



Liverpool First United Methodist Church Winter 2016 - 2017

## Christmas Eve Worship

- 5 p.m. Family worship with children's message
- 7 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship
- 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship
- 11 p.m. Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion



## Remembrance service is December 2 at 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to participate in a time of remembering loved ones who have passed away, and thanking God for the gift of their lives. Sponsored by Maurer Funeral Home and the Liverpool Clergy Association, the service takes place in the Liverpool First UMC sanctuary on December 2 at 7 p.m.

## Focus on faith at communion worship Sundays during Advent at 4 p.m.

All are welcome to attend worship with communion on each of the four Sunday afternoons in Advent at 4 p.m.

Communion brings us into the story of Jesus, both his first and second coming. Communion reminds us why Jesus was born. Communion confirms the promise that Jesus will come again. Communion is a significant way we experience Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us", because Jesus is the Host at his Supper-until the day when we feast with him at the

Heavenly Banquet. Communion is a gift of grace that helps us live our faith more fully.

The services provide a time to refocus and renew our faith in the midst of the busy Advent-Christmas season.

They will be led by Pastor Candace Lawrence and organist Bill Young.

Invite family, friends, and neighbors, and come and worship: November 27, December 4, 11, and 18.

## Sign up for Dec. 3 Advent Family Breakfast

Everyone is invited to begin the Advent Season at our annual Family Breakfast on Saturday, December 3, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Hosted by the Dinner/Fundraising Committee in brightly decorated Fellowship Hall, the menu is homemade French toast, sausage, orange juice, milk, and beverages.

There will be Nativity crafts for children, tree decorating, and conversation with and photo opportunity with Santa. **For food planning purposes, please sign your family up on the board in Fellowship Hall.** Co-sponsored by Christian Education and Outreach, it is a fun and FREE morning.

## New Fellowship Clubs group forming

Fellowship Clubs is a new group starting soon at Liverpool First. Fellowship Clubs is for adults of any age, single or married. Each club will meet to share a meal and fellowship time together in a member's home or at a restaurant once a month. This is an opportunity to meet new people! You do not need to be a member of the church to join.

Please see Melissa Karnath in the social hall between the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services for information, to sign up or to ask questions. She can be contacted by email at MELISSA1981LK@gmail.com or call her at 262-527-1107.



## Christmas Cantata features music by Handel

December 18 during  
9:30 & 11 a.m. worship

The Chancel Choir will present "Messiah Christmas Trilogy" edited and arranged by Hal H. Hopson. It is an arrangement of George Frederic Handel's Messiah with three of the big choruses, and accompanied narrations that will be read by Linda Loomis and Candace Lawrence. We will augment the program with solos from the Messiah and organ accompaniment by organist Bill Young.

## Holiday Worship Times

On Christmas and New Year's days, there will be one worship service at 9:30 a.m.

There is no nursery care or children's Discovery Zone offered on those days.

Families are encouraged to worship together in the sanctuary.

## Ushers needed for Christmas Eve

We need ushers for the four worship services on December 24: 5 p.m. (4 ushers); 7 p.m. (8 ushers); 9 p.m. (8 ushers) and 11 p.m. (2 ushers). Please contact Tom Pelkey or the church office at 315-457-5180 if you would like to help. Please let us know which service you plan to attend.



## Pastor's Pen

Rev. Dr. Brian Homan



### Finding Christ This Holy-day Season!

I sat with our staff recently to coordinate the weekly schedule and each of us remarked on the lack of preparedness for celebrating Thanksgiving and Advent. It seemed to pop up so suddenly. I believe the feeling is not fueled by the beautiful weather that lingers, but to the tensions of this year following contentious and visceral primaries and presidential election.

We have allowed the issues and conflicts to consume our attention and rob us of the focus of true importance, celebrating the providence of God and the provision of grace in the sending of His only Son, Jesus.

Since the season of these foci is breaking upon us the moment has not passed; we can prepare for His coming by a fresh reflection of our lives, confession and repentance just as John the baptizer called God's people to before the commencement of Jesus' ministry. The proclamation of John the Baptist is as applicable to our day as it was to his own. As I reflect on the birth narrative of the gospels I have become more acutely aware how each of its elements pertains to our present day situation.

The world that John warned to prepare for the coming of God was also one in political upheaval. Rome had control and had placed a puppet king of their choice on the throne to give appearance of traditional governance. They also placed a Roman governor over the territory with the policing of Roman troops to enforce Roman will. The religious authorities were divided and fighting with one another, with the king and covertly with the policies of Rome in order to maintain what power and influence they could retain. Besides this there were the zealots, the terrorist extremists or patriots however you perceived them, who were challenging Rome's, the political and religious hierarchy control over the life in Palestine.

It was into this backdrop that a young girl was informed she was to bear the historically promised Savior and while in the late trimester of her pregnancy was forced to travel to the place of her husband's birth to register for a census and pay exorbitant and unfair taxes. I could go on but I think you can get my point. It was into this conflicted environment that Jesus was born in a primitive barn and simple, typically socially excluded and uninvolved shepherds were blessed with the announcement of "Good news" regarding the birth of a Savior who would bless the world. News! The Child was born, did His job, suffered injustice and death, rose to life and remains the righteous Lord of all who will embrace and follow Him.

As I have stated to all, our mandate is clear; our values have been laid out, the opportunity to serve and suffer as Christ for His kingdom and bless our communities with the peace and justice proclaimed to those shepherds of our nativity story. Everyone else was distracted by the conflicts and issues they faced; only the simple, blue collar, uneducated, unpolitical heard and saw the angels and were empowered to leave their safe flocks to proclaim hope to a fractured culture. Whether you are as they or educated, politically involved and savvy, we have been privileged to hear heaven's message and called to go forth to serve and work for what we know is true.

Our hope is not in a political process or a majority elected government, though certainly we are to work with and through these resources, but in one Savior who we elect to be Lord of our lives. I give thanks this season for my faith in Christ that raises me above the distractions and disturbances to my peace so that I can know peace personally. I thank God for my faith that provides me with righteous direction to address the issues of my day through example, witness and service to the needs of my neighbor. I face the future with a firm faith that my present Lord of heaven will one day be the Lord of this earth and bring to pace the full justice, peace and abundance promised in my gospel.

Come, Lord Jesus, come! I'm ready and until that day I will never stop trying to love others as well as you have loved each of us. I am ready for these holy days. I will use them to amplify the hope in my own life and to others I can. Will you join me?

## Church Family News

### Baptisms

The following individuals were recently baptized into our church family: Owen Foster Anderson, son of Craig and Jacklin Anderson, on September 25; Asher Evan Hammond, son of Timothy and Allison Hammond, on October 16; Brynn Marie Smith, daughter of Todd and Lisa Smith, on October 16; and William Patrick Auyer, son of Douglas and Jessica Auyer, on October 23.

### Marriages

Amber Contrastan and Afshin Chaharmahalian were married in the church on September 25.

### In Memory

Sincere sympathy is extended to Ed McCord and family following the passing of Karen McCord on October 9; also to John Eklund and family upon the death of Georgeen Eklund on October 16; also to Ann Araniti and family upon the death of Frank Araniti on October 19. Sympathy is also extended to the family of Freda Lawton, who passed away on October 27; and to the family of Justin "Jay" Conover, who passed away on November 3.

### Thank you from Pastor Alison

Dear Liverpool First friends,

Thank you for all of your kind cards, notes and gifts. Saying goodbye to good friends is among my "very least favorite things" we have to do in life.

In the midst of the grief of saying goodbye, God's promise of our on-going communion in Christ is precious and sustaining.

Attached is a photo of the electric fireplace I purchased with the church's generous parting purse. The beauty and warmth it provides remind me fondly of the spiritual warmth and beauty of the Liverpool First congregation.

Your reflection of God's love is beautiful and truly warms my heart. Thank you.

Blessings,  
Alison



### SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no Sunday School classes held on

December 25th  
January 1st

### Liverpool First United Methodist Church

604 Oswego Street, Liverpool NY 13088 315-457-5180

Ministers.....	Every member of our congregation
Pastor.....	Brian Homan
Pastor Emeritus.....	Milton T. Jefferson
Director of Family Ministries.....	Karen Gloyd
Director of Music Ministries.....	Nancy James
Organist.....	Bill Young
Administrative Assistant, <i>All of Us</i> Editor.....	Kate Smith
Publications & Membership Secretary.....	Cathy Temple
Sexton.....	Michael Parish

## Confirmation program for teens to be offered this winter

We will offer a Confirmation Experience for youth ages 12 to 18 this winter through early spring. Confirmation is a time when young adults explore what they have been taught at home and church about being a Christian. Through a process involving reading, discussion and hands on experiences, the teens will be given the opportunity to define what and why they believe.

Confirmation is a strenuous process that will require a strong commitment on the part of the student and the support of his or her parents. Students will participate in eight meetings, six to be held on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. Two other class sessions will be held during a mission retreat during the February break from school and a special Bishop's Confirmation Retreat at Casowasco Camp and Conference Center on March 10-12.

Students will be required to identify an adult mentor or "friend

in faith" from the congregation. These persons should not be relatives and should be available to meet regularly with their student for prayer and encouragement. They will work with the student on assignments, provide support to the program and are encouraged to participate in the sessions and retreats with their student. Youth who have already completed Confirmation are encouraged to participate again but will not be required to have a Friend In Faith partner.

All is not work and no play. Confirmation is an active process where we have fun while we learn and serve together. The goal of Confirmation is to secure a life-long commitment to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

There will be an **orientation meeting** for parents and prospective students on **Sunday, January 15, at 2 p.m.** to review the curriculum and address questions.

## LIFE youth program meets Wednesdays

All teenagers in grades 7 through 12 are welcome to attend the LIFE (Life In Faith Everyday) youth program on Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at church. Youths gather to discover and strengthen their faith journeys through discussions and activities building faith and friendships. Friends are welcome to attend. Contact Marshall Bailey or Melissa Karnath for information, or call the church at 457-5180.

## Methodists support the Ride



Members of Liverpool First UMC played an important role in the September 2016 Ride for Missing Children sponsored by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The annual 100-mile bike ride through Syracuse and the surrounding suburbs is a major fund raiser for this non-profit organization. Mike Nortman and Keith Miller were among the approximately 100 riders and Mike was responsible for planning the route and setting the pace for the ride. Bill Mann and Rich Ertinger drove the Liverpool First church bus that followed the pack of riders and picked up those who experienced physical problems or bicycle failures. Roni Putman assisted with cleanup after the event. Pictured here, from left, are Mike Nortman, Rich Ertinger, Bill Mann, and Keith Miller.

## Looking for a unique Christmas Gift?

The Dinner/Fundraising Committee is selling hand-drawn pen and ink sketches matted and framed and ready for giving. Simply submit a clear digital photo of your pet, or home, camp, business, etc. or favorite scene, and it will be turned into a framed 11 x 14" finished gift in your choice of mat color. People and pets can

be added to this sketch if desired. You can also order custom Christmas cards. See our display in Fellowship Hall. Due to the lead time needed to make your sketch by Christmas, plan to get your order in as soon as possible. Pre-made sketches of our Church and local landmarks are also available as prints or note cards.

DELTA meets Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm

All kids in 1st-6th grades are welcome!

It's an evening of fun while learning about the Bible, playing games together, learning new skills while earning award!

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
2 Jesus Loves Me	7 Jesus Helps Me	4 Forgiving Friends
9 Building on God's Word	14 Learning About Friendship	11 Choosing Good Influences
16 Giving Thanks	21 <b>CHRISTMAS PARTY &amp; AWARDS</b>	18 Reaching Out
23 <b>NO DELTA TONIGHT</b>	24 Christmas Eve Family Service - 5:00pm	25 I'm Loved
30 Helping Others Join	28 <b>NO DELTA TONIGHT</b>	

Order Christmas Poinsettias by December 4

**Would you like to honor your loved ones by purchasing poinsettias to decorate our altar for Christmas? Please return this form, with payment, to the church office. Thank you for helping to provide a beautiful altar this Christmas.**

Please order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias at \$8 each.

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

( ) In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

## Senior Ministry News

by Sarah Bieling, Director



We began our autumn activities with a bus trip to Cortland Repertory Theater on September 8. There were 55 attending and all enjoyed the musical, "Marvelous Wonderettes."

On September 21 we took a bus trip to the Corning Museum of Glass. There were 50 attending and we enjoyed a delicious luncheon at the museum, a guided tour of the museum and a sand blasting workshop where we each created a special glass.

October 12 was a magnificent bus trip to Letchworth State Park. There were 53 in attendance and we enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the Glen Iris Inn, had a step on guided tour through the park, and to end a beautiful day we stopped at the Abbey of the Genesee for shopping at the Monk's bread store.

On Wednesday, October 26, we had dinner at the Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse with 32 attending.

On Saturday, November 5, seniors traveled to Auburn for the Merry Go Round Theater...

To close out the autumn events we had dinner at The Spaghetti Warehouse and enjoyed Acme Mystery Company's production of "The Sound of Murder."

### Coming Up

On Wednesday, December 14 we will celebrate Christmas at a luncheon in the church Fellowship Hall. The luncheon will be catered by Tabatha's Family Tree. Our special musical production under the direction of Becky Dunstone will include ringing chimes, singing carols, learning the history of some carols and violin solos.

On Sunday, January 8, 2017 we will attend Syracuse Stage's production of Mary Poppins. The cost for seniors is \$35 per person and for children under age 18 it is \$15. Perhaps you will want to bring your grandchildren or a special young person that you know. You need to provide your own transportation. The matinee performance begins at 2 p.m.

For all events, your check received is your reservation. Please make checks payable to LFUMC Senior Ministries and either drop them off at church or mail to me at Sarah Bieling, 2 Cty Rte 10, Pennellville NY 13132.

For information, pick up a flyer or a payment envelop at our display in the hallway Information Center.

We will take a winter break after the January 8 event, and will resume in the spring.

## Keep in touch please, snowbirds

A snowbird is anyone who travels to a warmer climate during our cold season. Please leave your name, dates that you will be gone, and address if you have one while away, with the church staff by calling 315-457-5180 or emailing [lfumc@liverpoolfirstumc.org](mailto:lfumc@liverpoolfirstumc.org).

The Membership Care committee would like to keep in touch with you and put you on the list to receive church communications while you are away. Committee members also will notify you in the spring of the annual strawberry and whipped cream social hour.

## Support Teen MOPS by providing meals for their meetings

Teen MOPS is a faith-based, non-judgmental program for teen moms to gather for mentoring and encouraging. Teen MOPS (mothers of preschoolers) helps teen moms become self-sufficient, confident, mature and giving young women.

They meet in our church on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

To help the leaders concentrate on addressing the joys, fears, and frustrations these women face, our church helps by providing them a safe place to meet and also feeding the moms, their children, and their babysitters. If you and your family, your choir or commission, you and your pew buddies would like to help feed these young women, please contact Kay Phillips at 451-6619.

Simply provide food for 40 people. This could be pizza, subs, a home-cooked meal or gift cards so the leaders can purchase the meals. Deliver the food around 3:30 p.m. (or earlier in the day). The leaders serve and clean up.

Thank you for showing these women that Christ loves them.



## Church Conference held October 30

Crossroads District Superintendent, The Rev. Nola Anderson, opened the Church Conference on October 30 with prayer and a reading of John 1:35-42. She spoke about how Andrew encountered Jesus and invited his brother to meet him, and she encouraged the LFUMC congregation to join her in similar efforts, which she called, The Andrew Effect. She asked everyone present at the meeting to identify five people that they know and to pray for them daily, connect with each of them to build relationships, share the story of Jesus, and invite them to worship with them.

*The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is*

*translated Anointed[a]). He brought Simon[b] to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter[c]). – John 1:35-42*

Rev. Anderson then oversaw the business meeting where the congregation set the pastor's compensation for the year 2017, elected new (or renewed) members to the board of trustees for 2017 (Larry Dunstone, Mark Bailey, Susan Slenker, and Ray McDougall, approved the nomination of committee and commission members for 2017, and renewing the appointment of church lay servants. She also reviewed reports prested by the pastor, the Outreach and Missions Committee, and others.

The meeting also included review and approval of a 2017 church operating budget. As people reviewed the proposal, Pastor Brian reminded everyone that the church operates on a fiscal year of July through June, so this proposal for calendar year 2017 (which is required by the conference) will be revised and updated in late spring. The proposed spending plan for 2017 was approved by a unanimous vote.

For a copy of the meeting minutes, contact Kate in the church office at [kate.smith@liverpoolfirstumc.org](mailto:kate.smith@liverpoolfirstumc.org).

## FAMILY EVENTS SAVE THE DATES

December 3rd	8:30am	Advent Breakfast
December 10th	TBA	Parents Night Out
December 24th	5:00pm	Family Christmas Eve Service
December 24th	TBA	Jesus Birthday Celebration
January 8th	2pm	Sledding Event
January 22nd	2pm	Movie Event

Movies Showing: Finding Dory, additional movies TBA

## Become a congregational caregiver

We welcome and celebrate the following people who have completed training to serve as a Congregational Caregiver: Sharon Hartman, Pat Cupernall, Mark Schaler, Charlie Blood, Tina Holtz, Sue Slenker, and Lorie LaDuke.

What is a Caregiver? They are members of our congregation who are willing to be trained and assigned homebound members or those living in Senior Living facilities to contact on a regular basis. They may visit by phone or in the home, but whose purpose is to keep a caring connection with those who cannot be physically present with us for worship and fellowship. They will supplement

the care of our pastors and inform them of particular needs requiring their immediate attention. They may share a bulletin and news of the activities of the church, read a passage and share a prayer. They will deliver plants or other gifts of the congregation to their member and will take communion to their residence to share with them.

If you would like to become a Congregational Caregiver, another round of training will be offered on Saturday mornings February 11 and February 18 from 10 a.m. till noon. Contact the office at 457-5080 or 5081 to indicate your interest.

## UMW collects *Gifts for Baby Jesus*

During Advent and Christmas, the United Methodist Women collects items for the Teen MOPS participants who meet in our building. They need diapers, baby wipes, gas cards and toiletries for the young mothers and their children. A bin will be in the foyer for you to drop off donations.

## Bless a foster child at Christmas

Support children in the Onondaga County foster care program through "Project Christina." During Advent the Onondaga County Department of Social Services accepts games and toys for children, in addition to the Kohl's plush toys, reusable bags and baby items that they accept all year. Information is located at the collection box in Fellowship Hall; contact the church at 457-5180 for details.



## Can we count on you ?

The Finance Committee needs volunteers to help with counting the Sunday offerings. This task requires volunteers to be available to help one Sunday morning every two months, beginning in January. If you are willing to help please call Rich Ertinger at 263-5672 or e-mail him at [rertinge@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rertinge@twcny.rr.com)

## Olivebranch Women's Group presents monthly dinners and programs

All women of the church are invited to attend the meals and programs held once a month on Monday evenings. Appetizers are served 5:30 - 6 p.m. A light meal is catered or pot luck from 6 - 7 p.m. with program following at 7:15 - 8:15 p.m. Cost is \$5 on nights that the meal is catered. Please make reservations by calling the church office at 315-457-5180 by noon on the Friday before the program.

### Second Chance Canine Adoption Shelter - November 28

The Second Chance Canine Adoption Shelter pulls dogs from death row in the City of Syracuse to give them a second chance. Selected inmates at Jamesville Correctional Facility volunteer their time at the shelter, cleaning kennels and training dogs. The dogs are placed up for adoption. The program stands up to its name in giving homeless dogs and inmates a second chance. Board Member Stefanie Heath and a former inmate who participated in the program will share their experiences.

During the meeting there will be a silent auction of baked goods and homemade edibles. At the end of the evening, the highest bidders will take home goodies. This replaces the annual auction of treasures. Reservations should be made by calling the church office at 315-457-5180 by noon on Friday, November 25.

### Candle Crèche - December 19

Listen to the Christmas story told through scripture readings, instrumental and vocal music, and candles. Readers and musicians will make this story new and inspiring. Program will take place in the Sanctuary. Come for dinner before or program only at 7:15 p.m.

### For Whom The Bells Toll - January 23

Learn what's special about the church's handbells and chimes, as well as how they ring and make different sounds. Liverpool First's Director of Handbells, Becky Dunstone, will give us the opportunity to ring a bell. Maybe you will leave playing a simple tune or Canon in D.

### CHOC KO LAT - February 27

That's right; February is for love and chocolate. Mike Wolozyn, chocolatier and owner of Lune Chocolat will delight you with the tales of growth in this local specialty candy company and the story of chocolate. And yes, it will be an evening of sensory treats. You will be able to see, feel, and smell cocoa beans and forms of chocolate and taste chocolate treats.

### Program to be confirmed - March 27

### Bloom For Spring - April 24

Pat Murray, a Mary Kay Consultant, shares tips and techniques for cleaning and nurturing your skin, as well as applying makeup. Interested in a quick routine for every day? Learn how and where to apply products for a long lasting and polished look. Pat will demonstrate on 2-3 models from the group. Everyone will have a chance to apply blush and eye shadow if they desire.

### 60 Years A Pen Pal - May 22

In 1956, a girl named Yuki, in far away Okayama, Japan, began corresponding with a girl named Mary in Athens, GA, USA. With the exception of about 15 years when the correspondence lagged, Yuki and Mary have communicated on a yearly basis. In April of 2016, they met in person for the first time in Okayama, Japan. Mary Roberts-Bailey will share highlights of this visit with the Women's group. Mary is a former social worker, attorney, and law school administrator. She is a member of Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church in DeWitt and volunteers at InterFaith Works.

### Dinner Out - June 26

Enjoy dinner out. Venue to be selected.

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*Olivebranch invites everyone to attend the Candlelight Crèche service on Monday evening, December 19, at 7 p.m. The service will be short and meaningful.*

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## Dinner/Fundraising Events Coming Up:

December Sundays – **Delta Sonic Car Wash Coupons: Buy 1 for \$5, Get 1 FREE!**  
 - Great stocking stuffers or “thank you” gifts! Good for 2 months on any service.  
 - Be ready for winter driving!

Saturday, Dec. 3 – 8:30-10:30 AM **Advent Family Breakfast**  
 - FREE breakfast for church families and friends to start the Celebration of Jesus’  
 - Menu: homemade French toast, sausage, OJ, milk, coffee and tea.  
 - Come for Christmas crafts and the opportunity to have a visit/photos with Santa.

Sunday, Dec. 18 – “Just In Time for Christmas” **Bake Sale** - all morning  
 - Goodies of all kinds for home and gifts, offered at \$6 per pound.  
 - Many, many volunteers needed to bake items for sale. Cookies, tarts, pies, candies, muffins, cupcakes, treats of all kinds needed.

Please put these dates on your 2017 Calendar!

- Saturday, January 21 - **Chicken and Biscuits Dinner**
- Friday, March 3 – **Lenten Fish Fry Dinner**
- Friday, March 24 – **Lenten Fish Fry Dinner**

Volunteers needed to prepare and serve all dinners. These events directly support our church budget and ministries.

Dinner/Fundraising Committee requested recipe:  
 “Fall Punch”

1 gal. apple cider - chilled

1 2 liter bottle ginger ale – chilled

Add 1 ½ gal. softened vanilla ice cream

Mix thoroughly and serve in small cups.

### ***Please support flood victims***

**Operation Northern Comfort is collecting new housewares to support Louisiana residents whose home were damaged in floods this past summer. Please bring in new items for bedrooms, bathrooms or kitchens and place them in the marked collection box in the church corridor by the end of November.**

**Cash donations are also being sought to purchase mattresses for flood victims.**

**Call Norm at 559-9413 for details, or see the flyer posted on the collection box.**

## **What Church Committees Do:**

### **Dinner/Fundraising Committee**

#### **Susan Slenker, facilitator**

Since the founding of the Methodist Movement in 1736 by the Wesley brothers, we Methodists have been noted for our evangelism, our community outreach, and our pursuit of social justice. “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”. At Liverpool First, our iconic purple doors are open to all. Seven days a week, our rooms are filled with activity, both our own ministries and community programs. This can take more money than Sunday offerings provide. This is where Dinner/Fundraising Committee comes in. When you volunteer to help with an event, or contribute by attending, you bridge that gap and keep the “Purple Door Church” ministries going. Every year we host 3 dinners, 3 BBQs, a Christmas bake sale, car wash coupon sales, and a free Advent Family Breakfast. Come and enjoy our events and please consider helping out at one or more.

### **Church Library**

#### **Susan Slenker, Librarian/Historian**

In the 1950’s, our church, like Liverpool, grew by leaps and bounds. The women’s circles wanted a place to keep study materials, general Christian resource books, and books for children to supplement Church School.

They contributed money and books, and so began the Church Library. Now, 70 years later, the Church Library is a dedicated room and is both lending library and Church Archives. The latter is thanks to our first historians, Lorraine and Bob Thor. No matter your interest, in the present or the past, there are materials here to strengthen your faith. We have fiction and non-fiction books for adults and children, Christian music CDs and CDs of weekly and special services, guides for prayer and worship, and extensive Bible reference and study materials. Our collections are specifically designed to meet the needs of an enquiring Christian, which can’t be found in other types of libraries. Stop in soon and browse.

## Choir feeds the homeless



Members of the Chancel Choir prepared 115 lunches for the Oxford Inn Homeless Shelter in Syracuse on October 16 after worship. Pictured here, the singers are preparing sandwiches and other food, and packaging it for distribution.

## Notes from Nancy

Nancy B. James, Director of Music Ministries



Happy Fall Everyone! As I write this from my office, just outside in Fellowship Hall the Elliott family's dedication luncheon is going on and the joyous sounds of family and fellowship are filling my office. People hugging, laughing, connecting – it is truly a blessing. The longer I am here at LFUMC as your Director of Music, the more blessed I feel. Our opportunities here at this church for service to God are so great. If you have any nagging voice or calling to music ministry, please feel free to speak with me directly. Stop by my office or catch me in the hall and we'll plan a time to chat.

Christmas is just around the corner and this year's special Christmas music program will be on Sunday, December 18 at both the 9:30 and 11 a.m. worship services. The Chancel Choir will present "Messiah Christmas Trilogy" edited and arranged by Hal H. Hopson. It is an arrangement of George Frederic Handel's Messiah with three of the big choruses, and accompanied narrations that will be read by Linda Loomis and Candace Lawrence. We will augment the program with solos from the Messiah and of course wonderful organ accompaniment by our fabulous organist, Bill Young. It's not too late to join the choir and be a part of this wonderful musical and spiritual experience!

People often ask me why we write in the weekly bulletin to be silent during the Prelude. The answer is twofold: 1) It is to prepare ourselves for worship. We all have busy lives, and often it takes time to quiet the brain from outside thoughts and distractions in order to prepare our hearts and minds and souls to hear God's Word and to be in a place worthy of worship and praising God. And 2) It is respectful to our wonderful musicians to not talk during their music. They work hard each week to bring us Prelude music that is there to help us prepare for worship. Sadly, this is not always the case and some folks continue to talk throughout the Prelude. We have time during Coffee Hour to chat and catch up. Let's try to break this bad habit and to teach it to our children as well - preparation for worship and respect to the musicians. I think we can all work together towards this goal.

### Three last bits of musical business!

- I thank the family of Jo Varnum for donating their upright piano to our church. This lovely instrument will replace the old Baldwin upright that's been in the choir room and has outgrown its usefulness. MANY thanks to Jo's family!
- I am looking for bell ringers to toll the final bell on Christmas Eve. If you've never done it but want to, please catch me during coffee hour and let me know.
- Our Alleluia Choir has been asked to sing at a Faith Journey UMC variety show on Sunday, November 20, at 6 p.m. Faith Journey UMC is on Morgan Road in Clay. It is wonderful how this choir goes into the community and shares their music and the love of God.

## EDUCATION TEAM 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings will be held at 6:30pm  
on the following Tuesdays

January 3rd  
March 7th  
May 2nd  
July 18th  
September 19th  
November 7th

*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.*  
- Proverbs 22:6



## Office space available for rent

There is an available office suite in the church-owned Office Building at 600 Oswego Street in Liverpool. The suite is in the lowest level of the building. It is 675 square feet with three individual small offices (approximately 8x10ft each) and two larger common areas.

Rent is \$500 per month (\$6000 per year). Lighting, heat, and air conditioning are provided as part

of the rent. Other utilities such as telephone and Internet service are the responsibility of the tenant. Office furniture is not provided.

The tenant must provide proof of liability insurance. The tenant is expected to sign a lease for a minimum of one year. Contact the church office at 315-457-5180 for details.

## Church Council meets January 16

Everyone is welcome to attend meetings of the Church Administrative Council, the main decision-making body of the church. At these meetings, which generally take place every other month on the third Monday of the month, reports are presented from all of the committees, commissions and other groups that lead programs and

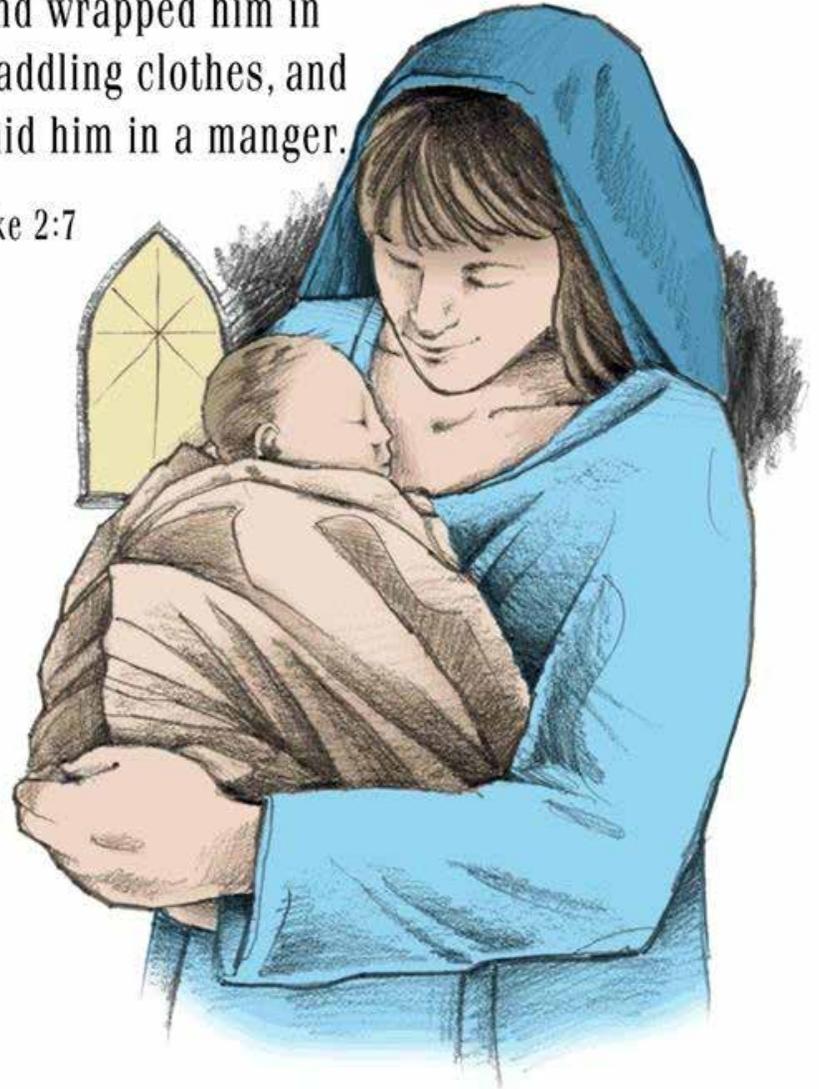
ministries for the congregation.

All committee leaders are expected to attend, and to submit a report of activities to the church office ahead of time.

The next meeting begins at 7 p.m. on January 16. Although only Council members may vote on actions, everyone has a voice in the discussions.

And she brought forth her firstborn son,  
and wrapped him in  
swaddling clothes, and  
laid him in a manger.

Luke 2:7



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