

DECEMBER 2022

Journeys

A PUBLICATION OF CARVERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, WE WELCOME YOU HERE.



ADVENT

The Advent season is upon us beginning Sunday, November 27. Are you prepared? You may be prepared in some ways for Christmas, but have you prepared spiritually?

Join us for worship on the first Sunday of Advent, when we shall begin by lighting the candle of hope. Each week we continue by lighting the candles of peace, love and joy, followed by lighting the Christ candle. Through these meditations we become more focused on the true meaning of Advent, so we

are better prepared for the celebration of Christ's birth on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS

Our joyous worship service is on Saturday, December 24, beginning at 7 p.m. with a half hour musical prelude. Please bring family and friends to this beautiful candlelight service. Pastor Fogal will lead us in worship. Music of the season will be provided by organist Lynn Bullock, harpist Rebecca Simpson, and soloist Michelle Schulman.

There will not be a service on Christmas day so members and friends may spend the day with their families.

Troop 64 Blurb



PRAYING HANDS

Here is a list of those who would benefit from receiving cards. We encourage you all to reach out to these people as it will mean a lot.

Card List for December

Laura Tompkins- 56 Gentry Ter., Souderton, PA 18964

Sally Seeton- 1850 Lower Mountain Rd. West, Furlong, PA 18925

Gordon Keckeissen- 555 N. Broad St., #508 A., Doylestown, PA 18901

Nancy and Jim Hale- 657 Spring Valley Road, Doylestown, PA 18901

Jack and Patsy King- 503 Windrush Bay Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Jim Cleaveland- 26 N. Lafayette Ave., Morrisville, PA 19067-1136

Chris and DJ Kling- 3545 Aquetong Rd., P.O. Box 195, Carversville, PA 18913

Catherine Halper- P.O. Box 564, Lahaska, PA 18931

Lon and Pat Pritchard- 1131 West Kings Highway, Coatesville, PA 19320-5512

Judy and Frank LeVien- 6264 Pt. Pleasant Pike, Doylestown, PA 18902



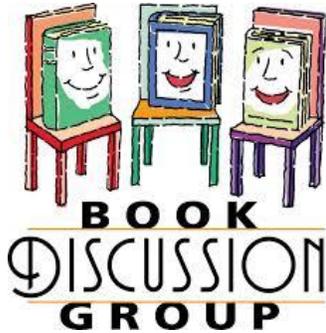
Troop 64 would like to thank the church members for supporting our Troop in the wreath sales. We are so fortunate to have such a warm, generous congregation support our activities each year.

The Troop just returned from a biking trip through Gettysburg where all had an amazing time. We are now preparing for the Klondike at the end of January which is an outdoor competition where Scouts are given real world scenarios and they must use their scout skills and knowledge to manage the scenario and win against other Troops. The task is made more difficult in that the Scouts must pull a sled, filled with all necessary equipment, as if they were out in the tundra. Pray for snow at the end of January so Scouts can compete as the event was designed!

We have some wonderful news to share! One of our Scouts has just completed his Eagle Board of Review making him an Eagle Scout! This is an amazing accomplishment for Julian. We are all so proud of him!

After his EBOR he addressed the Troop and what he said stayed with me, "making Eagle is not that hard because you don't do it alone, you have the whole Troop behind you". Julian is an amazing young man, and we are thrilled to announce his accomplishment.

We (Carversville UCC) congratulate you, as well, Julian! Well done, you.



WHAT'S THE BOOK GROUP DOING? from Sue Wulf

Discussing West with Giraffes AND eating off giraffe plates, Barb had a theme going and she's definitely a top contender for the coveted Hostess with the Mostest trophy! We were also blessed to have Smokey, the cat, and Baxter, the dog, joining us.

We all enjoyed reading the historical fiction, West with Giraffes, and rejoiced in Woody's self-discovery and growth under the positive influence of caring friends like Riley and Red, and of course, those amazing, gentle giraffes.

Here's some giraffe trivia for you. A group of giraffes is called a tower. A giraffe's neck is too short to reach the ground. Both male and female giraffes have horns at birth. Now you're ready for the giraffe questions on Jeopardy!

Debbie Furst volunteered to be our hostess when we meet on January 9, at 9:15 am. Debbie's address is 3180 Sugaan Road and her phone is 215.410.0937.

Our first book of 2023 will be Musical Chairs by Amy Poeppel. Musical Chairs is billed as "a delightful novel that celebrates the messiness and joy to be found in real life." We can all identify with that!

Happy reading and we'd love to have you join us.



ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ~

The deadline is Sunday, December 11th. Cost is \$7.25 per plant. **Make checks payable to Jeanne Brown.** If you want to include a dedication in the Christmas Eve worship program, give the information to Jeanne, with your order. Jeanne's phone: 215-348-3614.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **January 29 following worship**, and hopefully, a covered dish luncheon.

However, prior to the meeting the 2022 Annual Report must be compiled. If you are the head of a board or chair a committee, you must submit a report to the church office by January 8. It is greatly appreciated if you meet this deadline.



CHURCH CANCELLATION INFO:

When we are experiencing inclement weather or possible loss of power, a message will be left on the church phone indicating a cancellation of the church service. Please take a minute to call the church **(215-297-5166)** before venturing out, only to find there will be no service. (Individual phone calls will not be made.)



VERY GRATEFUL TO ANONYMOUS DONOR

It is with much gratitude that I report a generous donor has provided sports equipment (soccer balls, footballs, basketballs, a badminton set, and bench scooters) to the students of our “adopted” Navajo school (Mariano Lake Community) in Crown Point, NM. It should be noted the school has a gym, but didn’t have any sports items to use there! Thanks to reducing costs to ship blankets and stockings to Mariano, we planned to direct that savings to purchase gym supplies. We requested a “wish list” of sports equipment from Mariano Lakes School administrators.

It was at that point an anonymous donor came forward indicating he/she would provide the students with sports equipment from the Mariano “wish list”. We have been informed and grateful to learn the items have been ordered, and many are already en route to the school as of this writing. We anticipate receiving pictures of the students enjoying their early Christmas gifts in their gym. Watch for pictures that will be posted for all to see as soon as they arrive!

Many thanks to our very generous donor for making the wish list a reality for Mariano students. This generosity leaves funds for CUCC to purchase boys’ and girls’ underwear to replenish the inventory Americans for Native Americans (ANA) keeps on hand in Doylestown to address requests from the many schools serviced by ANA in the Southwest. As a reminder when we initially partnered with ANA, we were told a 4th grade class of indigenous children was asked if they could have anything at all, what would they wish for. The answer was UNDERWEAR! As a result of that answer, we became focused on providing that as part of our ongoing outreach to indigenous children serviced by ANA. Since December 2021, we have donated 250 boys’ briefs and 566 girls’ briefs to ANA’s underwear inventory.



CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS WAITING TO SHIP

The outpouring of generosity by the CUCC family and members of the community to answer our call for items to fill Christmas stockings for Mariano students has been heartwarming. That outpouring resulted in having extra funds to purchase a Lapboard and dry erase markers for each Mariano student. MANY thanks to everyone who contributed stocking stuffers and helped to fill the stockings on October 30.

The stockings are packed in boxes, awaiting shipping labels from “Give Back Box” (GBB), a charity-related organization that encourages recycling boxes and shipping at just \$20/box!!! ANA uses “Give Back Box” to ship supplies to schools in the Southwest, and we sure appreciate Board Chair, Mary Lee Reiff, facilitating shipping labels via her GBB contact for CUCC. Our shipping costs via UPS in 2021 were \$466.67, and I am happy to report the 2022 cost will be \$105!!!! Boxes are still shipped and tracked via UPS, and our blankets arrived at Mariano in 6 days in September. Jerrod Hunkus, a second grade teacher at Mariano Lake School who Sue Wulf and I met in August, will be distributing the stockings and Lapboards. We are looking forward enthusiastically to receive pictures from Jerrod of all the smiles as the children receive our gifts!





OUTREACH TO BETHANY HOME

I am pleased to announce a new CUCC missions Christmas outreach to the youth at Bethany Home in Western PA. Youth who reside at Bethany have backgrounds involving human trafficking, sex trafficking and immigrating to the US among other trauma in their lives. We will be sending to Bethany's youth 10 fleece blankets and 15 Christmas stockings not needed by Mariano students as well as an assortment of Beanie Babies (generously donated by Dick Knowler). We have reviewed Bethany's Christmas wish list and depending on funding, will send Kohl's and Target gift cards so Bethany staff can purchase requested items.

Of note is receipt of an email during this writing from Mary Lee Reiff, Chair of Americans for Native Americans informing her that she has been notified by the principal of another school (Bread Springs in NM) requesting underwear for 60 students. I've already been on Kohl's website finding requested sizes!

Looks like there will always be an opportunity for our congregation to make a difference in the lives of children in the Southwest US and PA!

A special thank you to Sue Wulf who has been my missions' partner and joy to work with in sending love to children in need.

Wishing everyone Christmas blessings!
Barbara Burger
Missions Coordinator

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Robert E. Fogal, PhD.
Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m. and by
appointment.
Email: pastorfogal@gmail.com
Cell phone: 610-945-4955

Lynn Bullock, Organist
Email: lynnbullock8@gmail.com
Cell phone: 215-260-1569

Chris Ochadlick, Office Admin.
Wednesday and Thursday ~ 8:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.
Office phone: 215-297-5166
Email: carversvilleucc@gmail.com

Email: carversvilleucc@gmail.com
Website: CarversvilleUCC.org
Facebook.com/[carversvilleucc](https://www.facebook.com/carversvilleucc)

3736 Aquetong Road, PO Box 26
Carversville, PA 18913
Office phone: 215-297-5166

