
our Connection

United Methodist Church

Clifton Springs



Worship Times

December 18 - Kids' Christmas Plays
(Bring Granny & the camera)

Christmas Eve:

6:30 PM crafted for Families w/
younger kids

8:00 PM Candles, Carols & Communion

Christmas Day 11AM only

New Year's Day 11AM only

Join us as we enjoy Carols &
Special Music all month long

Remember:
No Sunday'sCool classes
on December 25th or
January 1st



December 18th

Sunday'sCool Christmas Programs

Bring Granny and the Camera.

9 a.m. & 11 a.m. 7th - 12th Grades

Mute Monks Sing the

"Hallelujah Chorus"

11:00 a.m. Infant - 6th too

The Nativity Play

**Their Performances Will Make
Christmas Come Alive for You!**



A CHILD IS BORN



Will You be HOME for Christmas?

If you turn on most any radio station lately you'll get a steady dose of Christmas music. Personally, I like the oldies.

A few words from "Der Bingle" – Bing Crosby

**I'll be home for Christmas
You can plan on me
Christmas Eve will find me
Where the lovelight gleams**

I got out my trusty Merriam Webster & looked up "home" Here's a smattering of what I found:

home: *noun* a place of origin or residence; where one lives, a familiar or usual setting; a congenial environment; *home* is where the heart is; Where one is relaxed and comfortable; at ease
Home is also where your loved ones miss you when you're not there with any regularity.

I pondered and realized that in life we often leave **home** to obtain a goal, only to long to go back **home** again (ultimately). (Another circle of life?)

Merriam tells us that **Home** is the social unit formed by a family living together. **Sounds like a church family to me!**

The origins of the word **Home** include Middle English **hom**, and Lithuanian **šeima** meaning family. Huh! God's family?!

It occurred to me that if one stays away from **Home** too long, you begin to feel disconnected, lost, lonely. You yearn for **Home**.

Now, **Home** is not only a noun. It can also be used as a **verb**: to return accurately to one's **Home** or natal area from a distance – like a homing pigeon does.

Here's praying you'll **Home** in on your church "**Home**" for Christmas – that we can plan on you.

Your church family longs to see you! The welcome mat is out. The coffee is on. The atmosphere is primed for your return. The light of Christ's love is shining the way **Home**. Will you be Home for Christmas? Here's hoping & praying you will be!

Blessings of the Christmas Season!

Your pastor & friend,

Lynn





Gingerbread House Workshop

Wednesday, December 7th
6-8PM

\$20 per house
includes all materials
Paid reservation
due by Dec 4th



Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is up in the Sanctuary to take an angel, buy a present for that age and return it by **December 11th** unwrapped under the tree. Our gifts go to the Head Start class and to the Rotary Christmas baskets.



Rotary Christmas Dinner

Free to any senior citizen
from 14432 Zip
December 13

at CSUMC Dining Room
Serving at 5:30 sharp!

Reservations are required no later than Friday noon December 9th by calling the Spa Apartments office at 462-3080.

UMW Breakfast

UMW Christmas Breakfast, **Saturday, December 10**, 9:00 AM, Grace Center Fellowship Hall. Young and not so young women of ALL ages are invited to join us for a scrumptious breakfast and enjoy a Christmas program brought to us by a group of our YOUNG ladies!

Bring your mom's, your daughters, your granddaughters, your neighbor lady and her daughter. Share in the spirit of friendship and Christian love at this blessed time of the year.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Chicken & Biscuit Dinner (especially Sharon Ranger) and the Bazaar. The UMW had an exceptional week and is grateful for your support of our mission work.

Touching Hearts, Transforming Lives

Christmas Dinner
Thursday, December 8th
at 11:30AM.

Ashton Place
A collection will be taken
for The Children's Christmas Fund.

For questions or a ride please call
Shirley Reed 585-289-9887
or Birdie Roll 462-9235.



CLIFTON SPRINGS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2011 CHURCH CONFERENCE

LAY LEADER REPORT

November 19, 2011

LAY LEADER REPORT PAT ROLL

I have been blessed this year to serve as Lay Leader. I didn't serve alone I had two other Lay Leaders, Cathie Chabrier and Phyllis Ryan who did a wonderful job throughout the year.

We led a visioning session in January with a great turnout and lots of discussion and ideas. From this session one of the goals we achieved were the monthly fellowship dinners which have been a lot of fun.

All three of us have chaired and attended meetings. I currently took an Advanced class entitled, "Dancing with Words". I'm also taking a bible study class entitled, "Invitation to Psalms" which Cathie Chabrier is leading. I and the folks on my visitation team have visited many folks in our congregation be it home, hospital, or nursing home visits.

We helped co-ordinate Laity Sunday and one other Sunday while Pastor Lynn and Lorrie were on vacation this year.

I have team reports stating what exciting things took place this past year. I would like to share them with you at the end of my report.

We continue to be a church family that grows in membership and we are growing spiritually as well.

On behalf of this Clifton Springs Congregation, I would like to thank Rev. Spence and his wife Lorrie for their leadership and commitment to God and to this congregation. We are all truly blessed to have them both.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & NEW MINISTRIES LORRIE SPENCE

Sunday'sCool at CSUMC saw a decline last year in attendance for the first time in many years. There were multiple groups vying for time with our students on Sunday morning. We also found that a change we had made in curriculum was not working. So through our dedicated teachers and a survey of parents we changed back to a rotational curriculum again this year. So far the families are returning and those who are registered seem to have a stronger attendance record. We also try to realize that outside commit-

ments happen and we try to understand and be hopeful that families will return to classes after that particular event is completed. I pray that we as CSUMC educators have given each of our children/youth the background so that whatever event they are involved in on Sunday morning they are ambassadors for Jesus Christ in that environment. We do try to make our church home be a place that families absolutely want to be part of.

Highlights of CE

- * Infant/Woddler/Toddler Group
- * Pre-K and K Group
- * 1st & 2nd - Rotational
- * 3rd& 4th – Rotational
- * Music
- * Tweens (5th & 6th) revitalized group of disciples
- * 7th – 12th (23 youth)
- * 3 adult Sunday morning classes
- * Bible Study groups Monday (women's group) , Tuesday at (Ashton Place), Wednesdays – Disciple

One of our biggest highlights every year is our Vacation Bible School. Once again we were blessed with over 100 in attendance. This is an ecumenical and cultural outreach in our community with some of the Hispanic congregation and our Chinese friends attending and multiple children from other churches or no church home. It is also a blessing to see our youth and adults step up and work together so wonderfully during that week.

WELCOMING TEAM JOHN MUELLER

Welcoming Team continued weekly visitor follow-up, porch visit program for 2nd time visitors, weekly coffee hours between services, and two new member orientations. We began our missing links program for follow-up on regular attendees who have broken their attendance pattern We completed the update of the pictorial directory, and formed a team to manage photography for the church which is working on our annual photo album and updating the photo wall.





PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

KIM GILES

We have made over 360 prayer shawls and given away 323 of them. We have worked individually and gathered at times to work on them and share fellowship and prayer. We give the shawls to the hospice program at House of John, the Clifton Springs Hospital Oncology department and their Chaplain for other patients, to our college students and to anyone who asks. We are looking for other organizations to share them with.

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS TEAM

PAT ROLL

The SPR team recently met and discussed and approved salaries for the Pastor and church employees.

We continue to be made aware of Rev. Carlos Smith's ministry via monthly reports, and to be in support of him in that ministry.

The SPR team feels the CSUMC is good at"

- * Visioning toward the future.
- *Consistent Every Member in Ministry
- *Strong Christian Education opportunities for all ages, in addition to Vacation Bible School and study groups.
- *Consistent growth in missions, both at home and globally.
- *A strong visitation team
- *The people of CSUMC are good at making things happen, even with tight funding.
- *Church property is well maintained.

We are in support of our Pastor, Lynn, and his wife, Lorie Spence, for all they do. They are very much appreciated, and we pray that their service with us at CSUMC will continue.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

CATHIE CHABRIER

In February, we talked about our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Barriers and decided to focus on increased communication, participation and cooperation. We have had consistent attendance at our breakfasts and Girls' Night Out and invited 20 new people to events. Our mission outreach has included 18 layette kits, full payment of our pledge, a campership, support of the cradle roll, funeral receptions, and support of two students in India. We hosted the UNYAC – UMW Annual Meeting. We have hosted an educational program on diabetes and participated in the reading program. We have UMW members on almost every team in the church. Our current focus is on engaging youth in UMW. We are planning a retreat to start off 2012.

ALL-SAINTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY MINISTRY

JAN WRIGHT

The All -Saints Memorial Library Ministry at the Clifton Springs United Methodist Church continues to maintain our collection of Biblical and Spiritual materials. New donations by our church members are entered into our Library Computer Catalog and then processed for borrowing. Book reviews and suggested titles are published in our church Newsletter, in hopes of informing and encouraging library use. Duplicate materials are offered to members in our used book sale. The goal for 2012 will be to continue to find ways to get our church family into the library to discover the resources we have to help them on their spiritual journey. Our main source of funding and acquisition of materials is through donations.

TRUSTEES

CHRIS DZULA

This year our main project was reviewing the current lease agreement with the daycare. Next year we will be working on revising a new lease agreement. We, (Smith Metal Works) installed new hand railing in the front of the church with the UMC logo. Dedication done this fall, as it was donated by Ina Griffin family, Mrs Smith's grandmother.

YOUTH

LISA SPENCE

Youth Activities---

- * Girls attended Revolve
- * 2 youth attended the Directors invitational at Casowasco to nurture their leadership abilities
- * car wash to send funds to Red Bird
- * helped with pizza sale and cookie sale to send youth to summer camp
- * attended multiple events this summer that ended with a planning session for this year
- * had a relay for life team
- * helped the younger SS classes put together health kits for UMCOR
- * worked the conference UMW event
- * UNICEF

We are very encouraged because we have 23 youth in our Sunday'sCool class this year that have been consistent in attending. The youth are bringing other friends to youth events also. Our goal is to revitalize the younger youth group this year also.



MISSIONS TEAM

WEB PEARSALL AND LINDA MASCIOLI

Team members are blessed by the people we serve, those who contribute generously and fellow team members. We look forward to the work God calls us to do and the grace he bestows on us as we do his work. Specific projects for the church year 2011 include:

- * NOMADS Katrina rebuild – 4 weeks (2 people, Jan-Feb 2011)
- * Call Center setup and ERT work, North Carolina tornado response – 4 weeks (2 people, Apr-May 2011)
- * Children’s Disaster Services response to Rotterdam/Binghamton NY (2 people, Sep 2011)
- * Led adult team to work camp at Red Bird Mission (9 people, Sep 2011)
- * Tennessee Flood disaster recovery (1 person) (Nov 2010, Aug 2011)
- * Costa Rica construction – 1 team member (March 2011)
- * Haiti earthquake recovery - Habitat for Humanity team (1 person, Nov 2011)
- * Food distribution serving approximately 300 individuals (4 Foodlink distributions)
- * Hosted UMCOR ERT Team Leader Training (2 instructors)
- * Fielded team for Blitz Week for Habitat for Humanity Geneva build, providing building/finishing additional days
- * Habitat for Humanity ReStore – sales, moving, building (1 person, 64 work days)
- * Head Start Create-a-Smile program – provided gifts throughout the year to 34 kids
 - o hygiene and clothing items (Spring)
 - o book and games (Summer)
 - o made and provided sweatshirts
 - o Thanksgiving bags (hygiene and winter clothes)
- * Provide lunch food for 10 Head Start families through summer (Jun, Jul and Aug)
- * Provided boxes of gifts, school supplies, used clothing, toys, OTC medical and health supplies, etc. to Red Bird Mission
- * Collected and shipped 126 Christmas Child shoeboxes (Fall 2011) up from 89 in 2010
- * Neighbors Helping Neighbors
 - o teamed with Home Depot and others to bring a local home up to code allowing an elder resident to remain in her home.
 - o built an access ramp for a local person

o performed odd jobs (washing windows) for an elder local resident

- * Taught Lay Speaker course on mission (2 persons, July)
- * Angel Tree – 125 presents
- * Started in-house, backpack program for 96 Head Start children
- * Served as coordinator for the district VIM (Volunteers in Mission) email list and other communications.
- * Visited female inmates in Wayne County Jail through Prison Ministry Program
- * Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) in Tuscaloosa, AL following the tornado in April (1 person)
- * Childcare at Annual Conference of UNYAC (2 people)

Plans to lead September 2012 Red Bird Mission team and join VIM team to Haiti (May).

CARING AND SHARING TEAM

BIRDIE ROLL

This team is for Widows and Widowers in our church or community and is led by Shirley Reed and Birdie Roll. We meet once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Postcards are mailed out before the date to every member. We have devotions, prayer, and dessert. We have an average of 15 people depending on the weather, doctor appointments, and program. This year we have had some interesting times.

- Jan. We cancelled because of weather conditions.
- Feb. We cancelled because of weather conditions.
- March We cancelled because of weather conditions.
- April We met at church had Lenten Devotion and Discussion and April Fool Jokes.
- May We met at church and had fellowship with each other.
- June We met at church with a program called “The Way It Was”.
- July We met at church and played Dirty Bingo
- Aug. We met at Ashton Place for Lunch at 11:30.
- Sept. We met at church for just plain fellowship.
- Oct. We met at church and Marge McCumber led the program with a journey down the Erie Canal.
- Nov. We met at church and it was a Thanksgiving Theme (everyone had to bring a favorite recipe to share).
- Dec. We will meet at Ashton Place for our Christmas Party and take up a collection for the Head Start kids.



Try New Christmas Faith-Boosters As a Family

The most wonderful time of the year is a wonderful time to share Jesus—and why he came to earth—with your children. Instead of getting caught up in the holiday rush, focus on what Christmas truly means. Use the Advent season (the weeks of preparation before Christmas) to engage in old and new traditions, make simple crafts, have discussions, and worship Jesus, our newborn King.

Faith-boosters needn't be elaborate or time-consuming. Instead, use materials you already have to reinforce the good news that the angels shared on the first Christmas Eve: Jesus, our Savior, is born!

After you've shared this message with your children, look for simple ways to spread Christmas joy as a family. From caroling and delivering cookies to sending cards and inviting neighbors to programs or concerts, the possibilities are endless for letting your light shine as you celebrate Jesus, the Light of the world.

While engaging in Christmas festivities, start a conversation by asking these questions:

1. What are your favorite Christmas traditions, and why? How do our traditions help us remember the real meaning of Christmas?
2. What are some ways we can add service and outreach to our Christmas celebrations?
3. How would you explain Christmas to someone who didn't know anything about Jesus



FAMILY EXPERIENCE

Add a meaningful new twist to your Christmas celebrations by trying these ideas:

• **Unwrap the Story**—Start a new tradition as you unpack your family's crèche, or nativity scene. Let each person pull out one or two wrapped figures without peeking to see what's inside. Take turns unwrapping figures. When someone adds a figure to the scene, have him or her say a prayer of thanks for the role that figure played in Jesus' birth. For example, the person holding the stable might say, "Thank you that there was at least a stable nearby where Jesus could be born." The person with a shepherd might say, "Thank you that the shepherds went and told lots of people about Jesus' birth."

After the scene is complete, discuss the role we all can play in preparing for Jesus' birth and in telling people why Jesus came to earth.

• **Parable Ornaments**—Make a different ornament each week that reflects a parable from the Bible. For week one, pour salt into clear ball ornaments (Matthew 5:13). For week two, pour mustard seeds into clear ball ornaments (Matthew 17:20). For week three, tie Goldfish crackers in netting (Matthew 13:47). For week four, pour sunflower seeds into clear ball ornaments (Matthew 13:37). Print the verses and tie them to the ornaments. Then hang the ornaments on a small Christmas tree as a powerful reminder of Jesus' life and teaching

INSIGHTS

• In a poll conducted in the U.K., 24% of children ages 7 to 11 said Christmas was about giving, rather than receiving, presents.

(Daily Mail)

• When asked about the true meaning of Christmas, 70% of children said it's about celebrating the birth of Christ, 39% said it's about being thankful, 37% said it's about spending time with family, and 13% said it's about receiving gifts.





Lay Speaking Classes
Open to all
Upcoming Classes:

SEW SISTER NEWS

Want to learn more about Methodism? This is a great class for you.

United Methodist Heritage

(Advanced Class)

Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m. 2/1/12, 2/8,2/15,2/29, 3/7
at Manchester UMC

Facilitators: Rev Penni Farrington and Terry Ritter

From Your Heart to Theirs – Preaching

(Advanced Class)

Sundays, January 8 & 15 from 1-6:30 pm
at Auburn First UMC

Instructor: Rev Richelle Duchano

Lay Speaking Retreat at Casowasco

March 23-24 Two Advanced Courses

**Equipped for Every Good Work – Discover,
Develop & Deploy Spiritual Gifts**

Instructor: Rev Nelson Stafford

**Right Here, Right Now – Everyday Mission
for Everyday People**

Instructors: Roger & Donna Cullen

All lay speakers need a course every 3 years to keep their credentials. Those who would just like to learn more without being on the lay speaking track are welcome to take courses if there is room. I highly recommend the Methodist Heritage class for those who would like to learn more about Methodism. If you would like a registration form or more info let Lorrie Spence know – revspence@juno.com or 462-7192.

At the UMW Bazaar in early November, the Sew Sisters contributed a great variety of items for sale, bringing in over \$360 toward the Bazaar’s total sales. Way to go, Sew Sisters!

The Sew Sisters will be taking a break over Christmas and will resume meeting on Saturday, January 28th, from 9 – 1 in the Grace Center. We will be making “Disappearing 9 Patch” Baby Quilts, which we planned on making in the Fall, but decided to delay until we had more time. Below are photos of a few Disappearing 9 Patch quilts to give you an idea of how different they can look, depending on fabrics chosen and arrangement of parts.

At the following meeting in February, we will have an opportunity to finish the quilts. Come on the evening of Friday the 17th and work on the quilts, then leave everything up, and return on the 18th to wrap up the project. Supply lists will be available in the next newsletter or you may contact Heidi Pearsall at (585) 289-6769 or hpearsall@rochester.rr.com. As always, if you would like to come and work on your own projects, you are welcome to do so.

Going forward, the Sew Sisters will be meeting on the 3rd Saturday of every month, so you can save the date.

Hope you all enjoy Christmas and have a safe and happy new year.

Heidi





MISSION MOMENT

at Work Locally & in the World

*respectfully submitted by
Linda Mascioli and Web Pearsall*

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

The Mission Team chose this passage from Matthew 25 as our "theme" and logo because it is so easy to understand, practical and "doable." Feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty, extend hospitality to strangers, give clothing to the poor, visit the imprisoned and spend time with sick people. Nothing on the list exceeds anyone's abilities to understand and do or any congregation's abilities to fulfill Jesus' call. This passage simply instructs us: observe, recognize, then do something for someone in need.

Something else about this passage has always personally intrigued me: The righteous will be astonished that in caring for the needs of the sufferers they were ministering to the Lord himself. We rest in the security of our salvation, based on faith, but it is certainly clear that there is a path marked out for us with action items and surprising discoveries in the journey! So it has been as Web Pearsall and I have just begun to scratch the surface to know each of our church's mission teams and all of the wonderful work being done and work to be done. We both have been astonished. In the coming weeks and months as we gather information, we hope to feature and promote the many mission opportunities our church provides. The opportunity and the work is there and will be perpetually challenging —astonishing, intriguing, a simply perfect adventure-- that is what Matthew 25 is all about.

submitted by Roger Cullen

Hammondsport UMC is planning 2 trips to Middleburg, NY about 20 miles west of Albany to help with flood damage recovery on February 16-24 & April 9-15. There are positions open on both trips. Our church is invited to participate. The starting and ending dates could be adjusted to meet individual needs. We hope to bring 20 volunteers each session. We will be Volunteers in Mission working under the auspices of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

We will be staying in a Methodist Church in the area at a cost of \$15/night per person which will be donated to the church. Also, UMCOR is asking for a \$100 donation per person to be used for materials. We will be providing our own breakfasts and lunches. Area churches will be providing our dinners.

Work done might include removing water damaged walls, ceilings, floors or replacing them with new dry-wall and flooring; painting; replacing electric wiring; assisting; moving materials; cleaning up. One person has volunteered to cook one of the weeks; others are needed. We especially need crew leaders. The teams will mainly be made up of adults.

If you have tools such as hammers, saws, power nailers, drywall tools, cordless drills, etc. that can be loaned or given to the team for use now or on future trips, that is another way to help.

Greg Forester, our Flood Recovery Director, relates that the multi-state devastation from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee has caused as much property damage as Hurricane Katrina. It will take years to recover.

If you are just curious how such recovery trips work, would prefer another trip date, have questions, or wish to sign up for either of these trips now please e-mail Roger Cullen rcullen1@rochester.rr.com or call 585-582-6375.



Recent Requests for Prayer:

Flood victims & recovery volunteers

John Briggs – several health challenges

Gary Vogel – surgeries to deal with his tremors

John Page broken hip - in Newark recovering

Curt & Barb (Pierce) Morrow dealing with the aftermath of a fire

Irene Beshara – continued healing

Jim King – for continued healing following a motorcycle accident

Lannon family after Christine Lannon's death

MaryAnna Morrow following Roger's death

All who are mourning the death of former CSUMC pastor Margie Mason

Kathryn Porter – 90 – 2 fractured disks in her back

Gerry Whitmore in Geneva hosp with pneumonia

For folks struggling with addictions

Landmark Events of recent weeks:

NEW MEMBER RECEIVED

11/19 Ann Chatfield

FUNERALS / MEMORIAL / GRAVESIDE SERVICES

12/2 Christine Tillapaugh Lannon

Anyone interested in membership and/ or Baptism should call the parsonage and speak to Lynn.
462-7192

To rent chairs or tables please contact Jeff Linsner at 315-729-1145. The small rental fee we request is used to replace worn out tables & chairs so they will always be available for church and family functions. Ours is a busy facility & church family. Tables & Chairs are rented out for a 24 hour period & must be returned promptly since others may be counting on their availability.

Whom do I call??

Sr. Pastor:	Lynn Spence	462-7192
	Lynn's cell phone	315-945-1095
Church Office (answering machine):		462-2274
Church Secretary:	Kris VanDuyne	585-739-3255
Bell Choir:	Sharon Mullard	462-2129
Camping Agent:	Lorrie Spence	462-7192
Caring&Sharing Grp:	Birdie Roll	462-9235
	Shirley Reed	585-289-9887
Christian Education:	Lorrie Spence	462-7192
Church Treasurer:	Jim Conners	462-9237
Church Usage Coor:	Lorrie Spence	462-7192
Email Prayer Chain:	Lynn & Lorrie Spence	462-7192
Financial Questions:	Kris VanDuyne	585-289-4559
Food Cupboard:	Chuck Tomes	585-526-7024
	Or Bill Smith	462-2064
Food Service Coor:	Don & Betty Bagshaw	462-7217
Lay Leaders:	Pat Roll	462-9235
	Phyllis Ryan	585-490-1049
	Cathy Chabrier	515-8155
Library Coordinator:	Jan Wright	548-3225
Ministries Coor:	Lorrie Spence	462-7192
Missions Coor:	Sandy Worboys	585-732-0783
Music Ministries Coor:	Kaye Newcomb	585-526-6934
Newsletter Editor:	Patty Payne	462-6647
Phone Prayer Chain:	Birdie Roll	462-9235
Second Milers:	Ruth Wheat	462-3458
Staff-Parish Relations:	Pat Roll	462-9235
Trustees:	Chris Dzula	374-6643
Spiritual Growth Coor:	Cathie Chabrier	781-6903
Youth Ministry Coor:	Lisa Spence	587-5080
Visitation Coordinator:	Pat Roll	462-9235
Volunteer in Nursery:	Jeff Linsner	462-6220
UMW:	Julie Palmer	462-9351

To schedule a wedding,
baptism, funeral etc:
Call the pastor at 462-7192



*What's New at our
All Saints Memorial Library...*

"The mission of the All Saints Memorial Library is to allow God to work through us to provide Christian Biblical and Spiritual education, guidance, growth, and refreshment to all who pass through our doors."

From your church librarian, Jan Wright.....Advent is a season of peace, joy, love and hope. In preparation for Christmas, and the ultimate gift of the Christ child, I invite you to look at the study resources that your church library has for you.

Simply Wait: Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent written by Pamela C. Hawkins. In this book the author focuses on a single word and a simple prayer each week of the Advent season.

The Uncluttered Heart: Making Room for God during Advent and Christmas written by Beth A. Richardson. Learn a quieter way to experience Advent. (*You can also signup at unclutteredheart.org to receive daily email messages from this author during Advent*).

Child of the Light: Walking Through Advent and Christmas written by Beth A. Richardson. As you read the book's brief readings, inspired by carols and hymns, your thoughts will be redirected to the purpose of the season.

While We Wait: Living the Questions of Advent written by Mary Lou Redding. This book will draw you into the Advent Journey through spiritual questions from biblical people.

Meeting the Messiah: Scriptures For the Advent Season written by Kara Lassen Oliver. Celebrate the coming birth of Christ by reflecting on scripture that tells the Advent story.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

One hundred and twenty six; just a number but one I was amazed and thrilled at when I wrote it. In this case, 126 represents the number of Christmas shoe boxes sent by the two congregations that worship at our church. One hundred twenty six gifts given with love in the name of Jesus Christ to kids worldwide and more importantly the opportunity to tell 126 kids and their families of the love and Good News of Christ.

For most of us, we will never meet the child that receives our gift box, but we are asked to pray for that child and their family. Even through you won't know who received your gift box, we will be able to track 124 out of the 126 boxes to the country of their destination. As reports come in, we will keep you informed. Several families purchased the EZ labels themselves; if your family did, please let me know where your Christmas shoe box was delivered so I can share it with the congregations.

Thank you to everyone who filled a box, donated money to cover the shipping costs, donated extra items (We were able to fill 10 boxes from these items.), the students of the 5th -6th grade class who filled the 10 boxes, Altier Shoes in Canandaigua for saving empty boxes, and Heidi Pearsall who gets pulled into taping labels and hauling boxes every year.

One hundred twenty six, just a number but one we are thankful for.

Webster Pearsall
wpearsall@rochester.rr.com



DECEMBER

- 1 Hannah Shedenhelm
Steve Charlette
- 2 Chuck Norton
Geoffrey Mattoon
Henry Ranger
- 3 Marlayna Wertz
Becky Sloane
- 4 Jim Conners
Deb Forshay
Karen Heffron
Marion Gordner
Donna Cullen
- 9 John Severson
- 10 Casey Spence
Shari Garver
- 11 Glenda Landis
- 13 Christopher Davies
- 14 Darren Bump
- 15 Ellen Pfeif
Bill Taylor
- 16 Tom McKay
Glenn Trautman
Ken Shultes
Louis Chabrier
Megan DeHond
- 17 Zachary Payne
Sarah Vanderhoof
- 18 John Maslyn
Ruth Gardner
- 19 Doris Kenny
Sarah Haley
- 20 Connie Jones
- 21 Kris VanDuyne
- 23 Donna Phillips
- 24 Clayton Snow
- 25 Jessica Coulombe
- 28 Cadence Spence
Zavier Cullen
- 29 Carol Pries
Sue Bright
- 30 Brandon DeHond

JANUARY

- 1 David Lapresi
- 2 Brian Heffron
- 3 Jim Avery
Cathie Chabrier
- 5 Gary Vogel
Jennifer Mattoon
- 7 John Walti
Ryan Kerr
Joan Handfield
- 8 Rhianna Yates
- 9 Devin Hicks
- 11 Nancy Ellis
- 13 Eileen Welker
- 14 Bev Cummings
Scott Mattoon
Steve Strub
- 15 Kaitlyn Williams
- 16 Chance Rivera
- 18 Pat Gordner
Lucas Garver
Irene Beshara
Dave Forshay
- 19 Amy Maslyn
Janelle Yates
- 22 Josh Smith
Diamond Jones
- 23 Lori Reals
Audra Linsner
- 25 Ben Kauder
Tracy Heffron
Christopher Eagley
Sonia Taylor
- 26 Barb Maslyn
- 27 Tammy Charlette
- 28 Andrew Mullard
- 29 Aliene Payne
Donna Strub
- 29 Devan Lapresi
Sarah Thornton
Tina Ebel
- 31 Emma Smith
Joseph Maslyn

DECEMBER

- 7 Bill & Allison Wellman
- 9 Heidi & Brian White
- 10 Linda & A H. Mascioli
- 11 Joe & Lynne Carver

JANUARY

- 9 Scot & Brenda Chrysler
- 20 Fred & Sandy Worboys
- 23 Doug & Lucy Wilcox

Bits 'n' Pieces

NEEDED: If anyone is making a trip to Cortland we need UMCOR kits delivered to The Cortland UMC at 734 Rt. 222, Cortland NY 13045 - just past the county airport. There is a three bay garage in the back parking lot area - middle door is always unlocked - you can drop off anytime - just lift door and you will see a pallet there.

NEEDED: Volunteers to make coffee and set up coffee hour January 1 - April 3. 8:30 am each Sunday and refilling cookies and coffee after first service. You can do a couple weeks, a month or the entire time. This does not include asking for cookies or clean up. If you are interested, please contact Cathie Chabrier or Pat Roll.

FOOD CUPBOARD SUNDAY: 1st Sunday of the Month Don't forget to bring in your donations for the food cupboard, one of our church's vital mission projects.

The Food Cupboard is always in need of canned vegetables like green beans, canned fruit like peaches and pears, soups, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, pasta and sauce.

And as Don Wheat would say, "Please don't forget to tape an extra quarter or two to your cans or boxes".