

The Word

A close-up photograph of a red tulip flower, showing the texture of the petals and the stem. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and red. The text is overlaid in a white, cursive font, following the curve of the petals.

Indeed, the body
does not consist
of one member
but of many.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:14, NRSV

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January 2022

Pastor's Pages

*I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. –
Isaiah 49:6b*

I will miss the Christmas lights when they come down. When the night comes as early as it does in January, pretty lights on houses and trees offer a gift to the neighborhood – unspoken hope, a spark of intentional love piercing the cold night. On a clear night, stars are beautiful, but they are far, far away. The nearness and brightness of lights in the village bring comfort and joy throughout the Christmas season. So, I begin by saying thank you to all of you who keep lights shining over the holidays. Expansive displays across the lawn, bright zig-zags of color on trees and shrubs, simple lines of light along the porch, even trees in the window – they are all deeply appreciated.

Jesus comes among us as the light that enlightens everyone, the light that shines in the darkness and the darkness does not/cannot overwhelm it. As the church, the body of Christ, we are called to be that light, long after the lights on our homes come down and are stored again in the back of the shed. The image of light reminds us that we are not here at 1 Church St. for ourselves. We are not here on the Square in the middle of town to keep the doors closed and simply enjoy each other's charming company. We're here to be a light to the nations, a shining beacon of love and grace to the community. Even through the fog of a pandemic, we've managed to keep the light on to feed the hungry through the Food Pantry and the food giveaways. The Play School closed for a while, but it is open and sharing love with little ones now on weekday mornings. The hygiene kits being assembled by the young people to send on to UMCOR are beams of light shining from the center of Delhi to communities throughout the country suffering from wildfires and hurricanes. We live out our baptism when we are a light to the nations.

I can't tell you what 2022 holds for us. The past two years have been dreary with the threat and uncertainty of Covid-19 as their defining structure. There is a light that shines through the gloom. The love of God made known in Jesus Christ is that light. We reflect that light through the dreariness as we keep on loving and hoping, and as we stay open to all that God will do through us. Let your light shine, friends. Let your love shine. And it will be a happy new year. Amen.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Cathy

The number of cases of Covid-19 in Delaware County is increasing regularly. We know that many communities in New York have experienced a huge spike in numbers of cases since late December; we can probably expect similar increases here in the next few weeks. In response to the current numbers, and the probable continued spread of the Omicron variant of the virus in our area, the church is changing the protocols by which we're functioning.

As of today, January 6, there won't be opportunities to share food inside until further notice, as eating together entails removing masks.

If the number of cases in our area continues to rise and we need to add further restrictions to our gatherings, we will send out an email to that effect and post it on our Facebook page.

You are welcome to join the Thursday morning book study group; we meet at 10:30 in the Harder room. Getting Involved with God, by Ellen Davis, is the focus of the next month or two. The book addresses a number of Bible stories from the Old Testament in depth, chapter by chapter. Copies of the book are available from Pastor Cathy.

Kids' Club is meeting on Wednesdays after school until 4:30. All kids are welcome, from Kindergarten through 5th grade. Invite your neighbors; bring your grandkids. We have a great time.

A couple of young people are assembling hygiene kits from donations given from churches in our Cooperative Parish. But we're out of nail clippers, and we're almost out of hand towels and large plastic bins to transport them in. Donations from the congregation would be appreciated. Thanks.

There is a training offered by the NY United Methodist Conference on Sexual Ethics and Boundaries in the Church. The training is offered via Zoom on Wednesday, January 12, and is available to anyone who would like to attend. Please call/email the office for registration information. There is no charge.

Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 23rd

Immediately Following Worship

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the Annual Meeting! We need you to help make this meeting a valuable and meaningful gathering for discussion, discernment and decision-making!



Highlights of December's Parish Council

December is a busy month so I've decided to give just some highlights of the meeting. Minutes from the meeting are available for anyone wanting to read them in detail.

Gideon presented the proposed budget for 2022 and it was approved by council. The pledges for next year currently stand at \$71,280. The total expenses for 2022 are \$226,000 which is \$57,000 higher than 2021 budget, during which we had a part-time pastor for 6 months of the year. The budget will be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting in January.

The closing on the parsonage took place on December 13th. A mortgage for \$130,000 was taken from Delaware National Bank and \$138,000 was withdrawn from the investments. Trustees have been discussing capital improvements that may be needed to be made on the property in the future. Trustees approved the purchase of a new dishwasher for the parsonage.

Council approved buying gift cards for the staff to show our appreciation for their hard work. Evelyn Jacksto's retirement will be recognized at a coffee hour in February.

Fran Ackerly has been hired as our new sexton and has begun work already.

Pastor Cathy reported that Nominations are all set for 2020. Kids Club has been meeting and they presented a pageant during church on December 19th. Cathy mentioned the possibility of a Bible study starting in the future. She continues to do some visiting including delivering cookies from the Woman's Open Circle. Numbers at worship have steadily been climbing during December.

Many hands worked together to distribute 74 boxes of food to seniors on December 11th. On the 20th, Edie coordinated the distribution of Christmas boxes for people coming into the food pantry. In addition two families were adopted by our church and as usual the generosity of our congregation was obvious by the number of gifts we were able to provide. Each family also received a basket of food for a Christmas dinner.

After the first of the year Trustees and Finance Committee will meet with Rose Niles, our representative from New Covenant Investments, to make sure we are invested wisely based on our long term goals.

Stay safe and healthy in 2022 as we face this new wave of Covid19.

Grace & Peace,

Carol

Women's Open Circle

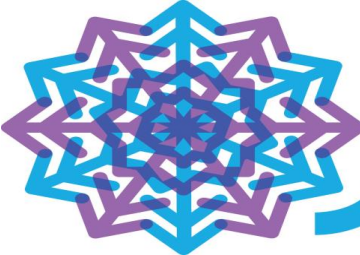


Women's Open Circle would like to thank all those who contributed cookies for our gift bags. We also sampled them. They were yummy. Thanks! We enjoyed our Christmas Luncheon and then worked on filling the gift bags with cookies and fruit and signing cards to go with the gift bags and for sending to friends who have moved away. We filled 19 gift bags for staff and friends who may not be able to come to church or live alone. We have gotten thank yous from several already.


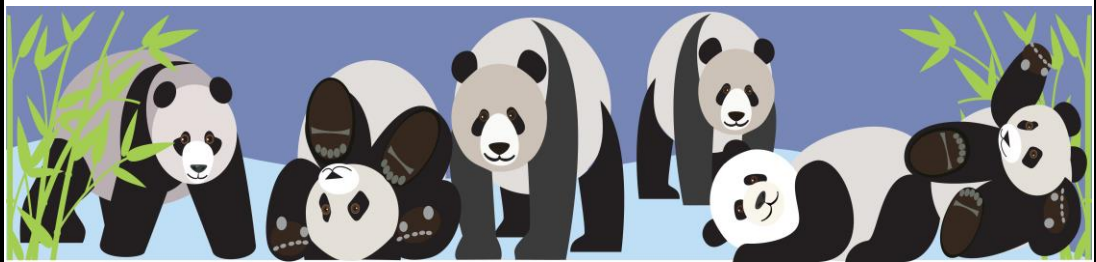
Our next meeting will be held in the Harder Room at noon, on Thursday, January 20, 2022 (NOTE the change of date!). Bring your own lunch and beverages and dessert will be provided.

Lucile Frisbee readies the cards to be signed and mailed to friends of UMD..



Pastor Cathy and Phyllis Dandignac signing cards to go with bags of goodies for shut-ins.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
 <h1>JANUARY 2022</h1>			
<p><i>Communion</i> 2</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office Closed - New Years Day obs</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT – Mindy - FR 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee – Delhi Diner 3:00pm Kid's Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>
<p><i>Epiphany Sunday</i> 9</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry 2:00pm Alzheimer's Support Group (virtual)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT – Mindy - FR 11:30am Casual Café - HR 6:30pm Trustees - HR</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee – Delhi Diner 3:00pm Kid's Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>
<p>16</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>ANNUAL REPORT Distributed</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6:30pm Parish Council - HR</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT – Mindy - FR 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee – Delhi Diner 3:00pm Kid's Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>
<p>23</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>ANNUAL MEETING January 23</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT – Mindy - FR 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee – Delhi Diner 3:00pm Kid's Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry</p>		

Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 New Year's Day</p>
<p><i>Epiphany</i> 6</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR 3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>13</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR 3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - CR 12P Women's Open Circle - HR 3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study -HR 3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
		



Play School News - January 2022

The Play School children have been enjoying the wonder of the Holiday season in December. We had a lot of fun acting out The Gingerbread Man Story as we made Gingerbread Men with the children. We put them in the oven and when we went to check on them they were GONE! The Gingerbread Men left clues all around the church for the children to find and follow the clues that lead them to their snack back at Play School. Thank you Ruth K. and Deb for helping us with this quest! We also invited family members in to help the children build a Gingerbread House. This was postponed but planned to happen later this week before Christmas. We can't wait to see the many different creations and are looking forward to the fun and excitement it brings to both the children and the adults. We will wrap up the month with Christmas projects, special Christmas presents for family, stories, songs of Christmas and a special Christmas Party.

For the month of January we will make Winter projects, continue our letters of the week and related topics. We will play new games, sing new songs, Kid of the Day, counting, colors, shapes, sorting, painting, name writing, cutting with scissors, work in our journals, and add to our book box. There will be lots of excitement to see all of their friends, play with the toys, and get back into school routine after the holiday break. We will reach back out to community members and invite them back into the classroom to share their special skills, talents and hobbies.

We have been approved to look into fundraising ideas and are looking to hold a can and bottle drive at the end of January. Stay on the lookout for additional information after the holidays on a date and time for the event.

Student registration for the 2022-23 school year will be open starting January, with hope to get the student registrations needed by the July deadline. Families that we currently have on the Play School list will be notified and registration forms will be sent. If you know of anyone interested in preschool, please share our information with them. We would love to continue to offer this wonderful program for many more years to come!! Call 746-2191 ext. 206 or email us at playschool.umod@gmail.com

Play School meets weekday mornings Monday-Thursday and follows the DA schedule for holidays, breaks and snow days. The children enjoy coming to school and being a part of this special program. Seeing the kindness from the families, teachers, congregation members, and community members is truly heartwarming!

Enjoy the Holidays!!

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Savage, Play School Director

Food Pantry and Families

After a busy December I am looking forward to a quieter January. Our numbers seem to have started to go up and we continue to be blessed with many donations of food and money. I don't have the numbers for December yet but in November we served 33 families consisting of 40 adults, 6 seniors and 19 under 18.

Towards the end of January we will plan to deliver 13 boxes of food to the homeless being sheltered at the Buena Vista. The senior box deliveries will probably wait until Spring due to weather concerns.

Christmas seemed to follow Thanksgiving rather quickly this year. We no sooner gave out 24 boxes on November 22nd when it was time to plan for Christmas boxes. On December 11th we delivered 74 boxes to the Senior Community (we included Buena Vista in this delivery). Since it was the Holiday season we tried to make the boxes special by adding some Brook's chicken and a Thingamajig (homemade hand pie)

Carol knew of a family of 2 adults and 4 children that needed some help and Edie located a family through Public Health that consists of 2 adults, 2 teen-agers and a baby. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation they were provided with gifts and baskets of food.



The week of December 20th was a busy one. On Monday Edie accepted donations from 2 groups and with Lori's help handed out 10 Christmas boxes, Tuesday was a delivery from 607 CSA, Wednesday was shopping with Sandy for the Christmas families and Thursday was being available when the people came to pick up the food and gifts.

I hope everyone is starting the New Year on a happy and healthy note.

December at The United Ministry



The 4th Sunday of Advent, December 19th, the Kid's Club brought their talents to our worship service with chimes and a pageant. It was truly a joy to be able to have in-person worship for our Advent and Christmas season! While we did the best we could last year, the joy of the season is built better and bigger in seeing the faces of our church family as we worship together.

The Kid's Club began meeting weekly again in December – just in time to start practicing for the

Christmas pageant. The title of the little play was called 'Mary's Decision'. The children all did a great job and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance.



The United Ministry History

Activities and Participants

Introductory Comments

Our American society functions under a system of leaders and workers. The success of any business or organization is dependent on the performance of both. We have a tendency to honor our leaders and past leaders because they “lead” giving direction to a functioning group. Our coverage under this section of our Newsletter will have this same tendency while remembering the importance of the workers as well. This month we pay tribute to JoAn Fredericks who I find hard to define as a leader or a worker. My best judgment tells me that she was both. Her contributions to The United Ministry were many and reflects how the mission of our church has and is being accomplished.

JoAn Fredericks

JoAn Fredericks was born March 25, 1925 in Deluth, Minnesota. She earned her Master’s degree in education from Northwestern University, she met and married Julius “Joe” Fredericks in 1959. They moved to Delhi where Joe was employed by the college.

JoAn supported the formation of The United Ministry and became a very active member. She served as a member and in leadership roles serving on Parish Council, Fellowship, Stewardship, Mission committees and as co-chairman of the Women’s Open Circle. She made frequent visits to homebound and church friends. She arranged home visits for Pastor Mark Chatterton aiding him in becoming acquainted with our congregation.

JoAn was also very involved in the Delhi community. She worked with the Red Cross Bloodmobile, Village Improvement Society, League of Women Voters, and Delhi Senior Meals. JoAn served on the boards of Delaware Academy, O’Connor Hospital, and the West Kortright Center.

Following is a tribute to JoAn found in a U.M. newsletter from the past. Well said!

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Fellowship Committee would like to recognize and thank JoAn Fredericks for her many hours of leadership and work on behalf of The United Ministry team. Most recently, this church hosted a Presbyterian meeting of about 100 people. Included in this were jobs for parking, greeting, worship, registration, preparing a meal, setting up, serving, cleaning up and more. JoAn coordinated a team of 43 people for this event, and it worked beautifully. Major players were Sue Frisbee and Renee Maxwell, who created and directed the lovely luncheon. In the midst of this basketball season called March Madness, I’m reminded that this was definitely a team win, and our coach should be carried off on our shoulders or at least applauded. Thanks, JoAn!

*January
Lay Readers*

² Carol Greene
⁹ Cathy Johnson
¹⁶ Fred Onasch
²³ Edie Campbell
³⁰ Liz Frisbee



Duane Buddle	1/4	Ryan Burrows	1/16	Olivia Kruppo	1/18
Irene Tietbohl	1/7	Emily Briggs	1/17	Cyndee Pattison	1/20
Don Haight	1/9	Landa Palmer	1/18	Glenn Reynolds	1/24
Lucile Frisbee	1/11	Evan Kruppo	1/18	Eva Liddle	1/25
Bryce Burrows	1/16	Noah Kruppo	1/18	Ed Chytalo	1/27

Word and Worship

January 2, 2022

Second Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 43; Psalm 148

Colossians 3; Revelation 21:1-6

January 9, 2022

Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6; Jeremiah 31:7-14

Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

January 16, 2022

Baptism of the Lord

Congregational Reaffirmation of Baptism

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 23, 2022

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:21-31a; *Luke 4:14-21*

January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

Italicized texts are the focus of Sunday worship