

The Messenger

DECEMBER 2015



Incorporated in 1866 ~ Rev. Yoomi Yi, Pastor



United Methodist Church of Linden

321 North Wood Avenue, Linden, New Jersey 07036

Church Phone: 908-486-4237

LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER

December 6

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

December 13

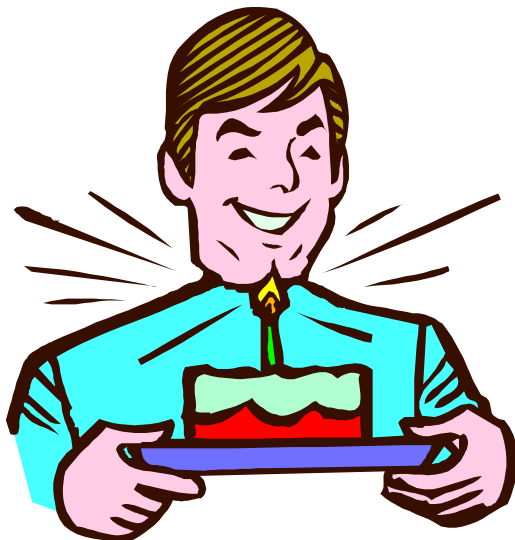
Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

December 20

Micah 5:2-5a ; Luke 1:47-55
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

December 27

I Samuel 2:18-20,26; Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52



HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

Beatrice Hanger	3
Steven James Mannino	4
Michael Dziamba,, Jr.	5
Gissela Roberts	10
Robert Long	11
Nicole Scott Jones	17
Wayne Hanns	20
Diann Schwankerdt	24
William Chavan. Sr.	25
Debra Loiselle	26
Gay Kulberda	26
Matthew Keith Martinson	29

.....and many, many more!!!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Jayne Zahorbenski Schnellenberger

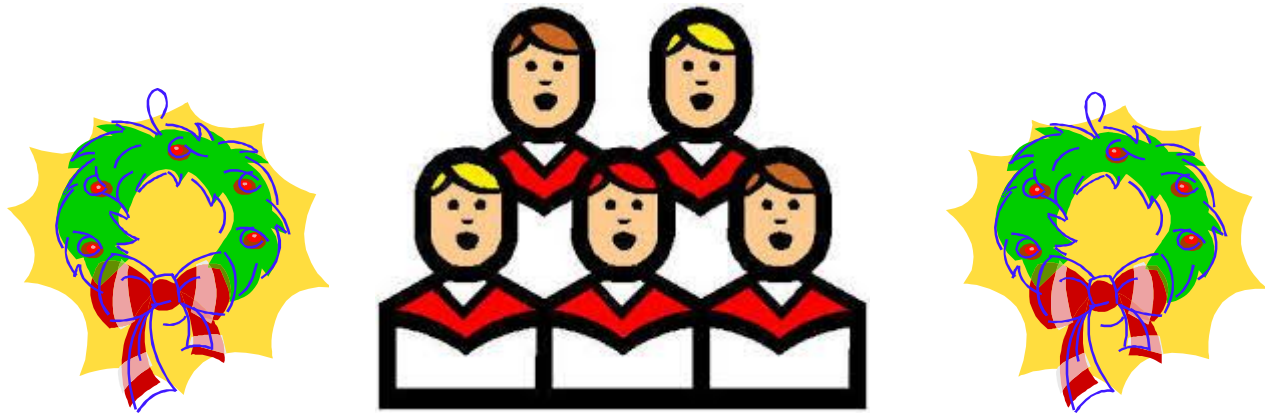
The last time Jayne and husband, Otts were in this area (when cousin Walter Baldwin received his 50 year pin)she took some pictures of our newly done-over church. We are using one of them as the cover for our Messenger letter this month – and we probably will use it most months in the future. Thank you, Jayne. the cover is a big improvement to the attractiveness of our Messenger and we appreciate your interest and concern.. It’s a lovely picture!



TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS
POINSETTIAS FOR THE HOLIDAY

We are now taking orders for the Christmas poinsettias that decorate our church altar every Christmas. They will be displayed on Christmas Sunday, December 20th, and Christmas Eve, December 24th. After Christmas Eve you can take home the number of poinsettias that you ordered (or wait until Sunday to do that) and enjoy them the rest of the holiday in your home. If we are lucky, they will continue to bloom for another few months. There will be slips in the bulletin to fill out where you can list your order in loving memory or honor of a loved one. Please enclose a check or cash in the envelope in the pew holder for \$7.25 and mark it “CHRISTMAS FLOWERS” and put in the offering plate. If you are not prepared to fill the slip out this week, please take the order form home, fill it out, enclose a check and put it in the offering plate next Sunday.

Let’s fill the altar with flowers and enjoy the beauty of this most special season!



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH in UNION - FELLOWSHIP CHOIR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015 – 3:30 P. M
AT THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LINDEN
321 N. Wood Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036

A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL WRITTEN BY Dave Clark and Mark Harris
MINISTER OF MUSIC – Mr. Jonathan Schneider

“NIGHT OF ALLELUIAS!”

NO CHARGE

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

THE CHOIR HAS BEEN PERFORMING CHRISTMAS AND EASTER CANTATAS,
SHARING MUSIC WITH NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES.

PROGRAM IS ABOUT 1 ½ HOURS.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO HAVE A FUN AND BLESSED EVENING AT THE START
OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE

Since I had forgotten to get my flu shot when I went to my doctor, I called the City to see if they were still giving them and perhaps I could get someone to take me to the City Hall to get the shot.

However, I had a very pleasant surprise. They asked me if I would have a problem getting to the City Hall and I said since I don't drive anymore I definitely would have a problem. They told me they would send a visiting nurse to my home to give me the shot. They have been doing this for many years to help those that cannot help themselves. And that's what they did! Two lovely nurses came and took care of my problem. So now I know how to get my shot next year – AND SO DO YOU, IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM GETTING AROUND. Just call the Board of Health and make an appointment and they will come to you!

We are very lucky – Linden is very good to their seniors!



Don't send Christmas cards to your church friends – we have a better idea! We ask you to send one card to the members of the UMC and it will be posted on our beautiful poster stand gifted to us by Werson Funeral Home many years ago, and we have used it ever since.

We will list the cards sent in an insert in the Christmas bulletin and after the holiday it will be in the Messenger. That way, you will all know who sent you a MERRY CHRISTMAS GREETING and thought of you during the holiday.

There will be fliers in the Sunday bulletin so that you can fill out the information for the Christmas poinsettia: who gave the poinsettia, and if was in memory or honor of a loved one. Please fill out that form and enclose the cost, \$7.25, in the envelope found in the pew holder, marked CHRISTMAS FLOWERS, and put in the offering plate. If you can't do it this week, take the form home, fill it out, enclose the money, and bring back next week to put in the offering plate.

Let's see our altar filled with color and poinsettias as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

.....
BIRTHDAY CARDS



As I celebrated and received many 91st birthday cards in October, there was one I received from my son John and wife Julie that made me laugh all day and say "how true! how true!"

I will explain – there is a picture on the front of the card with an elderly lady carrying a sheet cake filled with burning candles and no smiles on her face. The saying above the picture – INSIDE EVERY OLDER PERSON IS A YOUNGER PERSON WONDERING WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED. I can't begin to tell you how many times I have made a similar statement. I sit in church and remember all those people who are gone now and were such an important part of my life and appreciate them for the example they left us. Every one of them is still important to me and I see them sitting in "their pew" helping to guide the church into the future and depending on us to carry on. I will never forget them and that younger person inside me will never forget them either. They shaped us into the persons we became!



WE NEED HELP TO DECORATE THE CHURCH

SATURDAY – Nov. 28 – 10:00 AM
(Help us put the tree and wreath up in the sanctuary)

SUNDAY – Nov. 29 – Following the worship service – 11:30 AM
(Decorate the tree, windows, and doors)

Many hands make light work! Please lend us your hands!

THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES

Usually, at this time of year, you receive a letter and envelope for Thanksgiving and in December a Christmas letter and envelope. In order to save some time and expenses, we are not sending those this year.

PLEASE CHECK THE BOX OF ENVELOPES THAT YOU RECEIVED THE END OF LAST YEAR FOR 2015 AND LOOK IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER AND YOU WILL SEE A SPECIAL ENVELOPE FOR EACH OF THOSE TWO HOLIDAYS. PLEASE FILL THEM AND PUT IN THE OFFERING PLATE ANY SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. WE REALLY NEED THE MONEY TO TRY AND KEEP CURRENT WITH OUR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR. WE COUNT ON YOU!!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM CAROLYN FRANZ

Many thanks to all who donated to the CROP HUNGER WALK on October 18, 2015. Our church raised \$223 for the hungry of the world. We will hear the total of all the local churches in a few weeks and will announce that as soon as we receive the information



COMMON THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Interfaith Council will sponsor the annual Common Thanksgiving Worship Service at the Calvin Presbyterian Church on November 22, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

All choirs from the local churches are welcome to take part in the music. The director is Jonathon

Arrowood of Calvin Pres. and he will conduct the service. Directions to the church - straight down south Wood Ave. to the last red light at Main Street. Turn right at next corner, turn left on Tremely Point Rd and a short block to Arthur Street and you will see the church. All members of all churches are invited. Refreshments will be served.



DECEMBER CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 8
U.M.Women Christmas luncheon at home of Kathryn Gmitter 11:30 a.m.

December 12
UMC of Union Fellowship Choir in our church at 3:30 p.m. Night of Alleluias Everyone invited - Free Admission, light refreshments - bring family & friends

Christmas Sunday - December 20
Worship Service in our sanctuary - 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

LET'S FILL OUR SANCTUARY FOR THESE SPECIAL DAYS. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND. WE HAVE MISSED SO MANY PEOPLE EACH SUNDAY AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN. WE ARE HERE - WE HOPE YOU WILL BE, TOO!!

Holiday Bazaar



Linden United Methodist Church
321 N. Wood Avenue
Linden, NJ
COME JOIN US!!



November 21, 2015
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Something for everyone!



Lunch & Snacks

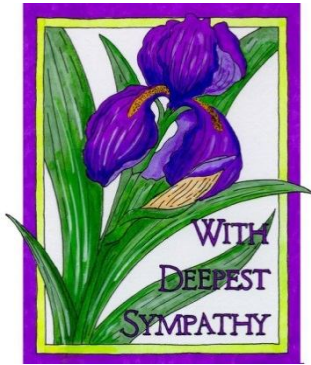
Baked Goods

White Elephant

Crafts

**New & Nearly New
Items**

Holiday Spirit!



Some obituaries are difficult to write and this is one of them! It is with sadness that we report the death of Dr. William “Bill” Martin, 59, a former Linden resident and long-time member of our church. And how he loved to talk about the past – his years growing up in Linden, attending local schools and active in sports (football and track) relationships with great friends, young and old, that he kept over the years. To know Bill was to love him and he was loved by many. And he returned that love in so many ways because he cared about everyone. He kept in touch with all his friends even when he was miles away in Maine. I talked with him every few weeks and he always wanted to know how the church and everyone in it, was doing. He cared and missed us all.

Bill graduated from Trenton State College and received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. He had a successful practice in Linden focusing on sports rehabilitation and sports medicine. He was an accomplished musician and played lead guitar for Metal Merchant, a popular local band in Davenport in the early 1980s.

Bill is survived by his father, William E. Martin of Bayville, his mother, Gail Martin Giuffrida and step-father Mike Giuffrida of Washington, D. C., his brother Glenn of Bennington, Vt. , and brother Jeff, and sister-in-law, Elizabeth of Silver Springs, Md. and his two nieces, Devon and Tess.

A celebration of Bill’s life will be held on Sunday, December 20th at 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary followed by refreshments in Aldersgate Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of William Wade Martin to the U.M.C. of Linden Memorial Fund, 321 N. Wood Avenue, Linden, N. J. 07036.

Bill will be missed so much by his loving family and many friends.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We would like to thank all those who donated to the program to help the shelter in Elizabeth who provide help those who suffer from domestic violence. We received many items that they need and \$160. to purchase items we did not have.

We have 8 or 9 large boxes filled and they will all be delivered next week.

Thank you for filling a need and helping us help others!

.....
 EACH MONTH WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAYS OF THOSE THAT HAVE ONE DURING THAT MONTH. TO PURCHASE A CAKE THAT CAN FEED US ALL COSTS ABOUT \$15.00. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THIS EXPENSE PLEASE CONTACT CAROLYN FRANZ SINCE SHE BUYS THE CAKE.



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Stewardship program is over! But we had a very low return of pledge cards! If you have not filled your pledge card out and returned it, it is not too late. It is very important that we know how much we can expect to receive so that we know if we can meet our financial obligations for 2016. We need to all work together to accomplish this. Will you do your share?

.....
 Doris Stamer, 310 E. Curtis St., Linden, N.J. 07036

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER # _____
 POINSETTIA PLANT AT \$7.25 EA. ENCLOSED.

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

GIVEN BY

DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:30-Faith in Action	2	3	4 5:30-Champion Youth	5 7 th Day Adventist
6 9:30-Choir 9:30-Sunday Sch. 10:30-Ch.Worship 12:30-Saints of God	7 7- Board of Trustees	8 11:30-United Meth.Women Christmas luncheon At K.Gmitter 7:30-Faith in Action	9 10 AM – CHURCH COUNCIL	10	11 5:30-Champion Youth	12 U.M. UNION MUSIC PROGRAM 3 PM-Refreshments 7 th Day Adventist
13 9:30-Choir 9:30-Sunday School 10:30-Ch.Worship 12:30-Saints of God	14	15 7:30-Faith in Action	16	17	18 5:30-Champion Youth	19 7 th Day Adventist
20-- CHRISTMAS SUNDAY 9:30-Choir 9:30-Sunday School 10:30-Ch.Worship 12:30-Saints of God 4 pm-Memorial Ser. For Bill Martin, Jr.	21	22 7:30-Faith in Action	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 7 P.M.	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 7 TH DAY ADVENTIST
27 9:30-Choir 9:30-Sunday School 10:30-Ch.Worship 12:30-Saints of God	28	29 7:30 – Faith in Action	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE		