



The Breeze

Dryland United Church of Christ

Volume XXXVIII

Issue 12

DECEMBER 2024

A Publication of Dryland U.C.C. To keep our members and friends informed of our programs, opportunities, and events.

**Dryland United Church of Christ 4415 Newburg Road,
Nazareth, PA 18064 610-759-4444**



December 1 - 1st Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 8:00 & 9:30 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Holy Communion
Birthday Sunday

December 8 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 8:00 & 9:30 am
No Sunday School

December 15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 8:00 & 9:30 am
Sunday School 9:30 am

December 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 8:00 & 9:30 am
Sunday School 9:30 am

December 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Candlelight service at 7:00 pm
Communion

December 29 - Last Sunday of the Year

Worship service at 9:30 am
Sunday School 9:30 am



Christmas Eve 7:00 PM



PRAY FOR A GREAT 2025!

Grace and Peace Beloved of God,

Ready or not, the holidays are upon us. Whether as religion or tradition, many people participate in gatherings, reach out to one another, exchange blessings and gifts, and look for brighter days and friendly connections. As a Church of Christ, we remember that God's mercy and steadfast love know no end. In Christ, we can rejoice that with every new morning, great is God's faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

We also remember and celebrate the greatest love story, that God so loved the people of His creation that He gifted us His Son, Jesus, as our Redeemer and Savior. God with us, Emmanuel, the Christ child was born through the womb of His mother, blessed Mary! (Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14) We remember with gratitude that the Son of God came and lived among us in human form to take away the sins of the world.

Christ Jesus, our sacred gift, teaches us to have hope in Him, to be assured through His peace, to be renewed by the joy of His Gospel, and that we endure by loving God and one another. Jesus declares that those in the world will know we are His disciples, by the love we have for one another.

During this season, the 'Christ Story' reveals the wonders of the Messiah Jesus transforming the world through His birth and mission. This season can also be a strain on anyone suffering loneliness, isolation, loss, or grief. In His compassion, Jesus instructs us to do and teach all He commands. Jesus desires that we carry forth His practice of caring for anyone in need. Jesus shaped the disciples to support one another like a team.

Jesus even provided a model for us to follow, part of His playbook, so that we may be aware of things to come and be prepared until His return. Following His model, the early church cared

for the most vulnerable: widows, orphans, strangers, prisoners, and those who were sick. This continues to be the work of the Church of Christ as we eagerly await His return, for we do not know the day our Lord will come (Matthew 24).

May this season of light -- Jesus, the light of the world -- stir in you, hope, peace, joy, and love. May the New Year bring glad tidings, new beginnings, and the desire to keep awake, be ready, spread goodwill toward all people, and encourage one another to be good stewards.

Merry Christmas and Blessings this New Year,

In His Service
Pastor Edward

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

To a joyful present and a well-remembered past, Best wishes for Happy Holidays and a magnificent New Year!



Remember Our Shut-ins

Janet Day – 1/29/35,
Fellowship Community, Room 271, Terrace
3000 Community Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052



With Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy to the Bill Tomko family, on 11-5-2024, his sister-in-law Barb Tomko passed after a long battle of cancer, she was on Dryland's prayer chain for quite a while. Our prayers are with you, and to Barb who is now at peace.



Want to honor a loved one or as a memorial? You can become a sponsor of the Bulletin! The cost of the Bulletin will be \$12.00. This will help with the cost of the paper and ink. Thank you in advance. 2025 sign-ups are available now in the Narthex!



Prayer Concerns & Joys: Jessica Harper, Family of Bill Tomko, Karen Peters, Carey Gacioch, Patty Weidner.

Long-term Prayer Concerns: David Atwood Brent Burton, Betsy Coladonato, Richard Creyer, Cory Cruttenden, Debbie Coppola, Joann Dornblaser, Deby Duby, Shawn Durn, Jerry Enderle, Peter Garcia, Barb & Jim Goldman, Charlie Gianguzi, Grandpa Yin, Kevin Hann, Dorothy Johnson, Sonny Laubach, Stephanie Lilly, Debbie Luckenbach, Cade Lutz, Peter Marmaras, Rodger McKay, Joann Mitman, Robert Nagy, Grayce, Jakob & Ken Raven, Maurice, Gillian & Genine Sloane, Angela Tout, Elwood Trumbauer, Jorn Walter, Sandy Wambold, Shirley Weidner, Charissa & Jason Williams, Carter Wolfgang, All members of Dryland.

Our Service People: Chief MSG Thomas Bostian, Major Scott Lechner, MSGT Paul Moore, PO1 Rodger Nagy, LT Seth Watlington, PO3 Troy Watlington



Thank you to everyone who donated Kitchen items for the holiday. As always, the response was overwhelming and greatly appreciated!



CHANGE SUNDAY \$217.00



Amount raised total for Both are \$2,402.00.

Election Day Food Truck Sale



**CELEBRATING
OUR
MEMBERS**

MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

Volunteers & Bakers

**We had a remarkable success on
Election Day for the Bake Sale
and Food Truck.**

**We would like to thank and honor
all who participated in this event,
if it was by baking, helping at the
table or helping in the Food Truck.**

It was all greatly appreciated!

**It is great people like these that keep
Dryland a great family!**

Nominated by Kathy I. Peters, Editor



**Scarves & Hats Also
Needed**



New Year's Eve Dinner

Tuesday, December 31st ~ 5pm

**register by: Sunday December 22*

Italian Something Take-Out Dinner

Saturday, January 18th (11am-2pm)

**order by: Sunday January 12th*

Mark Your Calendar

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tues. Dec 2nd ~ 5-8pm

Cookies & Milk with Santa

Sat. Dec 14th ~ 1:00pm

Holiday Penny Party

Sun. Jan. 19th ~ 10:30am

Congregational Meeting (after Church)



- 1 Brooke Schaller
- 4 Steven Vian
- 5 Richard Durn, Maryann Heller
- 9 Deb Watlington
- 20 Susan Heller, Dale Vliet
- 25 Alan Heller
- 27 Terri Vian
- 29 Roy Seiple



- 4 Mr. & Mrs. David Hess 37 years
- 22 Rev. Edward & Rev. Emily Livingston 23 years
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Setzer 37 years
- 30 Mr. & Mrs. Alan Heller 52 years



The 2025 offering envelopes are available for pick-up. They are located in the church narthex and are filed alphabetically. They may be picked up each Sunday when you attend services or by stopping by the church office during office hours. Church office hours are Monday-Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00.

CONSISTORY 2024

Officers

- VP – Dan Cruttenden (E)
- Secretary – Alison Rothrock (E)
- Treasurer – Dewayne Heller (E)

- Susan Bostian susanmattesbostian@gmail.com
- Steve Brown sab398@gmail.com
- Dan Cruttenden dcrutt@rcn.com
- Dewayne Heller thdmav@msn.com
- Alison Rothrock Alisonrothrock34@gmail.com



It is the most wonderful time of the year!

Our Sunday School has so much to do over these advent weeks. We will use advent themes to explore and teach our students about the true reason for this season.

- 12/1: Hope
- 12/8: No class *
- 12/15 Peace and Joy
- 12/22 Love.

* I will be out of town, but if someone would be willing to substitute for me, I would have activities for the class planned out. Please let me know.

I will also ask the class to bring a friend.....let's remember how important it is to both enjoy God's love but also share the birth of Jesus with others.. This can help us grow in many ways.

In Christian Love, Alison



Blessings! We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with their families and friends. We are now entering one of the very busiest times of the year and hope that we will see you in church through the Advent season. We would like to challenge everyone to ask a friend to attend our services during the season of Advent, after all, celebrating Christ's birth is very exciting and inviting others to share in our joy is the ultimate gift.

Just a reminder, the advent workshop will be taking place on *Saturday November 30th beginning at 9:00 a.m.* If you are available, please stop by to help. Helping for a few hours is a terrific way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Your Consistory continues to work extremely hard to make Dryland a place to belong. An excessively big thank you to all the people that made our bake sale on election day an enormous success. We raised around \$2,500 for Dryland. Our kitchen team will be remarkably busy baking pies for Thanksgiving. Activities like these help us from a financial standpoint, but also build our fellowship too. Hope to see all of you at these upcoming events too:

- 12/14 Penny Party @ 1:00 in the CEC (accepting donations and gift baskets)
- 12/31 New Years Eve Dinner - final day to sign up for attending is December 22nd
- 1/19 Congregational Meeting

We are currently discussing the possibility of having a comedy night at Dryland, perhaps sometime in March.

We would like to thank the Boy Scout groups for helping with the fall cleanup around the exterior of the church. Their contributions to helping Dryland look its best is appreciated.

We truly need to fill all positions for our consistory in the coming year. For anyone that may be interested in contributing their time on Consistory, or a committee, please let us know as soon as possible. We are having an informal meeting after

DRYLAND STAFF

Rev. Edward Livingston
 Cell Phone: 267-707-2402
 Email: drylandpastor@gmail.com

Brooke Schaller, Church Secretary
 Kathy I. Peters, Breeze Editor
 Susan Bostian, Director of Music
 Dewayne Heller, Treasurer
 Craig Johnson, Assistant Treasurer
 Jerry Hittinger, Financial Secretary
 Connie Ashenfalder, Sexton
Church phone 610-759-4444
Breeze e-mail: Kdrybreezekip@gmail.com
Church e-mail address: drylandoffice@rcn.com
Website: www.drylanducc.org



Dewayne Heller is looking for someone he can train to take over being the Church Treasurer.

Alan Heller is looking for someone he can train to take over or help with the video program. If you feel you can help out with either of these positions, please contact Dewayne or Alan.

church on 12/15 to discuss committees and Consistory positions that are available.

As we look at the new year, please put on your calendar the date for our yearly congregational meeting, which will take place on January 19th after the 9:30 a.m. service. Financial sustainability remains a huge topic. There is much concern as to how long we can keep Dryland a place to belong. There is a very real possibility that we may not be able to exist as a church after 2025 if our financial situation does not change. As a community church, and one who shares our facility with two other religious groups, we are genuinely concerned as to what the future holds. **PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!**

We hope to see everyone in church during this coming Advent season!

BLESSINGS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Dan Cruttenden Consistory VP



We are seeking volunteers for Consistory and Church Committees beginning January 2025. If interested, please contact Dan or Pastor Edward! Thank you for considering!



WISHING JOY TO YOU ALL AND YOUR FAMILIES AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR: from the staff of Dryland UCC: Pastor Ed, Brooke, Kathy, Susan, Dewayne, Craig, Jerry, Connie, & Alan



Location: DRYLAND UCC 4415 Newburg Rd. Nazareth, PA 18064



DATE: Monday, December 2, 2024

Reservations required in advance (by 12/1) to secure your cookie table & session with Santa!

Three sessions to pick from!

5 to 5:45 PM 6 to 6:45 PM 7 to 7:45 PM

To reserve, go to EVERYRIBBONCOUNTS.com under Events Tab.

Donation Cost: \$10 per cookie decorator with advance reservations. \$20 at the door.

Parents who are NOT decorating are not required to donate.

Includes: Cookies, decorations, drink, and Photo Session with Santa.

For information, please contact Susan at 610 417 2448 Or email INFO@everyribboncounts.com



  

It's a HOLIDAY PENNY PARTY!

Saturday, December 14

Doors open at 11:30am
Party starts at 1:00pm

Dryland UCC
4415 Newburg Road
Nazareth PA 18064
610-759-4444

Kitchen will be open! Tricky tray, 50/50 Raffle, Lottery Tree!
A great time to be had by all!

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE:

Basket Donations Welcome – 2 options:

1. Prepare a "holiday themed" basket
2. Purchase items that are "holiday themed" and we will prepare a basket for you!

****Please drop off baskets/items to Dryland by 12/7. Thank you for your support of this fundraising event!**

Advent - is a four-week season dedicated to reflective preparation for the arrival, of Jesus Christ's Nativity at Christmas time. The four Sunday's leading up to Christmas, teaches us of the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love that is offered by the birth of our Lord. It is our prayer that your family is inspired by the spirit of the Advent season, and it stays with you in the days ahead. In addition, a prayer that we may fellowship and worship at least one Sunday during this Advent season, and Christmas Eve Service, together in the Sanctuary of our Lord. Consider this an invitation to make this happen as we offer our gifts to the newborn baby.

Wishing All a Very Merry Christmas!

We Appreciate and Thank each of you for your generosity no matter the size to assure the church remains part of the community and part of your life. There is plenty of work to accomplish, so do not feel bashful to pitch in. We do so by **Faith** and **LOVE** for one another!

Dryland United Church of Christ --- A Place To Belong! - Relationship with Christ !!

Blessings,

Finance Committee --- Pastor Ed, Jerry Hittinger, Steve Henninger, Monna Lou Henninger, Karen Lambert, Alison Rothrock, Hugh Harris, Craig Johnson, Dewayne Heller