THE STEPPING-STONE December 7, 2022 Issue 

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**FROM THE PASTOR**

This December, TUCC provides our congregation and the Tully community many opportunities to study, enjoy, and reflect upon the season that celebrates the coming of God in the person of Jesus Christ! There is something happening every Sunday in December, beginning with last week’s A Night In Bethlehem event! Booths set up to call to mind the Little Town of Bethlehem welcomed visitors to make a card, paint a wooden ornament, frost a cookie, hear a story and sample some of the foods of Bethlehem. Then our first (but hopefully not our last) Live Nativity was held outside complete with Donkey, Cow, and Sheep (ok, it was a poodle but it was all we could get!) and everyone had a grand time! Our Fellowship Hall will continue to have the booths up through the Advent/Christmas Season – come sit and fellowship in the Little Town of Bethlehem and reflect on our Savior’s birth.

Here is a listing of the events of the next few weeks:

**Finger Lakes Saxophone Quartet Concert** **– December 11 at 4:00 pm** in our Sanctuary. Our **Rick Huyge** brings his sax playing buddies to present a program of Holiday Cheer, interspersed with some **Audience Christmas Carol Singing**! Refreshments follow in the Riehlman Fellowship Hall.

The ***Light Of The World* Book Study** discussion group will get together on **Friday, Dec. 16**. We will begin at **6pm** with a covered dish supper and begin talking about the book over dinner. It isn’t too late to get in on this Advent/Christmas Bible study…There are books at the Member Center in the Murdock Lounge. Please sign your name if you take a book. We will be discussing the entire book all at once.

The **Community Messiah Sing, Part the First**, is happening once again! This year the Messiah Sing comes to our sanctuary on **December 18 at 6pm** featuring local soloists and an orchestra led by Conductor Victor Vallo. Bring your own copy of the Messiah or borrow one of ours and sing along! Refreshments follow in the Riehlman Fellowship Hall. Canned goods will be collected for the local food pantry.

**Christmas Eve Services** . The **7pm service** will be a more **contemporary service** and less formal, and it will include communion and Candlelight singing of Silent Night.

The **11pm service** will be the more **formal service** with **Chancel Choir** and **Bell Choir** and will include communion and Candlelight singing of Silent Night.

**Christmas Day Service** will be at the regular time of **9:30** **am** and will be composed of Christmas Carol singing with a brief meditation.

In whatever ways you choose to celebrate the season, please remember to keep Christ in Christmas and throughout the coming New Year. How do we do that?

***Feed the Hungry. Comfort the Afflicted. Love the Outcast. Forgive the Wrongdoer. Inspire the Hopeless.***

Have a Blesséd Advent and a Very Merry Christmas!

Pastor Rick +

**Gingerbread House Exhibit**

Laura Rankin has entered the Gingerbread House exhibit at the Erie Canal Museum this Christmas. She recreated the Bennett family store in Eagle Harbor on the canal where my ancestors settled in the 1830's.  Thanks Laura! Janet Hillenbrand

**TULLY UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH TUESDAY SENIOR LUNCHEON MENU**

**December 2022**

60+ - $3.50 Under 60 - $4.00

**December 13 December 20 Christmas Dinner**

Beef Stew Cranberry Balsamic Roast Chicken

Biscuits Mashed Potatoes

Spice Cookies Roasted Vegetables

 Dessert

**December 27**

Tomato Basil Soup with Tortellini

Grilled cheese Sticks

Dessert

Menu subject to change

**CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE – 12:15-12:30, Or call the church to arrange delivery 315-696-8066**

**\*\*\*\*\*Beginning January 3, 2023 – Delivery price – add $.50\*\*\*\*\***

**Christmas at the Station**

**From Sally Greene**: Christmas at the Station was a big success it made $760.00. THANK YOU to all of the individuals that volunteered. We could not have done it without you.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries (Dec 7th – Jan 10th )**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Dec. 9th – David Spaulding, Dec. 12th – Betty Fairchild, Dec. 14th – Bonnie Bickelhaupt, Dec. 17th – Jaci Colombo, Dec 22nd – Sherla Millis, Dec. 24th – Judy Conklin, Keith Wimmersberger, Dec. 27th – Lindsay Moore

Jan 2nd Cindy Bartholomew, Jan 6th – Nancy Corey, Jan 7th – Scott Frost, Jan 10th – Cassie Berg

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Dec. 18th – Keith & Janice Wimmersberger

Jan. 2nd – Mark & Bernice Potter-Masler

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE Total**

Sunday, Nov 13th 45

Sunday, Nov .20th 58

Sunday, Nov 27th 59

Sunday, Dec 4th 62

**CONTRIBUTIONS** (Sunday Offering and Loose Offering) for Sunday

 **Total**

**Sunday, Nov 13th $1,470.00**

**Sunday, Nov .20th $5,835.00**

**Sunday, Nov 27th $2,185.25**

**Sunday, Dec 4th $3,712.00**

**Prayer and Praise**

**Prayer Requests:**

The family of Ann Marie McCuish-Ryan pasted away on Dec 1st. Renate Gaddis is in Cortland Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Rusty Spaulding is on oxygen a spot was found on his lungs and he will be having tests.

**Continue prayers for:**

Ben a nephew of Marie Kemp, Kim Cameron, Heather Nodine, Sam & Jaci Colombo’s son- Peter, Joshy U., Jim Kerr-Whitt’s granddaughter- Mary, Betty Ketcham, Juol Barker, Linda Barker, Linda Reed, Pat & Everett Nelson, Carol Fisher- daughter-in-law of Vaudine Fisher. Sheryl Sonacchio, Jake Greiner, Linda Cottrell, Gerri Jacobus, Jolie Spaulding, Joan Banner’s daughter- Terri Jo, Andrea Hall, Rowena & Dick McAdoo-parents of Cheryl Haskin. Tom Homestead, Sr., Amy & Jesse Kerr-Whitt’s sister, Paul Kinny, Tally Poulin, Kathleen McFarlane, Brenda Burns, Pam Falge, Beth Lattimer, Mary Thompson, Ed Hillenbrand, Jeremy Simon, Leslie (Cornue) Sanderson, Nancy Lajoie.

**Joys Shared:**

Linda Cottrell was able to enjoy Thanksgiving with her family and is now at home!!

**Upcoming TLC Recipients are:**

Andrea Hall was Frateschi, Renate Gaddis, Joyce West, Patricia Bloodgood, Pat Ehlers

**LOOKING AHEAD🡪**

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

Please make sure the church office knows of your upcoming meeting so that it can be on the official office calendar and so we can put it on the monthly calendars in the newsletter. We are trying to develop a monthly calendar to include in the Stepping Stone outlining the services and programs of the congregation along with some of the regular meetings of outside organizations in our building.

**Church Activities**

**Reminder: The 24/7 Pantry Box** can alwaysin the TUCC parking can always use food items.

**Bell Sales – On going.** There are still a few anniversary bells that have the carillon printed on them for $10.00. Holiday bells are on sale for $15.00. If you are interested in purchasing a bell, please contact Pamela Poulin (607- 749-3474).

**December**- Prayer Shawl Meetings – **There will be no prayer shawl meetings until further notice.** Requests are still being taken. Shawl makers will be knitting and crocheting at home. Finished shawls can be left at the church office. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Burgett at 315-696-5197

**First Sunday of each month**: Janu - Bring in non-perishable food items and paper products for the **food pantry at St. Leo’s Hall** and the **emergency food pantry at TUCC**.

 Also, we will have a **special offering** on the first Sunday of each month **for the Fisherman’s Net Fund**. Proceeds will go to help lower income families in our community who are struggling.

**Tuesdays at 12:00– Senior Luncheon Dinning** (Curbside Pickup is also available from 12:00 -12:40) or call the church 315-696-8066 to arrange delivery) Beginning January 3, 2023 – Delivery price – add $.50

**Wednesdays at 6:30 pm** - Bell Choir

**Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m**. - Choir

**Sun, Dec 11 at 4 :00 pm** Finger Lakes Saxophone Quartet Concert in the TUCC Sanctuary

**Fri, Dec 16 6:00 pm** *Light of the World* Book Study

**Sun. Dec 18 at 6:00 pm -**Community Messiah Sing

**Sat. Dec 24th – 7:00 pm** Contemporary Service

 **11:00 pm** Traditional Candlelight Service

**Sun. Dec 25th** – **9:30** **am** Service Christmas Day Service

**Ways to Support Your Church and Community**

Ministries come in many forms. Some take time, some take money, and some take both! Here are some suggestions for giving to others:

1. Offerings to TUCC – mail or drop off at church; use the PayPal link on the church website or pay through the electronic bill payment process of your bank.
2. St. Leo’s Food Pantry and Outreach, POB 574, Tully, 13159. Attn: Cheryl Paccia. Pantry needs monetary donations for fresh produce, meat, and dairy
3. Donate sauce, tuna, canned veggies, PB, jelly, toiletries, paper products, etc., for the Food Pantry. A donation box is at the church or they can be left just inside St. Leo’s hall between 9am – 2pm or just outside the door.
4. Shop *smile.amazon.com* and select TUCC as your non-profit. A percentage is returned to the church!
5. Contact the Pastor, any Board chair or the Moderator to offer your ideas, time or talent. A vibrant church is built around the passions and talents of the congregation.

**Meditation and Sunday Service in our Sanctuary**

Our sanctuary is open daytimes for prayer or meditation. Hand sanitizer is provided by the door. Masks are available for you to wear and take for added protection during COVID19.

**Join Zoom Meeting**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556610214?pwd=WE9kMnhaK2lSS3dFSk51WTI4MVVQZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556610214?pwd=WE9kMnhaK2lSS3dFSk51WTI4MVVQZz09) **Meeting ID: 875 5661 0214**

**YouTube service: Please watch your emails, our website and TUCC Facebook for the update.**

**TUCC INDOOR WORSHIP GUIDELINES are on our bulletin board and website tullychurch.org.**

\***Remember: Wash your hands. If you are not fully vaccinated, wear your mask in public.**

**Stay home if you are ill.**