

THE UNITED MESSENGER

FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DONATION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY, 9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M., TUESDAY - THURSDAY, 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WEBSITE: <http://www.15thstreetunitedmethodistchurch.com/>

E-MAIL: meth15st@verizon.net (Pastor)

January, 2019

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Church Conference Pastor's Report
November 4, 2018
Huntingdon 15th Street / Donation
Fred E. Hickok

The 15th Street and Donation United Methodist Churches each have a core group of committed folk who generously contribute their time, efforts and resources to the ministry of the church. Much is being done because of your generosity.

From providing and serving a dinner at the soup kitchen every other month, supporting monthly mission projects, Fun in the Sun, sewing the backings on the HUB blue jean quilts, ham and cheese sandwich sales to the Teddy Bear Ministry among other things at Donation as well as 15th Street's Shepherd's Run, thank you posters for Veteran's Day Parade, Come to the Stable, turkey dinners, cashew sales, vendor/book sale and mitten tree. Both churches participate in/support CWS Blanket Sunday, the Food Pantry, Salvation Army Chill Chasers and Red Kettle Campaign, the cluster *Love in Action: Go, Connect, Serve* weekend, as well as provide Easter Egg Hunts following Easter Services. With careful saving and the ham and cheese sandwich sale fundraisers, the Donation Church was able replace the church roof with a metal roof this summer without borrowing funds.

The Video System which was installed in the 15th Street Church at the end of last year has been working well and adding to our worship experience. We are up to 3½ video teams. We would like to increase that to 4 full teams. We have been slowly increasing small groups. A short term "Let's Go Make Disciples" group was held in early fall and a long term study, "The Purpose Driven Life" is currently getting started.

Two exciting new things that are underway at the 15th Street Church are Kid's Christmas Camp and a new Sunday School Class. The 15th Street Church is putting Christmas back in Christmas by providing a Vacation Bible School experience to the children of our community on December 27th, 28th and 30th, calling it Kids Christmas Camp. While not the traditional summer Vacation Bible School, we are reaching out to the community on behalf of Christ in what is usually down time during Christmas vacation from school. Please pray for the children and for our efforts. With the interest of parents with two children, we will again be offering Sunday School for children. In November, we will begin will a class for 2 and 3 year olds and 4-6 year olds. It will be a combined class until we have enough children to warrant separate classes. We are also looking to add other classes as the interest arises.

Security has been a concern at the 15th Street. We have had several break-ins over the past several months. However, it is with great relief that we can announce that the mystery of the break-ins at the church has been solved. Early Monday morning (October 29th), the 15th Street Church office was broken into again. This time thanks to the measures put in place by the church Trustees and others and in cooperation with the Borough Police a suspect was identified, apprehended and confessed. Thank you to the trustees, others who worked with them, the borough police and to all of you for your patience and cooperation. A larger security concern is the issue of the safety of the congregation when gathered for worship, meetings or other activities. I propose that we form a security policy team to explore and implement security policies for the churches. This is something we should begin sooner rather than later.

Attendance at Donation is holding steady/up slightly with an average of 32.4.

The size of the 15th Street congregation is not the size it once was. Attendance of 60.4 is off (about 45 %) from what it was several years ago. With this drop in attendance, we have also had a drop in financial giving. In spite of the generous givers we have, we are in a situation where we are taking money from savings every couple of months in order to continue our day-to-day operations of the church. The budget, though reduced, has not gone down much in that same time period. We have taken steps to tighten our budget and trimmed where that we can. One example, we have reduced the amount of paper and stamps used for the monthly newsletter

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by making it and sending it electronically. As the size of the active congregation has decreased and we have streamlined functions in the office, it has been determined that the secretary does not need as many hours to accomplish her tasks each week. At the secretary's request, the SPRC considered reducing the hours each week. Beginning the first of the year, the hours will be reduced from 25 to 18 hours per week. Correspondingly, the days the church office will be open is being reduced from 4 to 3. The decision on which days the office will be open has not been finalized but will include Mondays and Thursdays. As a church we believe we have been blessed by God. Otherwise, we would not have savings to help stretch our budget. We are only able to cover about two-thirds of our yearly budget with the tithes and offerings we receive. We are blessed to have savings to bridge the gap. Some may feel that we should not use savings, (yes, it won't last forever), but this money is from church members who are no longer with us who made these gifts to the church to honor God. Some financial gifts come with restrictions, while some come without restrictions. An unrestricted gift from John Powell's estate has enabled us to not only improve our building but also to bridge the gap in our finances. This is a positive thing. It is a blessing from God that his gift arrived when it did and enabled us to keep our doors open while we work to solve our issues. God blesses us in many ways! Some feel we just need to fill the seats in the sanctuary each Sunday morning. To some extent that is true, but we are directed by Christ to "go forth and spread the good news making disciples." If we solely focus only on filling the pews to pay the bills, God will not bless that motivation for it goes against God's directives to us. People will not come to pay our bills. We must give of ourselves. We must be cheerful givers, giving from our hearts. We need to support ourselves and then support our community. The community should not be supporting us.

We must pray constantly and earnestly for the well-being of our Church! In our church prayers, we need to thank God for all the blessings He has bestowed our churches, we need to ask God for His blessing on the survival and renewal of our Church and we need to ask for daily guidance in the repair and rebirth of our church! We must pray! We honor God when we give of ourselves. Let us give of ourselves anew to the work of the Lord.

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**FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WORSHIP SCHEDULE JANUARY, 2019**

January 6, 2019	Epiphany Of The Lord Holy Communion Scripture Lessons – Isaiah 60:1-6 Matthew 2:1-12 Sermon – “Prepare The Way: Find”
January 13, 2019	Not Available – Will Be Announced
January 20, 2019	Not Available – Will Be Announced
January 27, 2019	Not Available – Will Be Announced

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OUR HELPERS FOR NOVEMBER

-ACOLYTES-	-USHER CAPTAIN-
Harlee Hoffman, Marcus Stratton	Mark Lewis

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Soup Kitchen

The Donation UM Church will be hosting the Community Soup Kitchen at the Huntingdon Presbyterian Church on Thursday, January 24th. They will gather at the Presbyterian Church at 4:00 p.m. to begin preparing a delicious meal for those who gather at 6:00 p.m. If you are available and interested in helping this month, please sign up on the list in the church vestibule.

NOVEMBER, 2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>ACTUAL INCOME</u>		<u>ACTUAL EXPENSES</u>		<u>INCOME VS EXPENSE</u>	
					<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	
		<u>YEAR</u>		<u>YEAR</u>		
	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>PLUS</u>	<u>MINUS</u>
<u>CURRENT INCOME</u>	\$12,875.30	\$159,078.57				
<u>CURRENT EXPENSES</u>			\$16,606.18	\$171,866.44		
						-\$12,787.87
<u>BENEVOLENCE INCOME</u>	\$1,994.55	\$10,939.68				
<u>BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES</u>			\$1,994.55	\$10,939.68		
					\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>TRUSTEE INCOME</u>	\$469.00	\$7,190.00				
<u>TRUSTEE EXPENSES</u>			\$469.00	\$7,190.00		
					\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>COMBINED INCOME</u>	\$15,338.85	\$177,208.25				
<u>COMBINED EXPENSES</u>			\$19,069.73	\$189,996.12		

\$

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

- January 6, 2019 **Organ Fund**
(This special offering pays minor repairs and tuning for the church organ and piano.)

- January 13, 2019 **World Hunger**
(This special offering is received to help resource food pantries and food banks throughout the world, United States and locally.)

- January 20, 2019 **Human Relations Day**
(This special offering strengthens outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico and encourages social justice and work with at-risk youth.)

-COMMUNITY SERVICES-

- Ecumenical Service – St. James Lutheran Church – January 20th – 3:00 p.m.
 - Ecumenical Hymn Sing – Stone Church Of The Brethren – January 27th – 2:00 p.m.
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On Sunday morning, New Year’s Day, 2006, a drunk wandered into the back of a church during the sermon. “How long has the pastor been preaching?” he asked an usher. “About 30 years,” the usher replied.
 “Well then I think I’ll just stay,” the drunk said.
 “He must be nearly finished.”

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NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE FIGURES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
November 4	68	22
November 11	49	14
November 18	52	24
November 25	76	23

\$

Special Offerings for October

Annie Maize	\$ 10.01
World Communion	\$ 35.00
World Hunger	\$ 114.00
UM Student Day	\$ 39.00
Rise Against Hunger	\$1,676.55

Inherit the Mirth

By Cuyler Black



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Events To Remember

<p>HOLY COMMUNION – DONATION / 15TH STREET UM CHURCHES Sunday, January 6th – 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>TRUSTEE REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – 15TH STREET UMC Sunday, January 6th – 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>REV. FRED PREACHING AT WESTMINSTER WOODS Sunday, January 6th – 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>FORUM OF CHURCHES – MOST HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH Monday, January 7th – 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>CLUSTER MEETING – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Wednesday, January 9th – 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>UN-DECORATE THE CHURCH – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Saturday, January 12th – 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS DONATION / 15TH STREET UM CHURCHES Sunday, January 13th – 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE – 15TH STREET UMC Tuesday, January 15th – 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>HOMELESS SHELTER TASK FORCE Wednesday, January 16th – 9:15 a.m.</p> <p>STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING Saturday, January 19th – 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>RECEPTION OF MEMBERS – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Sunday, January 20th – 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>ECUMENICAL SERVICE – ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday, January 20th – 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – DONATION UM CHURCH Monday, January 21st – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>CHURCH COUNCIL – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Tuesday, January 22nd – 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>DONATION SERVING SOUP KITCHEN – PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Thursday, January 24th – 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>STAFF APPRECIATION – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Sunday, January 27th – 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>ECUMENICAL HYMN SING – STONE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN Sunday, January 27th – 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>ENDOWMENT MEETING – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Monday, January 28th – 3:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">=====</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chancel Choir <i>every</i> Bell Choir 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. <i>wednesday</i> 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.</p>
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15th Street United Methodist Church

BIRTHDAYS

January 2 Ken Morder, Sr.	January 21 Dianne Barben	January 27 Michele Norris
January 5 Gina Sellers	January 24 Bob Hearn	January 28 Jim Decker
January 7 Wayne Mateer	January 25 April Feagley	January 29 Maya Weaver
January 9 Monica Clark	January 25 Bill Hoffman	January 31 Bob Peters

ANNIVERSARIES

January 17 Rev. Fred and Darlene Hickok
January 19 Michael and Rikki Moyer January 31 David and Linda Fryer

Donation United Methodist Church

BIRTHDAYS

January 1 Frances Knode	January 16 Randy Larson	January 24 Barry Lear
January 9 Crystal Workinger	January 19 Roy McCool	January 27 Ellie McCool
January 14 Erin Workinger		January 29 Linda Smithers

happy birthday

happy anniversary

NOTES OF THANKS

15th Street Church – Thank you for the Christmas gift. It was greatly appreciated. Darla Malcolm

Church Family – Thanks so much for the gift of money given for Christmas. It was appreciated. Chuck Streightiff

15th Street Church Family – Thank you for the monetary Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated. Miriam Fetzer

15th Street Church – Thank you for the Christmas gift from the church. Shirley McBrayer

Dear Friends (15th Street UM Church): We, the officers of the Huntingdon County Salvation Army, express our thanks for your willingness to volunteer during our Christmas Red Kettle Campaign. It is because of our group's willingness to stand at the kettles and the generosity of the donors, your day or days monetary count is \$697.22 (vendor event-\$27.75 / Wal-Mart bell ringing-\$669.47) to help our Campaign.

We hope you will be able to help again next year and we will be able to do more for those who are in need of our services. All funds raised stay here in Huntingdon County and truly will help us to serve the community, not just at Christmas time but throughout the year....

God Bless and we hope you have a blessed New Year. Thank You – Auxiliary Captains Philip and Charity Bender

Thank you for the wonderful cookies; they were so good. Thank you for thinking of me.

(Cookies made/delivered by the Mill Creek Youth Cluster) Have a Merry Christmas and thanks again. Colleen Trimer

Dear Friends (Donation UM Church): The officers of the Huntingdon County Salvation Army would like to express our thanks for your willingness to volunteer during our Christmas Red Kettle Campaign. It is because of your group's willingness to stand at the kettle and to the generosity of the donors, your day or day(s) total was \$468.87.

We hope you will be able to help again next year, and we will be able to do more for those who are in need of our services. All funds raised stay here in Huntingdon County and truly will help us to serve the community, not just at Christmas time but throughout the year....

God Bless and we hope you have a blessed New Year. Thank You – Auxiliary Captains Philip and Charity Bender

To Everyone in Donation and 15th Street Church –

Thank you for the Christmas basket and cookies. It was much appreciated. Diane Foster

On Saturday, December 8th, there was a very successful Cookie Walk and Soup Sale at the 15th Street UMC. Just over \$915.00 was raised in a very short time. Our usual customers cleaned us out in record time. In twenty minutes, 6 tables full of cookies were reduced to 3 trays. Thanks to ALL who made cookies, fudge, soup, or breads. Thanks to ALL who showed up to "man" the kitchen and get all of the trays of cookies ready. Thanks to our customers.

Donation United Methodist Church

Thank you for the delicious fruit basket. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated. Miriam Fetzer

Thank you so much for the beautiful fruit basket. Much appreciated. Will think of you each time I use it and the sweet girl who delivered it. Marg F.

Thank you so much for the fruit basket. It was a pleasant surprise. Also I want to thank you for dropping off a basket to Nate & Christie. Working at Burger King I have crazy hours for now until I get on a decent schedule. "Peace & good will to All" Donation Church – Sincerely, Cindy B.

Thank for so much for the wonderful fruit basket you gave to me. I really enjoyed it all very much. Thank you again for all the things you have done for me. Love. Ethel Price

Thanks for the fruit basket and cookies! Rhoda Margritz

Thank you for the fruit basket. Have enjoyed it very much. The fruit so far has been perfect! Bananas put in green so they could ripen. Grapes delis! All of it so nice. Please tell the church we said thank you! John and Cindy Hoffmaster

Thank you for the beautiful fruit basket. It was much appreciated. Colleen Trimer

So nice of your group to do this beautiful fruit tray for all of us. Thank You.

(Mary Anne & Sonny)...., and delivering also. It's always nice to see the two of you. Linda Busko

Thank you for the great fruit tray. I shared it with my daughter, Beth, who is receiving chemo treatments for liver cancer. Your thoughtful gift was a double blessing. Barb Blair

Thank you so much for the beautiful fruit arrangement – I really appreciated it – May God be with you all. Merry Christmas, Linda Brenneman

JANUARY



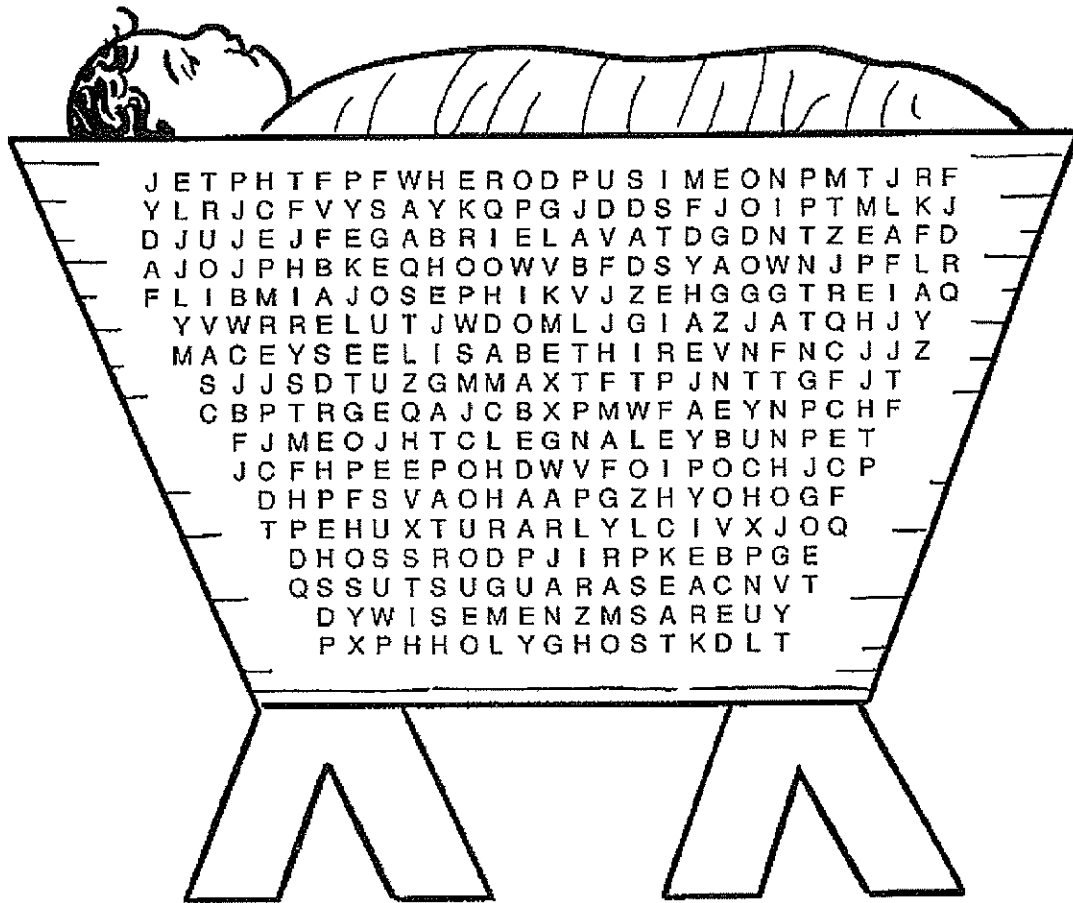
2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>15th Street UMC Church 9:30 a.m.-Sunday School / 10:45 a.m.-Worship</p> <p>Donation UMC Church 9:15 a.m.-Worship / 10:45 a.m.-Sunday School</p> <p>Food Bank Item – Canned Soup</p>	<p>6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir</p>			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>Holy Communion 9:15 a.m. Donation UMC 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC</p> <p>12:00 p.m.-Trustees Reorganizational Meeting</p> <p>2:00 p.m.-Rev. Fred preaching at Westminster Woods</p>	<p>12:00 p.m. Forum of Churches Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church</p>		<p>10:00 a.m. Cluster Meeting</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir</p>			<p>9:00 a.m. Undecorate The Church</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Installation Of Officers 9:15 a.m. Donation UMC 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC</p>		<p>6:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting</p>	<p>9:00 a.m. Homeless Shelter Task Force Meeting</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir</p>			<p>9:30 a.m. Strategic Planning Meeting</p>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>Reception Of New Members 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC</p> <p>3:00 p.m. Ecumenical Service St. James Lutheran Church</p>	<p>7:00 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting Donation UMC</p>	<p>6:30 p.m. Church Council 15th Street UMC</p>	<p>6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir</p>	<p>4:00 p.m. Donation UMC Serving/Preparing Soup Kitchen</p>		
27	28	29	30	31		
<p>Staff Appreciation 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Ecumenical Hymn Sing – Stone Church of the Brethren</p>	<p>3:30 p.m. Endowment Meeting</p>		<p>6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir</p>			

Who Had a Part?

When Jesus was born as a tiny baby, many people had a part in His birth. Some announced Jesus' birth, some people worshipped Jesus, and some people took special care of Jesus. Other people did different things. Every person's part was very important in God's special plan for the birth of His Son, Jesus.

Many people are mentioned in the story of Jesus' birth in Matthew 2 and Luke 1 and 2. Several of these people are listed below. Can you find all of them hidden in the puzzle?



- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| WISE MEN | GOD | HEROD | SIMEON |
| MARY | CAESAR AUGUSTUS | PROPHET | SCRIBES |
| ANGEL | SHEPHERDS | HOLY GHOST | YOUNG CHILD |
| CHIEF PRIESTS | ANNA | JOHN | SAVIOUR |
| ZACHARIAS | JESUS | GABRIEL | |
| ELISABETH | JOSEPH | DAVID | |

The United Messenger
FIFTEENTH STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1500 Moore Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

- This newsletter is sent FREE to you each month. If you no longer wish to receive it, please mark an (x) in the circle at the left, tear off this portion with your address and mail it to us. We will then remove your name from our monthly mailing list. Thank you.



UNITED MESSENGER, 2019