

# The Messenger January, 2025



# 2025



January is designated as one of the months that United Methodist Church of Wellsboro is asked to have a collection for the Wellsboro Food Pantry. Items such as canned vegetables and beans, peanut butter, pasta products, pasta sauce, rice, crackers, soup and paper products are always needed. Monetary donations are also welcome, as the Food Pantry can purchase food at a reduced price.



## Frozen Meal Ministry starting in January

The plan is to keep a small freezer at the church to store containers of soup, stews, or meals that can be taken to our church family as a gesture of God's love. If you would like to be involved, please meet after church on Sunday, January 12 for an information / brainstorming meeting. See Sam Erdo for details.



Thank you to everyone who helped ring the bell on Dickens Day as a Salvation Army Bell Ringers. Our collection that day totaled \$1,354.00. Thank you all for standing in the cold to ring the bell!  
Carol Delaney

---

Many, many thanks to all those who participate in purchasing gifts for the residence of the Green Home. 24 residents were provided for by our generous congregation.

---

Also many thanks for everyone that brought cookies for the United Women of Faith Cookie Sale on Saturday, December 14. \$400.00 was raised for missions this year.

---

Many, many thanks to all those who took turns providing fellowship refreshments this year. With your service, you gave everyone time to be together for fellowship—and really good food! We need more members to take a turn, so please contact Bev McKnight, Fellowship Coordinator, at 724-4582.

Dear Friends,

As we step into another new year, we are gifted with the opportunity to embrace a fresh start and a new beginning. There is something undeniably refreshing about the turning of the calendar. It gives us a chance to reflect on where we have been and look ahead to where God is leading us to go in the year ahead.

In Isaiah 43:19, God declares, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” These words remind us that God is always at work, shaping our lives and our world in ways that we can’t always see. The new year is a time to trust that God is creating new pathways for us to walk and new opportunities to grow in our faith.

Maybe you, like many around the world, started 2025 with resolutions or commitments to improve a certain aspect of your life. As a church, we can also consider how we might renew our commitment to God and one another. Perhaps this is the year to deepen your prayer life, engage in a new ministry, or join a small group. May it’s time to let go of grudges from the past and embrace the grace and forgiveness God so freely offers.

As a congregation, we will take an intentional step as we live more deeply into our vision statement: **“We are a thriving congregation, giving, praising, and serving in love for Christ.”** We will do this by making sure we are intentionally connecting people to God’s love with everything that we do. This year, let us focus on being deliberate about how we give, praise, and serve. Let us seek meaningful ways to connect with one another and with those who have yet to experience the transformative love of Christ. Together, we can make this year one of spiritual growth, renewed relationships, and impactful ministry.

I invite you to take a moment to pray about what God might be calling you to do or to become in this new season. Consider how you can be part of the work God is doing in our church and community. Whatever this year holds, we can face it with confidence, knowing that God goes before us, walks beside us, and will guide us every step of the way.

Happy New Year! And may it be a year of abundant blessing, spiritual renewal, and a deeper sense of God’s presence in our lives.

In His Service, Pastor Liz Jackson

---

### Administrative Council Report

The following Administrative Council members will be going off from council for a rest beginning January 1, 2025. Tom Auman, Linda Grogan, and Marie Weaver. New members joining the team for 2025 will be William Carson, for a one year term and Brenda Coder, Craig Fields, and Cathy Mack for a three year term. Other members are Jim Paxson, Les Mengel, Sam Erdo, and Seth Rogers, & Lory Albin. Karen Blackwell is the Recording Secretary for the council. Others that attend the monthly meetings Beverly McKnight, as Nurture & Shepherding Coordinator, Cheryl Seely, as Witness & Children’s Coordinator, and Terry Borneman as Outreach Coordinator, as well as Pastor Elizabeth Jackson

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

| DATE  | CHURCH FELLOWSHIP   |   |
|---|---|---|
| January 5   | Louise & Terry Borneman   |   |
| January 12  | Pat Newruck & Brenda Coder  |   |
| January 19  | Karen Huck & Anna Mengel  |   |
| January 26  | Betty & Rowan Reist   |   |
|   |   |   |
| <p><b><u>Media Ministry:</u></b><br/>Dave Bowen</p> | <p><b><u>Contact Numbers:</u></b><br/>Church Fellowship: Bev McKnight,<br/>570-724-4582</p> | <p>Please notify the Church Office if you are exchanging Sundays with someone on the fellowship schedule, so the names can be listed correctly in the bulletin.</p> |

## LITURGIST

- January 5 — Bev McKnight
- January 12 — Jim Paxson
- January 19 — Karen Blackwell
- January 26 — Dave Pfisterer

## MONEY COUNTERS

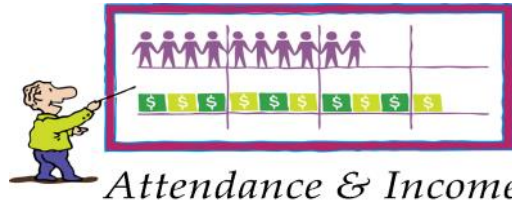
- January 6 — Bev McKnight & Jean Dutchess
- January 13 — Pat Newruck & Ann Serva
- Loose Change - Sam & Chuck Erdo
- January 21 — (Tuesday)
- Brenda Coder & Louise Borneman
- January 27 — Anna Mengel & Donna Mettler

## TIOGA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE

The Wellsboro Ministerium is working together to bless the Tioga County Homeless Initiative, with each church collecting different items for the shelter. Our church will collect shampoo, conditioner, and body wash (not travel-sized) for the shelter. Please have them to the church by January 19. Pastor Liz will go to the shelter with the rest of the ministerium on January 21 to bless the shelter with all that has been collected.

### GOING TO THE HOSPITAL? HAVING SURGERY? NEED A VISIT?

Pastor Liz is ready to visit you in the hospital, pray with you before your surgery, or just talk with you if you need to. You are never alone in whatever challenge you are facing.



| Date                          | 10:30 Worship | Sunday School | Church Income (Dec. 1 – Dec. 30, 2024)                    |                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---|-----------------|
| December 1                    | 62            | 15            | <b>Funding Ministry Income:</b>                           | \$24,561        |
| December 8                    | 77            | 15            | <b>Second Mile Giving</b> (incl. anonymous donor's gift): | \$ 2,110        |
| December 15                   | 79            | 12            | <b>Other Income:</b> Dickens Fundraisers, Donations etc.  | \$ 1,686        |
| December 22                   | 92            | 11            | <b>Total Income</b>                                       | <b>\$28,357</b> |
| Christmas Eve<br>December 29  | 115<br>48     | 13            | <i>Funding Ministry Need (Budget) (4 Sundays)</i>         | \$18,698        |
| <b>Avg. Sunday Attendance</b> | <b>66</b>     | <b>11</b>     |   |                 |



### January Anniversaries

- 16– Keith & Amy Goehring
- 27– Angelo & Ann Serva
- 29– Walter & Diane Colton

### January Birthdays

- 2–Barbara Auman
- 5–Raquel Rogers
- 6–Jay Blackwell
- 7–Seth Watkins
- 9–Mary Carson
- 10–Matthew Kennedy
- 12–Pat Newruck
- 18–Barbara Williard
- 19–Darren Patterson
- 20–Anna Mengel
- 22–Willie Blackwell
- 23–Greg Jackson
- 25–James Nichols
- 26–Noah Smith
- 27–Nathan Lawton
- 29–Jacob Patterson
- 31–Sheila Fields



### PRAY FOR OUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MILITARY

Please remember those serving in the military service in your prayers.

- ★ S/Sgt. Matthew Enderle
- ★ CSSN Michael R. Lesko
- ★ SR Ryan A. Proveaux
- ★ Capt. Regan Rogers Malcolm M.D.
- ★ E6 Conner Snyder



**Our Mission and Vision**

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The vision for the UMC of Wellsboro is that we are a thriving congregation, **Giving, Praising, and Serving** in love for Christ. When we talk about vision, we are talking about our clear, compelling, challenging picture of the ministry future, as discerned by God, that we believe can and must be. We are going to focus on our vision statement each month and dive deeper into what it means.

This month, we are going to talk about our giving. Often times when we think about giving, we think about what we can give financially. But are giving in love for Christ goes well beyond that. We give our time in service by sharing the love of Christ through our actions. We give our love to others. We give items in support of location missions or ministries – like the homeless shelter, the HUB, or Seeds of Hope. We give our space in our church building so those in the community have a place to meet. What does giving mean to you?

**Giving Opportunities  
Birthing Center in the Dominican Republic**

David Pfisterer has made us aware of an opportunity to support the Haitian community in the Dominican Republic. A clinic is being built to provide health care, especially for those who cannot access it because of legal status. This clinic would be able to serve the migrant population. The construction has started, but they need to raise \$22,000 more to complete the foundation. The money raised will pay Haitian laborers, helping them to feed their families and giving them a sense of ownership of the building and a drive to care for it and for their community.

**Bible Reading Challenge**

The new year offers us time for new, lasting habits to form. This year, will mark the beginning of a new journey. We will work toward reading through the entire Bible over a three 3 period. Scripture is not something to rush our way through, but it helps us to slow down and gain a better understanding of who God is. Each day, we will typically read one chapter, going back and forth between the Old and New Testaments. Booklets with the entire reading plan will be available, so you can mark off what you’ve read. May God bless you as you dive into the word.

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| January 1 – Genesis 1   | January 17 – Genesis 12 |
| January 2 – Genesis 2   | January 18 – Matthew 6  |
| January 3 – Matthew 1   | January 19 – Genesis 13 |
| January 4 – Genesis 3   | January 20 – Genesis 14 |
| January 5 – Genesis 4   | January 21 – Matthew 7  |
| January 6 – Matthew 2   | January 22 – Genesis 15 |
| January 7 – Genesis 5   | January 23 – Genesis 16 |
| January 8 – Genesis 6   | January 24 – Matthew 8  |
| January 9 – Matthew 3   | January 25 – Genesis 17 |
| January 10 – Genesis 7  | January 26 – Genesis 18 |
| January 11 – Genesis 8  | January 27 – Matthew 9  |
| January 12 – Matthew 4  | January 28 – Genesis 19 |
| January 13 – Genesis 9  | January 29 – Genesis 20 |
| January 14 – Genesis 10 | January 30 – Matthew 10 |
| January 15 – Matthew 5  | January 31 – Genesis 21 |
| January 16 – Genesis 11 |                         |

**Get More Out of Reading the Bible**

Meet with Pastor Liz on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 6:30pm in the Sunday School Room to discuss the Bible readings, have any pressing questions you have answered, and grow in your faith with others. The dates for January are January 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

United Methodist  
Church of Wellsboro

Main & Queen Streets  
PO Box 547  
Wellsboro PA 16901

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
WELLSBORO, PA  
PERMIT NO. 56



---

THE MESSENGER— JANUARY, 2025

---



When winter weather conditions make travel hazardous or impossible, the church office will either open later or be closed for the day.



Just a reminder that articles, news and schedules for the February Messenger are needed in the Church Office by Tuesday, January 21st.



The January Loose Change collection on Sunday, January 14 will be donated to Northern Tier Mission Hub