

The Breeze

Dryland United Church of Christ

Volume XXXIII

Issue 1

JANUARY 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



January 7 - Epiphany Sunday

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

January 14 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

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

January 21 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

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

January 28 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

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



JANUARY 6, 2024



JANUARY 14, 2024
Bring wrapped gifts to church!
Stay and Play!



JANUARY 21, 2024 10:30

Pastoral Letter for January 2024

Blessed New Year Beloved of God,

We have entered the Season of Epiphany which commemorates the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the wise men who saw and followed the Christ star to the location of the Christ-child. This was not the first time in the Holy Scriptures that we see God revealing Himself to humankind.

From the Books of Genesis and John, we see that Jesus is God who takes away the sins of the world. In Christ, we can celebrate that God said let there be light, and there was light. It was good and separated from the darkness. (Genesis 1:1-4) The Gospel of John reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the world. The Gospel of John begins with "In the beginning was the Word; He is with God and is God. In Him is life, and life is the light of all people. His Light shines and the darkness cannot overcome it. (John 1:1-5)

The Light of the world is Jesus. He is God who became flesh through the womb of His mother, Mary. His Light brightens our path as a Church of Christ. Jesus calls us to bear witness that He is the Light. We have the honor of being points of light who represent and reflect Christ Jesus to the world (Corinthians 12:12-17).

Like the Magi who came bearing gifts to worship the Light of the world, Jesus, the newborn King, we too are called to go bearing the gifts God has given according to His will. These gifts include teaching, preaching, encouraging, healing, and serving. (Read Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 28) As Christ's ambassadors, God uses these gifts to make His appeal to repent and believe through us. (Titus 2:11-14)

The Epiphany of our Savior reinforces that in Christ Jesus we have Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Looking at hope, I believe that hope is essential to

sustain the hearts of disciples and the local church. Hope is a desire for a certain thing to happen -- an anticipation. Having hope can also acknowledge that something is broken or in need of repair. Hope is often an expressed desire for a solution to a problem.

With all the uncertainties unfolding in the world, I pray you can remember that our hope is built on Jesus Christ and His righteousness. Jesus declares that we are to love God and our neighbor as ourselves and that there is no commandment greater than these. This is a refreshing reminder of our mission. Our purpose is to share the Good News and to help friends, family, and strangers experience the 'greatest commandments' through compassion, welcome, forgiveness, and instruction in the Way of Christ Jesus.

In this New Year, I look forward to sharing the mission, purpose, and call of Christ with our next class of Confirmands. I look forward to sharing in adult Bible Study over the Lenten Season. I look forward to gathering so that we may pray, listen, and discern how we are called to serve and impact the world we encounter for God. I look forward to being with those who are able for Tuesday prayers in the sanctuary, where we give thanks to and praise God, make petitions on behalf of the community, and seek the face of God for wisdom and strength.

With the help of God, may we live as new creations in 2024. May we adapt and see the unrealized potential of Dryland United Church of Christ. May our work continue toward and be strengthened by unity with Christ. May our hearts be emboldened to celebrate God for Salvation and the many ways that ministry, fellowship, learning, and prayer are expressed at this physical location. May we know peace, purpose, joy, and impact for Christ into the New Year.

In Christ's Service, Pastor Edward



We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the mitten, hat, scarf, sock tree this year. There were plenty of items to help give warmth to those in need. Also, thank you again to Joyce for the beautiful hats.



Prayer Concerns & Joys:

Nicole, Family of Janet Beck, Richard Creyer, Sandy Carr, Shanna Dawson, Hugh Harris and family, Emily Livingston, Maurice, Gillian & Genine Sloane, Marshia Stiles, Glenn Peters, Greg Heckler, Gary & Karen Crosson, Linda Keller,

Long-term Prayer Concerns: Matthew Atwood, Brent Burton, Lina Benner, Cory Cruttenden, Chris (nephew of Dave Hess), Paul Moore, Lina Benner, Beth Chen, Guy Connelly, Debbie Coppola, Gary & Karen Crosson, Jennifer DaCosta, Joann Dornblaser, Deby Duby, Shawn Durn, Peter Garcia, Barb & Jim Goldman, Charlie Gianguzi, Kevin Hann, Dottie Heckler, Joyce Hittinger, Dorothy Johnson, Sonny Laubach, Ron Lehr, Stephanie Lilly, Debbie Luckenbach, Cade Lutz, Barbara Moon, Catherine Mrowka, Grayce Raven, Jakob Raven, Ken Raven, Barb Tomko, Elwood Trumbauer, Jorn Walter, Charissa & Jason Williams, Carter Wolfgang, Susan Young.

Our Service People: Chief MSG Thomas Bostian, SRA Patrick Jones, Major Scott Lechner, MSGT Paul Moore, E-5 Rodger Nagy, LT Seth Watlington.



Remember Our Shut-ins

Janet Day – 1/29/35,
Fellowship Community, Room 271, Terrace
3000 Community Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052
Dottie Heckler – 12/29/29
Abington Manor, Room 213
215 Cedar Park Blvd., Easton, PA 18042



CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

January 3 9:30 am

January 17 9:30 am

Even if you cannot read music, you are more than welcome. We look forward to seeing new faces in the new year.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

**I'm on your side. Oh, when times get rough,
and friends just can't be found!**

*Bridge over Troubled Water by Simon & Garfunkel



**CELEBRATING
OUR
MEMBERS**

MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

To all the families and the Sunday School students who took part in lighting the advent wreath each Sunday on Advent, and Christmas Eve.

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

Nominated by Kathy I Peters, Editor of the Breeze



Dear Dryland Family,

Thank you for your prayers and phone calls while in the hospital and at home. While recovering from Triple by-pass and valve replacement. And for Pastor Ed's visits, it was greatly appreciated. Glenn Peters

Dear Friends of Dryland, I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, made calls, and expressed their sympathy on the passing of my mother. Mary Wenrich



We express our heartfelt condolences to the Hugh Harris family upon the passing of wife and mother Anita on December 10, 2023. Also, condolences to the family of Janet Beck. Please know that they are now at peace and at the right hand of our Lord and Savior in heaven.

Most of us have participated in a Pollyanna or something similar to it. A Pollyanna is a spirited gift exchange that often leads a lot of laughs. While rules are simple, a proper Pollyanna also requires participants to follow certain laws of etiquette, or it really will not be incredibly fun.

Participants will bring a gift that is between \$10-15 in value...enough to purchase something reasonable without having to seriously hurt anyone's wallet. On January 14, bring your gifts to the Pollyanna wrapped and ready to go.

Everyone should avoid showing their wrapped present to fellow players--be very secretive--while placing the gifts together on a table. In other words, it's much better if no one knows the identity of each gift's giver.

After worship we will have our swap! Participants will draw a number (the numbers will equal the number of gifts) and choose a gift with #1 beginning the rotations. Part of the fun is that each subsequent number has the opportunity to steal from any of the previous the victim of the steal then chooses a wrapped gift.

Full instructions will be provided on the 14th.



- 2 Ethan Teitsworth
- 4 Stacey Banko
- 5 Trent Fogel, Jaxson Lutz
- 7 Corey Smith, Emily Statfield
- 8 Kelly Stoudt, Richard Wessner
- 11 Donna Burton, Jaxson Price, James Weisel
- 12 Dewayne Heller
- 16 Ronald Davis, Gary Spadaccia
- 17 Jessica Harper
- 20 Jenny Intrepido, Jason Motts
- 21 Elizabeth Erceg, Sharon Ruppert
- 25 Grant Brown
- 29 Janet Day, Bill Tomko
- 30 Jack Schmauch



15	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bostian	29 years
20	Mr. & Mrs. Luther Mitman	62 Years
25	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Atwood	27 years



A friendly update on our tab collection for the second half of 2023 year. From July 1 to December 14, 2023, another 8,000 tabs were contributed. Thank You so much. Adding that to the tab collection beginning January 1, 2023, through June 15, 2023, which was 3,425 that brings our total for the year so far to 11,425. Going one step further, adding 2023 total from our previous grand total of 77,674 since we began this program several years ago, our new grand total is now 89,099.

Let's add another piece of good news. The boy scout troops at Dryland agreed to help us with this project. So, they began collecting tabs also in the first quarter of 2023 as well. On Wednesday, December 20th they presented their collection to Dryland. The total collected by the scouts was 14,074.

What a Great Job! THANK YOU very much to the boys, leaders, and parents in supporting this project.

This effort supports the Pop Tab program run by the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware. Every year the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware has the ability to raise money through donations of Pop Tabs. It might seem like such a silly thing to collect compared to the cans themselves, however, there is more aluminum to sell in the tab than there is in the whole can!

For Ronald McDonald House every donation counts. The money raised will go towards helping to take care of the families that stay at our house.

So, let's **Keep on Pulling those Tabs!!**

The kids at Ronald McDonald House Thank You!!!

Mary Ann Heller



Join Pastor Livingston for a time of prayer and healing on Tuesdays, at 11:00-11:30 am. in the Sanctuary.



Our Sunday School Program will certainly Roar into 2024.....

Our first Sunday School Class will be on Sunday January 7th @ 9:30 AM. Our class is open to all children (ages 4+), so come give us a try.

We will learn that December 25th is Jesus' birthday, but we have his star to follow for the entire year. Matthew 2: 1-12 tells us how Wise Men set out to seek Jesus by following his special star. We will learn how Jesus is the "Light of our World".

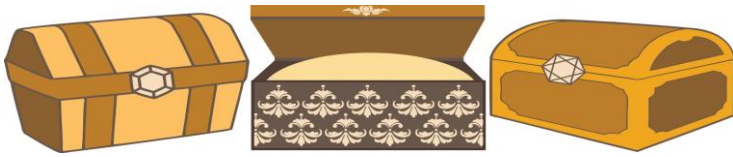
Our project for the next few weeks will be to capture examples of how we can follow Jesus. Please find our special star and we invite you to participate by writing down or sharing a photo of how we follow Jesus every day. Follow us....following HIM.

Additionally, throughout the month, our class will have a session on prayer, and we will spend some time learning about Luke 9: 51-62.

From our wonderful Sunday School class to all of you, please have a happy and healthy 2024, and remember to follow his star every day! Blessings to you, Alison



Starting in January 2024, we will again be asking for sponsors for the Bulletin. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board in the narthex. The cost of the Bulletin will be \$12.00. This will help reduce the cost of paper and printing of the bulletins. Thank You for your help.



BURIED TREASURE FUNDRAISER

Dave Russell, a good friend of Dryland UCC, is working to bring back his Buried Treasure fundraiser to benefit Equi-librium, a local therapeutic riding facility. This is a music trivia game that requires players to identify songs on the B sides of 45rpm records with songs from the 50s-80s. He hopes to have it up and running sometime in 2024. Anyone interested in more information can contact Dave via phone or email. 610-837-2065 rmgt1999@verizon.net

CONSISTORY 2023

Officers

President – Heidi Singer (E)
VP – Dan Cruttenden (E)
Secretary – Linda Atwood (D)
Treasurer – Dewayne Heller (E)

Linda Atwood	latwood54@gmail.com
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
Heidi Singer	allenheidi@rcn.com

MUSIC & WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Linda Atwood, Chairperson



Happy 2024 to one and all! GOOD NEWS our Savior Christ Jesus has been born anew. He is present and eager to work through us for the good of all. I pray everyone's holiday season helps them find peace and hope in the ways necessary for them. We now get to look forward to a new year which is full of the promises given to us through our Lord if we choose to believe and invite him into our lives.

Our Christian education program will be continuing to work with our youngest team members to help

them learn about the great works and love of our Lord. A confirmation class is now forming. If you know of a person around the age of 13 - 14 years of age who might be interested in joining the confirmation class, please reach out to Pastor Livingston. We are working on outreach to members of UCC churches who are sadly needing to close their doors to invite them to be guests at Dryland to learn who we are and come worship with us. So, if you see a new face or faces, please make sure we welcome them in the same warm and caring way we always do.

Consistory will start a new year of serving the Lord through our committees. We will be sadly saying goodbye and thank you for your service to some of our committee members as they have completed their term on consistory. As a result, we are eagerly anticipating saying welcome aboard to new members who volunteer to join us on consistory. If you are even just curious about how our team functions and how the work "behind the scenes" gets done, please reach out to any of us. We are happy to explain. If you are interested in volunteering for consistory please reach out to Dan Cruttenden, Jerry Hittinger or Heidi Singer, our nominating committee. We are looking for at least 2 individuals who are willing to volunteer for a 2-year term on our team. As we all know, many hands make light work!

As always, we wish you peace and joy!
Consistory

DRYLAND STAFF

Rev. Edward Livingston Cell Phone: 267-707-2402 Email: pastor@drylanducc.org 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 Heidi Singer, President of Consistory 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
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January 15, 2024

Welcome 2024!

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2024. FROM THE STAFF OF DRYLAND UCC: PASTOR EDWARD, BROOKE, KATHY, SUSAN, DEWAYNE, CRAIG, JERRY, CONNIE, HEIDI, ALAN.



Cherry Pie Sale!

Saturday, February 17, 2024

\$12 per pie

Pick-up at Dryland:

Saturday February 17th from 8am-2pm

Order by: Sunday, February 11, 2024

To order, call Karen (610-504-1158),
Rich (484-894-9799) or
Church Office (610-759-4444)



"Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse' is NOT a Bible verse!"



"We found our donkey!"



"I'm a sheep again?! What about a reindeer?"



Groundhog Day Dinner (a day late)

February 3, 2024

Pick-up: 11am-2pm

\$11.00 per person

Choice of: Southern Style Chicken & Biscuit
OR

Shepherd's Pie

Meal includes: vegetable, salad, roll, dessert

Order by: January 28, 2024

Call: Rich 484-894-9799, Karen 610-504-1158,
Church Office 610-759-4444

TREASURER'S REPORT

The cash receipt and expenditures activity for the period November 1, through November 30, 2023

Category	Nov Receipts	Nov Expense	Nov Balance	YTD Receipts	YTD Expense	YTD Balance
Current-Mission-Property	\$16,372.68	\$16,598.65	-\$225.97	\$154,506.85	\$191,509.74	\$37,002.89
Capital (Mortgage)	\$1,217.00	\$1,031.90	\$185.10	\$15,414.00	\$11,350.90	\$4,063.10

Giant Card Program	\$3,250.00	\$3,087.50	\$162.50	\$32,000.00	\$30,400.00	\$1,600.00
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NOTE:

2023 Budget \$240,891.00
(exclude Capital)
Monthly Receipts \$20,074.25
Required
Weekly Receipts \$5,018.56
Required

2023 Budget \$12,382.80
(Capital)
Monthly Receipts \$1,031.90
Required
Weekly Receipts \$238.13
Required

Receipts from December 1 thru December 16, 2023 (Church Envelope Categories):

Category	Church Exp	-- \$ 5,814.25
Category	Missions	-- \$ 332.25
Category	Property	-- \$ 311.25
Category	Capital	-- \$ 676.25



A picture we should keep centered in our minds all year long. Together as a Christian family let us learn from each other and support each other as we journey together to develop a lasting relationship with Jesus. May 2024 be healthy, prosper with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love for everyone. As stated in a prior message, a baby has a way to change our thoughts and heart.

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!
Welcome 2024 – A New Year filled with Hope!

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, Allen Singer, Hugh Harris, Craig Johnson, Dewayne Heller