



Heartbeat *news*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW HARTFORD – DECEMBER 2021

Go, Tell It On The Mountain! Jesus Christ is Born!

Who will you tell? Who will you invite to hear the story?

Please plan to worship God this Advent and Christmas Season and give thanks for the precious gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, whose birth we are preparing our hearts to receive that blessed Christmas Morn. Advent offers us the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, to

celebrate His birth, and to be alert for His second coming. Friends and family may be more open to hearing this message and accepting your invitation to worship together during this season so be sure to offer rides and the message of Jesus to those you love as well as those who are sometimes difficult to love.

DECEMBER Adult Study “*Because of Bethlehem*”

Because of Bethlehem, a video series by Max Lucado, continues Sundays, 10:30 a.m., in the Café. All welcome!

Christmas Worship

Dec 5 – Second Sunday of Advent

Dec 12 – Third Sunday of Advent

Dec 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dec 21 – 6:30 pm, Blue Christmas

Service in the Chapel

Dec 24 – 5 pm, Family-oriented

Christmas Eve Worship

Candlelight Service

Dec 24 – 7 pm Traditional

Christmas Eve with

Hand bells & Candlelight

Dec 26 - 9:30 am Sunday Worship

News for All United Methodist Women

Executive Committee Meeting takes place 3:30 p.m., Dec. 7th

Naomi Ruth and Martha Esther Circle
3 p.m., Dec. 8th

Carole Gehrig will bring devotions. Peg Pinkham will offer a program of "Christmas Tea". **Cookies** are **provided**. All women are welcome.

Circle Meeting Dec. 8:

Bring your favorite tea cup and your favorite tea.
Cookies will be provided.

Martha Esther Circle

And

Naomi Ruth Circle

have now combined

All women are welcome to attend the monthly Circle meeting.

*Bell Choir
Is Back!*

Bell Choir has resumed rehearsals Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Director is Janice McKinney.

Change of Sun. Worship Time Begins Jan. 2

Starting in January Sunday worship time will now be 10 a.m. The first 10 a.m. service is January 2nd. The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee is looking forward to once again offering Sunday child care in the Nursery. Paid nursery worker positions are sought. If you know someone

interested contact the office, 315-733-4227, office@firstumconline.org Soon there will be a mid-week worship opportunity for all in a relaxed atmosphere with praise music led by the church's Praise Team. All ages are welcome to join in together for this new worship opportunity. Stay tuned for info!

Blue Christmas Service

6:30 p.m., December 21

The season of celebration and merrymaking can be a difficult time for those who have experienced a loss or may be struggling to feel joy. There is a need for comforting so God can offer peace in the midst of challenges. You are invited to a special service, "**Blue Christmas**", **6:30 p.m., Dec. 21**, in the Chapel. Come be reminded that Jesus is HOPE in times of despair.



Janice McKinney – New First UMC Director of Music



First United Methodist Church extends a warm welcome to Janice McKinney, the new Director of Music.

Janice is a graduate of Houghton College with a Bachelors in Music Education, majoring in piano. She also earned a Masters in Music Education at University at Buffalo.

She is a retired teacher with 32½ years of experience in teaching general music, K-8, and 5th-8th grade chorus in the school districts of Medina, Lockport, and RoyHart (more than 30 years). Janice has also provided accompaniment for All-County, choruses and many choirs. Within the church, she previously directed junior choir, bell choir and chancel choir. Janice was a church organist for 13 years. She has even taught hymnology classes in conjunction with the Pastor.

Janice is married to Pastor Dave McKinney and they have two adult children—Kari, who is married to Jesse, and Kelly, who is married to Ryan.

Here's what she has to say about this new ministry opportunity: "I'm excited to see people become enthusiastic about using more music (for worship), especially since COVID. Being able to enhance worship through music and help people be centered on Jesus Christ is awesome."

I look forward to eventually add back the chancel choir and praise team, as well as to work together with different musical groups and help them interact with each other. I love feeling part of the congregation, to make music together and worship Jesus!"

Janice would love to talk to you about how you would like to be involved praising God with music at First United Methodist.

December Birthdays:

Jean Bender	December 4
Janice McKinney	December 6
Makayla Pape	December 11
Jack Elseth	December 12
Joyce Wilbur	December 19
Carl Ciccarelli	December 24
Carole Gehrig	December 26
Paula Healy	December 27
Blake Ford	December 28

Anniversaries:

Dave & Shannon Williams	December 21
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Soldier Box Ministry – Prayer List Updated

Major Elissa Adams (granddaughter of Roger & Beryl Griffith)
Major Benjamin Adams (Elissa Adams' husband)
Jon Huff (friend of Ryan Healy)
Lance Corporal Jesse Babicz (son of Carol B. Wilson)
SFC Brian Boyt (relative of Mike and Sue Timian)
Rev Dr. Keith Manry (friend of Carole Gehrig)
FN Karlton Fake (son of Linda Aloisio Fake)

Soldier Care Package Ministry

If you know of someone who is active duty or deployed or in active military service please and you would like to add them to our prayer list please send the soldier's name and rank to me. If your soldier is deployed or in active military service please send an address and we would be happy to send monthly packages/letters to him/her.

Please send to: Peg Pinkham, newyorkoma@roadrunner.com.

We are currently sending 1 care package to a soldier who is in his first year of Naval Service

We are pleased that many of our soldiers are no longer deployed outside the U.S.A. and we continue to pray for them wherever they are.

Thank you for your unwavering support of this ministry. Donations are appreciated. WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!