



December 2017

Volume 76-No. 84

## *A Message From The Pastor's Desk*



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

*"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Once again, we are in the season of Advent. This season marks the beginning of the year of the Christian Church, and it is associated with four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Because this season comes between Thanksgiving and Christmas, every year it is short-changed and not given its rightful place in many of our churches or in our individual lives.

How can we reclaim Advent? As Christians, I believe we can set aside some of the hectic business of the holiday season and quietly reflect on the promise of the baby who was born in Bethlehem more than 2,000 years ago. Instead of making it a season driven by, and absorbed in materialism, we can strive to make it a season that places Christ at the center of everything we do. Also, we can make Advent a time when, as faithful servants, we pray that the path of the coming King be made straight within our hearts and lives.

One of the symbols of this season is the Advent wreath which represents the long time when people lived in darkness, waiting for the coming Messiah, the Light of the world. Originally, the wreath was intended to be used in family devotions during the Advent season. It was a time when families strengthened their spiritual bonds.



A candle was lit at each of the family services, passages were read from prepared Advent meditations, and songs were sung during the course of the service. It would be great if we could have these services in our homes again. We could even invite a few friends to share the experience with us.

This year at the United Methodist Church of Hempstead, as we await the historical coming of Christ, four families from our congregation will participate in the Ceremony of the Advent Wreath. Let us make this season a special and meaningful one by inviting our families and friends to worship with us on each of these Sundays as well as on Christmas Eve.

Above all, let us make preparation for that great day when Jesus Christ our Savior and King will come again in final victory, usher us into his kingdom, and welcome us around the throne of God.

Yours in Christ,

*St. Clair A. Samuel*



# Church Fair 2017



*The UMW Church Fair was a resounding success, generating over \$2,300.00. The event was held on Nov. 4th at the UMC of Hempstead. It featured a continental breakfast, beautiful Christmas crafts and items, glassware and houseware, costume jewelry, fresh vegetables, plants, pecans and nuts, assorted cheeses, and a bake table with home-made cakes, cookies and breads.*





# Hempstead Fellowship Brunch November 2017



The HFB held on November 18th was a beautiful event, with more than 114 guests enjoying a Thanksgiving feast cooked and served lovingly by the HFB volunteers and committee members.

During the brunch, Bibi Boucicaut presented a Citation from the Village of Hempstead to the members of the Hicksville Rotary Club, and Ruth Robinson presented the club members with a Certificate of Appreciation for their outstanding support and volunteer work.

Many thanks to the Rotary Club and to all who volunteer for this important ministry.





# Hempstead Fellowship Brunch Thanksgiving 2017



## THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The United Methodist Women annual Christmas lunch will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at the Pompeii Restaurant on Hempstead Avenue in West Hempstead - from 12 Noon to 3:00 pm. The price is \$30.00 per person. There will be a sign-up sheet in the gym on December 3rd and 10th. All are welcome, including family and friends. Thank you!

*Jackie Morgan*



# Sunshine Column

## Birthday List - Happy Birthday

Lance Koplitz	December 2nd
Christine Thomson	December 10th
Frederick Draudt	December 7th
Grace Brammer	December 10th
Claudia Byam	December 12th
James Scantlebury	December 16th
Jonathan McCullers	December 17th
Raymond Gomes	December 20th
Nicole Clarke	December 22nd
Soibhan Daley	December 22nd
Bea Draudt	December 22nd
Natasha Davidson	December 24th



### Parish News Announcements

Please submit all information (articles, announcements, photos) about events, committee/ministries news, and other information that you can share with our church family to: [hempsteadumc@gmail.com](mailto:hempsteadumc@gmail.com), or drop them off in the church office by Dec. 17th.

The next *Parish News* will be distributed in January 2018. Your church-related articles and photos are welcome.

If you are new to the church and wish to become a member, please see Pastor.

### Church Schedule

Sunday: 8:30 AM Bible Study  
 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal  
 10:00 AM Morning Worship  
 (Social Hour to Follow)

After service, Sounds of Praise  
 Choir Rehearsal  
 (5-11 years old)

Sunday: Service in Spanish, 12:30 PM  
 Thursday: 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
 Friday: 8:00 PM Youth Fellowship  
 (Alternate Fridays)



# A Grand 195th



The UMC of Hempstead celebrated its 195th anniversary in November, together with more than 150 congregation members and friends of the church. Guest speaker, Rev. Richard Edwards, gave an informative and enlightening presentation about the church and its rich history. Eight members of the church were honored for their outstanding work in the church, including **Mary Crayton Johnson, Roger Tatem, Roger Eastman, Rubia Rivas, Wayne Redman, Jean Bearak, Chrystelle Gooding, and Royston Bailey**. The event was coordinated by Carol Allen and Charmaine Fields of the 195th Anniversary Committee. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a delicious meal, good company, and conversation.





# Anniversary Celebration





195  
and Counting!







# December Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 1st Sunday of Advent	4	5	6	7	8	9 Finance, 10:00 am
10 2nd Sunday of Advent	11	12	13	14	15	16 Trustees, 7:30 pm
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Lessons and Carols, 10 am Christmas Pageant	18	19	20	21	22	23 HFB 11-2 pm
24 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve, 7:30 pm	25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b>	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve, 10:45 pm						

*You're Invited to Worship With Us On the Following Dates*

**Advent: Sunday, December 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 10:00 am (12:30 pm, Spanish)**

**Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24 at 7:30 pm**

**First Sunday After Christmas: December 31 at 10:00 am**

**New Year's Eve: Sunday, December 31 at 10:45 pm**

**Epiphany/Covenant Sunday: January 7, 2018 at 10 am (12:30 pm, Spanish)**



*Wishing you blessings  
during Advent  
and the  
Christmas  
seasons!*

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead  
"Parish News" at 40 Washington Street,  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
*Dated Material Please Do Not Hold*

The Parish News (USPS 421-140 )  
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead,  
40 Washington Street, Hempstead, NY 11550  
Telephone: 516-485-6363 Fax: 516-485-4803



December 2017 Editor and Art Director: Karen Bonnet



**Reminder: The Christmas Card** tree is up.

For a donation, your name is put on the tree and you send holiday greetings to your church family through the Bulletin and January's Parish News. All proceeds go to Methodist Hospital's Red Stocking campaign. Come to the tree during coffee hour to participate.

**In the fall we gave generously to UMCOR**

(United Methodist Committee on Relief) for the victims of natural disasters. The victims are still suffering and need to return to a normal life. If you are moved and want to donate more, put your donation in a pew envelope marked UMCOR - their work is non-ending. We just celebrated Thanksgiving for all our blessings and let's remember Sunday's lesson, "Whatever you have done for the least of these, you have done for me."

**Coffee hour thanks** to Dani Dwyer who provides the flavored creamers and chips for the kids; Pearl Miles-Lee for the fall decorations; Aldith Swaby, the kids love the cookies; many, many thanks to Dot Zondag and Roger Tatem for the cakes; and to all else who have dropped off goodies for us to enjoy on Sunday mornings.

**What a joyous day Sunday, November 26th**

was. Not only was there a good service with wonderful music, but we also had visitors who were members before they retired. Jeannine Love, who sang in the choir with her beautiful voice for 14 years, came with her sister, Louise. Also, joining us were Frank & Elise Richardson from Florida who brought their family with them to church.

## The Spirit of Christmas

The crowds asked John, "What should we do?" John told them, "If you have two coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else." Luke 3:10-11 (CEV)

Words are taken from Luke 3:7-11 (NLT).



I C P W Y O H P P S V Q V S A  
A G T R F Q W R R O H G A X F  
L H O U O K V P L O O I O Y U  
C Z U P R D P U T O V R R O U  
H Z F N Q N U C R X T E T T D  
U F O F G E E C E U W S E P S  
I R O Q M R J D E Q E R C F D  
P U D S C N Y Q J K A K D E Q  
C I U E U F Y S A H U R H T R  
I T X M L Z E N S W A R N E D  
S I N S I G S I O U W C V Q P  
H E X Z V I S R M T W O I W A  
K E O A E V B F C R O W D S Q  
T O A R L E D R E P E N T N O  
Z G L Q O H B O B A P T I S M

baptism	give	poor	share	tree
crowds	good	produce	shirts	turned
food	hungry	prove	sins	two
fruit	live	repent	snakes	warned

