

† THE GOOD NEWS †

Carversville Christian Church

“No matter who you are or where you’ve been, you are welcome here”

January

2025



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From the Pulpit - Pastor Chuck

SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR JANUARY

January 12th we will celebrate the baptism of Jesus. It is a good time to reflect on the meaning of Baptism. We will also celebrate Communion:
Luke 3:21-22 What Does Baptism Mean to Us?

January 19 is part of Martin Luther King Weekend. We remember his appeals for a just and righteous world:
Micah 6:6-8 Doing Justice

January 26 will be our Annual Meeting Sunday. We reflect on the meaning of membership
1 Corinthians 12:12-31 What is membership?

THANK YOU

I am grateful for the experience of community which we have shared together at Carversville Christian Church this past year. I am especially grateful for your kind gifts which you have given to me this Christmas season, both from the church and from individuals. It is all much appreciated. I see pancakes in my future!

Moderator's Corner – Dave Gunn

Now that 2024 is behind us I am feeling more optimistic for the future of our beautiful country church. For the first time in several years, we have not had to dip into our savings. This is a testament to the commitment you have demonstrated to keep this Carversville gem an active part of the community, continuing to serve as a place of solace for worship and a place to gather and join others spiritually and socially.

Could you imagine coming into Carversville on Aquetong Road and not seeing our church? I can't because it has been there for so long and is a fixture in the community. However, just before reaching our church, sitting next to the cemetery, is an abandoned church that once had a thriving congregation. It now serves as a private residence. The saying "it takes a village" is so true. My goal starting this month is to engage with the community to create awareness of our church and to have our facility utilized to support them,

The first snowfall and freezing temperatures last month were a rude awakening to what had been a mild November and early December. Since the dry spell has been broken more snow and ice are certainly in our future. If the weather conditions are such that the roads and sidewalks could be

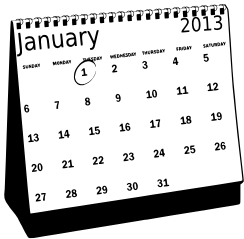
hazardous, we will cancel Sunday service for the day. A message will be placed on the church's answering machine advising of such, Call the church at 215-297-5166 if you are in doubt.

Many thanks to Alison Simpson for arranging a truly beautiful Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols. She spent many hours pulling together the content for the service and arranging for musicians and readers. Kudos Alison, for a job very well done!

Our tree in the sanctuary was beautiful all dressed in white lights. Thank You to Walt Livezey for purchasing it and setting it up. Looking at the tree certainly creates a feeling of solitude and peace. Christmas at church just wouldn't be the same without it.

Now is the time to start thinking of events we can host this year. Put on your thinking caps to suggest some events for February or March. In the bleak mid-winter people want to get out and be with friends and family. Given the success we had last year with the Oyster Pork Supper, it is a no brainer that we will do it again this year. This year marks 150 years doing the supper so we want it to be bigger and better than ever.

January at a Glance



January 5th

- Lay Preacher will be Dick Thomas.
- Vera Ewing will be the music leader

January 12th

- Communion
- Epiphany Service/Celebration (Bring a candle in a holder)
- Music Leader – Maggie Realley
- Deacons and Trustees Meeting after service

January 19th

- Music Leader – Susan Whitenack
- Coffee Hour

January 26th

- Music Leader – Maggie Realley

- Annual Meeting and covered dish lunch following the service

Deacons Report

Under the direction of our dedicated chairwoman, Lynn Simpson, the Deacons have been fulfilling the behind-the-scenes doings of the church.

Food Bank contributions come in weekly. The first Sunday has been declared the “official” collection day. Many thanks to Dave Gunn for his weekly run to the Doylestown Food Bank to deliver the food to those in need.

A November/December newsletter went out and was welcomed by all. With the start of 2025, the newsletter will be distributed monthly. Dave & Barb Gunn are the editors.

Our Harvest Breakfast took place in November. The winner of the quilt was drawn and certificates signifying long time members were given to:

25 years	Dave DeMaria Sharon DiPasquale Bob & Linda Quinby Brian & Liz Rizor
60 years	Beverly Price Fittro Lynn Simpson

Thank you, Alison Simpson, for organizing a lovely Women's Fellowship Christmas luncheon at the Plumsteadville Inn. It is always good to see people we haven't talked to in quite a while. Gifts were given to our rotating organists as well as a gift to Alison for her dedication to our church. A good time was had by all.

Cards are sent every month to our shut-in/zoom members. We have received notes of appreciation for them.

The Deacons take this opportunity to recognize and thank three key people in our congregation; Dave Gunn, Alison Simpson, and Brad Livezey. Without them, many of our activities would not take place. Thank You for all your hard work for our country church. You are appreciated!

A new year begins and we are busy planning and brainstorming for the coming months. Our church is doing well after two years of trials and tribulations and we are proud of the progress we have made.

“LARGE ENOUGH TO SHARE; SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE” – that’s us!

Trustees Report

We are starting off the new year in the best financial shape we have been in in several years. Keeping expenses in check, the generosity of the congregation and the success of our fund raisers has gotten us through the year without having to dip into our savings. An unplanned expense in December was the removal of the large dead maple tree in the front of the Church. A professional crew with some amazing equipment took the tree down and cleaned it up all before noon.

We have hired a new bookkeeper, Lina Avallone, who will be managing our QuickBooks account and payroll. Looking forward to her taking over starting January. Dave Gunn will continue as treasurer for the foreseeable future.

Prior to the Christmas Eve service the Church underwent an annual fire inspection and replacement of fire extinguishers that had or were passing their expiration date.

Winter Awareness

Be careful driving on the roads. Black ice patches are especially dangerous. Stay alert and dress appropriately. Having a winter emergency kit in the car is also a good idea. It is recommended to keep in it a blanket, flash light with fresh batteries, cell phone car charger cord, energy bars and a candle with matches. Of course, an ice scraper and snow brush are necessities. Additionally, you might add a shovel and sand in the event you might get stuck in the snow. Tire pressures drop with the temperature so have your tires checked during cold weather and don’t forget to get the spare tire pressure checked too. Nothing worse than having to replace a flat tire only to find out the spare is low too. Drive safe and be well.

Altar Flowers

Sponsors for altar flowers are needed for January 12th and 26th. Please call Jeanne Brown, 215-348-3614, to reserve a date and specify the dedication you would like to have made. You can also sign up on the bulletin board located near the office.

Chime In

Some of you may recall we used to have a chime choir. Well, guess what, we still have a set of chimes that are gathering dust. If you are interested in joining in a small start-up group reach out to Dave Gunn. The initial thoughts are to do something during the service once every other month or maybe once a quarter. We are all beginners here so no previous experience is necessary. You don’t need to know how to read music although it would be a plus if you can. Really just need to be able to count as in 1,2,3,4,1,2,3,4 and follow the beat.



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***Epiphany Sunday is January 12th.
Don't forget to bring a candle in a
holder for this beautiful service.***

Beginner Guitar Group

New Hope – Solebury & Lambertville Community Choir (NHSLCC) presents Mr. Rick's Beginner Guitar Group at Carversville UCC.

Take care of breakfast, send everybody on their way, get the morning's errands done, and then grab that guitar that's just been lying around forever, and come learn how to play it!

In eight fun, no pressure Thursday sessions from January 9 – February 27, we'll start at the very beginning, and you'll be making music before you know it. Your \$120 fee benefits NHSLCC and Carversville UCC. Thursdays @ 11:00 a.m.

To register and for more information, contact NHSLCC - rbrtawk@comcast.net , 650.219.2748

DEAD LINE TO SUBMIT – ANNUAL REPORTS - JANUARY 9TH

ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 26th. WORSHIP SERVICE TO BE FOLLOWED BY COVERED DISH LUNCH AND THEN THE MEETING. BRING A PLATE AND UTENSILS.



2025 Nominations Being Accepted

Nominations are needed for an Assistant Treasurer and for a new Trustee. If interested contact Jeanne Brown 215-348-3614

Contact Information

Church Office	215-297-5166
Rev. Chuck Maxfield, Pastor	215-896-0196, Email: chuckmaxfield@gmail.com
Chris Ochadlick Admin	215-297-5166 Email: carversvilleucc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:00AM – 1:00PM

Website: carversvilleucc.org

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