



# *The Announcer*

## *January 2016*

**Florence Hollinger, Co-Editor**

**Cynthia Oberholtzer, Co-Editor**

**Rev. Carlotta Madison, Pastor**

*Our Vision is to be the church that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through our ministry, creative services, discipleship and outreach.*

*Our Mission is to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and share God's love with others.*

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# Lectionary Readings

**January 3, 2016 [White]**

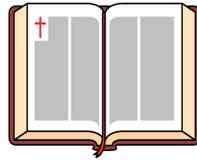
**Epiphany Sunday**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14(UMH 795)

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12



**January 17, 2016 [Green]**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10 (UMH 771)

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

**January 10, 2016 [White]**

**Baptism of the Lord**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29 (UMH 761)

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**January 24, 2016 [Green]**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19 (UMH 750)

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

**January 31, 2016 [Green]**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6 (UMH 794)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

## *January 2016 Liturgists & Scripture Readers*

(Tentative Schedule)

<i>January 3, 2016</i>	<i>Anne Taylor &amp; Ed Schulz</i>
<i>January 10, 2016</i>	<i>Dennis McCoy &amp; Eileen McCoy</i>
<i>January 17, 2016</i>	<i>Bill Gildea &amp; Tedd Didden</i>
<i>January 24, 2016</i>	<i>Beth Sheridan &amp; Colleen Sheridan</i>
<i>January 31, 2016</i>	<i>Wendy Kinsey &amp; Catherine Maddonni</i>

## **Fellowship Hour**

Fellowship Hour is the first Sunday of each month. Below is a schedule. Please arrive before worship to set up, provide simple snacks, and clean up after fellowship time.

January 3, 2016  
February 7, 2016  
March 6, 2016

Finance  
Staff  
Chancel Choir

April 3, 2016  
May 1, 2016  
June 5, 2016

Trustees  
Looking for Volunteers  
Looking for Volunteers



# January Birthdays



01	Jonathan Beerer
02	Bernard Linarello
09	John Keenan
11	Margaret Beerer
24	Nicholas Kniezewski
24	Zachary Kniezewski
26	Jason Schulz
27	Barbara Printz

## **Central District Office Calendar of Events**

*Additional information posted on District Bulletin Board*

**January 7, 2016:**

**APPLY FOR RETHINK CHURCH 2016 EASTER DIGITAL ADVERTISING GRANTS**

RETHINK CHURCH helps local churches reach "seekers," the 42 percent of adults who aren't currently active in or committed to a church but are searching to give their lives deeper meaning. UM Communications is accepting applications for its Rethink Church Digital Advertising Grants for displaying on Websites during the 2016 Easter season (February to March). This is not a monetary grant; ads will be purchased and placed by UMCom. Deadline to apply is Jan. 7, 2016.



### *Do You Know Who Said That?*

"A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable but more useful than a life spent doing nothing."  
Answer on page 4.



*With his breath God brings the frost.*

Job 37:10



## Food for Thought

It was during the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent worship service at Cedarville UMC (where I do my Bible studies). As I was preparing to worship I felt a different, even strange feeling – Opening Prayer was entitled *Good Friday*; the hymns were a combination of Advent and Easter, the sermon title was *The Piercing of Mary's Soul*.

Pastor Lanz talked about how in the busyness of the weeks before Christmas we lose sight of the real reason of Christmas. She asked us if we had heard “Jesus is the reason for the season.” *There were nodding of heads that we heard it, and murmurings as we agreed we were indeed busy and in various stages of losing sight of the “reason for the season.”*

Then she put out the thought that, “WE are the reason for the season.” *She let that hang there for a good time. There was an audible intake of breath at the thought, and maybe it was me who gasped “What?” We all know it is not about “me” it is all about God, Jesus.*

Finally, the punch line so to speak came: “We - OUR SIN is the reason for the season.” Advent is a time of waiting, remembering God's ultimate gift of love. Jesus, our Lord and Savior given to us – born for one and only one reason - to die on the cross for our sins. Born to die for the sins that we cannot atone for by ourselves. Born to give us the promise of forgiveness and eternal life.

*As I write this it is still Advent, less than a week before Christmas; and not a day has gone by that I did not remember her words; “We, our sin, is the reason for the season.” In the busyness, in the quiet times I contemplate the thought and wonder at how viewing the birth of Jesus from the standpoint of his crucifixion and resurrection makes God's love for me so real I can almost touch it. May God bless you, surround you with his love, protect you from those things that could harm you and grant you wisdom and strength to meet the challenges in your life.*

*Anne Taylor*



## New Church Administrator

In December, Asbury decided to transition to a Volunteer Church Administrator. Anne Taylor has begun to serve in this position.

Thanks to Justin Zepp for a job well done. We will still see him as he will continue to be a guest organist.

All information for the Sunday Bulletin should be sent to: [deertaylor5@gmail.com](mailto:deertaylor5@gmail.com) (610-324-4088 or 619-526-34398)



## George Bernard Shaw said that!



## Forteniters Dinner - January 7, 2016

As many of you know, every year since 1980 Asbury has volunteered to serve a dinner once a year to the members of the Forteniters Club. The date for this year's dinner is **Thursday, January 7**.

We will be serving our usual menu of a full-course roast beef dinner. Once again Tony Maddonni will be entertaining with his band "The Music Men" which the Forteniters – and Asbury members! – always enjoy so much.

The Forteniters meet in the hall of St. Patrick's Church, which is located at 714 DeKalb Street. We can park either on the street near the church or in the upper parking lot on DeKalb Street. There is some parking in the lot next to the kitchen door, but we cannot park in front of the garage doors in case the priests need to get their cars out.

Dinner prep will begin at 3:30. The Forteniters are asking that dinner be served between 5:00 and 5:30. Dinner is served buffet style. In addition to volunteers to help prep, serve the dinner and clean up, we also need desserts. It is nice if they are homemade, but they do not need to be. If you are planning to help with the dinner and wish to donate a dessert just bring it with you. If you can't attend but are willing to donate a dessert just give it to the Keenans the Sunday before the dinner. Please make sure your name is on any dishes you need returned.

We also can always use containers to send leftovers home with the Forteniters. Most of them take home leftovers which are their meals for the next couple of days.

This is always a fun event, as well as a great way for Asbury to reach out to less fortunate members of the Norristown community. We invite everyone to join us and get involved with this event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (610) 933-3332. If you are having trouble finding us on the day of the dinner you can call John's cell at 610-246-5388 or Linda's cell at 610-246-1546.

Thank you in advance for your help.

*John & Linda Keenan*



## The Palace Project

On **Sunday, January 17**, Laura Smith and Gwen Didden, Directors of Palace Project, are coming to give us a short presentation about their recent trip to the Heart of Compassion Orphanage in India. They delivered the bags that choir members so generously took time and effort to stuff for Christmas gifts. Laura and Gwen took photos of each child receiving their gift, and the children were ecstatic with joy to have received them.

They will also report on the improved conditions since they visited a year ago, and the prospects for acquiring land to build the orphanage a permanent home.

Pease continue to pray for them and plan to attend this service.



## Women's Group Christmas Luncheon

We were missing a few people because they had prior commitments. Nevertheless, Dante's had to set up a bank of tables to accommodate our group.

Eighteen of us, including five ladies from Lansdale Methodist, who were part of their group that partnered with on the Shoebox Mission Outreach, enjoyed good company and good food.

We agreed that establishing an ongoing project partnership would benefit both churches.

Our next "at home" brown bag lunch is at 12:30 on Wednesday, January 6, 2016- the first Wednesday of the month, in the annex. If you have nothing else planned why not join us? You will experience an open forum, rather than a tightly scheduled meeting.

Hope to see you there!



## Salvation Army Food Collection

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this ongoing project. After blessings by Pastor Carlotta at our Sunday services, the basketfuls are packed up and delivered to the Salvation Army by Ginny Williamson. This is a continuing outreach project organized by our Women's Group, please continue to donate the items on the list. The donation basket is located in the Narthex.



### Items Needed

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Cereal- Boxes or Bags
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Boxed Mac and Cheese
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxed Pasta or Rice
- Hamburger or Tuna Helper
- Pancake Mix and Syrup
- Juice
- Toilet Paper / Paper Towels
- Baby Food and Diapers- all sizes
- Napkins
- Liquid Laundry Detergent (Unscented)
- Other Toiletry Items

### Canned Items

- Soups – Tuna – Stews - Fruit

*Keep saving twist off tabs from canned goods, soda cans and pet food cans.*



## Soles4Souls

The Norristown Area High School's National Honor Society is joining with Soles4Souls, a not for profit global social enterprise committed to fighting poverty. During the month of January, we will be collecting gently used shoes of any size or type for distribution to those in need. We would like to collect 100,000 pairs of shoes by the end of January.

As a member of the National Honor Society, I am asking for your help. Instead of allowing those shoes you no longer wear to take up room in your closet, consider donating them. There will be a box in the Narthex for the shoes.

Thanks in advance for your support.

*Colleen Sheridan*



## Bible Study

The study group meets in the Annex at 8:30 A.M. Sunday morning. Each Sunday features a consecutive and logical study of the books of the New Testament. The lecture is presented by Bart D. Eham, a professor of theology from the University of North Carolina. Bill Gildea, our facilitator, is knowledgeable and adds interesting insights to each chapter. There are no study materials other than your own Bible which you can read at leisure at home. It is never too late to join the study group.



## Committee Meetings

The Trustees meet the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Annex. Church Council meets the third Monday at 2:00 PM in the Annex. Both committee meetings are open to the congregation, although voting privileges are limited to committee members. If there is something you would like to have addressed that is within the scope of either committee's responsibilities, the meetings provide the best forum for presentation. If there is a change in either schedule an announcement is usually made in church the preceding day.



## Important Dates

January 1<sup>st</sup> – Happy New Year

January 6<sup>th</sup> – Epiphany

January 18<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King Day

# January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 am Bible Study  10:15 am Worship	4	5 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	6 12:30 pm Women's Group  7:00 pm Cadettes	7 3:30 pm Forteniter's Dinner  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	8	9
10 8:30 am Bible Study  10:15 am Worship	11 7:00 pm Trustees- Annex	12 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	13  7:00 pm Cadettes	14  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	15	16
17 8:30 am Bible Study  10:15 am Worship	18 2:00 pm Church Council- Annex	19 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	20  7:00 pm Cadettes	21	22	23
24/ 31 8:30 am Bible Study  10:15 am Worship	25	26 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30 pm Cub Scouts	27  7:00 pm Cadettes	28	29	30

The deadline for the next Announcer is January 15, 2016

If you have something that you would like included in the Announcer, submission is easy.

Email the item to Florence at [copyme124@hotmail.com](mailto:copyme124@hotmail.com) or to Cynthia at [cyntober@aol.com](mailto:cyntober@aol.com).

Please include "Announcer" in the subject Line.

If you don't have access to a computer, hand deliver to Florence or drop your item in her mailbox located in the Pine Street vestibule.

Contact Information

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