



Our Spire
Volume 42 Number 10
December 22 / January 23

**Reaching Up to God,
Reaching out to People**

When Christmas is not “the hap-happiest season of all....”



I was surprised and then perplexed in mid-November when the Christian radio station I was listening announced an upcoming event by saying that Christmas is the happiest season of all.

For some of us, Christmas is NOT always the hap-happiest season of all. Those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings when friends come to call? That doesn't always happen. In fact, Christmas can truly be one the loneliest times of the year. Covid gave each of us the reality that some will experience this year—distance, isolation, and the promise of a connectedness that just won't happen.

Sorrow needs to be expressed, not swept under the Christmas tree throw rug near the door. We need to name and mark our grief, not hide it.

When sitting in our grief, we feel we have little, or less. We think the best Christmases have past.

I don't want to take any of this away. There is something to mourn. To settle in deeply with the thought that the best Christmases have past, short changes the 2022 Christmas that will be. Indeed, the Christmases of yore are past, but the meaning of Christmas refreshes each of us each year. God came to earth for us, all of us. God's connection to us—and our connection to God—deepens with years that pass. Or they can deepen when you realize the best gift you have comes to you each year.

I get it. Holiday greetings and gay happy meetings are fun. They really are! You may have photo albums full of such bright and fun memories through the years. This is wonderful!

Something else is happening this year, too. In fact, it happens every Christmas. The angels proclaim this joyful news! The shoot of Jesse has come! Christ is with us!

Some older people (but not you, of course!), can get a little grumbly when it comes to gift receiving. “Ah! I don't need anything!” you say with a little more (peppermint) bark than you should. But this isn't true. You do need something.

You need Christ. Specifically, you need to be reminded of him, of why he came, and what he does to death, which is conquer it forever for us.

The gift of a quiet/quieter Christmas affords you the peace and the time to reflect, receive, and then yes, rejoice.

Yes, rejoice! Your Jesus is with you. Your Jesus loves you. Your Jesus hears you, comforts you, and companions with you.

Now this sure beats the fifth new pair of slippers you won't wear, right?

Dear Jesus,

Help me receive you as the gift you are. You are exactly what I need. You give me exactly what I need, which is hope in the connection I have with you all the days of my life, and then in the bliss called eternity.

Thank you for your love. Help me love you back not solemnly, but with bright celebration this—and every—Christmas.

Amen.



New Years Resolutions are silly, aren't they?

Well, maybe not.

It was some time ago that you may have made a New Year's Resolution. After all, that's kids' stuff.

Or waiting until midnight for a ball to drop? That may have been fun in your earlier years, but staying up past 10 PM?

That is not going to happen!

But aside from the countdown to the New Year and the celebration of it, should we mark the New Year? Should we make a New Year's resolution?

Why not?

Why not refresh your relationship with Jesus? Why not restore and revive Your connection to his bride, the church?

No matter our age or stage in life, each of us can benefit from a clean, honest look at our spiritual lives. Where does your connection to your Savior work? Reflecting on times you have felt particularly close to Jesus can help you answer this.

As importantly (and informationally), have there been times you have felt apart from Jesus? Are there habits or patterns that keep you from worshipping Jesus as you know you can?

These are good questions, right?

Keep those questions coming. Keep those thoughts rolling.

The New Year may mean far less than it has in the past, but let's not miss this window to intentionally make our connection to God and the church even stronger.

The following four questions may help you realize that this time of year is a good one for new habits, new outlooks, and new hope!

1. If you haven't been coming to church for a good reason, can something change now so that you can come back?
2. Where is a place Jesus has been calling you to go (or calling you to do) that makes you feel reluctant? There's a reason for this!
3. The New Year is approaching. What can you let go of? What can you look forward to in the future?
4. Where are you blessed, and where and how are you sharing your blessings with others in the community?

“Even youths grow tired and weary, and the young stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” — Isaiah 40:30-31



Christian treats here at Harford!

The Christian Education team hosted what was called a “Fun in the Sun Trunk or Treat” time on Sunday, October 30, 2020 from 2 to 3 PM.

Smile at what it was called because we didn’t use trunks (we were not out in the parking lot with decorated vehicles) AND while it was indeed a gorgeous, sunny day, we held the event indoors.

Kids dressed in costume. Together with parents, grandparents or other family, they were greeted by CE director Holli Chichester at the single back door. They were given instructions that they were to travel throughout the church building by following red arrows taped on the floor. At points along the way, they met church and community volunteers who passed out candy on what may be called “the kids’ candy tour.”

Many, many thanks to the volunteers from our church and our community hosted sites around the gathering room, the lecture hall, the sanctuary and the welcome room.

When the family finally made it out to Pastor Will at the double glass doors, which was the final stop on the tour, they were given a book called “Becoming A Child of God” and a pocket flashlight with orange and black lettering “Be the Light of Christ”. Pastor Will also extended an invitation to join our Sunday school program here at the church and attend our Christmas Tree lighting on November 27th.

As families left, they were asked to take a pumpkin home with them. The pumpkins were donated by Rick and Dana Empet.

The event was very well attended. The afternoon was weather perfect. The time was grand.

Those here truly appreciated how well run and organized the candy distribution was, and it gave the church the chance to welcome neighbors.

Judy Mitchell shared how nice it was for newcomers to see all of the church, including the sanctuary.



Christian treats here at Harford!

Thank you to all that attended our first Fun in the Sun Trunk or Treat Event!!

Special thanks to all that volunteered to pass out candy during the event:

Karen Jones, Bill and Holli Chichester, Gary Housel, Joe Metzler and John Stehl, Marjorie Tater, Irv and Sue Needham, Ellen Holdredge, Abby Toolan, Paige Feduchak, Sharon Frantz, Robert Reynolds, Michelle Estabrook, Jonathan and Greg Symuleski, Kay Gow, Judy Mitchell, Earl Cottrell and Chris Manley, Kathy and Karl Oakley, Peg Empet, Shirley Masters, Gail Batzel and Barbara Sloat, Marilyn Light, Priscilla Allen, Betty Lou Bennett, Sereena Hagenbuch and Doreen Mitchell.



Spire Sponsors

We **really, really 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

Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting



The Christmas Tree Lighting was a lovely event although the rain and lightning tried to halt the proceedings. Many of our local groups were represented. The picture to the left is from last year's tree lighting. This year's picture isn't ready yet due to the weather.

Baptism

How thankful we are that Grace Allen (pictured with husband Dave) shared her baptism with us, her congregation, this past Sunday, November 20, 2022.

PRAYER:

Lord, bless Grace's baptism into Your eternal glory. She loves you. She trusts you. She listens to and follows you. May her public act of faith guide and inspire all of our acts of faith in witness and accordance with You and Your divine plan for this church to be a home where Your salvation is known and so readily shared.

Amen.



Baptism

Baptism of Sawyer Kinley Feduchak
Parents: Paige and Zach Feduchak
Godparents: Dan Flynn and Gabrielle Lavette



Attention Snow Birds and Travelers!!!

If you have two residences that you inhabit during the year, I have a simple request for you. Would you please let the church office know when you will be moving from one home to the other home? We are charged \$.99 for having the incorrect address and having to have the mail article returned. The Spire is mailed the end of the month, if you might be returning home or going away around the end of a month it would be very much appreciated if you could let the office be aware of where you will be living. Thanks ever so much, Judy



Sunday School Nativity Play

December 18, 2022 during the 10:00 service

All Invited!

Refreshments following the service in the Lecture Hall



ATTENTION, ATTENTION, ATTENTION

All Committee Secretaries or Chair Persons

Please have your annual reports to the office by December 15. You may send the reports by email: firstch@nep.net, hand written-delivered to the office, or mailed to the office. I would really like to start working on the annual report before I leave for Christmas with my family.

Thank you very much. Judy

Other Council Minutes

ARC: No distribution this month. Plan to have distribution next month

Choir: Practicing ... many sick recently.

Clerk: 2 funerals, 2 baptisms

Pastoral Relations: Recommended increasing the pastor's salary and housing allowance. Also, recommended a Christmas bonus for this year. This recommendation was approved.

Trustees: Worked on budget for 2023. Plan to repair the pew removed from the first row in the sanctuary. Council voted to move the pew to the back of the sanctuary when it is repaired.

Old Business:

Dave will order the AED (defibrillator). Holl will schedule CPR and Stop the Bleed classes for the congregation and Christian Education.

New Business:

Custodian: Discussed increasing the custodian pay to the current hourly rate for house cleaning. Also, asked the custodian to increase hours of cleaning to a minimum of 5 hours per week. Approved

Weinberg: Weinberg needs two new carts. The request was approved. Money will be taken from outreach. Tammy will be asked to pick out what she feels will work best.

Bell Choir: There was some discussion about a beginner level Bell Class.

Next Meeting: January 26, 2023 at 5:00pm

Christian Education

November 30-2022

Curriculum: We have started the second quarter of curriculum for Sunday School "Simply Loved". We will be reviewing curriculums for next year as this curriculum seems to be too young.

Advent: Sunday School will practice for the Nativity play December 11, 2022. The Nativity play will be December 18, 2022. The children will be in their classroom (nursery) and the lecture hall until the service is ready for them. After the Nativity the children will go back to the lecture hall to take off the costumes. They will hear a Christmas story, make a Christmas craft and have a snack. After the service, the congregation will be invited to come to the lecture hall for a brief time of Christmas socializing and Christmas cookies.

The cookies will hopefully be cookies left over from the DAR cemetery wreath laying. We will have coffee and punch also.

Schedule: Sunday School will take a break December 25 and January 1, 2023. We will begin again January 8, 2023 on lesson 2 unit 1 of Quarter 2 curriculum.

Deacons

11-20-2022

Attending: Nancy Burris, Kay Gow, Sharon Frantz, Linda Lindsey, Missy Clarkson

Decorating for Advent: A Christmas tree will be placed in the Gathering room and decorated with the ornaments made by each church group several years ago. Garland will be hung in the sanctuary.

Community Christmas Tree Lighting: November 27th, 2022 at 6:00. Two Deacons will greet, one in the Foyer and one by the ally door. Two Deacons will hand out the ornaments and determine who is representing participating groups. The name of the person representing a group will be recorded to give to Will so that the group can be recognized.

Linda and Kay will make cookies for refreshments. Kay will make coffee and hot chocolate. Song sheets of Christmas carols to be sung will be handed out at the door along with finger lights donated by Ellen Holdredge.

The boy scouts will have fire pits. Owen Bewley will start the count down for the lighting and Mikaela will light the tree. The evening will end with prayer.

Christmas Eve: Missy and Linda will hand out the candles.

Next Meeting: December 11, 2022 after church.

Willing Workers Big Group Quarterly Meeting November 2, 2022

The quarterly meeting of the Willing Worker Big Group met on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 1:00PM in the Lecture Hall. It was a beautiful fall day. Members present were: Sharon Decker, Maureen Warren, Priscilla Allen, Sharon Kinney, Kandy Wellman, Kay Gow, and Ellen Holdredge.

The minutes and the treasurer's report were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes and treasurer's report was made by Sharon Decker. 2nd by Priscilla. There was some explanation of the Harford Fair expenses as they do not include knives. Sometimes knives are purchased from Rada and not sold for several years. They are all sold at more than we purchase them for so a profit is made. Kandy will order the knives that need replacing after she finishes the inventory. Correspondence-a thank you note from Janet Foster for the lunch we served after her mother's memorial service.

OLD BUSINESS: Kay thanked everyone for help with roast beef dinner—workers, pie bakers, etc. Profit was \$2,264.36 with almost 300 tickets sold at \$14 each. Extra roast beef was not cooked but sold in roast sizes. The cole slaw purchased from Bingham's cost about \$400. There was discussion on making it ourselves for considerably less. Tabled for May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to pledge \$6,000 to the general fund and \$700 to OCWM was made by Maureen. 2nd by Sharon Kinney. Passed

A motion was made by Maureen Warren, 2nd by Kandy to keep the same officers for next year. President-Kay Gow, Vice President-Sharon Decker, Treasurer-Sharon Kinney, Secretary- Ellen Holdredge. Passed.

GROUP REPORTS: All 3 groups worked at the fair and worked at the roast beef dinner (cooking, dipping, selling tickets, making pies).

Kingsley-3 present-held a meeting. Donated money to Interfaith capital campaign and to Gardner fund raiser.

North Harford-2 present-held a meeting.

Harford-2 present.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 1:00PM in the Lecture Hall.
Ellen Holdredge, Secretary



Missionary

11-30-2022

Missionary sponsored the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection this year. Thank you for supporting this worthy program!. We collected 60 filled shoeboxes. We are tracking the distribution of these shoeboxes and will let you all know where our boxes are distributed!



We had a banner year for our bake sale at the election polls. We sold out before 1 pm and made a profit of \$779.75!

Pet Blessing



Some of us know the deep love a pet offers. Companionship only begins to describe the joy pets offer.

My home visits include time with many who have pets. It's obvious to see how much of a connection there is between a pet and a person. This bond—this love—truly goes beyond words.

How grateful I am as pastor to offer an annual pet blessing. To recognize pets as a part of God's love for us on earth and in heaven is a blessing in itself.

If you were unable to make the pet blessing this year with your pet, do know with these words that your pet is indeed blessed.

Pastor Will

Stewardship - November 17, 2022

Present: Ellen Holdridge, Kay Gow, Michelle Estabrook, Shirley Masters, Joe Metzler, Judy Mitchell and Pastor Will by telephone.

Ellen opened the meeting with prayer at 6:10 p.m.

The minutes from the last meeting on October 19, 2022 were approved by a motion made by Ellen and seconded by Shirley.

Shirley asked about The One Great Hour of Sharing program. We discussed in an earlier meeting that we would not be doing it this year.

We had an update on the budget from Julia:

Income – 2022 -	\$22,929.07	Expenses	\$10,833.14	Total	\$12,095.93
Income – 2021 -	\$ 9,849.70	Expenses	\$10,264.37	Total	\$- 369.67
2022 – to date	Income \$167,940.38	Expenses	\$108,521.89	Total	\$ 59,418.49

We presently have 34 pledges totaling 97, 924

The Stewardship budget – 2023

\$400.00 – Shirley wanted to have a little more available to use relating to our campaign.

Kay is working on ideas for next years letter and verses for the campaign. She will email us the letter to review.

We thanked Shirley for all of her work for the history day September 25th and also thanked all the readers who did a wonderful job.

The papers that were placed in the vessel on September 25th will be typed up and printed in the Spire. No names will be mentioned – just the general message. A motion was made by Ellen and seconded by Joe. Shirley said a prayer over the papers from the vessel.

We got our invitation for the tree lighting. Shirley will be our representative to hang the ornament.

We are going to work on a chart for the annual meeting showing what has been collected over the year in the church: cocoa, peanut butter, Ukraine effort, shoe boxes, golf tournament, interfaith gift tags, lilies, poinsettias, yard sale, Weinburg food bank, capital fund drive, etc.

Our next meeting will be January 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Joe closed the meeting in prayer at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Estabrook



Honoring Our Veterans



Chris Manley, Ron Phillips, Gary Phillips, Ed Tingley, Kay Gow, Loren Robinson, Irv Needham

Veterans honored during the worship service on Sunday, November 6th.

Dear Lord of Might and Peace,

We pray for all veterans. Their service and sacrifices remain woven into the safety and well-ness of this great nation. As those who have served before them, and those who will serve after, we thank you for calling them into our protection, security, and peace. We thank You for blessing them with safety and jobs well done.

Lord, we do not turn a blind eye or despondent heart to those who served and continue to struggle significantly. We ask that you turn us all to ways of action and care that speak to the scars that often are not seen at a glance.

Help us to be the people you call us to be. To do so, we ask that you bless our leaders both in politics and in all branches of the military. Help us foster and shoulder the honor of respecting those who guide us and guard us.

And with a breath today, oh Lord, we pray that we are again one nation under You, our God, so that liberty and justice is not for some, but for all.

Amen.



The **Weinberg Food Program** at Harford First Congregational Church needs clean plastic bags for food distribution. Please take them to the church kitchen.



Attention!!

We need empty wine bottles or other bottles about the size of wine bottles for a craft. Please take emptied, rinsed bottles to the kitchen and text or call Holli that they are there so she can come get them. 301-643-1775



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

Firstchurchspire@gmail.com

by the 15th of January 2022!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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 Harford First Congregational Church -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.

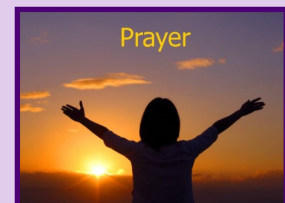


Thank you.

Problems or Issues regarding Harford First Congregational Church—UCC?

Pastoral Relations is the group that handles all concerns, issues and difficulties that can not be resolved directly. These meetings are confidential. Contact the office if you find that you need to meet with Pastoral Relations at **570-434-2260**.

Emails: It has come to our attention that some of you may not be receiving our email prayer lists. This is an oversight that we would like to correct. Please call or email Judy and let her know that you are not receiving the emails.



JoAnn Titus
Gracious Living
10543 PA-29
Montrose
PA 18801

Jack and Caroline Allen
3000 Isleworth Drive
Apt. 3204
Franklin
TN 37064



December Birthdays

December 05 Margaret Maza
December 06 Wayne Frederici
Doug Phelps
Wendy Phillips
December 07 Jacquie Phillips
December 12 Betty Lou Bennett
December 13 Ed Morrison
JoAnn Titus
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 25 Grace Allen
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 07 Taven
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

Attention!

We are fully open for worship at 10:00 am each Sunday!

We have been eager to worship together again. We are now open!!! Our ushers and greeters will be present during the service.

Hymnals and Bibles may be utilized but all text will be available via our new monitors in the sanctuary. We would like to invite those who do not feel ready to worship in groups to watch our livestreaming worship at 10:00 am.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmQ-Xr0lE5xwdZS0yVs7dtg>



Men's Breakfast

December 13, 2022 at 7:30am

at Bingham's Restaurant.
The second Tuesday of each month.



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 or call 301-643-1775. Please check it out at

www.firstchurchharford.com



Weinberg Food Bank

Harford First Congregational Church

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

Next distributions Friday, December 16, 2022 and

Friday January 27, 2023 from 4:30-5:30

Any income can apply, complete the form online 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.

Home Bound



Lynola Carey
Joanne Connolly

Martha Jenkins
Dorothy Greene
John Zimmerman

Norma Carey
Barbara Pease
JoAnn Titus

Prayer Concerns



- We pray for our nation to be blessed and that our nation seeks its blessings
- We pray for our national and local leaders
- All school districts—this includes school board members, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students
- for those with medical issues large and small
- David and Brandy and family
- Those with Alzheimer's and their families
- those experiencing financial pressures
- those fighting addiction
- Lois Gibson and all those in nursing homes along with their families
- Will's kids
- Evan Clarkson, Andrew Kazmierczak, Robert Schulte and all those serving in the military
- Sandy Zupanovich
- Gregg Symuleski and family
- Nancy Marr
- law enforcement officers & EMS
- hospital workers and fire personnel
- George Lotter
- Lori Masters Yashino
- Rita
- Carol Lyman Biondo
- Block Party for Youth in Hallstead
- Truck drivers & farmers
- Small businesses struggling
- Patrick Simons
- Linda Lindsey
- Family of Lola Zimmerman
- Family of Mary Whitaker
- Family of Richie Masters
- Family of George Archer
- Ruth Ann Batzel
- Sal Armetta and family
- Steve Holtsmaster
- Karen Jones relative
- John Zimmerman
- Lynn Hernandez
- Karen Doolittle
- Earl Gow
- Paula Adams
- Chris (Paula Smith's brother)
- Ginny and Charlie Ahearn
- Gift of Life Program (Organ Donation)
- Andy Granick
- Margaret Frederick
- JoAnn Titus
- Joanne Zick
- War in Ukraine
- Dorothy Greene
- Vivian Rutherford
- Amy Kittle
- Meals-on-Wheels Program
- Millie Tingley
- Dorothy Hagenbuch
- Cheryl Augustine
- Kandy Wellman
- Julie Kesten
- All those battling cancer
- Joe Kantz and family
- Dave Casey
- Jason (Sandy Tingley's son-in-law)

Flower Sponsorship



Here's a new way to serve in your congregation and add beauty to our worship experience! **Sponsor Altar flowers!!** All you need to do is take a pew envelope, place cash or check for \$20, put your name on the envelope with the date you wish to sponsor and who/what the flowers honor or commemorate. The Deacons will then purchase and arrange the flowers for you. You may also sponsor a week yourself by signing up on the purple altar flower sheet in the hallway. If you have your own flowers at home. No money involved, just bring the flowers and sign the sheet.



Spire Sponsor
Thank you Jean Bonham for all your years creating the Spire!
You are Loved!!



Celebrate the joys in life!

Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, births, graduations and let us celebrate with you!

Contact Tammy at 570-396-7081

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.



Women's Lunch

3rd Monday of each month

12:00 at Bingham's

All Welcome!

Bring a Friend



Greeters and Ushers

Dec 4: Gary Phillips (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones (usher)

Dec 11: Sue Needham (greeter/usher)
Irv Needham (usher)

Dec 18: Betty Lou Bennett (greeter/usher)
Ken Bennett (usher)

Dec 24: Kay Gow and Gary Phillips
Missy Clarkson and Alyssa Nolan

Dec 25: Dee Archer (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones or Kay Gow (usher)



Jan. 1: Kay Gow (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones (usher)

Jan. 8: Lynette Millard (greeter/usher)
Joe Metzler (usher)

Jan. 15: Peg Empet (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones (usher)

Jan.22: Dee Archer (greeter/usher)
Bill Chichester (usher)

Jan. 29: Sherry Decker (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones (usher)

October Lay Readers

Dec. 4th - Nancy Burris
11th - Kandy Wellman
18th - Peg Empet



Jan. 1st - Karen Jones
8th - Wendy Phillips
15th - Abby Toolan
22nd - Gail Batzel
29th - Alice Archer



Spire Sponsor
Merry Christmas
- Dorothy Matthews



31st Annual Santa's Snippers!

Join the Women's Resource Center on **Sunday, December 11th** for the 31st annual Santa's Snippers. The "Cut-A-Thon" will be at the Career Technical Center of Lackawanna County (CTC) from **10 am - 2 pm**. Professional licensed cosmetologists from area salons will be providing haircuts. **Haircuts are \$15 and all of the proceeds will be donated to the Women's Resource Center (WRC)** toward our work with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault from our community.

Tickets can **also** be purchased to be donated to a local family in need. Call (570) 346-4460, ext. 143 for more information, or email peggyg@wrcnepa.org.

Donations can also be mailed to:

Women's Resource Center

P.O. Box 975, Scranton, PA 18501

Checks can be made payable to the "Women's Resource Center

Memo line: Santa's Snipper's Donation.

Santa's Snippers was created by a Senior Vice President of a national cosmetic company. She had a personal connection to domestic violence and recognized before domestic violence agencies existed women would turn to their hairdressers for advice and help. She created Santa's Snippers as a way for domestic and sexual violence agencies across the United States to raise funds to support its program participants.

"Today, our Women's Resource Center is the only organization participating in this fundraiser. We are happy to continue this tradition for 31 years and hope with community support we can hold it for many more years to come," said Women's Resource Center, Executive Director, Peg Ruddy.

"This event would not be possible without local stylists donating their time and talent, along with the support of the Career Technology Center (CTC). Santa Snippers embodies the spirit of giving during the holiday season," said WRC association member & event organizer, Colleen Pettinato.

VOLUNTEER STYLISTS NEEDED!

If you are a professional licensed cosmetologist and are interested in volunteering please contact peggyg@wrcnepa.org or call (570) 346-4460, ext. 143.

SCAN THE CODE TO DONATE TO SANTA'S SNIPPERS!



Sharing some of the general comments that were submitted to the vessel during the 200th bicentennial ground-breaking anniversary celebration on September 25, 2022

- Lord please be with those whose health issues have become all consuming. May they lean into your care.
- Prayers for a better quality of life for those who are ill or in distress.
- World Peace
- Prayers for those with mental health. Grant them peace
- Prayers that this church will be here in 200 years!
- Prayer for everyone everywhere that they will learn of the saving power of Jesus and His unfailing and constant love and care.
- I pray that the Balcony be filled with seats and people along with the church pews.
- Can you believe this building is 200 years. Believe in the power of prayer. We are on our 3rd generation of family here. Always remember our blessings.
- Lord, I pray that you will continue to bless the lives of those in your care in the village of Harford for the next 200 years. I pray you will be a driving force in their lives as you were mine for so many years.
- What I want to say to the future—is wish you the same freedoms as the founders of this great land. Peace and love to our ancestors.
- My prayer for Harford First congregational Church is for continued growth. I pray that you will continue to love and minister to the people of Susquehanna County and beyond with technology. The Holy Spirit is here in this place! Thank you for all you do! God bless this church richly and abundantly!
- Been a member of this church for over 50+ years. I pray the church will be here another 200 years.
- Cure for all cancers.
- Your truths will be known.
- I remember coming to church with my great grandparents and grandparents and parents. Feeling so connected to the history of this place and family connection to this location.
- Prayers to save America.
- May Harford First congregational Church continue to offer a welcoming place of worship for all. May our children be protected and cherished from harmful predators.
- Bless this church and this community now and forever.
- May you know and speak the truth.
- Prayers that God continues to bless this church family, our personal family and our world.

Hymn Dedication

Dedicate the first Hymn of any Sunday Service in Honor or in Memory of someone. There is a sign up sheet in the Hallway next to the Flower sign-up sheet or place a card in the collection plate with the hymn and the name of the individual to whom you wish to honor.



Spire Sponsor

**In Loving Memory of
Doris Morrison
From her children**

Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



★ **December 17, 2022** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day

Susquehanna County Daughters of the
American Revolution

Invites you to Honor the Veterans
in the Harford Cemetery on
December 17, 2022 at 12:00



#FindAWay2022

Sponsor a Wreath Today 
FOR THE NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY
www.wreathscrossamerica.org

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____



DO WE HAVE PERMISSION TO PUBLICIZE YOUR NAME?
 _____ YES _____ NO, I WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS

★ *Sorry, we are unable to accept grave specific requests through the Maine office* ★

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Individual - 1 wreath	\$15.00		
Family - 5 wreaths	\$75.00		
Small Business - 10 wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate - 100 wreaths	\$1500.00		
GRAND TOTAL:			

Checks payable to Susquehanna County Chapter DAR (SCCDAR)

GROUP ID: 169062 LOCATION ID: 169469

National Wreaths Across America Day DECEMBER 17, 2022
 REMEMBER • HONOR • TEACH

Susan Dyson
 199 Stark Rd.
 Nicholson, PA 18446

Laying of the Wreaths Day

December 17, 2022

12:00

Looking for cookie making volunteers.

Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board if you are willing to
 make some cookies for this special day.

Thank you

December 2022

January 2023

December 2022

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

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
Interfaith gifts due (Back) 7:30am Fire Co. 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	9:30am Quarter back (PO)	9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	11:30am KWW (T & C Grille) 12:00pm NHHWW (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office 1:00pm Crafting at Hollis's (All invited) 6:00pm Council (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	9:00am Clifford Meth Cookie Walk
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	9:30am Quarter back (PO) 3:00pm Girl Scouts (LH) 7:00pm Trustees	9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	11:30am KWW (T & C Grille) 12:00pm NHHWW (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	10:00am Pastor in office	9:00am Clifford Meth Cookie Walk
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	9:30am Quarter back (PO) 3:00pm Girl Scouts (LH) 7:00pm Trustees	7:30am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Pastoral Relations mtg 9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	11:30am KWW (T & C Grille) 12:00pm NHHWW (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	10:00am Weinberg (LH sorting--all invited to help) 4:30pm Weinberg (Back door pick up)	12:00pm Wreaths Across America (Cemetery and church)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship-SS pageant (Sanctuary)	9:30am Quarter back (PO) 12:00pm Ladies Lunch	NO Ugly Quilts 1:00pm Missionary (LH) 7:00pm Choir	11:30am KWW (T & C Grille) 12:00pm NHHWW (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	10:00am Pastor in office	6:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MERRY CHRISTMAS NO Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Service (Sanctuary)	9:30am Quarter back	9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	11:30am KWW (T & C Grille) 12:00pm NHHWW (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	10:00am Pastor in office	6:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

January 2023

January 2023

February 2023

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 1, 23 No Fire Co breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	2 NO Quarter back (PO) 7:30pm Fair mtg (LH)	3 NO Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	4	5 10:00am Pastor in office	6	7
8 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	9 9:30am Quarter back (PO) 7:00pm Trustees	10 7:30am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Pastoral Relations mtg 9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	11	12 10:00am Pastor in office	13	14
15 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship 11:20am Deacons	16 9:30am Quarter back (PO) 12:00pm Ladies Lunch	17 9:30am Ugly Quilts 1:00pm Missionary mtg (LH) 7:00pm Choir	18	19 10:00am Pastor in office	20	21
22 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	23 9:30am Quarter back (PO)	24 9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	25 1:00pm NHHWW (LH)	26 10:00am Pastor in office 6:00pm Council mtg	27 10:00am Weinberg (Packing and sorting/all invited) 4:30pm Weinberg	28
29 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Fellowship time 10:00am Worship	30 9:30am Quarter back (PO)	31 9:30am Ugly Quilts 7:00pm Choir	Feb 1	2	3	4



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Montrose, PA 18801

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Tel.570-434-2260
Email: firstch@nep.net
Spire email: firstchurchspire@gmail.com
Web URL: www.firstchurchharford.com

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

Isaiah 9:2

Join Us Each Sunday!!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MAIL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



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: Monday 1:00-5:00
Friday 1:00-5:00