



*Being
United in Christ
Teaching the Word
Loving and Caring
Empowering and Enabling Disciples
Responding to Needs*

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5 Bartholdi Avenue, Butler, New Jersey 07405

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Reverend Michael McKay
Pastor

Lourdes Matos Delgado
Assistant Pastor

Pat Inglis, Editor

TABERNACLE TIMES

****** DECEMBER 2015 ******



MUSINGS FROM MIKE

“Yes, and No”

Have you ever gotten everything done that you wanted to for a Christmas Season?

Me neither.

And doesn't that make us all a little crazy, and a little cranky?

I think one of the keys for me to have a good season at Advent and Christmas is to learn to say 'yes' at the right times and 'no' at the right times.

Think about it, for all the people in the Christmas Story to be part of it, they had to say 'yes' to God and to the visions proclaimed by the divine messengers.

But they also had to say 'no' to some things. To themselves, to what they thought they knew to be possible, and to the shared beliefs of their communities.

When I think about those folks, Zechariah, Mary, the Shepherds in the fields, all of them said no to something or someone so they could say yes to God. They also from time to time got overwhelmed or had trouble believing the events happening to them.

That helps me.

It helps me to have the courage to let go of things I need to let go of in the next month.

It helps me to be alert to all the ways God will be at work in my life and in my world in the next month.

It still (even after all these years) gets me jazzed to welcome 'The Son of the Most High' (Luke 1:32) at his birth.

I hope it does for you too.

Shalom,

Pastor Mike

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS (AND MORE) FOR DECEMBER 2015

Pastor Mike will be preaching on the theme of “Yes...and No” by looking at the story of Zechariah, Mary, and the Shepherds to see the ways they responded with ‘yes and no’ to let them be part of the Christmas Story. There are also plenty of special services on the calendar too...

December 6TH: 2nd Sunday of Advent (Communion)
Scripture: Luke 1:5-25 Sermon: “The More You Know”

December 13TH: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Scripture: Luke 1:26-38 Sermon: “Why Not?”

December 20TH: 4th Sunday of Advent – Christmas Cantata Sunday
Scripture: Luke 2:8-20 Sermon: “The Third Shift”

Monday, December 21ST: **Blue Christmas Service** (Bi-lingual)
You are welcomed to the Church Library for a service of Communion and Healing in both English and Spanish. At this Service we stand with everyone who may be having a hard emotional time, experiencing a loss, or having any other need during the season.

Thursday, December 24TH: **Christmas Eve Services**
6:30 p.m. *Family Service* that includes special music and a presentation of the Christmas Story by the children and youth of the church. The service will also include Communion and Candlelight.
10:00 p.m. *Service of Candlelight and Communion* A beautiful service with music of the season, a meditation from Pastor Mike and the closing communion and candlelight.

December 27TH: Christmas Sunday
In what is fast becoming a popular tradition, we will have a special day together on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year’s. On this day we will:
10 a.m. Breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Anyone wanting to help out or contribute is invited to contact Donna Tintle (dlt0604@yahoo.com). The coffee is on at 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. Bi-lingual Service of Carols and Communion as we celebrate Jesus being born into our world! Wear your favorite Christmas Hat or Sweater (The tackier the better!!) and bring a smile for the 2015 Church Christmas Selfie!



"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" John 1: 14.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday Evenings Bible Study in the Library
7:00 to 9:00pm,
The six week study – by John Ortberg
All the Places to Go...How Will You Know
will continue in December



NOTE: This Wednesday evening study will not meet on December 9th (the evening of Strengthen Our Sisters dinner) or December 16th (the evening when the Cantata will be presented in the sanctuary)

ALSO, the Thursday morning study WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.



Christmas Caroling

Sunday December 6th from 3:00-6:00. Join us in making a joyful noise as we visit church members who are no longer able to come to church. Followed by pizza and fellowship. Everyone welcome

Congratulations to Steven & Kaitlyn Schoenfelder on the arrival of their daughter. Kara Grace Schoenfelder was born on November 15th and warmly welcomed by her parents, big brother Owen and grandparents, Jeff & Debbie Matthews



To My Church Family,
I want to thank everyone for all the nice things you have done for my 94th birthday. It's been a real joy!
Lots of Love, *Marge Pugh*

Thank you to all for your prayers and kind words during my sadness. Your thoughtfulness is so appreciated.
Sincerely, *Ina Hansen*

Ceremony of Candles
A CANTATA FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS
By: Joseph M. Martin
Presented By:
The Combined Choirs of the Butler and
Newfoundland United Methodist Churches
Wednesday, December 16th - 7:00 p.m.
Butler United Methodist Church
5 Bartholdi Ave, Butler



DECEMBER 2015



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> 9:30-4pm Gleaners 5:45pm Youth Praise Group 6:20pm Thursday Bells 7pm Wednesday Bells 7pm Spanish Bible Study 8pm Choir 9:15 Spanish Praise	<u>4</u> 6am Men's Bible Study 10-1 pm Gleaners 7pm Support Group	<u>5</u> 8:30am Gleaners Devotions 9-3pm Christmas Bazaar 9:30-12:30pm Gleaners 10 am NA Meeting
9:30am English Worship, nursery <u>6</u> 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am Coffee Hour 11am Advent Study/11:45 Chimes 11:15am Hispanic Worship 12pm Naomi Circle Christmas Party 3pm Christmas Caroling 6-8pm Youth Group	<u>7</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7-9pm Gleaners	<u>8</u> 9:30-4:00pm Gleaners 6:30pm Al Anon in Library 7:15pm Zumba in Hall	<u>9</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7pm Strength Our Sisters Christmas Dinner	<u>10</u> 9:30-4pm Gleaners 5:45pm Youth Praise Group 6:20pm Thursday Bells 7pm Wednesday Bells 7pm Spanish Bible Study 8pm Choir 9:15 Spanish Praise	<u>11</u> 6am Men's Bible Study 10-1 pm Gleaners 6:30pm Skylands District Clergy Christmas Dinner in Hall 7pm Support Group	<u>12</u> 8:30am Gleaners Devotions 9am Zumba/Fellowship Hall 9:30-12:30pm Gleaners 10 am NA Meeting 12-5pm Gonzalez Party in Hall 3:30pm Cantata practice at Newfoundland UMC
<u>13</u> 9:30am English Worship, nursery 10am Cantata/Newfoundland UMC 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am Coffee Hour 11am Advent Study/11:45 Chimes 11:15am Hispanic Worship	<u>14</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7-9pm Gleaners 7pm Cantata Dress Rehearsal	<u>15</u> 9:30-4:00pm Gleaners 6:30pm Al Anon in Library 7pm Trustees 7pm Wednesday Bells	<u>16</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7:15pm Zumba in Hall 7:00pm Cantata 9pm Spanish Praise Band	<u>17</u> 9:30-4pm Gleaners 5:45 Youth Praise 6:30pm Thursday Bells 7pm Spanish Bible Study	<u>18</u> 6am Men's Bible Study 10-1 pm Gleaners 7pm Support Group 8pm Bella Voce Concert	<u>19</u> 8:30am Gleaners Devotions 9am Zumba/Fellowship Hall 9:30-12:30pm Gleaners 10 am NA Meeting 2-4 Youth Group (cookie jars) 4pm Festival Band
<u>20</u> 9:30am English Worship, Cantata 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am Coffee Hour 11am Advent Study 11:15am Hispanic Worship 11:45am Chimes	<u>21</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7-9pm Gleaners 9-11am } <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 7-9pm } 7pm Blue Christmas Service In Library	<u>22</u> 9:30-4:00pm Gleaners 6:30pm Al Anon in Library	<u>23</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7pm Bible Study 7pm Wednesday Bells 7:15pm Zumba in Hall 8pm Choir 9pm Spanish Praise	<u>24</u> <i>Christmas Eve</i> 6:30pm Family Service 10:00pm Communion Service (both with Candlelighting)	<u>25</u> <i>Merry Christmas</i>	<u>26</u> 8:30am Gleaners Devotions 9:30-12:30pm Gleaners 10 am NA Meeting
<u>27</u> 9:30am Coffee's On 10:00am Breakfast 11:00am Communion and Carols (Bilingual)	<u>28</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7-9pm Gleaners	<u>29</u> 9:30-4:00pm Gleaners 6:30pm Al Anon in Library	<u>30</u> 10-1pm Gleaners 7pm Bible Study	<u>31</u> <i>New Year's Eve</i> 9:30-4pm Gleaners		

SPECIAL

Service

OPPORTUNITIES

USHERS

(Keith Worman 973-838-5538)

Dan Hack
Ina Hansen
Debby Smeilus
Debbie Pitt

ACOLYTES

(Alex Nafz 973-283-2668)

Emma Durren
Samantha Suter

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Donna Tintle 973-838-7609

Sandy Weigel 973-835-5544

December 6th } The Thomas Family
December 13th } OPEN
December 20th } Please Help
December 27th } Christmas Breakfast

SOUND TECHNICIAN

(Dan Hack 973-492-1505)

Karl Barton

VIDEO TECHNICIAN

(Pat Inglis 973-838-1916)

December 6th Jeff Matthews
December 13th Pat Inglis
December 20th Jeff Matthews
December 24th 6:30 Pam Campbell
10pm Pat Inglis
December 27th Pam Campbell

COUNTERS

(Tim Campbell 973-768-2476)

December 6th Maurice Cailleateau,
Dot Cailleateau, Alison Bisanti
December 13th Linda Meilan,
Helen Guenter, Karen Bailey
December 20th Janet Spagnola,
Betty Greig, Tim Campbell
December 24th Dawn Krumer
Connie House, Sandy Smith
December 27th Carroll Campbell
Tim Campbell, Vicki Boyd

UP-DATING THE DIRECTORY

Scott & Karen Lowe
16 Macopin Terrace
West Milford, NJ 07480

IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis Pitt November 2, 2015
(Michael Pitt's mother)

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5th

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Butler United Methodist Church

5 Bartholdi Avenue, Butler, NJ

Featuring New, Like New, and
Gently Used, Christmas, Holiday,
and Seasonal Gifts, Decorations,
and MUCH more!

Light Breakfast and Lunch available.

**For More Information call:
973-838-2026**



HIGHLIGHT CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

The Advent and Christmas Season can be seriously busy for all of us personally and as a community together. To help you in planning your calendar, we are offering this 'Highlight Calendar' of ministries and events during the Advent and Christmas Season.

December 5th: Christmas Bazaar in Fellowship Hall of the Church

December 6th: Noon – Naomi Circle Luncheon;
3 p.m. Christmas Caroling (meet at the church)

December 9th: 6 p.m. Strengthen Our Sisters Christmas Dinner

December 11th: Skylands District Clergy Christmas Dinner at the Church.



December 13th: 10 a.m. The shared talents of Butler and Newfoundland UMC choirs will present this year's Christmas Cantata at Newfoundland UMC

December 16th: 7 p.m. Christmas Cantata at Butler UMC.

December 20th: 9:30 a.m. Christmas Cantata at Sunday Worship in Butler.

December 21st: 7 p.m. Blue Christmas Service of Communion and Healing.

December 24th: Christmas Eve Services –
6:30 p.m. Family Service
with Communion and Candlelight
10:00 p.m. Service of Candlelight and Communion



December 27th: Christmas Sunday Bi-Lingual Celebration
9:30 a.m. Coffee's on
10 a.m. Breakfast in Fellowship Hall,
11 a.m. Communion and Carols in the Sanctuary



Loaves & Fishes

We need to restock our shelves in December, and items that are particularly need are highlighted below ... but donations of any items would be greatly appreciated. Please place your donations in the new cabinet at the entrance to the Narthex to help us meet the needs of this important ministry.

Macaroni & Cheese

Canned Tuna

Canned Fruit

Canned peas, carrots

Mixed vegetables

Canned tomatoes

Boxed Cereals

(hot & cold)

Pancake Mixes

Pancake Syrup

Dried or Powdered Milk

Peanut Butter

Cooking Oil

Tomato Sauce

Pasta

Pasta Sauce

Boxed Potatoes

Rice Side Dishes

Bags of Rice

Soup

Dried Beans – Red or Black

Jelly – Strawberry & Grape

Paper towels

Toilet paper

Tissues

Napkins

Toothpaste

Shampoo

Thank you for your generosity,
Debby Smeilus, Coordinator



The *Loaves & Fishes Giving Tree* is now set up in the Narthex. On it, you can find stars for each child whose

family is currently enrolled in our *Loaves & Fishes* ministry. Each of the stars contain the age and gender of one of the children for which we would like to provide a Christmas gift this year.

If you would like to help out by providing a gift or gifts for one or more of the children, please remove the star(s), and write your name on the list next to the tree. Please return your gift in a gift bag, with the star securely attached to the outside of the bag. We ask that all gifts be returned by December 20th AT THE LATEST, as they will be distributed on the 21st. *Thank you* for helping to make a child's Christmas a little merrier!

ALSO NEEDED, are \$20 gift cards for either Walmart or Target. These will be given to the children living in the Strengthen Our Sisters shelter at our annual Christmas dinner, which will be held on Wednesday December 9th. The shelter serves homeless/battered women and children. The **mission** of Strengthen Our Sisters is dedicated to breaking the cycle of domestic violence, poverty, and abuse by restoring balance and harmony through individual empowerment. If you can help in this way, gift cards should be given to Debby Smeilus or the church office by December 6th.



ORDER
YOUR
POINSETTIAS

What is Christmas ?

*Every time a hand reaches out
to help another, that is Christmas.
Every time someone puts anger aside
and strives for understanding,
that is Christmas.*

*Every time people forget their
differences,
and realize their love for each other
that is Christmas.*

*May this Christmas bring us
closer to the spirit of human
understanding,
closer to the blessing of peace!*

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS/DECORATIONS

Orders are being taken for Christmas Poinsettias and Decorations. Here is an opportunity for you to help beautify the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, December 24th, as you remember or recognize a loved one. As we have in the past, we will also purchase greens for the beautification of the Lord's Table and surrounding sanctuary.

Please print clearly your name, and the name(s) of person(s) whom you wish to remember or honor. Enclose \$15.00 and the tear off portion of this page in an envelope marked "Christmas" for each plant/decoration ordered. This may be left in the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. **Deadline for ordering is December 16th.**

.....
I/We wish to order _____ Poinsettias/Decorations. \$ _____ Enclosed.

Name of Donor _____

In Loving Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

(Plants may be removed for your own enjoyment, or to give to one of our shut-ins following the late service on Christmas Eve.)

DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Luke / San Lucas 1:57-80	Matthew / San Mateo 3:1-12	Isaiah / Isaías 62:1-12	Luke / San Lucas 12:35-48	Isaiah / Isaías 51:1-8
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Malachi/Malaquías 3:1-4 Philippians/Filipenses 1:3-11 Psalm/Salmos 126 Luke/San Lucas 3:1-6	Mark / San Marcos 13:1-13	Luke / San Lucas 21:25-37	Revelation / Apocalipsis 1:1-8	John / San Juan 1:14-18	Ezekiel / Ezequiel 34:11-16	Acts / Hechos 1:1-11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Zephaniah/Sofonías 3:14-20 Isaiah/Isaías 12:2-6 Philippians/Filipenses 4:4-9 Luke/San Lucas 3:7-18	James / Santiago 5:7-18	Matthew / San Mateo 1:18-25	Isaiah / Isaías 40:1-11	Ezekiel / Ezequiel 34:17-31	Isaiah / Isaías 9:1-8	Philippians / Filipenses 4:4-9
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Micah/Miqueas 5:2-5a Hebrews/Hebreos 10:5-10 Psalm/Salmos 80:1-7 Luke/San Lucas 1:39-55	Exodus / Éxodo 20:18-26	Galatians / Gálatas 3:23 - 4:7	2 Corinthians / 2 Corintios 5:16-21	John / San Juan 3:1-8	Ephesians / Efesios 1:3-14	Colossians / Colosenses 1:15-23
27	28	29	30			
1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Colossians/Colosenses 3:12-17 Psalm/Salmos 111 Luke/San Lucas 2:41-52	John / San Juan 15:12-17	1 Thessalonians / 1 Tesalonicenses 1:2-10	Isaiah / Isaías 42:1-9			

The BellaVocé Singers present:

The Night Before Christmas

December 18, 2015
8pm
Butler United Methodist Church
5 Bartholdi Ave, Butler, NJ

December 19, 2015
8pm
First Reformed Church of
Pompton Plains

Tickets available at the door for all performances. \$10 donation.
For more information please call 973-714-9084