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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church December 2014

## Pastor's Column

Waiting is something we all do in life. The most annoying kind to me is waiting at the doctor's office. First you wait in the waiting room. Then you wait in the examining room. And you never know how long it will take until you are seen. When I'm stuck in one of these situations, I notice that there are some folks who come prepared for the wait, armed with books, magazines, knitting or other distractions. And then there are others who just sit, or snooze, or endure the wait. Either way, this kind of waiting is pretty passive. We are just biding our time until our name is called and the wait is over.

Then there is the other kind of waiting which is more active. It's the kind of waiting we do when we know that house guests are coming to stay with us in two days time. We spend this "in-between" time getting ready for their visit: cleaning the house, buying the food, arranging the guest room, etc. We use this waiting time preparing for what is about to happen.

This is the kind of waiting we are invited to do in Advent: a time of active, intentional preparation. I think Advent, shrunk as it is into just 4 weeks, is supposed to mirror life. Life could be considered an "in-between" time. It's the time spent between our births and our deaths. How will we spend this time? Are we actively preparing for Christ's coming in our lives each day? Are we doing those things that will help us recognize God's presence? Are we getting ready to usher in God's new realm of peace, justice, and hope by the ways we spend our time, money, and efforts? Do we live with the anticipation that Christ is about to be born in our hearts and lives?

I invite you to join in this Advent season of active waiting and preparing so that we can carry this kind of waiting into the rest of our lives. You will discover in this Network many events and services that can help assist us in this preparation of our hearts and lives for the coming of Christ.

Best wishes for a Blessed Season of Waiting!

**Shalom,  
Tracy**

## Worship Column ~ December 2014

### December 7<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**9:00 AM** Worship Service with **Communion**  
**10:00 AM** Education Hour  
**11:00 AM** Worship Service with **Communion**  
**Lectionary:** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13;  
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

### December 14<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**9:00 AM** Worship Service  
**9:30 AM** Deacons Meeting  
**10:00 AM** Education Hour  
**11:00 AM** Worship Service  
**Lectionary:** Luke 6:1-4, 8-11; Psalms 126 or  
Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

### December 21<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**9:00 AM** Worship Service  
**NO EDUCATION CLASSES**  
**11:00 AM** Worship Service  
**Lectionary:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or  
Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke  
1:26-28

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

**7:00 PM** Worship Service  
**Lectionary:** Isaiah 9:2-7; *Psalms 96*;  
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

### December 28<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day

**SINGLE SERVICE at 11:00 AM**  
**Lectionary:** Isaiah 61:10-62:3; *Psalms 148*;  
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

## “Donate Your Sole”

Hearts for the Homeless “**DONATE YOUR SOLE**” program

According to the local weather forecasters we may have some slushy wet snow this weekend and next week. Please check your closets and under the bed shoe boxes for those slightly used boots and sneakers that you already replaced with new ones and consider donating these items to the Donate Your Sole program. It will warm your heart to help someone warm their feet and keep them dry this winter. All the many pairs of shoes, boots, slippers, sandals, high heels, dress shoes, low heels we have received have been picked up and are distributed to those in need. So we give thanks to you for donating your **SOLE!!!**



**“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

## **Christmas Cookie Sale**

The 10th Annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be held on  
**December 13th<sup>th</sup>** in Reid Hall from  
**9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

This year we are asking all able and willing bakers to contribute  
**15 dozen** Christmas cookies (or as many as you can - fancy, unusual,  
etc.)

The cookies will be sold for \$10.00 a pound. The money from this sale  
benefits  
the operating budget of the church.

**Cookies can be dropped off in the office during the day on Thursday  
the 11th, or in the kitchen Thursday evening from 6 to 8pm, or very early  
Friday a.m..**

Also, we need **volunteers for Friday** beginning at 9:00 am to help setup,  
box, and weigh **and on Saturday** at 8:30 am to help with the sale.

Please volunteer to bake and/or to help by filling out the "Yes, I Will Help" form,  
available from Janet Mazzaroppi or Cindy Hickey.



## **BUY TODAY, CHANGE TOMORROW**

The Mission to Community committee selected Church World Service's Best Gift Program as our alternative gift giving opportunity for Christmas this year. Our Mission Statement is guiding our focus. "Let Us Be Bread". CWS' Best Gift Catalog offers many gifts related to food and nutrition for our hungry world family. In addition, the catalog offers gifts related to education, health, and emergency services.

Shopping will begin Sunday November 30 through December 21.

Gift cards will be available with each purchase.

No glitz, no glitter, but lots of joy in giving  
that makes a difference!

## FOOD PANTRY BY THE NUMBERS

These numbers only tell part of the story of this important and meaningful ministry. It is the people behind the numbers, those who receive this food and offer us their thanks and their blessings, and this congregation who provide such generous support, both in time and in donations, that are the essence and the real story that these numbers represent. Our thanks to all of you.

### 2014 October

Infants	0
Children	64
Adults	168
Elderly	<u>48</u>
Total	280

Households            171  
Equivalent Meals    2520

**Please Help Us Recruit New Volunteers – New Pantry Volunteers are always welcome! But right now we are in great need of more folks.**

- Can you give us an afternoon a month?
- Do you know someone who might like to join us?
- Come and bring a friend along.
- Ask a neighbor.
- Post a flyer at work or at your library.

### When would I work?

- On a Tuesday or Thursday from 11:30am to 4:00pm.
- One afternoon a month (or as many as you wish).

### What would I do?

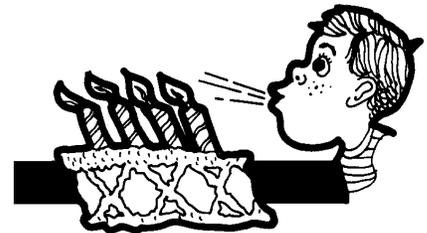
- You would work with 3 or 4 other volunteers.
- You might guide a client through our “store” to help them choose their groceries.
- You might greet and “check in” our clients.
- You might help to stock shelves.
- If you and a friend would like to work together, we can schedule that for you.
- You will feel good about the time you spend with us, helping our neighbors.

## December Birthdays

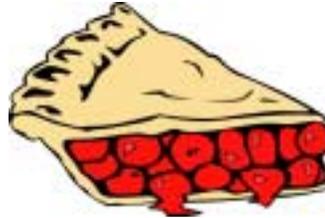
4	Alea Cotto-Ecklund
6	Jim Moran
9	Bob Dewitz
9	Dannish Patel
12	Eric Moodie
15	Adele Jackson-Gibson
15	Bonnie Dahl
16	Untae Kim
19	Jim Kline
19	Elizabeth Ball
20	John Maddock
22	Donald Holzman
29	Mark Masters
31	Tiffany Whitefield

## YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

26	Arjun Singh
28	Ajay Singh
30	Abigail Wadkins-Daub



# Soup and Pie Sale



Sunday Dec. 7 at noon

“Cash and Carry”

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

\$5 – Soup, Pie, Drink

\$3 – just soup

\$2 – just pie

\$1 – drink

Take-Out Available

*A fundraiser for the deacons of UPC*

**Seeking Peace, Quiet, and Comfort this Season?  
Consider these two services:**

- **First Friday Taize Service: Friday, Dec. 5**

**5:30 - 6 p.m.**

Enter a space of gentle music, candlelight, scripture readings, and silence.

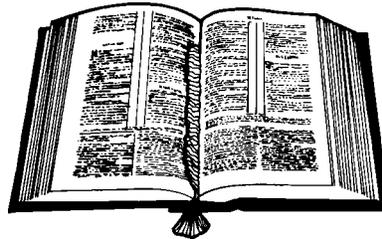
A wonderful respite from the noise and hustle and bustle of the season.

- **A Service of Peace, Hope, and Light**

**Sunday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m.**

**North Presbyterian Church, Williamsville**

This service is especially designed for all who find this a difficult season due to grief or other stresses.



**Bible Study ~ Intergenerational-International**

**with Rev. Stuart Buisch**

**Bible Study will be held on**

**Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**

**January dates to be determined**

**5:00 – 6:30 pm ~ a light meal is served.**

**Open to everyone and all are welcome.**

## **Save these dates for December**

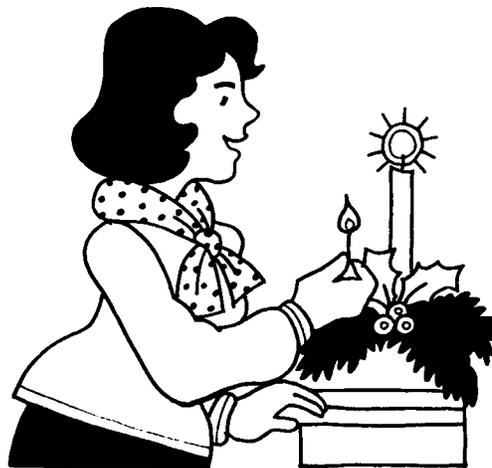
**Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – Deacon's great tasting  
Soup and Pie sale  
12 noon**

**Proceeds from the sale support the Deacons' Fund which helps members during a time of need.**

**Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – UPC's Yummy Cookie Sale  
9 a.m.- Noon (or until sold out)  
Cookies sold for \$10/lb.**

**Volunteers needed to bake cookies for the sale.  
Can't bake? Donations are always welcome!**

**Sunday, December 21—Church Christmas Dinner  
Join our annual Church-wide Christmas Celebration  
12 noon  
\$10/person  
\$24 Family Ticket (2 adults, 2 children under 12 yrs.)  
Tickets need to be purchased in advance**



# Holiday Cookie Sale, and more....

## University Presbyterian Church

3330 Main Street (@ Niagara Falls Blvd.) Buffalo,

Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014



9 am-1:30 pm  
(or until sold-out!)

**Homemade Holiday Cookies**: Sold by the Pound.  
A Great Variety. Choose your own assortment, or select one of our pre-wrapped plates. Great for parties or gifts.

**Holiday Gift Tables** - courtesy of  
**El Buen Amigo**,  
located at 114 Elmwood Ave.

Beautiful Fair Trade items from Mexico, Central and South America will be available for unique holiday gift shopping - clothing, jewelry, wood carvings and more.

For information call the Church Office at 836-7660.



## Camp Duffield Wish List for 2014

Work Gloves  
Golf Cart  
Hand held power tools  
Dryer  
Washing Machine  
Microwave  
Dorm size refrigerator  
Room fans  
Microphone  
Speakers  
Plastic tablecloths (or rolls)  
First aide supplies  
Flashlights  
Batteries- various sizes  
Bed linens  
Sleeping bags  
Towels  
Sheets  
Blankets  
Toiletries

### **Outdoor Equipment:**

8-10 in. playground balls  
Basketball  
Volleyball  
Carnival Games  
Megaphone

### **People Needed: July 4<sup>th</sup>-25**

Counselors  
Counselors in Training  
Campers  
Kitchen help  
Pianist

### **Inside Equipment:**

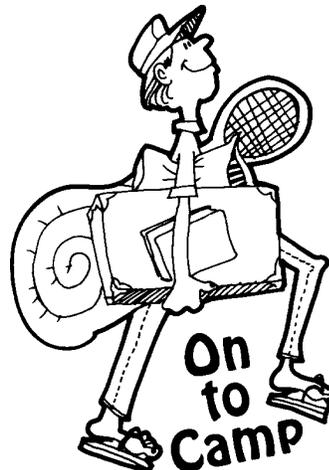
Board games (Connect Four, Checkers, etc.)  
Small game prizes  
Paper goods (plates, cups, towels, napkins)  
Plastic silverware  
Hand sanitizer  
Commercial Cotton Candy Machine  
Commercial Popcorn Machine  
DVD Player  
VHS Player  
Small (50-100 pound per day) ice maker  
Keyboard  
Musical instruments  
Science equipment  
Dawn detergent  
Magnifying glasses

### **Office Supplies:†**

Commercial printer

### **Arts & Crafts Supplies:**

Permanent Markers  
Sharpies  
Crayons  
Electric Pencil Sharpener  
Craft supplies  
Paint  
Scissors  
Duct tape/Transparent tape/Masking tape  
Clay





## Advent and Christmas at UPC—2014

- ☒ **Advent Adult Education Class—Sundays, Nov. 16 & 23 & Dec. 7 & 14 at 10 a.m.**  
“Advent Through the Eyes of Those Who Waited”
- ☒ **Sunday, November 30—First Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (communion at both services)
- ☒ **Friday, December 5—First Friday Taize Service**  
5:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- ☒ **Saturday, December 6—Hanging of the Greens, 9 a.m.**
- ☒ **Sunday, December 7—Second Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- ☒ **Sunday, December 7—Deacon Soup and Pie Sale, 12 noon**
- ☒ **Saturday, December 13—Cookie Sale**  
9 a.m. – noon in Reid Hall
- ☒ **Sunday, December 14—Third Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Christmas Caroling at 1 p.m.
- ☒ **Sunday, December 14—Service of Peace, Hope, and Light**  
4 p.m. at North Presbyterian Church
- ☒ **Sunday, December 21 —Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
No Education Hour  
Church Christmas Dinner at 12 noon in Reid Hall
- ☒ **Wednesday, December 24—Christmas Eve Service**  
Worship at 7 p.m.  
Carols, Candles, and Communion
- ☒ **Sunday, December 28**  
Single Morning Worship Service at 11 a.m.  
No Education Hour

## **Our member interview for the month of December will be Bill Rugg.**

Bill and his wife Marj transferred their membership to UPC from Central Presbyterian when they closed their doors.

Bill was born and raised in the Kensington-Bailey area of Buffalo where he attended PS#78 and Kensington High School. He then graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in Civil Engineering. Growing up, he and his family regularly attended and were very active in United Church of Christ. Bill and Marj were married in Mac Alpine Presbyterian Church where Marj's family was members.

Upon graduation from Syracuse, Bill joined the Army Corps of Engineers and served two years during the Korean War and was discharged as a Staff Sergeant. After leaving the service he returned to Buffalo where he worked for an Engineering Firm designing the High Level Bridge (Buffalo Skyway) and 13 railroad bridges in Niagara County. After 3 years as a bridge designer, he joined the engineering firm of Krehbiel and Krehbiel. After his third year at the firm he became an associate and after ten years was made a partner in the firm Krehbiel, Guay, Rugg and Hall. During his career he later became President and was the CEO of the firm until he retired.

Bill and Marj enjoyed traveling after retirement. Unfortunately eight years ago Marj developed dementia, and since then Bill has been her care giver until she was admitted to Weinberg Nursing Home almost two years ago. He spends most of his time with her in the home. After eating dinner with her he goes home once she's asleep. In the summer time he enjoys golfing 2 or 3 times a week, and when it turns cold he likes to go for walks every day. Bill and Marj have three children, with two of the families in Denver. He tries to visit them twice a year in Colorado. In June the whole gang (including all three children's families) spend two weeks in Cape Cod.

The Ruggs were active members of Central Presbyterian Church from 1957 until it was closed. At the time of the closing Bill was President of the Trustees and Chairman of the Committee to sell the church. Most of the members moved to First Presbyterian Church. Bill and Marj were familiar with Tracy from when she was associate minister at Central. They decided to join UPC, but he wasn't able to become a member until the sale went through on their former church since he was the President of the Central Church Trustees. It was a natural move to UPC because of its convenient location to them but mostly because they fell in love with Tracy when she was at Central.

Due to Marj's health problems Bill hasn't had time to get involved with the church. Prior to her sickness Bill worked on the finance committee that recommends how UPC's endowments should be invested. During his fifty years with Central, he served two three year terms as a Deacon, and several of the years as moderator. He also served two terms as Elder, 13 years as a Trustee and two years as both President and Treasurer. (elders and trustees were totally separate). He also served six years as President.

Bill has always tried to model his life as a Christian, and is sure that many of his better decisions are the result of trying to think as a Christian.



*First Friday*  
AT UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Too many of us lead hectic lives.*

*Our communities are filled with violence and suffering.*

*Our personal pain and struggles can overwhelm us.*

*How do we respond? How can we cope?*

University Presbyterian Church welcomes Christians from all traditions to unite in a special contemplative worship experience as we seek spiritual strength for the living of our days. Based on the style of worship practiced in the Taize Christian community in France, these services offered on the First Friday of each month provide an oasis at the end of the week for all who are weary, troubled, or rushed. Special music from guest musicians, meditative songs, prayers, candles, and scripture readings allow each of us to find a quiet place of prayer and spiritual centering.

We invite you to join us on **Friday, December 5 from 5:30 - 6 p.m.** University Presbyterian Church is located at 3330 Main St., Buffalo (across the street from UB South Campus) with parking available in the church lot off Niagara Falls Boulevard. The church is also conveniently accessible using public transportation by taking bus or train to the University Metro station. Questions can be directed to the church office at 836-7660.

*A Taize Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation*

[www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday](http://www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday)

**THE NETWORK**  
**December 2014**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
		<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice (NOTE DAY CHANGE for THIS WEEK)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study w/Rev. Stu Buisch – Holzwarth Room</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>TaizÈ service</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Grief Support Meeting @ Family Tree Restaurant</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
		<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday Education Hour</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
		<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Deacon’s Soup and Pie Sale – Enjoy!!!</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Presbyterian Women Meeting – Holzwarth Room</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study w/ Rev. Stu Buisch – Holzwarth Room</b>
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
		<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am – sell out (Noon) UPC Annual Cookie Sale-Tasty and Yummy</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
		<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Deacon’s Meeting</b>
		<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday Education Hour</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry –NEWS NEEDIEST ONLY TODAY</b>

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
		<b>12:00 pm –Noon</b>	<b>UPC – Annual Christmas Dinner</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b> <b>NO OTHER FOOD PANTRIES THIS WEEK</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Church office is closed today.</b> <b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Merry Christmas to all our members, friends and our surrounding community. Peace and Joy to all!</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Church office is closed today. Enjoy your holidays</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas — Only ONE service today.</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b> <b>NO OTHER FOOD PANTRIES THIS WEEK</b>
<b>Wednesday and Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015</b>			
<b>Happy New Year – to one and all –</b>			
<b>Church office is Closed Wed, 12/31, Thursday 1/1/15 and Friday, 1/2/15</b>			
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Grief Support Meeting @ Family Tree Restaurant</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of Jan. 2015</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service w/communion</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service w/communion</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>