers

Each month, the UPC Food Pantry submits a report to the Food Bank of Western New York, indicating how many households were served during the month, and how many individuals make up those households. We share these statistics with our congregation, which provides such generous support to our pantry, both in time and in donations.

Anyone interested in volunteering one afternoon a month at the Pantry can call **Barbara Pearson, 833-3163.**

<u>October</u>	
<b>Infants</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Children</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Adults</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Elderly</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Households:</b>	<b>289</b>
<b>Equivalent meals:</b>	<b>2,601</b>

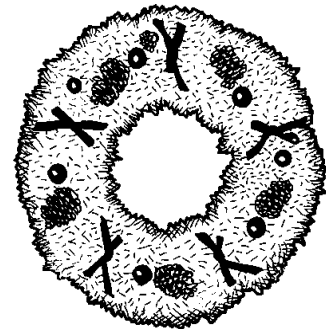
## December Birthdays

- 4 Alea Cotto-Ecklund
- 6 Jim Moran
- 9 Bob Dewitz
- 9 Dannish Patel
- 12 Eric Moodie
- 15 Adele Jackson-Gibson
- 15 Bonnie Dahl
- 16 Untae Kim
- 19 Jim Kline
- 19 Elizabeth Ball
- 20 John Maddock
- 22 Donald Holzman
- 29 Mark Masters
- 31 Tiffany Whitefield

## YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

- 26 Arjun Singh
- 28 Ajay Singh
- 30 Abigail Wadkins-Daub

## Special Advent Event!!



This year UPC is in for a very special Advent event. On Sunday, December 4, our congregation is invited to an Advent pot-luck lunch and workshop. At the workshop, members can make an advent wreath for home devotional time, and also join in a variety of star-making crafts. But that's not all! In addition to good food and crafts, we will be treated to a special play. "The Star Diner" is a play written by our very talented Howard Henry, directed by Pat Cookfair-Casseri, and starring a cast of UPC youth and adults. The play is a re-telling of the Christmas story set in a 1940's diner. You won't want to miss this event. Please sign up in the Holzwarth Room.

## **Service of Peace, Hope, and Light**

**Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 PM**

**North Presbyterian Church Chapel**

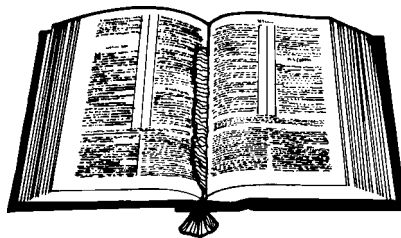


For many people the Christmas season is a bittersweet time of year. For those who know that this Christmas will be a hard one because they have had a death in the family, a loss of job or health, a broken relationship or because of painful memories of Christmases past, the Stephen Ministry and Deacons of North Presbyterian Church, University Presbyterian Church and First Clarence Presbyterian offer an annual Service of Peace, Hope and Light. This is a quiet, meditative worship service giving participants the chance to meet, worship and reflect as Christmas approaches. All are welcome. There will be a time of refreshment and fellowship following the service, and the opportunity to explore Soul Feast will also be available.

## **Cookie Sale and Book Sale**



Don't miss the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Cookie Sale, held on December 10<sup>th</sup> in Reid Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Also on sale that day will be a large selection of used books and gift items from El Buen Amigo.



**INTERCOLLEGIATE – INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY**

**WEDNESDAYS: DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> AND DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**Light Meal: 5:00 pm – Study until 6:30 pm**

**Holzwarth Room**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch**

## DECEMBER 2011

Thursday	1	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	2	5:30 pm	Taize Service
Saturday	3	10:00 am	Grief Support Breakfast
Sunday	4	9:00 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship
		12:15 pm	<b>Potluck Lunch &amp; Advent Workshop</b>
Tuesday	6	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Wednesday	7	5:00 pm	Bible Study with Stu
		7:00 pm	Committee Meetings
Thursday	8	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Friday	9	9:00 am	Christmas Cookie Sale Setup
Saturday	10	9:00 am	<b>Christmas Cookie Sale</b>
Sunday	11	9:00 am	Worship
		9:30 am	Deacons Meeting
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship
Monday	12	12:00 noon	Presbyterian Women
Tuesday	13	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Wednesday	14	5:00 pm	Bible Study with Stu
Thursday	15	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday	18	9:00 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship
		12:00 noon	<b>All Church Christmas Dinner</b>
		12:15 pm	University Student Lunch
Monday	19	12:00 noon	<b>FOOD PANTRY</b>
Tuesday	20	12:00 noon	<b>FOOD PANTRY</b>
Thursday	22	7:30 pm	Choir
Saturday	24	7:00 pm	<b>Christmas Eve Candelight Service</b>
Sunday	25	11:00 am	<b>(One Service Only)</b> Worship
Tuesday	27	12:00 noon	Food Pantry

**The office will be closed Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 for Christmas and Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2 for New Year's.**