

**Our Spire**

**Volume 40**

**December 2020 -**

**January 2021**

**Number 10**

**Reaching Up  
to God,  
Reaching Out  
to People**

## Pastor's Page:

Dear Congregation,

We want the happily-ever-after ending. Not all of us may go for the predictable, everything-falls-into-place Hallmark Christmas movie ending where, of course, the once bashful guy and the always beautiful girl finally get together in the center of the town square on Christmas Eve, with the towering tree lit as cotton ball-sized snow gently falls, but we do want to end on a high. At the least, we want a resolve. We prefer one that makes sense.

Yeah. Reality. Here we are. At the end of 2020. Nothing is making sense. There is no resolve. And if most things—or even some things—would fall into place, we'd be good.

As we move into December, which is the time most of you will be reading this Spire edition, we are facing some of the hardest days we've experienced. Nothing compares to this. To actually hear many of you say that loved ones are not coming—or should not come—for Christmas is staggering, sobering, sad. But it's the truth.

This Christmas, if we think like this, is going to hurt.

But we don't have to think like this. Instead, we can look at what we have around us rather than what we want within us.

What we want? Oh, you know. Get back to that Hallmark Christmas movie for a moment. The romance thing may or may not be at the heart of our hearts, but the warmth, the glow, and the comfortable, nostalgic feeling of flannel sheets, fresh-cut Fraser fir boughs, friends and family close, and frosty windows we glance through while holding mugs of hot chocolate in front of a robust fire is something we opt for or compare our lives against.

This year? Ooof. Yeah. As December 2020 is going, or, specifically, as it will go—that toasty, terrific feeling will be faint, if it happens at all.

So, what do we do?

We do what we have always done. We turn to scripture. This year, we really enter it thoroughly. We come to Mary, Joseph and the Innkeeper, we see them not through the frosty glass windows, though. No, this year we see the pain and the grit of a story we've romanced far more than those Hallmark movies. We who have had our plans wrecked really do get what Mary was going through. She's carrying the Son of God. Um. The. Son. Of. God.

Yeah. Whoa. Big time, good time.

But this is neither a big time, nor a good time. This is a young, first time mother faced giving birth in a barn. That's right. A barn.

This could not have been her plan! This was CLEARLY not her desire. If anything, she likely imagined that God, being God, would come through for her with a cozy B and B that included those nice flannel sheets I mentioned. And a master bath, of course—one that had near the floor-to-ceiling windows a super-sized bathtub that requires WAY too much water to fill. And delicious, catered food delivered to the door of her suite by an abundant amount of highly-qualified and deeply caring wait staff.

If the first Christmas was not about comfort, should this one be different?

No, Mary and Joseph were blocked. So was the Innkeeper. Seeing this woman in a very family way and only being able to offer her the barn out back?

As the first Christmas was not ANYTHING like what these three had in mind, ours being what it will be, is in keeping with a God who doesn't give us what we want. He gives us what we need. And what we need in the harsh reality of a harsh year is a God who, through the hardships of it all, brings us Christmas in the most beautiful, unexpected, unpredictable and surprising way with unplanned guests, like those shepherds, who, unannounced, just show up.

If we are going to celebrate Christmas, and yes, we are going to celebrate Christmas, we are going to remember, rekindle and relive that first Christmas. In doing so, we will be all the more blessed in the beauty of knowing, yes, our God wrapped in swaddling clothes, in a baby we'll call Jesus, is with us.

And that, alone, as it should be, is Christmas.

We welcome good news. Here is some! This congregation continues to do what it has done with me since I began working as your pastor, and that's join me in ministry. As a people of God, you watch out for each other. Oh my stars, no, you are NOT perfect at this. No one is—especially me, and you catch this. You truly do. You point me to people or situations that I have missed. You call me to action, care, and love. You do this because you realize that, as the body of Christ, you are equally called to action, to care and to love. You may not phrase this the way I am about to, but consider the obvious: you do pastor during COVID-19. You do go ahead. You do what needs to be done not out of convenience—um, there is a pandemic out there; you do it out of and from Christian love.

As I reflect upon the months we have endured with this virus, and the word endured is the right one, I think of how you have rallied and cared, listened and responded. As this Spire reaches you, consider the calendar. We have days left in this year. This is a call to action for me as it is for you. Too many have endured too much loneliness and hardships this year. Maybe most of us can get by with this for a week, maybe a month, but this prolonged season of separation and fear for our health is weighing us down now that the days keep getting shorter. Thanksgiving is gone. Our tables didn't have the numbers they've had in years past. This is a deep ache, a loss. Christmas is coming. Specifically, Christmas is coming *this year*. You know what this means in your own heart. Imagine what it will feel like for others who, for whatever reason, are just down.

A friend of mine says the best way to get out of the low feelings is to care for others. She does this *tremendously* well. Give her a cause? She IS there. Suggest a way to help someone? She will either expand on that, or, in seconds, come up with an even better, brighter plan. Her mantra can be yours because honestly, it isn't a mantra at all—it's called being Christian.

Reflect on this hymn written by Jason Upton. We sang *They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love* during worship on November 15th.

We are one in the Spirit	We will walk with each other	
We are one in the Lord	We will walk hand in hand	
We are one in the Spirit	We will walk with each other	
We are one in the Lord	We will walk hand in hand	And they'll know we are Christians
And we pray that all unity	And together we'll spread the news	By our love, By our love
May one day be restored	That God is in our land	Yes, they'll know we are Christians
		By our love
We will work with each other	All praise to the Father	
We will work side by side	From whom all things come	
We will work with each other	And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son	
We will work side by side	And all praise to the Spirit	
And we'll guard each man's dignity	Who makes us one	
And save each man's pride		

Be one with God. With your own poor or broken heart, reach out. Minister to others. Care. This is not the Christmas we expected, but it is a Christmas we can embrace. Let us not be so thankful for what we have, but for what we can do. Something big. Something small. Something direct. Something anonymous. Reflect upon a sermon I gave this fall titled *Just do it*. Now don't just reflect, just do it!

In Luke 6:38, Jesus says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

And here is wisdom, truth and hope found in Proverbs 11:25. "Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered." Go and water. Give, and yes, it will be given to you.

It's more than water, what is given to you though, isn't it? The adage that we don't give to receive has never been wrong. Let's just give "Christmas" because we can. Because we should. Because the light in us, however dim sometimes, is, in fact, still light. And it changes darkness immediately.

Our God is with us, fellow pastors. Go, and do. Amen.

## DO NOT SURVIVE CHRISTMAS, THRIVE THROUGH CHRISTMAS

Here's how:



- Practice generosity in secret.
- Get closer to people with real obstacles.
- Give praise.
- Write a love letter. Remember my Hallmark movie references? Love ain't ever dead. Even if you're single or your spouse has died, ah, there is still someone you love. Send that note filled with the love you can (and should!) share.
- Bake or cook. Or bring in takeout food We all gotta eat.
- Pick up that phone. There are a dozen people—seriously 12 people—you can call, if even for only a few moments on Christmas.
- Sing a Christmas carol or two on someone's front lawn. Easy social distancing!
- Love someone else's kid. Maybe he or she is nearby. Distance shouldn't stop you, either.
- Someone is working on or right around Christmas. A coffee gift card? Something to make their day brighter?
- Tip with generosity.
- Just think. Truly think. Someone a mile from you can be brightened and cheered. You'll know how to do it.

No one I have ever met has not opened a wrapped gift left beside a front door.

## Spire Sponsor

## Elizabeth and Dale Grant



# LIGHTING THE TREE OF HOPE

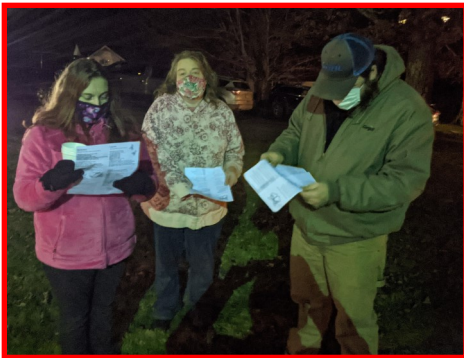
## Tree of Hope

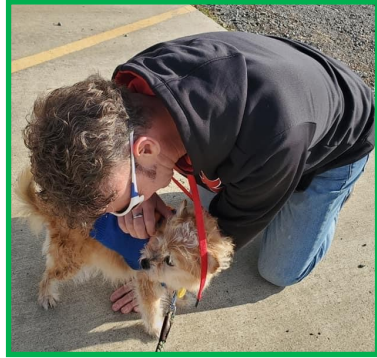
Come join us in celebrating the Christmas spirit  
by hanging an ornament of hope on our  
"Tree of Hope"

November 29, 2020  
6:00 P.M.

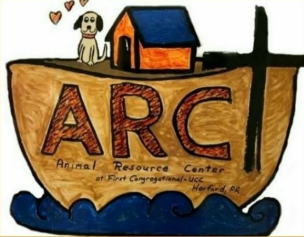
Harford First Congregational Church Front Lawn

All activities will be outside.  
Please observe social distancing and wear masks.  
There will be firepits for warmth, carol singing, candle  
lighting. Cocoa, coffee, and tea will be available.  
Ornaments to put what you hope for in the coming year will be  
provided as well as paper and writing utensils.





**Pet Blessing**  
**11/14/2020**  
**9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m**  
*First Congregational UCC*  
*Harford*



**Take some time to give your beloved pet(s) the gift of a blessing. †**



## Annual Reports

It is certainly difficult to believe that the end of 2020 is almost here. That means one important thing at our church!!!!!!!

### Time for annual reports

Would you be so kind to begin to send your annual reports to the office as soon as possible? After the end of this month there will be no committee meetings information to be reported as no committees meet in December.

I will print what I have received in January. If I don't have the report you are responsible for, the annual report will be mailed without it. The following are reports that go into the annual report:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auditor's</li> <li>Christian Education</li> <li>Clerk</li> <li>Deacon</li> <li>Historian</li> <li>Pastor</li> <li>Stewardship</li> <li>Ugly Quilts</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bell Choir</li> <li>Church Council</li> <li>Cradle Roll(received)</li> <li>Financial Secretary</li> <li>Missionary(received)</li> <li>Pastoral Relations</li> <li>Treasurer</li> <li>Willing Workers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choir</li> <li>Church Cupboard</li> <li>Craft Group (received)</li> <li>GAME ON (Youth)</li> <li>Nominating (received)</li> <li>Spire (received)</li> <li>Trustee</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|

If I have missed anyone, surprise me and send it to the office. Thank you. Judy



## Roast Beef Dinner

November 21, 2020



Thank you to all that sold tickets, cooked, served, took tickets, directed traffic, packaged meals and delivered meals!!!! You made the Roast Beef Dinner a success! Thank you !!

Thank you to all that helped make the Willing Worker Roast Beef Dinner a huge success!! We sold 366 meals and completely sold out of Roast Beef. The dinner was served in a drive-by fashion and this really worked well!!! Thank you!!



## Operation Christmas Child!!!

Our Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child was again a big success! We filled 50 boxes for children in areas where families struggle to survive. We have tracking tags on 5 of the boxes to see where the boxes end up this year. Last year our boxes went to Malawi in Africa. The boxes are distributed to children in conjunction with a Christian program to bring the Good News of salvation to children that may not have heard about Jesus Christ.

Thank You for your participation in filling the boxes and shipping the boxes!

## Interfaith Christmas Tags

We were able to fill the Christmas wishes of 26 children this year!!!

Thank you for your participation!



# Stewardship

'Til be our theme in glory... the stories

"I've missed coming to church," is the single sentiment most often heard since March, 2020. The Stewardship Committee, aware of these deep aches of missed connections, gave us in part what we need, which is our faith shared. The stories we have heard told by some in our congregation have done far more than enable us a shared experience (we've all been able to watch or read what each speaker has shared); the stories have enabled us to know more fully who the presenters are. They've let us know more about their faith. Far more importantly, they have let us know who God is not only in their lives but also in ours as well. We can say this confidently because we have all placed ourselves in their stories. We could relate to what they were saying. Of course, this is not an exact fit. Our own faith stories are uniquely wonderful and different, but what we heard enabled us to connect more fully to God and to each other.

This may be the greatest gift of all this Christmas, if you think about it. We are connecting to each other. No, this isn't what anyone wants (imagine life again without wearing a mask!), but our God, with 20/20 vision has enabled us to see in 2020 how vital worship together is, and what, exactly, worship together means. We can say through the stories told—and those still to come—that we are all a part of God's story, the Word made alive.

Embrace the Word. Live the Word. Share the Word.

Speaking again to Christmas, this is exactly what our world needs—embracing, living and sharing. To understand that God came to us as a newborn and comes through us with the stories we speak of Him is our call here at Harford First Congregational-UCC.

As a committee, we thank you, the congregation, for some uplifting, honest, real, humble, amazing, God-directed and long-remembered stories. Your stories. True and beautiful, inspiring and unique. Tender, personal heartfelt. Honest. As a gift, we will do our best to continue these stories from you in the weeks and weeks to come.

To those who have returned their pledges and time and talent sheets, we say a sincere thank you. If you have not yet returned your pledges and time and talent sheets, this is just a friendly reminder: we're all in this together. We can't do this ministry here in Harford and beyond without your help.

Help us achieve our goal. Help us help the world with inspiration, light, and love by letting us all know who God is (and how God is) within you.

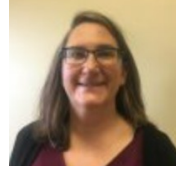
Enjoy your Christmas season and keep telling your story.



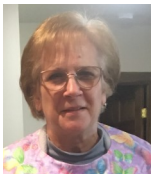


## Faith Stories

Our first story this week came to us from Bonnie Love-Colwell. It was a story that reflected on the fact that we need to put it all in God's hands when we can't juggle it all. It was a time when Bonnie was directing a stage production, being a parent and a wife, working teaching every day, and doing online classes. She continued to struggle juggling all of her responsibilities, so she asked God to take over for her and get her through this time of overbooking her time. As she prayed with her eyes closed, she felt light filtering in and spelled the word trust on her closed eyelid. She said thank you Lord, I will trust you will take care of it. Wouldn't you know that a snowstorm hit Wednesday morning, letting school out early and forcing a cancellation of stage rehearsal, leaving Bonnie time to do the online chat that she needed to be present for. Snow isn't uncommon in January, but the timing couldn't have been any better, This showed Bonnie yet again that she needs to turn it ALL over to God.



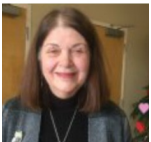
Our second story came to us from Karen Jones. Karen tried to record herself, but was too emotional, so she emailed it to the church allowing us to present it. Karen's touching story was about her brother who was injured in a car accident years ago and became disabled. He was in and out of the hospital from the nursing home where he lived, as he was in a very tough state of health. Karen went to visit her brother with her sister and Mom. He was in pain and they prayed that David would get some peace. Karen went to get beverages for her family and on the way back was joined by a minister, friar, and priest who all asked to pray with them. After they left, she felt that David had a calming look on his face. He didn't miraculously become healed but he did improve enough to leave the hospital in a couple days. This was a reinforcement to her that God was listening and was there for all of them.



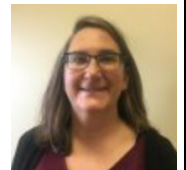
Our third story is from Gus. He told about how he fell away from religion in his college years. Then one day a few years later someone or something told him to "listen" to the conversation that was going on in the next booth in the restaurant he was in. The woman's story that day was the beginning of many horrific stories of abortion and all the terrible statistics of how many babies die unnecessarily. This prompted him to look back at his religion and knew that he had to turn back to God to get him through this troublesome time.



Our fourth story from Kandy. It all began with Kandy donating a cake to the basket raffle supporting the Stout family. It just so happened that the mom of one of Craig's employees at Aldi won the basket. This was a blessing to the mom as during this time of COVID she wasn't sure what she was going to do special for her younger daughter for her birthday. Kandy wasn't feeling confident about the cake because it was one she had not prepared before, but after she saw the video that the mom sent and the priceless reaction of her daughter, Kandy was reassured this was meant to be. Later that night as Kandy played a game of words with Friends, lo and behold, the perfect seven letter word that fit was BLESSED. This once again reassured Kandy that everything happened perfectly the way it was supposed to.



Our fifth story this week was from Bonnie. She spoke of a time when she was practicing for a play up at Elk mountain. At the end of every rehearsal director Bob DeLuca always ended with the same words "okay see you." This time he ended it with "okay drive safe." Bonnie happened to notice the change in the words but went on her way. Bonnie headed home alone, winding down the curvy road from Elk mountain. She was probably going faster than she should have been when she heard a voice from the passenger seat tell her "you're not in any sort of a hurry are you?". She immediately slowed down and around the next curve stood a deer in the middle of the road. Had Bonnie not heard this voice of this angel in the passenger seat, something terrible could have happened that night. Bonnie shares that she feels many times Angels lift us up and set us back down so we can safely go on our way and we don't even realize it.



Our sixth story is from Linda in her camper straight into our hearts. Linda told us she has had so many God moments that she can't count them all. She reminded us that we can go to him no matter what we look like, what our problem is, no matter what we are asking. She remembered Pastor Baker brought them a loaf of bread when they first moved here. Not knowing it was the Pastor that day, she was impressed that he was able to show God's love without reading any scripture...that loaf of banana bread and the visit was all he needed to do to spread the goodness of God. Linda reminded us again that through all the trials that you may face, if you look to him, he will be there for you.



Our seventh story is from Ray. Ray has had many health issues in the past year. The tests and waiting for results have been very stressful. During a worship service he heard a very helpful scripture. He shares this scripture with us. Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. He keeps that scripture near his chair and goes to God with his request and concerns and knows that God has his situation in His control and feels peace.



Our last story is from Kay. She speaks of her son that has served seven years of a 25-30 year prison sentence. He recently met with the parole board to see if he would receive parole. His request was denied. Kay relates that she knows that God is in control of this situation and He will continue to care for her son where he is.



Sometimes we get caught up in waiting for that special time with the Holy Spirit. We wait and we wait sometimes impatiently, thinking that this is never going to happen or I'll never have this "God moment" but lo and behold right in front of you things could be happening that you don't even realize that are happening to protect you and to bless you and to bring you closer to Him.

As we continue to see and hear these stories, let us all dig deep in our memories to remember those moments where the Holy Spirit has been with you or led you to what you need. Have prayerful conversations with him and share with him your joys and problems. Ask Him for guidance in this time of decision of what you will do toward the serving Him this year through your gifts and talents. When you include the Holy Spirit in this discussion, he will be a part of your commitment throughout the year. We continue to enjoy these stories that have been presented by our congregation. We encourage you to have that prayerful time with your God and share your stories with us. Continue to have that time with him and ask him what direction you will go this year in your time and talents and your pledges for this year's crucial stewardship Drive. May God bless you on your journey.

Thank you all for your dedication to this church and all of its missions. Together with God's guidance we will continue to find new and exciting ways to serve our Gracious and Generous God!

We hope you are finding these stories helpful in your own journey. The Stewardship committee hopes that these are bringing you closer to God and perhaps sometimes answering some questions along the way.

A friendly reminder that if you haven't turned in your pledge cards and time and talent sheets, there's still time to have that discussion with your Lord to guide you in your way of serving him. Remember that it takes ALL of us to work together for that common goal of service to God and to do ALL we do for HIS GLORY!

God Bless you all and we pray that God continues to bless this church, when so many other churches are struggling, sometimes consolidating, sometimes closing. But we continue to find ways to serve.

Thank you.



## Interfaith Building Dedication

Dear Lord of the Harvest,

We do reap what we sow. On this historic evening, dusk does not dim the efforts and energies that You, our Father, have given us here to dedicate and celebrate. Yes, there is no darkness here. Instead, we interconnect our faith and see this as a dawn of a new era, a new life of active Christian ministry because You, our Guiding God, help us do what your Son has commanded and inspired us to through the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, and it is this: feed the hungry, quench the parched mouths of those who thirst, invite the stranger into care, clothe those in need, be proactive to alleviate the sick, and literally and metaphorically be present, attentive, caring and giving to those in prisons of all kinds.

Here on a prominent bend here in Montrose, may we continue to bend our ears and our backs to Your service here at Interfaith. You have repurposed this historic church. We call on You now to continue to repurpose each of us to be the hands and the feet of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

May the local churches in our area continue to see You in all that surrounds us here. May the church, the bride of Christ, press on to win the race and support the active, local mission work inspired, organized and executed by those tremendous hearts here at Interfaith. May these same churches, and those still to join, continue to band together and be together as a united and generous resource to the tremendous charities that are taking place here, and will continue to take place here.

About those tremendous hearts here at Interfaith, dear Lord, You have certainly challenged the dedicated administration and the hardworking, loyal staff. You have stretched them. You have called on more patience than they could possibly muster, yet still you had them dream, wait, press on, wait more, dig in deeper, and find new strategies when doors of benefactors that should have opened remained forever closed. You had Your people here keep on, wait more, stretch, pinch and pull, and still, though successful in Your name, these workers of Yours, these Marthas in the kitchen, still long to do more work in Your Holy and Precious name. Remind these workers on the hard days that being faithful stewards is never about comfort or convenience, ease or luxury; it is always about what You've inspired them to do inside the chambers of who they are, and that is serve. Challenge them, and all of us, to continue to seek new ways to reflect Your countenance, Your grace, Your mercy and Your justice for all, which includes, of course, modern widows and orphans otherwise known as the marginalized.

And Gentle One who is as soft as starlight and bolder and bigger than any of us can imagine, we bow to You and dedicate this building and all its ministries—emergency assistance, the back to school shoe program, Pathways, the Bountiful blessings Easter Program, and the Christmas Bureau—to Your name. Instigate new ministries here in that way You have that is familiar to the leadership of this place. Keep talking to and working through all those who call this address their home.

Amazing Yahweh, You are the Lord of the Harvest, this harvest. May Your bounties continue on this hallowed ground.

Finally, dear Heavenly Father, guide those in need to this ministry today, tomorrow, and well into the future. May those who come in need meet You and walk away not empty but full with faith, hope and love—Your love.

In the presence of the Holy Spirit here, together we say... Amen.



## My Little Library come to Harford!!!!



Local Girl Scout, Briana Boswell, made and donated a “My Little Library” to the community of Harford on November 20, 2020. Briana, a 16-year-old sophomore who has always loved reading, wanted to give something to her town of Harford. Pastor Will, whom she contacted on her own, agreed that this little library is just the perfect gift.

Briana confesses she is not much of a builder, but you’ll question this as the little library, which sits on the stone wall of the cemetery closest to the church right along the Creek Road, is of great quality and design. Come and see for yourself!

“My Little Library” sits close to the road so that it can easily be seen and is assessable. The library is a free access to books you may enjoy. It’s also a place you can donate books. Simply leave them in the library.

There is no charge or sign out cards when taking books. Happy reading!

You may remember Briana. She is one of two teenage Girl Scouts who made the two handsome, sturdy, well-appreciated garden benches that flank the Memorial Garden beyond the church parking lot.

Thank you, Brianna!!!

## Interfaith Cocoa Collection

We collected 141 boxes of Hot Chocolate for the Interfaith Christmas Food Boxes!



Thank You!!

## Council Minutes

### Financial:

October	2019	October	2020
Income:	\$10,077.75	Income:	\$9,254.18
Expense:	\$ 9,153.25	Expense:	\$9,469.43
Total:	\$ 924.50	Total:	-\$215.25
Year to Date			
Income:	\$109,972.54		
Expense:	\$100,138.79		
Total:	\$9,833.75		

## Council Minutes

### Financial Continued:

November	2019	November	2020
Income:	\$ 6,681.50	Income	\$7,325.70
Expense:	\$10,499.99	Expense:	\$8,497.26
Total:	-\$3,818.49	Total:	-\$1,171.56
Year to Date			
Income:	\$117,298.24	Expense:	\$108,636.05
Total:	\$8,662.19		

**Church Cupboard:** serving two families

**Cradle Roll:** one child received letter and book

### Deacons Minutes-November 8, 2020

The main topic of discussion was the Christmas Eve services. Katherine had sent out a survey to see what time most of the congregation would be attending and the response has not been good. Hopefully by the next meeting more people will have a better idea of what time the majority of the congregation will be at what service.

Also discussed was the upcoming tree lighting on November 29th at 6:00. Ornaments will be available for those attending to place on the tree with what they hope for in 2021. Most activities will be outside with wearing of masks and social distancing will be required. The Deacons and Stewardship Committees are sponsoring this together. There will be fire pits for warmth; as well as, hot chocolate, coffee, and tea.

A song from Michael Card entitled "Celebrate the Child" was also discussed as a possible song to be sung on Christmas Eve. The meeting ended and the next scheduled meeting is December 13th @ 1:00 via Zoom.

**Pastoral Relations:** Met to discuss salary

**Trustees:** Met to discuss salaries. Worked on Furnace and thermostat. Worked on outside light timers.

### Missionary Minutes: 11-17-2020

Treasurer's Report: \$60 out to CWU Least Coin, \$75 out to Daily Bread

Operation Christmas Child: 50 boxes were delivered to regional collection center in Montrose. Maureen will send a check to Samaritan's Purse for the shipping (5 boxes were prepaid with tracking).

Japan Mission: Karen wrote a very nice letter to be included with the Christmas card to two churches in Japan. We took a group picture after this meeting and will include pictures from the Tree Lighting on November 29, 2020. 1% of the population in Japan are Christian. They appreciate our support.

Nicaragua: The CHE (Community Health Evangelism) representative reports that Nicaragua has been devastated by two hurricanes hitting back to back. It is reported that what they most need is money to rebuild. Holly and Kay are donating \$1000 from the Nicaragua Fund for this cause. Missionary voted via email to add \$500 to this amount. The Partnership in Hope administrator will be notified that this money is coming.

Next Meeting: January 19, 2021

## Annual Meeting

**January 31, 2021 at 11:15 in the sanctuary \*NO MEAL\***

## Willing Worker Big Group Meeting - November 4, 2020

Two thank you notes were read; one from benefit committee and one from the Stout family.

OLD BUSINESS: Maureen and Connie Breese met at Nicholson Lumber to look for cupboards for the Gathering Room. They ordered cupboards (with a lazy Susan for the corner cupboard). Nicholson Lumber came and measured. The cost is \$2,900 plus installation. Maureen also had them measure for a cabinet under the bathroom counter in the lady's bathroom so that the TP etc. could be put out of sight. She arranged to pay for that cupboard herself. Trustees are to be asked to do something with the 2 dehumidifiers that are under the counter. These cupboards will be for Willing Worker storage so that big coffee pots and other things don't have to be hauled up and down the cellar steps.

Holli reported that the total costs for the cancer benefit lunch were \$634.69. Bills to be given to the treasurer. Cole slaw (Binghams) and much of pork butt (Stepniaks) were donated.

Kandy received a note from Jason Miller in response to her letter. The Harford Fair board had received her letter asking about the possibility of us putting a building on the fair grounds as the area in the new building is too small. They asked how big a building we were considering (to have a comparable space to the log cabin, we would need 300-400 square feet). A new building of that size might be \$8,000. We would still have to pay for electric usage. There are a number of questions if we went that route. If we went with two spaces in the new building, we might not be able to sell everything that we sold before. Then what if there was no fair next year? How would we recoup our losses if we had built a building and there was no fair? Perhaps the congregation could be asked if they have a large storage shed that they no longer want and would donate.

Holli gave an update on the roast beef dinner. Ticket sales are going slowly. Job assignments: Ellen-green beans, Kandy-corn, Ginny-potatoes, Holli-gravy, Peggy and crew-pie cutting, Ivie and Dena to help package. Cole slaw and dinner rolls will be purchased. Holli will buy the eye of round beef and cook it in roasters. She has checked with Sam's and Stepniaks. Other suggestions were to contact a restaurant to see if we could get their price for meat. Pies need to be there by noon. Still need: traffic control, ticket checker in, meal taker outer, dippers, clean up crew, and ?

NEW BUSINESS: JoAnn asked about the left-over roast beef in the freezer for Alyssa's wedding reception. She may take it with our blessing.

Sharon Decker made a motion that our pledge for next year be \$3,000 plus \$350 to OCWM. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maureen. Passed. Reasoning was amount in treasury and no fair profits this year plus who knows about next year. A possibility of us giving more next year at this time if we have a good year.

The next meeting is February 3, 2021 at 1:00PM in the Lecture Hall.

**NOVEMBER'S PASTOR'S REPORT:** Understandably, people long to "go back" to our lives before the virus. I think that's a mistake in thinking because this virus, especially when we consider God in control, has taught (and will continue to teach) us a great deal. The lessons unfold.

I have heard at the double glass doors after worship, "I just couldn't stand being away," or "I have missed church." I get it. I think we all get it. I'm not diminishing these heart-felt, true and honest feelings. The glory of God by way of the Holy Spirit *is* in that sanctuary. I feel it all the time. So do others! It's awesome!

I do invite us to think long and hard about what worship is, or, more specifically, where worship "ends." To begin, we all know this. Worship does not end. It is not contained. It is FAR from being one hour each week.

When we remember Pentecost, we know the Spirit of God ripped off that roof. God is ripping (yes, like many of you, I think this may not be the right verb, either) something new in us and something new for us. We cannot go back. We should not go back. In conversations, I have said this virus and our lives after it will forever be changed. I'm comparing apples to oranges here, but I knew a life before 9/11 and I know one post 9/11. The two are *vastly* different. There is a definite loss in our post 9/11 lives. Now in speaking from loss, I hope there will be a gain in our post virus lives.

## **NOVEMBER'S PASTOR'S REPORT Continued:**

The gain is that we truly value each other. We recognize we need God in our group. We also recognize our group is not limited. The same number of people sitting in the same seats does not welcome the stranger, the newcomer, or the seasoned Christian who has, for one reason or another, relocated.

We have been forced to consider what a community actually is. This has been hard on us. It continues to be hard on us. I'm actually glad this is hard on us in one way because being a bit uncomfortable aligns with the theology of carrying our own crosses. I have yet to read in scripture where the Christian life is the easy life. The Christian life is the blessed life, most definitely. However, it is not—and never will be and likely never should be—easy.

As of November, 2020, I have done more writing for you than any other year. This is due, in part, to the completion of the doctoral studies. Without all those papers, you have more access to me as a different me. That program changed me and changed how I see my ministry with yours here in Harford.

I do not regret showing you how the sermons form each week. Rather than the big presentation behind the pulpit Sunday only, I offer each week a tremendous amount of work. I start us all on Mondays with the sermon intro. My intent here is not only to intro the upcoming Sunday text, but to take the Word of God to a place you may not have considered (or can perhaps reconsider). Tuesday, I typically record the vlog. This? Yikes! This IS hard. I aim these short videos not only at those close to Christ, but also to those struggling in an identity with Christ. Our scripture is alive. Its timelessness reaches us every time we engage it, and my goal, as your pastor, is to have people near and not so near the church get the Gospel truth—our God is love. Our relationship with Him does bring healing and wellness of the soul. And yes, Jesus died on the cross so that death would never be known to you. Wednesday brings the Midweek Meditation, a nugget of truth and application to get us moving ahead practically. Thursday, I share the weekly column published in *The Susquehanna Independent*, and either Friday or Saturday, depending on the weekly schedule, I give you the Sermon Prep. This is yet another way to get you into the layers of the text. Lately, I've been giving one last spark to the week. It's my invitation to you, the congregation, and to the "congregation" who can join us virtually. This fact remains sobering. Harford is not growing demographically. If this church is to survive this ongoing, local economic downturn, we need resources far beyond a 20- to 30-mile radius of our physical address on the Creek Road. It is my intent to reach these resources—and that seems like a marketing/bling word for people, our people; yet, in making disciples in all nations, we (you and I) are called to bring them home to Harford, one soul at a time. Currently, we have almost 350 Facebook members. Over 200 of them are active enough on this page to respond to any single post.

On a different note, and I'm using this as a pun, the music through this virus season during worship has been, in my opinion, fantastic. This is not praise for the musicians as much as it is for God working in and through all of us. I just spoke with a current shut-in who misses singing in the choir. (And the choir IS missed, right?) Until this return, the Spirit of God is lifting the sanctuary off the ground. So much truth, so much honesty, so much shared emotion and deep, soul-opening expression is heard weekly. Of course, this positively impacts the message behind the pulpit. Our God IS good.

Our God IS good. In this report, I mention this virus like it's some far off fact, but it keeps getting closer. More and more of those we know are getting it. The number of Americans who have died from it, and the number of people around the world who have died from it, makes us not just weak, but truly mournful. Our world is in acute grief. Be mindful of this when you pray.

**Next Council Meeting: February 4, 2021 6:30pm**

## NOVEMBER'S PASTOR'S REPORT Continued:

Be mindful of Christmas, too. Keep this season lit, as challenging as it may be. This first sermon series I've done since mid-March, titled *Unmasking Christmas*, is key. It's timely. I know this series was launched in early November, but, as I have said in church, we need all this time this year to truly understand afresh and anew the meaning of Emmanuel, God with us. As I shared in my pastor's report here in this edition, this is not the year we Christians are comfortable. Mary, Joseph, the Innkeeper and even the traveling shepherds did not experience comfort either. Not by any means. As we embrace Christ with us, we also embrace a dark world that does at times keep us in uncomfortable situations, even seasons. By no means does this mean Christ has abandoned us. It's the contrary. We see in our suffering and the suffering of those around us the presence of Christ pushing us to love much more boldly, connect (safely) much more deliberately, and hold what can seem like fleeting hope much more intentionally.

I'll close with this. It's a tremendously stressful time to be a pastor. I thank God we are in this ministry together. No, we are not perfect in this practice. Nevertheless, God still reaches us and teaches us. God still (and always) inspires us and gifts us. Let these gifts you experience be shared. Love out loud. And do this love—this great, endless, awesome love—in His name.

**Notice: Please send all material for February to be included in the Spire to:**

**Firstchurchspire@gmail.com**

**by the 15th of January 2021!**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**



**Spire  
Sponsor**

In appreciation and thankfulness to everyone who makes the Sunday morning service possible!

Judy Mitchell

## Soup Ministry

Know someone that is shut-in or feeling down or sick?

Take them a quart of home-made soup.

It's in the large freezer by the church mailboxes.

Just sign the paper on the door to let us know who received the soup.







# Weinberg Food Bank



Harford First Congregational Church  
Normally the 4th Friday of each month,

however there will be no distribution in December.

Please contact Tammy if you have registered but do not plan to pick up.

Next distribution January 22, 2021 from 3:30-5:30

Any income can apply complete the form online [firstchurchharford.com](http://firstchurchharford.com)  
or call Tammy @ 570-396-7081.

Day of Distribution please bring with you a photo ID and a current household bill with your current Susquehanna County address.



Dear Congregation,

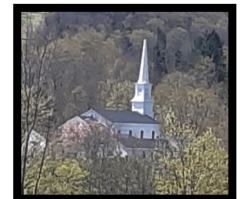
**Attention! The worship service will be livestreamed live at 10:00 am each Sunday.**

We have been eager to worship together again. Our council met to discuss how we can safely begin this process. We are now able to meet in groups with masks, distance, and additional sanitizing.

We would like to invite those who feel ready to worship in groups to come to the livestreaming of our worship at 10:00 am. Masks are mandatory. We must keep our distance. We will not use the hymnals and Bibles or have bulletins. All needed text will be projected for you. We will enter and exit through the glass double doors.

For those who feel it is best to stay at home and continue online worship, which, at the moment, seems to be the majority of us, please know our council supports and appreciates your participation. Safety first is a key to our wellbeing.

We look forward to worshipping with you online or in person each  
Sunday at 10 am.



# Correspondence



Dear Harford Friends,

In the past few weeks I have felt God's blessings surrounding me! So many cards filled with gentle Kind words of sympathy, also words of hope faith and love! Thank you for sharing my loss! I needed all of you!

In Christian Love, Joyce Berish

\*\*\*\*\*

Hello, The Red Cross blood drive at the fire hall on October 21<sup>st</sup> was very successful. A total of 31 units of blood were collected! And that was despite the fact that they inadvertently scheduled a blood drive at the South New Milford Baptist Church the day before! She promised not to do that again next time since we draw from the same pool of donors. She is from upstate NY and didn't make the connection that the two blood drives were only 2 miles apart. Thanks for your efforts in getting the word out and making our drive a success!

Have a great day, George Lotter

\*\*\*\*\*

Hello Harford Servant of God,

I received my 2<sup>nd</sup> "Our Spire" today. I can not believe how my face lit up when it came. It provides a connection I now need in my life, so I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Don't forget to vote & may you have a Blessed day?

N. Edward Ayers II

\*\*\*\*\*

Harford Church Family,

Thinking of you at Thanksgiving.

Love and Blessings to all, Barbara Day

\*\*\*\*\*

First Church Family,

May your blessings be many, Your troubles be few

On this Thanksgiving and All the year through!

Happy Thanksgiving to All! Mallory

\*\*\*\*\*

# Home Bound

The Carey Family

Barbara Pease

Dorothy Greene

Joan Benson



## Prayer Concerns

- We pray for our nation to be blessed and that our nation seeks its blessings
- We pray our national and local leaders
- All school districts—this includes school board members, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students
- We pray for Cathi Ferger's niece Stacy with stage 3 breast cancer
- Craig Stout and Family
- We pray for Connie and David Schulte's son ( Phil)
- for those with medical issues large and small
- for those affected in anyway by the COVID virus
- David and Brandy
- Shannon N. and her family
- Those with Alzheimer's and their families
- Ivie Simons on her journey with cancer
- JoAnn Titus
- Gary and Wendy Phillips
- the Carey family
- Ray Frederick
- John Zimmerman
- Shani Vietri
- those experiencing financial pressures
- Susan Conklin on the recent loss of her mother
- those fighting addiction

-Joan Benson & Lois Gibson and all those in nursing homes along with their families

-Rock Estabrook

-upcoming weddings

-Will's five foster kids

-Evan Clarkson and all those faithfully serving in the military

-MaryJane Genneken

-Marlene Dean

-Sandy Zupanovich

-UCC churches in Japan

-Nicaragua (hurricane damage)

-Cathy Symuleski and her family (loss of Father)

-Family of Kathy Swaha

-Family of Patricia Morrison

-Family of Adeline Fallon

-Dave Schulte's brother (COVID)

-Walter Poxon's sister Lois Terrance and Angie

-Sandra Chamberlin and family ( loss of Father)

-Marie Predmore Catania (loss of brother)

-Those grieving during the holidays

-Rich Masters—Health (Blood pressure and heart)

-Mary Jo Hart's sister

-Holtsmaster family

-Becci Warren's friend Katie (Pregnancy)

-Kandy's friend Mary Keihl (ALS)



## The Website is up and running.

We have worked hard, but we realize that important things may not have been included.

We are still adding and changing things so if you have suggestions, please email Holli Chichester at [hollischichester@gmail.com](mailto:hollischichester@gmail.com) or call 301-643-1775.

Please check it out at

[www.firstchurchharford.com](http://www.firstchurchharford.com)



## Directory Update

Nicholas\*\* Estabrook  
1647 Tingley Lake Road  
New Milford  
PA 18834

Marth Jenkins  
85 Upper Lake Road  
New Milford  
PA 18834-8124



Bill and Anita Millard  
1205 Richardson Road  
New Milford  
PA 18834

Passing of Barbara Webster on October 25, 2020. Please adjust your directories.  
Thank you.

## Memorial Plaque Information

Are you interested in having a plaque attached to the memorial stone in the memorial garden? One may have a plaque ordered by doing the following:  
Cost---\$25.00

Send check (made out to First Congregational-UCC) along with name of person and the year of birth and the year they passed away to the office.

The office will then proceed to order the plaque and have it placed on the stone. Thank you.



## Spire Sponsors

We **need Sponsors** to help us cover the cost of printing and mailing the Spire. Please let us know if you can help. The sponsorship can be in Memory or in Honor of someone or just a donation.

Mailing costs approximately \$75/month. Please send to: Harford First Congregational Church—UCC

PO Box 217

Harford, PA 18823



## *IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!*

The Harford Volunteer Fire Company has been in contact with Santa over the last several months! With the current COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, it has been challenging for him as with us all. However, we're EXCITED to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Claus have accepted our invitation to come see our community, and we hope you'll come out to see them too!

*WHEN : Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

*TIME : 6:00-7:00pm*

*WHERE : 142 Fair Hill Road Harford, PA*

Due to social distancing guidelines, this year will be a bit different than most. We will unfortunately be unable to host our typical Christmas social with story time and cookies. However, Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be accepting letters to Santa in drive-through fashion!

Also, each child will still receive their annual Christmas Ornament! We ask that upon entering the parking lot you follow the directions of our firefighters, as they will be maintaining traffic flow to minimize intrusion to the main road and prevent our apparatus bays from being blocked. Also, please BE PATIENT! We realize that this isn't ideal, but we hope to make the best of it! If you're in line at 7:00pm, you will get to see Santa! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be staying until every child has the chance to share their Christmas list!

We know this year has been difficult for everyone, but we hope the evening will bring a little Christmas cheer to the children of our community. We can't wait to see you!

## Ugly Quilts

We are now meeting for Ugly Quilts in the lecture hall on Tuesdays at 9:30.

We will sit far apart. Bring your mask and lunch if you can stay until 12:00 so that we may dine together. Ellen has some tops completed and I have been working on making stuffing during the summer. Bring a friend.

Come at 9:30 and stay until after lunch or come at 10:30 and leave whenever.

Looking forward to seeing you. Thank you, Judy



### December Birthdays

December 01	Christopher Graf
December 06	Wayne Frederici Doug Phelps Wendy Phillips
December 07	Carol Zick Jacquie Phillips
December 12	Betty Lou Bennett
December 13	Ed Morrison JoAnn Titus
December 14	Jud Holdredge
December 16	Lynola Carey
December 18	JoAnn Grimes
December 19	Bonnie Love-Colwell Rich Graf Rick Masters Amanda (Tyler) Norris
December 21	Olivia Zick Carol Morrison
December 24	Barbara Chidester
December 28	Ann Marie Graf Tammy Stout
December 29	Michael Lamberson Danielle Urda
December 31	Rick & Beth Ann Masters

### January Birthdays

January 02	Lisa Higgins
January 04	David Schulte, III
January 06	Alyssa Clarkson Anita Millard
January 15	John and Lola Zimmerman
January 22	Sherry Decker Maya Mitchell
January 23	Aiden Miller
January 24	Melissa Heller
January 25	Ashley (Millard) Parsons
January 29	Bailey Ann Millard
January 30	Sue Ann Furney Karen Jones Linda Lindsey
January 31	Charlene Batzel Bill Chichester



## A New Year's Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we turn from this year to the next, we extend our thank you to You because in faith we realize no situation is too far out of Your control. No tear we shed is unseen. No trouble we experience is ours alone. Not with You. You are Jehovah-Jireh, the God who provides. We see Your provisions as we look back on the months that have passed, and pray that we will continue to see Your hand in the months ahead.

We thank You that You, Creating God, hold everything in Your never-ending hands. We thank You that You know our needs before we groan, before we cry, before we even ask, and before we even come to You in petition. You're aware of all that concerns us, all that worries us, all that brings us a feeling of weakness in our stomachs, and You have a plan. You have the solutions. You alone move mountains to make a way for us, Your children. We ask for Your answer, in Your timing, in Your plan, to be given for every need that weighs on our hearts. Forgive us for doubting You and for trying so hard to work everything out on our own.

As we move into 2021, help us to trust You more. Walk with us in our unbelief. Companion us in moments of weakness. Comfort us when the hurt feels too great.

We choose to recognize and to believe that You, our Sustaining Father, accomplish far more and do far greater than we even thought possible. We thank You in advance for Your miracles, for paving out pathways, and for Your provisions for those who love and seek You.

You are our good God. Thank You for the abundance of blessing and goodness You have already stored up. We trust You this day, and every day. We, Your congregation, are grateful for Your protection, power and presence that fills our lives. Thank you for teaching us to be content in all circumstances, we love You, Lord. We're leaning on—and looking toward—You.

In the name of Jesus we pray,

Amen.



**Spire Sponsor**  
**Merry Christmas**  
**and a**  
**Very Happy New Year!!!!**

**Anita Millard**

### Rada Knife Order Form 2020-21

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Order Total \_\_\_\_\_

Item # I	Item Name	Order	Price	Total
R100 W200	Granny Paring		4.75	
R101 W201	Regular Paring Black handle		4.75	
R102 W202	Peeling Paring Black handle		4.75	
R103 W203	Heavy Duty Paring Black handle		4.75	
R104 W204	Utility/Steak Black Handle		5.25	
R105 W205	Serrated Steak Black Handle		5.25	
R106	Stubby Butcher		7.25	
R107	Slicer		7.50	
R108	Carve/ Boner		7.25	
R109	Old Fashioned Butcher		14.25	
110	Carving Fork		6.50	
111	Ham Slicer		9.25	
112	10" Bread Knife		9.25	
R113	Super Spreader		5.75	
R114	Spatula		6.75	
R117	Handi-Stir		5.00	
R118	Bagel Knife		6.25	
R119	Sharpener		5.75	
R120	Serrated Pie Server		7.00	



R121	Pizza Cutter		10.50	
R122	Granny Fork		5.25	
R123 X	Cook Spoon(no holes)		9.50	
R124 X	Cook Spoon(w/ holes)		9.50	
R126	Tomato Slicer		5.50	
R127 W227	Super Parer Black Handle		6.50	
R128	Turnover		8.00	
R129	Chef's Dicer		12.00	
R130	Grapefruit Knife		5.25	
R131	French Chef's Knife		\$17.50	
R132 W232	Vegetable Peeler		6.50	
R133	Mini Server		6.00	
R134 W234	Cook's Knife		8.50	
R135	Party Spreader		4.75	
R136	6" Bread Knife		7.50	
R137	Ice Cream Scoop		11.50	
R138	Serrated Slicer		7.75	
R139	Cheese Slicer		7.50	
R140	Cook's Utility		6.00	
R141	Deluxe Veg. Peeler		7.25	
R142 W242	Serrated Regular Paring		4.75	
W980	Non scratch spoon...no holes		8.50	
W981	Non scratch spoon...w/holes		8.50	
W982	Non scratch spatula		8.50	
W983	Non scratch soup ladle		8.50	
	Micro Cloth		5.00	

# December 2020

January 2021

Su	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mo	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Tu	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
We	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Th	31						
Fr							
Sa							

December 2020

Su	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mo	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Tu	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
We	27	28	29	30	31		
Th							
Fr							
Sa							

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5
Pastor Will (Vacation) 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	Pastor Will (Vacation) 9:30am AM mtg	Pastor Will (Vacation) 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	Pastor Will (Vacation)	Pastor Will (Vacation) 6:30pm Nov Council mtg (LH)	Pastor Will (Vacation)	Pastor Day Off Pastor Will (Vacation)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Pastor Will (Vacation) 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	Pastor Will (Vacation) 9:30am AM mtg	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office	12:00pm Wedding (Clarkson/Nolan)	Pastor Day Off
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:00am Services (sanctuary) 1:00pm Deacons	9:30am AM mtg 7:00pm Trustees	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office		Pastor Day Off
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00am Services (sanctuary) 12:15pm stewardship (LH)	9:30am AM mtg	9:30am NO Ugly Quilts (LH)		7:00am Christmas Eve service	MERRY CHRISTMAS 3:30pm NO Weinberg distribution	Pastor Day Off
27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 21	2
10:00am Services (sanctuary)	9:30am AM mtg	9:30am NO Ugly Quilts (LH)				

# January 2021

January 2021							February 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31							28						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 21	2 Pastor Day Off
3 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	4 9:30am AM mtg	5 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	6	7 10:00am Pastor in office	8	9 Pastor Day Off
10 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	11 9:30am AM mtg 7:00pm Trustees	12 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	13	14 10:00am Pastor in office	15	16 Pastor Day Off
17 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	18 9:30am AM mtg	19 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm Missionary (LH)	20	21 10:00am Pastor in office	22 3:30pm Weinberg distribution	23 Pastor Day Off
24 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	25 9:30am AM mtg	26 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	27	28 10:00am Pastor in office 6:30pm Council (LH)	29	30 Pastor Day Off
31 10:00am Services (sanctuary)	Feb 1	2	3	4	5	6



Harford First Congregational Church –UCC  
5016 Creek Road  
PO Box217  
Harford, PA 18823  
Tel.570-434-2260  
Email: firstch@nep.net  
Spire email: firstchurchspire@gmail.com  
Web URL: www.firstchurchharford.com



Harford First Congregational Church—UCC

Rev. Dr. William Hagenbuch –Pastor  
Home Phone: 570-434-7729  
Email: wrh@nep.net  
Office Hours: Thurs. 10-12:00

Judy Mitchell –Sec  
Hours: Tuesday 1:00-5:00  
Friday 1:00-5:00

.....the people in darkness have seen a great light

Isaiah 9:2

*Join Us Each Sunday!!*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
PERMIT—#20  
Montrose, PA 18801

**DATED MAIL**

**PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**