

The Messenger

December 2018 – January 2019
813 Indiana Ave., Monaca PA 15061
Webpage: www.monacaumc.org

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Phone 724-775-6702



*Christmas Eve
Service 7:00 pm
Special Music
Begins 6:30 pm
With Paul Alexander,
Guest Organist*

Pastor's Thoughts

Where did the year go? It seems like we just finished Easter and Charge Conference was upon us. And just as I heave a sigh of relief that paperwork is finished I am staring at the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is such a wonderful time of year in the life of the church. While the rest of the world careens through a season of hustle and bustle in preparation for the Christmas season, Christ's church is called to slow down, to reflect, and to savor the anticipation of the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

During the Sundays of Advent we will examine the journey to the city of Bethlehem and beyond as together we hear and reflect on the stories leading up to Jesus' birth as well as our hope in his return. These sermons will attempt to help us "Prepare the Way" for God's Kin-dom in the world.

It is my prayer for us all this Advent season to take time to slow down, to pray, to meditate, and to live into the grace and peace that is made manifest in the person of Jesus the Christ. A very blessed Advent to you all.

Peace,
Pastor Nancy

BEAVER VALLEY CHORAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Beaver Valley Children's Choir will present their Christmas Concert on **Friday, December 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm**. There will be a reception immediately following the concert and John Hesser would like donations of cookies. If you are able to provide cookies please see John or Linda Hulme. **This is a wonderful holiday evening!**

December Dates

Dec. 13 7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Dec. 14 7:00 pm
**Beaver Valley Children's
Choir Concert. Reception
immediately following.**

Dec. 16 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Wilson's Open House

Dec. 20 7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Dec. 23 10:45 am Worship
Paul Alexander, organist

January Dates

**Jan. 9 7:00 pm Finance
Committee**

Jan. 16 7:00 pm Trustees

Jan. 23 7:00 pm
Administrative Council

*Please mark these dates on your
2019 calendar.*

“SHARE THE WARMTH TREE”

The Christmas Tree at the top of the steps from the Carey Center is for your donation of hats, mittens or gloves, and warm socks. These gifts are distributed to several charities in our area.

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS – A CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT THE WILSON’S AND YOU’RE INVITED!

The house is decorated. The tree is brightly lit. The nativity set is laid out. The cookies are baked. The snacks are prepared. The Christmas music is playing. All we need is you! Once again, we'd like to invite you to our home for a Christmas Open House from 1:00 to 6:00 pm on Sunday December 16. Our address is 201 Mowry Road, Monaca, Pa. (Actually we live in Potter Township, but our mailing address is Monaca.)

We hope you can stop by for 5 minutes or 5 hours. We know it's a bit of a drive, so we hope you can stay for more than 5 minutes. Have some cookies and punch and snacks. Relax and chat with some friends - make some new friends. Just have some time to enjoy some good Christmas Cheer. (Yes, the Steelers are playing that day, so at 4:30 someone might turn on the TV.)

Directions: From the intersection of Brodhead Road and Route 18 at the Beaver Valley Mall, take Route 18 South for approximately 3.9 miles to Bauer Road on the left (which is also 1.2 miles past the traffic light at Nova Chemicals at the bottom of the hill). There is a sign -- "Potter Township Municipal Building". Turn left. Go to the top of the hill -- it is a "T" -- turn right on Mowry Road. Our house is the white ranch about 4 tenths of a mile from the intersection on the right. Parking in our driveway is limited. You are allowed to park on the street, but that, too, is limited. So, if you can walk, you are permitted to park in the Municipal Building parking lot -- it's on the left about 150 yards from our house. Another event is being held there, so we have been asked as much as possible to park in the lower portion of the lot. As much as possible, leave our driveway open for those who have trouble walking -- or just as a place people can be dropped off. (If you get lost, our phone number is 724-888-2679.)

“Over the river and through the woods to Nancy and Dave’s we’ll go!”

We hope you can come,
Dave and Nancy Wilson

Beaver Valley Choral Society Concerts

Saturday, Dec. 8,	6:30 pm	Holy Family Parish	New Brighton, PA
Sunday, Dec. 9,	4:00 pm	St. Cecilia Parish	Rochester, PA
Saturday, Dec. 15	4:00 pm	New Brighton UMC	New Brighton, PA
Sunday, Dec. 16	4:00 pm	Beaver UMC	Beaver, PA

Plan to attend and listen to one of these beautiful music concerts.

Serving in Worship for December & January

Thank you for your continued dedication to these ministries.

Dec.	Greeters	Acolyte	Liturgist	Counters	Communion Stewards
2	Mary Margaret Corless	Joanne Ziegler	Dennis Houser	Bill & Linda Hulme	Pat Goodrich Donna Hesser
9	Bob & Mary Beth Shannon	Don Lynch	John Hesser	John Hesser	Robertta Houser Gretchen Harich
16	TBA	Mary Beth Shannon	Donna Hesser		
23	TBA	Allen Johnson	Clay Beringer III		
30	Allen & Vicki Johnson	Mike McCullough	Adam Davidson		
Jan.					
6		Leigh Ann Esworthy	Mike McCullough	Ed & Vicki Kane Tim & Leigh Ann Esworthy	Judy Fitzgerald Leigh Ann Esworthy
13		Joanne Zeigler	Deb Croyle		Mary Beth Shannon Denise Lynch
20		Don Lynch	Dennis Bloom		
27		Mary Beth Shannon	Allen Johnson		

The new Flower Calendar for 2019 has been placed on the bulletin board in the rear of the sanctuary. When you select a date, please fill in a form for your dedication and place in the offering plate.

I will file the form in the office for future reference. Also, on the date you have flowers, we will appreciate your service as Greeters. Thank you. Any questions – call Norma.

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following persons in your prayers:

Shut-ins: Nicole Hesser, Pat Brandt, Bonnie Sanders, Jack Ralston, Virginia Basalyga, Ruth Shawger

Continuing Needs: Amanda, Jordan & Austin Miller, Ruth Graham, Penny Hart, Gene Wolfe, Bob Graham, M. Wolfe, Carl and Carolyn Wolfe, Mac McCullough, Dylan Mattern, Jane Lee, Sue Heidel, G. Heidel, Mary Ellen Owens, Doug Johnson, Sandy & Dan Householder

Current requests: Amanda Mazzetti, Betty Snowberger, Shirley Hood, Mona Lynch, Patty Lomagestro, Tori McMahon, Gary Hutchinson, Nancy Cermak's unborn great-grand baby, Larry Pintar, the family of Martha Helmick, Shana Stewart, Amber P (sp?) and baby, Betsy Ruckert, Maverick-Wetly family, Maxwell Walker-Carr family, Mariam Budacki, Mark (being deployed)

If you are interested in joining our church Prayer Chain, please contact Nancy Beringer at 724-775-5331 or Bobbie Dierdorf at 724-774-5487. This is a vital and important ministry in our congregation. Give one of them a call to be part of this group or to place a need on the prayer chain.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to Pastor Nancy, Allen Johnson, Gretchen and Ron Harich, Mary Beth and Bob Shannon for everything they did during my brother Bob's hospital stay and funeral. Thanks to my church families for their prayers, cards, phone calls and visits to the funeral home.

**Love you all,
Nancy & Family**

Thanks to all who continue to give to our "Food Pantry." You are so generous and our patrons are really grateful to receive what we are able to give them. We received a donation of food from the "Ladies Auxiliary" of Monaca, and another from the "Providing Angels", a group of caring women. We are very thankful for every one of you wonderful supporters.

The Food Pantry Group

Women's Ministries received \$598 from the Bake-less Bake Sale that takes place in August every year! In 2018 we have giving donations to Tiger Pause in Beaver Falls, the Ruth M. Smith Center (a gift from the Penny Jar), the East Brook Mission Barn (local UMCOR depot), the North Carolina Annual Conference for flooding damage, and we will be giving the Food Pantry recipients the Fruit Baskets on December 11 as a gift from the church. Women's Ministries also provides fruit baskets for our shut-ins prior to Christmas. Our additional fund raisers are the Anderson Candy Bars and a table at Apple Fest where we sell Rada knives and the candy.

We thank you for your support during this past year. It has enabled the women to be in ministry (our goal) to help so many both near and far.

One last **thank you** to our church folks for **2018!** Your efforts are so appreciated for all your help and donations to make the **Apple Fest** a success. From the people who picked up the apples and brought them to the church the first day, the weeks of preparation, to the end of the day on **Apple Fest Saturday** a month later, you are **loved**.

Celebrations

December Birthdays

Kaitlyn Morrison	4
Darlene Carrier	6
Karter Jaymes Morrison	21
Robert Dierdorf	15
Nancy Shute	16
Holly Mihalic	25
Tamara Suman	29
Thomas Ely	30
Albert Fitzgerald	30

December Anniversaries

Robert & Mary Beth Shannon	11
Thomas & Margie Sargeson	27

January Birthdays

Roberta Dierdorf	1
Ann Mancheff	6
Kim Luzzi Noyes	6
Paul Alexander Sr.	12
Mark Carrier	12
Lynelle Cermak	14
Janice Evans	15
David Davis	18
Danielle Cermak	20
Candi Walls	21
Kay Carrier	24
Amanda Miller	25
Kayson Morrison	31

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE NEWSLETTER STAFF!

Pastor Nancy Shute, Norma Coast-Secretary, Kay Carrier-Proofreader, Mary Margaret Corless, Mailings





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