

# Journeys

A PUBLICATION OF CARVERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



We welcome Rev. Chuck Maxfield to our pulpit and look forward to his messages for us. At this time, it is planned to have him lead us in worship through the end of the year. Please note that our agreement with Rev. Maxfield is that his only responsibility is to lead our Sunday worship services.

## WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

from Rev. Chuck Maxfield

I look forward to opportunities to worship and praise God together in November. My plans

for Scripture Lessons and Sermon topics are as follows:

**November 5:** All Saints' Sunday and Holy Communion

Hebrews 11:1-40; 12:1-2

Sermon: Let them inspire us

**November 12:**

Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon: How do we invest our faith?

At this service I request that participants write down what they are thankful for this Thanksgiving season. I would like to use your thoughts in preparing a Thanksgiving litany for the following Sunday.

**November 19:** It is my understanding we will be having a Harvest Breakfast with a brief service at the tables.

Deuteronomy 8:12-20

Meditation topic: Give thanks

**November 26:**

Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon: When did We Love you?



## *COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS*

Those of us at Carversville CUCC have much to be thankful for. As we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our families, we join together as a church family in our social hall on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 9 a.m. for our annual Harvest Breakfast. We'll provide scrambled eggs, pancakes, fresh fruit, bacon and juice. You may bring a sweet pastry or coffee cake to share. We ask for a \$5.00 donation for adults and \$3.00 for children.

Our worship service will follow the breakfast where we will recognize long-time members. We do want to recognize Alice McCarthy and Sue Wulf for 50 years of active membership, and Jeanne Brown and Donald Naylor for 60 years of membership at Carversville UCC. That's quite an accomplishment and we applaud and thank you for what you have done in all those years to benefit our church family.



## WINTER WONDERLAND MARKET

### UPDATE

from Cathy Price, Chair

I hope you have marked your calendars for November 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The next article you read about our Winter Wonderland Market will be about the success of our event!!

We are still getting requests for a table from vendors, the most we've ever had. A few are repeats, but a lot are new! We will have our "Vintage Table" set up in the nursery and may have to use the Sunday School room as well. We will also have our beautiful Raffle Baskets and thanks to this committee, we will have more than ever!

Bring your family and friends for yummy food prepared by Chef Dan Gallo of Thyme and Plate and enjoy a day of shopping!

We're counting on all of you to spread the word about the festival to your friends and neighbors, so we have a good shopper turnout.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

by Jeanne Brown

The poinsettias for our Christmas Eve service have been ordered. They will decorate your home or be a bright holiday gift for someone. Red, pink and white plants are available. The price is \$ 7.50 per plant.

A list of the people who purchased the plants will be in the Christmas Eve worship program. If you wish to include a dedication, please give me the information with your order. Please pick up your plants following the service.

The **deadline for orders and payment is Sunday, December 3rd**. Please make checks payable to Jeanne Brown.

See me on a Sunday, mail your order to me at: 253 Colonial Heritage Park, Lot 276, Doylestown, PA 18901, or call me at 215-348-3614. Thank you.

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*"Some people grumble that roses have thorns;  
I am grateful that thorns have roses."*

- Alphonse Karr

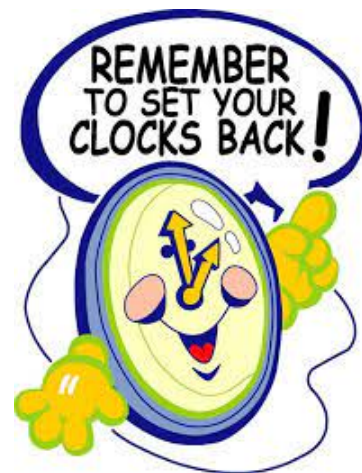


## EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!

Clear your calendars for Monday, December 11! Our book group and Women's Fellowship will be celebrating once again at the Plumsteadville Inn. We'll meet at the inn at noon.

As always, if you want to be included in the gleeful gift game, buy a small gift for about \$15, and wrap it beautifully. We'll figure out our right from our left and leave the event with a gift and good memories.

If you want to join us, contact Jackie Adinaro Putman at 215-262-6115 or email [jacki-woman@comcast.net](mailto:jacki-woman@comcast.net) by Friday, December 1.



**Turn back your clocks at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 5.**



## TROOP 64 NEWS

Troop 64 has had an exciting summer! Over the summer, we had a group travel to Key West, Florida to participate in SeaBase! They enjoyed a week of sailing, exploring mangrove trees while cleaning debris from the water, snorkeling, and a bonfire on the beach. They spent three days on two sail boats and despite some seasickness had a wonderful time! One week later, the Scouts headed to Ockanickon for their annual week at our local camp to work on merit badges. We are headed to Annapolis next month to the naval academy for a tour and to enjoy the football game on 11/18.

As we move into the fall, we are starting to organize our annual wreath sale! The boys will be at the church on 10/29. The Scouts will also be participating in the Winter Wonderland Market on 11/11. Delivery will be after church on 11/26. Order forms will be available at church. We will also be at Peddler's Village on Friday, November 17, for the Grand Illumination when they turn all of the lights on for the holidays to sell glow items. We hope to see you there! As always, we thank you very much for your support of Troop 64.



## 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 October

Catherine Halper- P.O. Box 564, Lahaska, PA 18931  
Judy and Frank Le Vien- 6264 Point Pleasant Pike, Doylestown, PA 18902  
Sally Seeton- 1850 Lower Mountain Road West, Furlong, PA 18925  
Gordon Keckeissen- 555 N. Broad St., #508A, Doylestown, PA 18901  
Jack King- 503 Windrush Bay Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689  
DJ Kling- P.O. Box 195, Carversville, PA 18913  
Jim Cleaveland- 26 N. Lafayette Ave., Morrisville, PA 19067  
Lon and Pat Pritchard- 1131 West Kings Highway, Coatsville, PA 19320  
Marta Strait- The Colonnade at Carrollwood, Marta Strait, 13550 S. Village Dr., Tampa, FL 33618  
Art Burger- 3622 Buttonwood Dr., Doylestown, PA 18902  
Lynn Bullock – 1802 N. Ridge Road, Perkasio, PA 18902  
Frank Taylor- 6651 Ferry Road, New Hope, PA 18938  
Kathy Thompson- 403 S. Main St., Apt. B102, Doylestown, PA 18901  
Jeff Mays- 5 Broad St., Stockton, NJ 08559



## CHURCH SIGN UPDATE

After 2 years of having our church sign, and despite many unsuccessful attempts by our Trustees to push Metal Masters to complete the renovations to the sign, the sign remains unfinished. The Trustees will be picking up the sign from Metal Masters and making a decision about where to go from there with the sign.



*“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”* — John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Please consider contributing to any of these special offerings before year's end. Be sure to indicate on your check's memo line the offering to which you want to contribute. Or you can make a gift to any of the offerings via our website, [www.carversvilleucc.org](http://www.carversvilleucc.org).

## Special Offerings Connect Us to the Ministries of the Entire United Church of Christ STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

The Strengthen the Church (STC) offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By our generosity to this offering, we build up the Body of Christ.

Kerry Kirtley and the Rev. Billie Watts found their way to the UCC from a church that wouldn't offer the wide openness they sought. Boerne (pronounced “bernie”), population 17,000, is a half-hour northwest of San Antonio, and while it “would not be known for its diversity,” Kirtley said, it is not a place where hate rallies would take place, either. When it comes to LGBTQ folks, its 50-plus churches “will pray for and welcome people on the margins to some extent, but are pretty conditional in doing so,” Kirtley said. She was a deacon and Watts was a minister in a Methodist church there.

Kirtley and Watts both had raised gay sons years ago. In recent years they began to advocate openness and affirmation in church and community. They organized Boerne's first Pride Walk, which drew an unexpected 250 people. They encountered some resistance in their congregation, and

when the General Conference of the United Methodist Church voted in 2019 to tighten its denomination-wide ban on same-sex marriage and gay and lesbian clergy, "it was over," Kirtley said.

When some 75 people showed up for a celebratory worship service after the Pride Walk, Kirtley and Watts became convinced the town could use a UCC of its own.

After conferring with the South Central Conference, "we opened as a UCC Church in Formation and grew into a UCC congregation, Touchstone UCC," Kirtley said. As a member in discernment working toward UCC ordination, she co-pastors the church with Watts, who transferred her ministerial standing to the UCC.

A \$40,000 Strengthen the Church grant, which Touchstone matched by raising another \$40,000, allows the congregation to, among other things, rent the community room of a senior center.

### **CHRISTMAS FUND**

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

Vernis Brown is the widow of the Rev. Roy Brown, who was called to be a pastor at age 7 and served UCC congregations until he suffered a stroke in 1997 and passed away in 2002. Vernis said her husband always kept his promise to God to serve small congregations, which meant that she and Roy were often the only staff in churches they served in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and South Dakota. Vernis taught Sunday school, ran vacation Bible school, and worked with the women's and youth groups.

In addition to preaching, Roy also drove a school bus, and worked as a farmer, hunter, trapper and fisherman. While she would never trade her life as a preacher's wife for anything, Vernis recalls how she, Roy and their 10 children lived on very little because the small churches they served couldn't afford to pay much.

But the annual Christmas thank-you check has been and continues to be a welcomed contribution to her family. Each year, Vernis donates one-tenth of her check back to the Christmas Fund and encourages others to give as well.

"It has really been a blessing and helped us in so many ways," Vernis said of the fund. "I'm the first one to stand up and say, 'I'm a recipient. Give generously to help other people.'"

### **CONTACT US!**

Chris Ochadlick, Office Administrator  
Email: [carversvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:carversvilleucc@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Wed. & Thurs., 8 AM-1 PM

Website: [www.carversvilleucc.org](http://www.carversvilleucc.org)  
Church Phone: 215.297.5166

Mailing Address:  
3736 Aquetong Rd., P.O. Box 26  
Carversville, PA 18913

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Please get your articles for the December newsletter to Cathy at [cathyprice2@verizon.net](mailto:cathyprice2@verizon.net) and Sue at [slswulf@comcast.net](mailto:slswulf@comcast.net) by Thursday, November 16. Thank you.

## AND THE SURVEY SAYS.....

The results of the congregational survey that was taken in September are in. Twenty two surveys were received. People were asked to choose the 3 most important items in the life of Carversville UCC from the list. The number after the item reflects the number of people who choose that item as one of their 3 choices. Here are the results:

Pastor delivering a sermon-19  
Music- special and organist-18  
Mission outreach-16  
Bible study-4  
Choir-4  
Other-4  
Live-streaming- 3

Each comment received and listed below reflects one person's comment:

- \* not a lay minister
- \* specifically the same pastor each week (2 people wrote this)
- \* scriptures are Bible based using a real Bible -not a contemporary interpretation
- \* youth emphasis/classes
- \* update by-laws to insure officers are legally protected
- \* if we need to close in the future, property, funds are turned over to PSEC
- \* bring in a vocal soloist once or twice a month-alternate with a choir if one starts again
- \* counseling for what's left of the church congregation
- \* events/programs to build a sense of community within the congregation (social, group fundraising, etc)



## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

from Sue Wulf

Generous church donors with big hearts who don't want to see local people go hungry have given money and food donations for the Food Pantry. I have been using donated money to help restock the depleted shelves at the Doylestown Food Pantry.

I was surprised to how little food was on the shelves last week when I delivered cereal, coffee and jelly. They tell me there's been an increase in people using the pantry, and the holiday food drives have not taken place yet.

**They need cereal, coffee, granola bars for school snacks, pasta sauce, sugar and jelly if you want to contribute items.**

Thanks for opening your hearts to fill empty tummies. The Lord loves a cheerful giver!



## THESE CAN BE YOURS!

Pam Price created this gorgeous machine quilted piece! It measures 58" x 58" and will make a wonderful wall hanging OR accent piece for your bed or couch OR a bright touch to a bland dormitory room AND it's reversible. Yours for only \$ 200.00. **Christmas and graduation are coming!** Quilts will be on display outside the sanctuary for up close viewing! If interested talk to Sue Wulf.



This 48" x 48" piece was hand quilted by our wonderful Carversville quilters. It would make a beautiful nursery or dorm room wall hanging OR a baby quilt OR an adult lap quilt. It can be yours for \$ 100.00. Makes a great welcome baby or shower gift.



## A THANKSGIVING THOUGHT.....

An Irish Blessing:

“Count your blessings instead of your crosses;  
Count your gains instead of your losses.  
Count your joys instead of your woes;  
Count your friends instead of your foes.  
Count your smiles instead of your tears;  
Count your courage instead of your fears.  
Count your full years instead of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.  
Count your health instead of your wealth;  
Love your neighbor as much as yourself.”