



The Beacon

December

WEST CHARLTON UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 882-9874 www.westcharltonupc.org

2014



CELEBRATING A MONTH OF CHRISTMAS!

December 5th

FILM & FAITH MINISTRY—*Joyeux Noel*

Friday, 6pm @ home of Chris Nelson, 1310 Sacandaga Rd., West Charlton

It is Christmas Eve, 1914. The Germans face the British and the French in trench warfare. Then there is a spontaneous cease-fire, as the troops on both sides lay down their weapons and observe the birth of the savior in whose name they were killing each other. That Christmas Eve truce actually happened, in what became a lesson in humanity.

December 6th

CHRISTMAS COOKIE & CANDY SALE—10am-2pm, Charlton Freehold PC

December 7th

2nd Sunday of Advent Worship Service @ WCUPC

Bible Story—*Luke 2:8-20*

Reflection—*From Fear to Praise*

DECK THE HALLS—following morning worship help us decorate our beautiful church for the holidays. Contact Linda McConchie for more information: 595-5073 or lynmcon@aol.com

CHRISTMAS CONCERT—Mohawk Valley Chorus

Featuring The River Valley Ringers of UPC

3pm Amsterdam United PC (Some of our church members are members of this choir see Sharon Bellamy or Brad Gregg for tickets)

December 14th

3rd Sunday of Advent Blue Christmas Worship Service @ WCUPC

Bible Story—*Isaiah 40:1-31*

Reflection—*God Cares—Jesus Identifies*

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING & CHAROL SING—6pm, Charlton Freehold PC

December 16th

CHRISTMAS DINNER & FESTIVAL

December 16th 5:30pm at Augie's Family Style Italian Restaurant (17 Low Street, Ballston Spa)

Followed by: Festival of Lessons and Carols at Christ Episcopal Church 7:30pm

Those who wish to join us for dinner please tell Pastor Tom of your intent by Sunday, December 15th so we can give the restaurant an accurate count of the number of people attending. If you don't want to go to dinner, you're welcome to meet us at the Episcopal Church at approx. 7:00pm

December 21st

4th Sunday of Advent Worship Service @ WCUPC

Bible Story—*Luke 1:26-38*

Reflection—*Secret of Living Is Giving*

MINUTE FOR MISSION—*Christmas Joy Offering*

December 24th

2014 CHRISTMAS BASKETS PROJECT—loading & delivering 9am

Christmas Eve Candle Light Service @ WCUPC

Bible Readings—*Isaiah 9, Luke 1&2, John 3*

Reflection—*It's Time!*

December 31st

Chrismon Service @ WCUPC

Please join us in celebrating Jesus the Reason for the Season—Peace in Christ, Pastor Tom

From: Talking to Your Child About God. A Book for Families of All Faiths. David Heller. 1988
Submitted by Joan Wade

As we all know Christmas is so appealing to children. Understandably, many are anticipating the presents, and Christmas vacation. Try to set aside an evening or two during December to discuss the spirit of Christmas. Take some time and shut off the televisions, Ipods, phones, Xboxes, Playstations, and any other sometimes annoying electronics. Ask family members to talk about what Christmas means. For one family member, Christmas might mean a time for bright lights and singing. For someone else, it might be the baking of the cookies, decorations to put up, and the gifts to buy. Important to some are the family gatherings, and to others it might suggest a time of peace. Christmas can mean something unique to each member of your family. Of course, for everyone, it ultimately should mean the day of Christ's birth. Discuss with your child why this is significant to you and why it should be significant for them.

This will probably proceed best if family members are spontaneous, honest, and open. If it's feasible, include grandparents as well. The important thing is that adults and children share in the social and introspective experience. The atmosphere to inspire is one of warmth, togetherness, and open mindedness. Perhaps during meal time, when everyone is together is a good time for this discussion. This will help make Christmas an even more spiritual experience for your child than it might otherwise.

OCTOBER TREASURY REPORT

INCOME & EXPENSES

Balance	10/1/14	-3349
	Receipts	15,916
	Expenses	12,516
Balance	10/31/14	51

SEPARATE PROJECT ACCOUNTS

Balance 21,860

LONG-TERM SAVING ACCOUNTS

Balance 24,277

PAST YEARS DEFICITS TOTAL

2010-10/31/14 -5504
(2500 received in November) -3004

**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

- Church furnaces were recently cleaned.
- Currently, our biggest facility need is a furnace in the Sanctuary. The cost is estimated to be between \$4000-\$4500.
- On December 7th the Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas. Folks should bring appetizers and snacks to share with everyone while decorating.
- Two special offering dates were approved by Session: Blanket Sunday will be March 8th; Thank Offering Sunday will be November 22nd.
- Arrangements were made to have the organ looked at to see if it can be repaired.
- Session made a motion and approved moving Sunday worship to the Chapel beginning January 11th through March 22nd. This is being done to save on the cost of fuel oil.
- Fundraiser dates for 2015 are:
 - March 14th – Corned Beef Dinner & Bake Sale
 - May 29th & May 30th – Rummage Sale
 - May 31st – Bag sale after Rummage Sale
 - June 5th – Chicken BBQ
 - July 10th – Fish Fry
 - September 26th – Turkey Supper
 - October 17th – Harvest Auction



2015 Calendar of Fundraisers.

All dinners \$12.00

No beverage provided on Chicken BBQ or Fish Fry

CORNED BEEF DINNER & BAKE SALE - Saturday - March 14th 3:30 – 6:30

**RUMMAGE SALE - Friday & Saturday - May 29th & May 30th
Friday 9AM – 6PM/Saturday 9AM – 4PM.
Bag sale Sunday May 31st after worship**

CHICKEN BBQ – Friday, June 5th 3:30 – 6:30 Drive through only

FISH FRY – Friday, July 10th 3:30 – 6:30 Drive through only

TURKEY SUPPER - Saturday - Sept. 26th 3:00 – 7:00

**HARVEST AUCTION - Saturday - Oct 17th
Recipe Book Sales**



December

Lay Worship Leaders

- 7 Ray Greenhill
- 14 Helen King
- 21 Kevin Straut
- 24 Linda McConchie
Christmas Eve
- 28 Praise Sunday

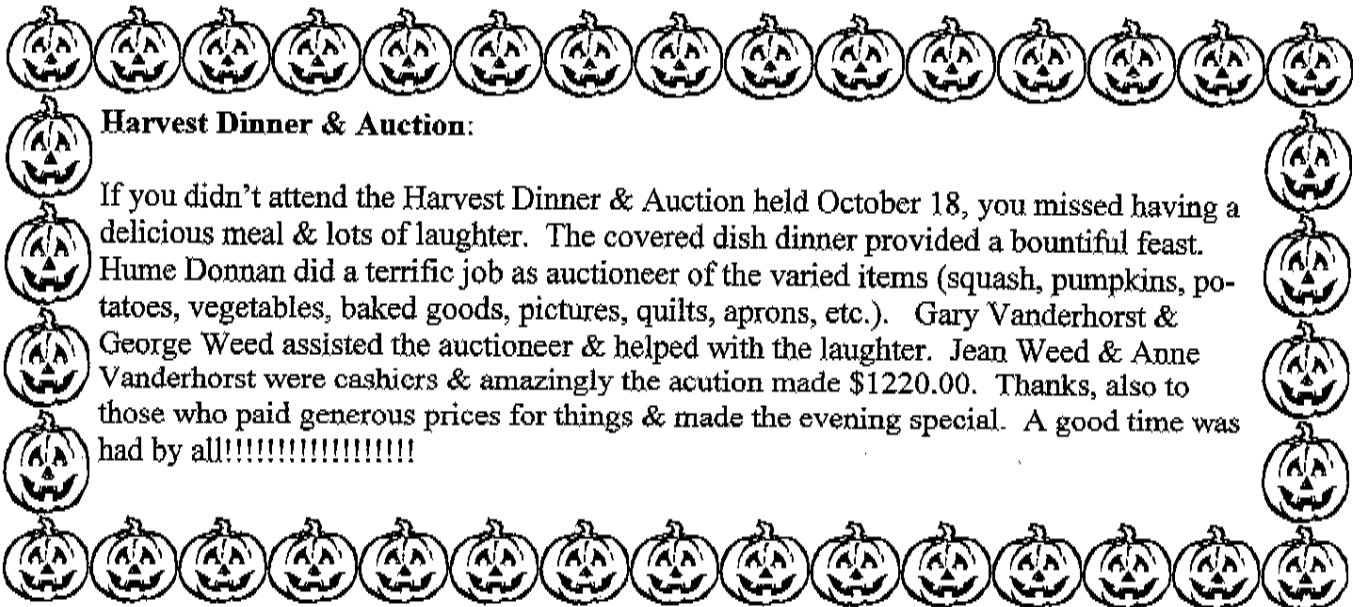


Greeters: Mary DeBie & Bonnie Donnan

Ushers: Noreen & Roy White
Linda McConchie & Holly McConchie

Flowers for the Chancel

Poinsettias are provided by Gary & Ann Vanderhorst



Harvest Dinner & Auction:

If you didn't attend the Harvest Dinner & Auction held October 18, you missed having a delicious meal & lots of laughter. The covered dish dinner provided a bountiful feast. Hume Donnan did a terrific job as auctioneer of the varied items (squash, pumpkins, potatoes, vegetables, baked goods, pictures, quilts, aprons, etc.). Gary Vanderhorst & George Weed assisted the auctioneer & helped with the laughter. Jean Weed & Anne Vanderhorst were cashiers & amazingly the acution made \$1220.00. Thanks, also to those who paid generous prices for things & made the evening special. A good time was had by all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

~ December 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 2nd Sunday of Advent 9AM Choir Practice 10:30 Worship & Children's SS Fellowship Time & 'Deck the Halls' following morning worship Mohawk Valley Chorus Concert 3PM Amsterdam UPC Flowers: Poinsettias	8	9 Session Meets 7PM Louise Smith Circle 9:30 AM	10	11	12	13
14 3rd Sunday of Advent BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE 9AM Choir Practice 10:30 Worship & Children's SS Fellowship Time after Worship Community Tree Lighting & Carol Sing - 6PM - Charlton Freehold Church Flowers: Poinsettias	15	16 CHRISTMAS DINNER AND FESTIVAL 5:30 pm Augie's Family Style Italian Restaurant 7:30 Festival of Lessons & Carols at Christ Episcopal Church in Ballston Spa	17 Helen Killough Circle 7PM	18	19	20
21 4th Sunday of Advent CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9AM Choir Practice 10:30 Worship & Children's SS Fellowship Time after Worship Flowers: Poinsettias	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 7PM	25	26	27
28 1st Sunday after Christmas CRISMON SERVICE Worship Leader: Ray Greenhill 10:30 Worship - No SS Fellowship Time after Worship Flowers: Holly McConchie	29	30	31	<p align="center"><i>Christmas Day</i></p> <p>Notes: 127 Guest Preacher: Rev. Donald Washburn Tom vacation: 12/26 through 1/2</p>		

GGCSA Community Basket Project

Post Office Box 166
2167 Galway Road
Galway, NY 12074
Phone (518) 882-1316

November 10, 2014

West Charlton United Presbyterian Church
1331 Sacandaga Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Dear West Charlton United Presbyterian members,

As the colder winds blow and we prepare to give thanks for the blessings in our lives this Thanksgiving our minds turn to the approaching holiday season. The Greater Galway Community Basket Project Planning Committee has already met and developed the December 2014 calendar for the project. It is our sincere hope that your organization or business will be able to help the project meet some of the needs of those families or individuals in our community who are encountering economic difficulties.

On the 24th of December 2013 the Project delivered 116 baskets. Each basket included a generous supply of food and gifts, including hats and mittens, for the 165 children in the recipient families. This Project, a part of the services provided by the Galway Pantry, serves families in the towns of Charlton, Galway and Providence. Many of those being served are young families, single parents or an increasing number of elderly unable to "get by" on limited incomes that are further stressed by the additional costs winter brings.

We truly thank you for your support in the past – either in the form of a monetary contribution, donation of food or help as a volunteer – and hope you will again remember the project in 2014.

A schedule is enclosed giving the dates and times for the assembly and delivery of the baskets as well as a drivers' sheet if your organization is interested in delivering the baskets. Please feel free to contact anyone on the committee for additional information.

Monetary donations will be gladly accepted as well as those of canned goods, non-perishable items, toiletries and paper products. Please make checks payable to **GGCSA COMMUNITY BASKET PROJECT** and mail to **PO BOX 166, GALWAY, NEW YORK 12074**. All contributing organizations are listed on a card, which is included in each basket.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,
The Christmas Basket Committee

Mary Baxter
Joanne Donnan
Norm Griffin
Linda Klementowski
Erin Loiacano
Monica Maxwell
Holly McConchie

Don Pandori
Kathy Rivers
Erik & Julie Roy
Silas Schrader
Phyllis Sleeper
Connie Wood

**CHRISTMAS BASKET SCHEDULE 2014
DATES TO REMEMBER**

The following itinerary gives the names of the organizers for each phase of the project. Please contact them if you would enjoy helping. Last year, 116 families with a total of 165 children received baskets.

DATES & TIMES	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	CONTACT NAMES & PHONE NUMBERS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 th 11:45 AM	Set up tables, remove chairs, etc. in preparation for box assembly	Holly McConchie 882-6516
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 th 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	The Dining Room at Scotch Church will be open from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM for the delivery of gifts. Please do not wrap gifts, but include a box where possible.	Connie Wood 882-6684 Margaret Griffin 882-5426
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 th 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Box assembly at Scotch Church Dining Room beginning at 2:00 until finished.	Julie & Erik Roy 882-9101
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 th 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM AND SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 th 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Gift wrapping will take place in the Dining Room. Provided: wrapping paper, tape, labels, child-size scissors. Helpful to bring: Your own scissors, gift boxes, shoe boxes, small shipping boxes, etc. Come for any length of time, even if you are all thumbs you can help!	Holly McConchie 882-6516 Mary Baxter 882-6749 Connie Wood 882-6684
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 th 11:45 AM	Set up tables & put out boxes on tables.	Holly McConchie 882-6516
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 th 1:00 PM	Help with "Box Organizing"	Erin Loiacono 866-9250 Silas Schrader 857-6153
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 th 2:30 PM Snow Day: Wednesday, December 17 th	The Student Senate, National Honor Society, and Wrestling Team will bring up canned goods from the Elementary, and Junior/Senior High School. We expect about 2200+ cans!	Micaela Ethier 882-1221 Joanne Donnan 944-1484
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 th 2:45 PM Snow Day: Wednesday, December 17 th	Sorting & counting of cans in preparation for Saturday's non-perishable packing	Joanne Donnan 944-1484 Erin Loiacono 866-9250
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20 th 8:30 AM Snow Day: Sunday, December 21 st 1:00 PM	Packing of non-perishable food into boxes at Scotch Church Dining Room	Erin Loiacono 866-9250 Silas Schrader 857-6153
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 th 8:00 AM	Packing of perishable food into boxes	Erin Loiacono 866-9250 Silas Schrader 857-6153
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 th 10:00 AM	Delivery of boxes 10:00 AM until noon	Don & Sara Pandori 882-5013

If you can help deliver the baskets, please contact Don Pandori at 882-5013 or dpandori@gmail.com

Local maps are provided to aid in the delivery. 2 people deliver each basket, and if you need a partner, we can pair you up with either a driver or a rider.

Are you interested in helping with any part of the Community Holiday Basket Project? Call and leave a message with Connie 882-6684, our volunteer coordinator, and she can explain the different aspects of the project and help you find your niche.

Sign up Sheet for Drivers to Deliver Christmas Baskets

Wednesday, December 24

**DEADLINE: PLEASE TURN IN BY
DECEMBER 16th**

Please sign up in pairs, if possible

NAMES	TELEPHONE NUMBERS	VEHICLE MAKE & MODEL	WILLING TO HELP LOAD VEHICLES

NOTES: If possible, please sign up in pairs. If that is not possible, then another person will be assigned to work with you on the day of delivery. Larger vehicles are needed if possible. Please indicate the vehicle you will be driving so we know how many families you will be able to deliver baskets to. Don will be calling all drivers to let you know what time to arrive on Christmas Eve. Don Pandori can be reached at 882-5013 if questions. Please return this form to Don Pandori at dpandori@gmail.com or mail to 5513 Crooked Street, Broadalbin, NY 12025 or Holly McConchie at hmcconchie@aol.com or mail to 2491 Northline Road, Galway, NY 12074 no later than December 16.
Thank you for your generous donation of your time!