



# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS | December 9, 2018

## GOVERNANCE / STEWARDSHIP

### Gift Cards Help Our Church!

Each week, in the parlor, you can place an order for gift cards to pick up the following week OR you can purchase gift cards on a cash and carry basis.

Everybody I know eats and needs groceries. The purchase of ONE \$100 card a month to either Giant Eagle or Heinen's nets the church \$4.00. If **100** people bought **ONE \$100 card** for their groceries each month, we would receive **\$400/month** or **\$4800/year**. There are well over one hundred additional gift card choices. This is something we can all do to help OUR Church.

Now with the holiday season upon us, remember to buy gift cards from our list. You can give them directly as gifts or use them for your shopping (great way to stay in budget, too).

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Burning River Brass Field Trip Sunday, December 16 at 7 p.m.

We'll meet at 5:30 in the church parking lot to carpool/van over to Pilgrim Congregational Church. Admission is by freewill donation. Sign up on the board by the office or contact Sandy Uhl via email at [ssuhl@cox.net](mailto:ssuhl@cox.net).



## WORSHIP NEWS

### Christmas Eve Celebration of Worship

You are warmly invited to join us as our season of expectation culminates in a Celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ with Spirit-filled worship and festive carols, beautiful choral and instrumental music, the telling of the Nativity story, the sacrament of Holy Communion, and the traditional lighting of candles as we join together to sing "Silent Night" in the darkened sanctuary. All are welcome for this time of joyous celebration!

**Christmas Eve  
Celebration of Worship  
Monday, December 24  
4:30 pm & 7 pm**



### Fellowship Breakfast

Thanks to the 24 people who gave feedback on a new model for the Women's and Men's Breakfasts...

The first Fellowship Breakfast will be **January 5**. The topic is "Understanding Our New Governance" (requested at the October Women's Breakfast) with Flo Thwaites as host (and looking for one or two co-hosts to help: 440-829-1663). Interested in attending? Sign up in the small binder on the table in the parlor.

## CHILDREN AGES 0 - 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

**Second Sunday in Advent!** This week's theme is MESSENGER. A prophet is a messenger sent by God to bring the word of the Lord to us. We are called to prepare the way for a Messiah who calls for repentance.

### Tonight:

**Kid's Club Update! December 9th from 6-7:30 pm** we will have a joint meeting of the new **2nd-4th grade club** and our **5th-7th** grade D.O.G. Club! All in 2nd -7th grade are welcome! Looking forward to seeing you!

## OUTREACH & SERVICE

### Giving Tree - Share Christmas Joy!

This year we will be collecting gifts – *unwrapped* new toys for children ages 0-17 years. The gifts will be distributed to children of Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center and to the children served by the CSM Food Pantry. Gifts will be collected from December 2 -16. Please put under the Giving Tree in the Parlor.



### Mitten Tree - Warm Our Community!

Our Advent tradition of the Mitten Tree has returned to the Parlor. Please decorate the tree with (you guessed it!) mittens - along with hats, gloves, and scarves. Your donations can be for children or adults. There is a great need, and your generosity will be distributed through the ministries of Church Street, St. Paul's, and Denison Avenue.

## YOUTH 8<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### Youth & Parent Pot Luck

*This Sunday, December 9, 6-7:30 pm*  
Parents and youth are invited to meet with Halldor, Coordinator of Youth Ministries, and Pastor Vicki for an informal potluck. This is for kids in grades 8 - 12.

### Sign Up for Remind

We have set up a *new* Remind system so if you want to be in the loop, **please send a text of @mhc-youth to 81010**.

### Christmas Caroling Expedition

It is never clear who enjoys our annual Christmas Caroling expedition more – the folks who join us to sing, or the homebound members that we visit!

- Join us **Sunday, December 16, from noon to 3 pm.**
  - A simple lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall before we head out.
- Don't miss this holiday family tradition that brings a smile to everyone! Sign up on the bulletin board near the office.

### Church Street Ministries (CSM) News

For many of us, the fact that so many of our neighbors are food insecure may be a shock. The need is real and the CSM Food Pantry provides food assistance with help from all of you who donate food, who donate items to and purchase from the 2nd Mile Shop.

*Needed: Turkeys, hams and holiday foods. Please bring your donations to CSM Wednesday – Saturday, 9-5.*