

Ardmore United Methodist Church

Newsletter

December 2015



A Word From the Pastor...

As the days grow darker, we need to “rekindle the flame of the gift within us” to light our way and to provide light to those who still live in darkness. Join us throughout Advent for numerous opportunities to remember our call and explore how we might incarnate the light of Christ in the world.

Take time to step away from the demands of the season and renew your spirit as you prepare and anticipate the coming of the light.

Advent, like Lent, is the season before the big Holy day (Christmas & Easter). It has traditionally been the season of Hope, Expectation and Preparation.

So, beyond all the preparations we make for our family celebrations of Christmas, what spiritual preparations can we make this year? What can we do as people of faith to cultivate a spirit of expectancy and hope? One of the new Advent hymns called “People Look East”, encourages us to look “East” toward Bethlehem, toward the birth of Christ.

To everyone in the Ardmore United Methodist Church community, I wish you a Hope and Spirit-filled Christmas!

Joy and Blessings to all,

Pastor Tim



Services of Christmas Eve

*Thursday, December 24
4:00P.M. - Family Service*

This Christmas Eve service is for families with young children (although all are welcome to be a part of it!) Special music will be Kim Ladenheim-Neidig singing O Holy Night and the children’s re-enactment of the Christmas Story. We will end with our traditional candle lighting ceremony.

7:30 P.M. - Candlelight Service

The Sanctuary is beautifully bathed in candle light: along with a service of lessons and carols, special music and proclamation of the word. We will end with our traditional candle lighting ceremony.



Christmas Flowers...

If you would like to honor a loved one and at the same time beautify our Christmas Eve altar with poinsettias, please fill out the insert that can be found each week in the Sunday bulletin, or take one from the bulletin board located outside the church office as well as enclosed in this newsletter. Please have all orders/payments returned by Dec. 17th.

College Student Care Packages

Exam time can be stressful for college students. We like to help alleviate some of that stress and let our kids know that their friends from church are thinking of them by sending a care package of home-baked cookies!

Thank you to Noni Nelson, who has organized this project for the past several years. Noni is recruiting volunteers to bake cookies as well as help compile the boxes for shipment. If you can help in any way.. please contact her.



Christmas Party Dinner, Caroling & Concert Sunday, December 6th At 5:30 p.m.

This year’s Christmas Party promises to be better than ever! Everyone is invited to join in the fun. Lasagna, green salad, bread and beverages will be provided; everyone is asked to bring a dessert to share.

Following dinner we will gather in the Parlor to sing the Carols of Christmas.

At 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, we will be treated to a Christmas Concert by the Notables of The Haverford School! Please join us for a fun night of fellowship, great food and music!



December 13, 11:00a.m. Worship Sr. Choir Christmas Cantata

The Christmas Cantata “Glad Tidings of Great Joy” by Robert Hebble will be sung on Sunday, 12/13, during the Worship Service. The narration is from Simeon’s viewpoint and will be read by The Rev. Chuck Casper. Sophie Bruno, the outstanding Harpist will accompany.



December 20, 11a.m. Worship Children’s Choir

On this final Sunday before Christmas, all the children of our Sunday School will sing “Go Tell It On A Mountain”, directed by Shirley McClintock. Not to be missed!



UMW Pecan Sale

UMW will be selling Schermer’s Pecans outside of the church office after services each Sunday during the Christmas season. There is a wide variety from which to choose, all wrapped in holiday gift bags. These would make great gifts for family and friends. Be sure to stop by!

*Wishing Everyone a Happy, Healthy
Advent/Christmas Season!*

2015 Year-End Giving...

With just a few weeks until year’s end, we encourage your faithful year-end gifts, through-Tithes, Pledge, & Christmas Offerings! Thank you in advance for your generosity!



On Sunday, November 15, Kim Timmons presented a certificate of Recognition to Rev. Donald R. Williams. Pastor Don who had been Pastor of Ardmore UMC for 18 years, was accorded the title "Pastor Emeritus." Also seen is Pastor Don with Pastor Tim.

Looking Ahead to January, 2016

- Offering envelopes for 2016 will be available for all in the Narthex beginning December 27th. If you are new and would like a box contact the church office.
- Wesley Covenant Service with Holy Communion will take place on Sunday, January 3rd.
- New committees will meet and carry out ministry. If you would like to be included in a ministry team or committee, please contact Pastor Tim.
- New Member Class (TBD) - If you would like to become a member of AUMC, contact Pastor Tim.



Hat, Scarf and Mitten Tree...

Located in the Narthex, UMW is collecting new hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for the United Methodist Home for Children. Please hang your donations on the tree - and UMW will deliver the items to the Children's Home just in time for winter!

Friends in Faith Toy Drive...

Thanks to all who contributed to Friends in Faith toy drive. Your generous donations of toys and gift cards will be distributed to United Methodist Home for Children.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you to all who contributed to our Thanksgiving food drive. This year, we collected and distributed 35 food baskets including turkeys! Also collected was \$215 from our recent Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, along with \$125 given to Zion Baptist Church in Ardmore for help with 5 families.

Our youth group (*shown below*), helped compile each basket. Complete food baskets were distributed to families in need through the Social Work office at the School District of Lower Merion. Baskets were taken to families in need in the Camden, NJ area. Others were distributed to families in a Philadelphia soup kitchen, and in our church and local community.



Please...Remember to Return your Pledge Cards

The co-chairs of Stewardship & finance, Phebe and Judi mentioned in their letter, the success of our mission depends in large part on your financial contributions. If you did not pledge last year, we will very much appreciate it if you will do so this year. If you did pledge last year, will you please think about increasing this year's pledge?

In Memoriam

Jane Klineburger Wenzinger
October 29, 1943 - November 15, 2015



Christmas Caroling

As is our annual tradition, the youth (and anyone interested) will be Christmas caroling at Simpson House. The date is December 13th, following church. First we would eat a light lunch and then head over to go caroling. Also, if you are interested in chaperoning this trip, please let Diana know. [Child and youth participants will require a signed permission slip.](#) This can be returned the day of the trip.

Christmas Feeding of the Homeless

Dec. 20th, 4-8pm, Grace Café, Arch St. UMC
All are welcome to join us as we help prepare and serve over 250 folks for a Christmas feast. For Info or to help, contact our Mission & Outreach Co-Chairs:

Georgette Champagnie @ 610-635-6917/ georgette_champagnie@yahoo.com
Paula Hall @ 972-898-5130 / paularuth1974@gmail.com



Pictured above starting left to right: Alex Lexa, Matthew Kinkopf, Dana Kaufold, Zahir Saunders, Teddy Neckowicz, JJEstenor, Mikayala Lizun, Matthew Lexa, Emma Calhoun and Emma Saar.