

# THE STEPPING-STONE



January, 2017 Issue

Church e-mail address: [tullyunited@twcnv.rr.com](mailto:tullyunited@twcnv.rr.com); Our website: [tullychurch.org](http://tullychurch.org) Facebook : Tully United Community Church

Happy New Year!

January is here and we begin 2017 with the celebration of that new year, as well as Epiphany – the coming of the three Kings (Wise Men, Magi) to visit the Christ child! Both of these celebrations mark turning points. Each New Year we think about ways to start off fresh, to make ourselves somehow “better” in the year to come – so we identify our New Year Resolutions – those things we want to change about ourselves as we move forward.

Epiphany also marks a turning point – or several actually. In our yearly calendar, Epiphany marks the twelfth day after Christmas.

For many it is the day that the Christmas Tree comes down, the ornaments and decorations get put away and we begin to move on with our thoughts, shifting from the Holidays toward whatever lies ahead.

In the Gospel story, it also marks a time of transition. As the story of the Magi begins, we are still deep in the celebration and recognition of the Birth of Jesus. We have seen the miracle birth, heard the story of Jesus coming in the lowest places, and yet being heralded by angels, the shepherds have come to see and the world is abuzz. These magi travel great distances to pay homage to the babe born King of the Jews! Yet by the time this narrative is done, we know that trials lie ahead as the magi are warned not to return to Herod and tell him of the baby’s location. Fear makes Herod take drastic action, and pain and suffering replace the joy of those first days. Much the same applies in our daily lives, as we transition from a time of celebration with family and friends, into the long, cold winter ahead. Days of good cheer are about to be replaced by days of uncertainty as our nation installs new leaders. For some this will bring hope, for others, it comes with great fear.

*“..as we move into the New Year, remember that the work of Christ, the work of bringing peace and goodwill to earth, is not a one time, one season fix that persists no matter what we do. Certainly the love of Christ does persist; God’s grace continues to be extended to each of us each and every day...”*

Sadly, we also seem to sometimes lose sight of why we just had all the celebration. As decorations get put away the gifts we received blend into our daily lives, and we begin to move on toward whatever lies ahead – it is easy to let Jesus, Emmanuel, be put away as well, to lose sight of why we just had all that celebration and to let the miracle birth – and all that is began – be pushed aside by more mundane concerns. We sometimes forget that Emmanuel means God with us – and that just because the season has moved on – God has not.

As Christians and disciples, it is our task to keep the meaning of Christmas at the forefront of our minds as we move into the New Year, to remember that the work of Christ, the work of bringing peace and goodwill to earth, is not a one time, one season fix that persists no matter what we do. Certainly the love of Christ does persist; God’s grace continues to be extended to each of us each and every day. Nothing can change that reality. But what we have to consider is how do we reflect that Grace to others. Do we continue to share “tidings of comfort and joy” throughout the year?

Looking around, it is easy to see that not everyone keeps Christmas in their heart the year round, but I hope that each of us can. That we can be models to those around us, mirrors reflecting the light of Christ that is shined upon us, to the world around us.

As we enter this season of transition, may we seek to transform our daily lives, and the lives of those we meet, by refusing to let go of the spirit of Christmas and continuing to live knowing that the greatest gift we received at Christmas, Emmanuel - God with us, continues to be received each and every day.

In Christ’s Peace

*Paster Doug*

# Church Highlights

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

December 2016 attendance:

December 4 – 102

December 11 -89

December 18– 125

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services

7:00 p.m.-50

11:00 p.m.-155

December 25-26

Treasurer's Report  
November 2016.

Income: \$10,212

Expense: \$ 8,631

+\$1,581 for November

Hugh Reed –Treasurer



## WELCOME VISITORS

A guest book, available by the sanctuary doors, helps us welcome visitors to our church.

We also remind you to wear your nametag. If you do not have a **NAMETAG**, please sign the sheet by the nametags and one will be available for you the following week.

## SUNDAY MORNING USHERS

Lee Winger serves as head usher. The sign-up sheet for ushers is at the Welcome Center. Ushers are needed for January – December in 2017. You may sign up to serve as an usher for one week or the entire month. See Lee on Sunday mornings if you have questions.

## SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

A chance to greet your church family ! Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. worship services. A sign-up sheet is posted at the Welcome Center. See Kay Butkus (677-3059), a member of the board of deacons, if you have questions.

## COMMUNION IN JANUARY

Communion this January will be coordinated by Jolene Cook. Communion will be served Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>



## 2017 CONFIRMATION CLASS

### NEWS...

The first Confirmation class meeting will be held January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017, at 6:00 p.m. here at the Church . The class is open to anyone that wishes to join. Questions see Pastor Doug.

## INFANT AND CHILDREN'S BAPTISM AND NEW MEMBER REMINDERS

Infant and Children's baptism can be held anytime. If you would like to have your child/children baptized, please speak with Pastor Doug following morning worship, or call the church office, 696-8066.

New members can be welcomed into church membership at any time. Please see John Burgett, chair of our Board of Mission and Outreach, or speak with Pastor Doug following Sunday morning worship, or call the church office 696-8066.



## 2017 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR

A copy of the 2017 altar flower calendar is posted on the bulletin board in the church narthex. All those signed up to provide flowers of our worship services will receive a copy of the calendar. If you have any questions, please see Nancy Corey (810-4074) or call the church office (696-8066). Reminders are printed in the Sunday bulletin and the monthly newsletter

### Dates needed to be filled

January 1  
January 22  
February 26  
March 5  
April 2  
October 29  
December 31



## EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE SALES



The Board of Mission and Outreach sells Equal Exchange coffee bought directly through small-scale farmer cooperatives around the world. If you wish to learn more, you may go to their website at

[www.equalexchange.coop](http://www.equalexchange.coop) or see any member of the Board of Mission and Outreach manning the coffee sale table during Sunday morning fellowship hour. The cost continues to be \$8.00 each for all varieties.



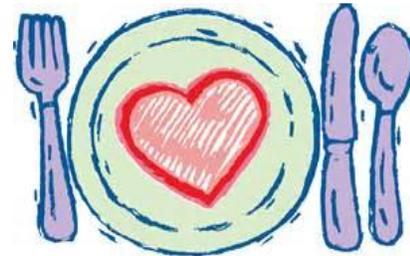
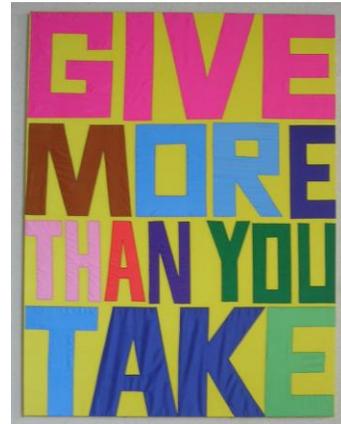
To be Christian  
without prayer is  
no more possible  
than to be alive  
without breathing.

-Dr. Martin Luther  
King Jr-

## **ANNUAL WINTER HUDDLE – SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2017**

The annual winter huddle will be held Saturday, January 14, 2017, from 8:30 a.m. – noon. All board members of the church will be sent a mailing in early January that will include a suggested agenda for their board. Please bring the agenda with you to the meeting. Refreshments will also be provided.

If you are unable to attend the huddle, please let the church office know 696-8066.



## **COMMUNITY DINNER SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2017 – 4:30- 6:00 P.M.**

In an effort to provide outreach to those in need in the Tully community, the Board of Deacons will sponsor a community wide dinner here at the church on Sunday, January 29, 2017, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. The meal is FREE (however a freewill donation will be received). The menu is: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, rolls, coleslaw, and dessert

To help with the meal, various foods are needed. If you can help, please sign-up on the sheet at the Welcome Center. Foods need to be

here at the church by 3:00 p.m. that afternoon. Questions...see Jolene Cook, chair of the Bd. of Deacons.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS

Sunday School classes will resume January 8, 2017/Family Day, the children will attend worship with their families and Sunday School classes will be held following worship from 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Those in Nursery – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade continue to attend an intergenerational class together. If you are willing to help with the class, please see Pam Downey co-ordinator of our Christian Education Program (696-2439). Thank You!



### JR./SR. HIGH CLASS REMINDER

The Jr./Sr. High class led by Karin Dykeman and Del Wayne meets every other week. Meetings in January will be posted on their facebook page: Tully United Community Church Youth. Be sure and check their page for updates and planned activities.



### 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Beth Lattimer, church financial secretary, will be mailing the 2016 financial statements for income tax purposes in mid to late January 2017. If you have questions regarding your statement, please contact Beth (696-5542).

## The Adult Fellowship

The annual Christmas party was held December 10, 2016, at Ken and Sharon Hoogs', home and was a fun time for all those who attended.

### Friday January 6<sup>th</sup>



On Friday evening, January 6, 2017 the group will be attending the Syracuse Stage 8 p.m. production of "Mary Poppins".

### Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup>

weather permitting, cross-country skiing is being planned and is tentatively scheduled for Sunday afternoon, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. (If there is not enough snow, it may be switched with bowling scheduled for February.)

More information will be available as the date gets closer. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend.

## LILLIAN BIGSBY CIRCLE NEWS

On Monday, December 4, 2016, the circle met to send Christmas cards and pack cookies for our local shut-ins for the holidays. The circle does not meet during January, February or March.



We collect One Million Pennies to help benefit the Ihsan School of Excellence, a small private school in Syracuse, NY. Rebecca Bickelhaupt, daughter of Don and Sue Bickelhaupt is a teacher at the school and this is a project sponsored by her class. She, and the children in her class are very grateful for our help.

A collection container is located at the Welcome Center. Feel free to add your two cent.

# Rotary



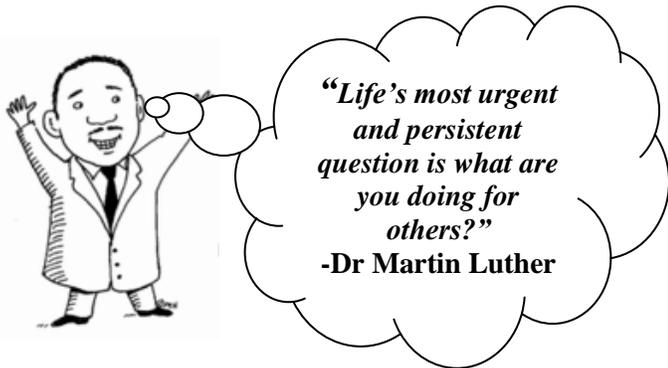
The Tully Rotary Group breakfast meetings continue to be held each week at the church at 7 a.m. on Thursday mornings. Special thanks to all those who volunteer their time with this fundraising effort for the church. If you have questions, see Nancy Chawgo 416-5350.

**The schedule for January 2017 is as follows:**

- January 5 – Sue Wright & Trudy Krewson
- January 12 – Dave and Nancy Hatch
- January 19 – Ed and Janet Hillenbrand
- January 26 – Trudy Krewson & Karen Prince

**FISHERMEN’S NET REMINDER:**

Mission and Outreach need donations for the Fishermen’s Net Program . Checks should be made out to the church with your offering number and Fishermen’s net on Memo Line. Fishermen’s Net program provides assistance to those in need in the Community. Thank you for your help with this very important program.



*“Life’s most urgent and persistent question is what are you doing for others?”*  
-Dr Martin Luther



## **SNOW SHOVELERS’ SCHEDULE**

The trustees have the following volunteer snow shovelers’ in place for the 2017 winter season.

The schedule is as follows:

- MONDAYS – Ed Hillenbrand
- TUESDAYS – Robert Kemp
- WEDNESDAYS – Rob Polak
- THURSDAYS – Bob Thompson
- FRIDAYS – Jim Butkus
- SATURDAYS – Cleave Snow
- SUNDAYS – Mel Moore

(Alternates are: Len Foster  
Jan Kublick  
Brad Smith)



**UNITED METHODIST DISTRICT  
REMINDER....Saturday, January 28, 2017 is  
District Training Day more information to  
follow...**

## **2017 LENTEN DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET**



Currently we have room for more entries for the 2017 Lenten Daily Devotional booklet. If you have an article you would like included, please see Sherla Millis before the February 19, 2017, deadline. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017, and the readings continue through Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. The booklets will be available Sunday February 26, 2017.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## 32<sup>ND</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Carrier Dome, Syracuse University

Sunday January 29, 2017 Syracuse University will be Hosting the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at the Carrier Dome.



This year's theme is "Remember. Celebrate. Act." The featured Speaker will be U.S. Army Veteran, New York Times best Selling author, actor and motivational speaker, J.R. Martinez. The event includes a paid

dinner at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for individual tickets and \$300 for a table and are available for the general public. The free program starts at 5:30 p.m. and will honor Central New York's Unsung Heroes.

Pastor Doug will be attending this event, if you are interested please the Office at 696-8066. If there is interest, it is possible for TUCC to have a table at the event

## FREEZE OUT 5K –

The annual Run/Walk to benefit the Rescue Mission in Syracuse will be held on Friday evening, January 27th at Onondaga Community College, starting at 7PM. Pastor Doug has participated in the past (walking) and is considering creating a team from TUCC to take part again this year. If you are interested in joining him please add your name to the list at the Welcome Center so we can begin to plan.

Additionally, if you plan to participate you can register with the event and accept electronic donations through our team webpage (see below)



If you will not be participating, but would like to support the effort, you can make donations at <http://rescuemission.donorpages.com/SyracuseFreezeOut5K2016/TullyUnitedCommunityChurch/>

## FOOD FOR THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY



Food for the community food pantry is collected on communion Sunday (January 1, 2017) or can be dropped off at the church anytime. The food pantry is located at St. Leo's church hall and is open every other Wednesday each month from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. For more information call St. Leo's church hall 696-8721.

## TULLY SENIOR CITIZEN GROUP

The Tully Senior Citizens' Group will meet at the church on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at NOON for their monthly pot luck meal and program. Meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month at NOON during February (8<sup>th</sup>) and March (8<sup>th</sup>). The group will resume meeting for an evening meal on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. All those 55 and over are welcome and invited to attend.

Those attending the January 11<sup>th</sup> gathering are reminded to bring their own table service and a large dish to pass for the NOON meal. The hostesses for the day provide beverages. If you have questions, please see the new president as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, Esther Hoose. Yearly membership dues continue to be \$5.00 per person. If you have not paid your 2017 dues yet, please make your check payable to: Tully Senior Citizens and send it to: P.O. Box 965, Tully, NY 13159-0965 as soon as possible – Sue Swazye is the treasurer.

## TULLY SENIOR CITIZENS' GROUP 2017 TRIPS

Throughout the year the members of the Tully Senior Citizens Group and the LaFayette Senior Citizens Group will share trips again this coming year. When the schedule for 2017 is available it will be included in the newsletter

The co-ordinator for the Tully trips is Lynn Anderson (315) 396-6217.

The co-ordinator for the LaFayette trips is Lynn Henderson 677-5112.

## FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

P.E.A.C.E., Inc. sponsors FREE blood pressure screening on the third Tuesday of each month at the church from 10:30 a.m. – noon (January 17, 2017) in the Murdock Lounge. Sharon Mariani



and Karen Puccia provide this service. Be sure to stop by and get your blood pressure checked.

## P.E.A.C.E. HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

P.E.A.C.E. Inc. sponsors the senior citizens' hot lunch program at the church every Tuesday at NOON. A donation of \$3.00 per meal is suggested and \$5.00 guest meal.

Following is the menu for January:

January 3 – breaded haddock/wheat bun, confetti coleslaw, potatoes O'Brian, fresh orange

January 10 – fruit glazed ham, sweet potatoes w/cinnamon pecan crunch, steamed spinach, fresh sliced honeydew melon

January 17 – Philly style cheese steak/peppers & onions, potato wedges, brussel sprouts, fresh baked peanut butter cookie

January 24 – boneless chicken cacciatore/over whole grain pasta, fresh spinach salad, lemon bar pudding cup, Italian bread

January 31- slow cooked pork and gravy, home style mashed potatoes, four way mixed vegetables, applesauce

Velda Bumpus serves as the co-ordinator.

Those planning to attend please let her know a week in advance (683-5933) If you have questions about the hot lunch program please call Velda.



## SHUT-INS FOR JANUARY

Each week we reach out to one of our church members who is unable to leave home, or unable to attend worship. We invite you to send a note or card and to sign the card located at the welcome center on Sunday mornings. The shut-ins for January are:

January 1<sup>st</sup> – Bob Hilfinger  
PO Box 100  
Tully, NY 13159-0100

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Elsie Fuller  
31 Village View Dr.  
Tully, NY 13159

January 15TH - Barbara Wheeler  
 P.O. Box 58  
 Apulia Station, NY 13020-0058

January 22<sup>th</sup> – Mrs. Marian Clymer  
 Cortland Park Nursing Home  
 Rm. 309  
 193 Clinton St.  
 Cortland, NY 13045

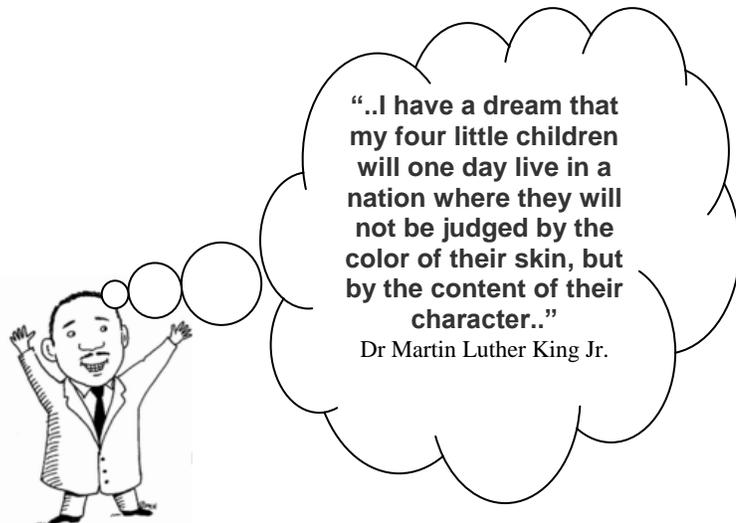
January 29<sup>th</sup> Ruth Cummings  
 The Nottingham Rm 118  
 1301 Nottingham Rd  
 Jamesville, NY 13078

\*To add someone to the list, please contact the church Office with their name and address, 696-8066.

**TULLY COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS  
 Presents  
 SONGS FOR A WINTER'S NIGHT**

This will be the 8<sup>TH</sup> year of the “Songs for Winter” gatherings hosted by Tully Council For The Arts. The gatherings are held at the Tully Train Station beginning Sunday, January 8, 2017 and continuing every Sunday in January! With Delicious food provided and excellent entertainment, you can't go wrong with this event!

Donation only. For more information, call Mary Ann Ralbovsky 696-0018.



“..I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character..”  
 Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

**Coming in February**

**LEADERSHIP NIGHT MEETINGS**

The February meetings will be held Monday, February 5, 2017. Boards of the church meet at 6:30 p.m. followed by the church council meeting at 8 p.m.

**TULLY SENIOR CITIZENS’  
 FEBRUARY LUNCH**

The Tully Senior Citizens’ Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month. In February the group will gather at NOON February 8, 2017, for lunch. Those attending are reminded to bring their own table service and a large dish to share for the NOON meal. The group will continue to meet at NOON in March on Wednesday, March 8, 2017.

Evening meetings will resume April 12, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. Questions contact Esther Hoose 636-7127. .



**The next community blood drive will be held here at TUCC on Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. – NOON. To set up an appointment please call Sally Greene 696-5562 as soon as possible. Workers are also needed. If you can help, please let Sally know. Thank you.**

**TULLY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL ICE HARVEST AND CHILI**  
**Cook Off**



This year the chili cook off and ice harvesting on Green Lake will both be held on Saturday, February 18, 2017. Watch the February newsletter for more details...

**ADULT FELLOWSHIP FEBRUARY**  
**ACTIVITY –**

Sunday, February 19, 2017

Bowling in Cortland on Sunday afternoon, February 19, 2017, followed by pizza at the Maslers'. A sign-up sheet will be located at the Welcome Center for those planning to attend. Watch the February newsletter for more details.

**WINTER RECESS**



Winter recess is scheduled for the week of February 20 – 24, 2017. NO Sunday School classes will be held Sunday, February 19, 2017. Classes will resume Sunday, February 26st and are held during morning worship. Children are dismissed for Sunday School following the Children's Moment.



As a fundraiser the group will be selling sub sandwiches on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, 2017. Orders will be taken in advance...see the February, 2017 newsletter and Sunday bulletin announcement sheet for more details.

**FLOOD BUCKETS INFORMATION:**

Due to recent flooding, a request has been made for replenishment of flood buckets which have been depleted. Mission and Outreach will once again collect supplies for those who need to clean out their homes and businesses. There will be a sign up sheet for supplies in the church narthax under one of the bulletin boards and we would like to have supplies collected for at least 5 buckets. A box is available in the narthex to leave the supplies. (Buckets have already been donated for this project).



Following is a list of cleaning supplies needed for each bucket: 1 dish soap (16 – 28 oz. bottle any brand), 1 scrub brush (plastic or wooden handle), 5 scouring pads (no stainless steel, Brillo pads, or SOS pads - nothing with soap built in), 24-roll heavy-duty trash bags (33- to 45-gallon sizes), 1 pair work gloves (cotton with leather palm or all leather), liquid laundry detergent (one 50-oz. or two 26-oz. bottle(s) only, can air freshener (aerosol or pump), , 50 clothespins, 5 dust masks, 1 liquid household cleaner (12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water; no spray cleaners), 1 insect repellent (6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover), 1 clothesline (100-ft. or two 50-ft. lines; cotton or plastic), 2 pair kitchen dishwashing gloves (should be durable enough for multiple uses).

Also needed for each bucket are 7 non-cellulose sponges and 18 cleaning wipes which will be purchased on-line. Money donations will be accepted to purchase these items, as well as other items listed above, to complete the buckets. These donations can be given to John Burgett or Sue Wright.

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**THE TULLY UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**5872 MEETINGHOUSE ROAD**

**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**PERMIT #6**  
**TULLY, NY 13159-9528**

**JANUARY, 2017**

**(315) 696-8066**

**Rev. Doug Mackey, Pastor**  
**Beth Greenwood, Moderator**  
**Jillian Chartrand church secretary**

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**ABOUT OUR CHURCH**

The Tully United Community Church has both United Methodist and American Baptist affiliation. **OUR MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE** is held each week at 9:30 a.m. Following worship at 10:30 a.m. a refreshment fellowship time is held.

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be celebrated on Epiphany Sunday, January 1, 2017.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** - Sunday School classes will resume January 8, 2017. As this is Family Day, children will attend worship with their families and Sunday School will be held following worship from 10:30-11:00 a.m.

**ANNUAL WINTER HUDDLE** - Saturday, January 14, 2017, from 8:30 a.m. – noon. All church officers and board members should plan to attend this important meeting.

**COMMUNITY ROAST BEEF DINNER FOR THOSE IN NEED IN THE TULLY COMMUNITY**– Sunday, January 29, 2017 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. here at TUCC.

**FREEZE OUT 5K** – Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Onondaga Community College to benefit the Rescue Mission. See page 6 for more details.

**MONDAY - FRIDAY**– AA meetings at NOON

**TUESDAY EVENING** - AA meeting – 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY EVENING** AA meeting – 8:00 p.m.

**TULLY SENIOR CITIZENS** will meet on their regular second Wednesday of the month for a pot-luck meal/program on January 11, 2017 beginning at NOON.

**P.E.A.C.E. HOT LUNCH MEAL FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** Tuesdays at NOON – cost: \$3.00 per person.

**FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING**...Tuesday, January 17, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. –Noon

**ADULT FELLOWSHIP JANUARY ACTIVITY** – Syracuse Stage “Mary Poppins” production January 6, 2017 , and Tentative plans are cross country skiing Sunday afternoon January 22, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Center.

**TULLY COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS “SONGS FOR A WINTER’S NIGHT”**

**REMINDER** – Sunday evenings beginning January 8th at the Tully Train Station. See page 8 for more information.

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – FEBRUARY ISSUE: January 20, 2017**

