



December Birthdays

- 1 – Jacen Arruda
- 3 – Daniell Eickhoff, Linda Herbster, Christina Matthias
- 5 – Kaylee McCormick, Swithin Swaroop
- 6 – Barbara Althouse, Donna Dulay
- 7 – Lillian Mannon
- 11 – Kyle Steppe
- 12 – John Jakimowicz, Magdaleno Tiacomulco, Joseph Urbano
- 14 – Tobias Ellsworth
- 19 – Christine Bonno, Susan Buehler
- 21 – Mae Menei
- 23 – Joe Colduvell
- 25 – Richard Eickhoff
- 26 – Mickey McDevitt
- 27 – Trey Buehler, Fiah Gussin
- 29 – Kim Jakimowicz, Blanche Sherrill
- 30 – Vera Straley
- 31 – Lisa Barber, William Fabian

Decemberr Wedding Anniversaries

- 19 – Chile Obbo = 29 years
- 22 – Jennifer & Mark Arruda = 26 years
- 22 – Linda & Dave Miller = 36 years
- 27 – Gail & Dennis Lowe = 54 years



The December Maple

Since March 14 of this year we have been “waiting” for this COVID 19 pandemic to be over! Our waiting has turned into exhaustion and frustration. We do not like to wait. We don’t like “normal” to be placed on the back burner. We don’t like to be inconvenienced – especially in the dramatic ways that have unfolded for us as a nation, and personally! Now we have “the holidays” upon us and things are as bad, if not worse, than they were back in March. We are tired of adapting, adjusting and missing out!

I do not want to underplay the hardships the pandemic has caused individuals, families, businesses, churches, etc. But I do want to point out that some waiting leads to joy. The waiting that comes with pregnancy, for example, leads to the birth of a beautiful baby. We have had the joy of several babies born into our church family this year. Sometime waiting leads to new perspectives, which lead to new beginnings. Our live stream worship is an example of something brand new coming from this pandemic. The food program has reached more families and allowed us the privilege of meeting more of our neighbors. And because many of our neighbors speak Spanish, a new ministry has blossomed with Beditza joining our staff.

This is the season of Advent in the church year – which is a season of waiting and preparing our hearts for the birth of God’s son, Jesus. How ironic that we find ourselves doing Advent during a pandemic. Perhaps more than any other year, we want to skip Advent and go right to Christmas. Let’s resist that temptation. Let’s continue to seek joy in our waiting, asking God to keep our perspective focused on the life emerging through the pain and chaos. And please do not go through this season alone. Your church family is walking by your side.

*Peace and Joy,
Wendy*



Margaret Callihan
 Helen Chokey
 Betty Mershon
 BJ Lebegern
 David Noble
 Blanche Sherrill
 Janet and Lisa Curcio
 Nancy J. (mother of John Jakimowicz)
 George L. (Helen Chokey's nephew)
 Julie J. (cousin of Kim & John Jakimowicz)
 Sean (friend of Becky Kent)
 Pearl (Friend of Pam Manners)
 MaryLou (Joe Colduvells' sister)
 Diana (Friend of Pam Manners)
 Brenda (Phyllis Patterson's cousin)
 Jose Cadillo
 Patricia Logan's sister
 Mike (friend of Becky and Steve Kent)
 Karleen Miller
 Donna Pace (Joe Colduvell's sister)

PRAYER
changes things



Marolyn (f) 17 Yassah (f) 9 Blessing (m) 7	Cambell (m) 17 Oretha (f) 12 Marie (f) 15	Matenneh (f) 17 Margaret (f) 9 Morris (f) 11	Emmanuel (m) 17 John (m) 11 Esther (f) 13
Musu (f) 17 Godgift (f) 10 Bernice (f) 7	Fatu (f) 17 Mary (f) 11 Martha (f) 6	Ruth (f) 17 Marie (f) 15 Princess (f) 16	Princess (f) 17 James (m) 3 Sunnyboy (m) 5
Janet (f) 17 Hannah (f) 7 Grace (f) 5	Oretha (f) 17 Abraham (m) 11 Blessing (f) 3	Moses (m) 19 Emmanuel (m) 14 Princess (f) 8	Blessing (f) 17 Gift (f) 6 Kebeh (f) 9
Marthaline (f) 19 Lorpu (f) 12 Annie (f) 10	Mary (f) 17 Patience (f) 8 Siah (f) 10 Victor (m) 6	Melvin (m) 17 Arthur (m) 13 Jeremiah (m) 12 Joseph (m) 11	Bendu (f) 18 Fata (f) 6 Jartu (f) 4
Helena (f) 17 Courage (f) 16 Yassah (f) 15	Marie (f) 19 Levi (m) 17 Jallah (m) 14	Abigail (f) 17 Harsena (f) 7 Harsuna (m) 7	Esther (f) 18 Ruth (f) 3 Stephen (m) 11
Christiana (f) 17 Favor (f) 15 Solomon (m) 9	Comfort (f) 11 Josephine (f) 5	Rebecca (f) 17 Vanassa (f) 13	Grace (f) 17 Annie (f) 7 Success (f) 5
Fatu (f) 18 Rachael (f) 7 Edward (m) 8	Lovetee (f) 18 Amos (m) 10 Rita (f) 5	Moima (f) 17 Jerry (m) 11 Success (m) 4	

Joy Empowerment Group, Liberia
January 2020 – December 2022
In Partnership with Morrisville UMC

Before an empowerment group name list is created, Zoe Empowers staff members take time to get to know the youth. They make home visits to record information about the children, their dependents, and caregivers. They assess if any emergency interventions are required to alleviate health issues, abusive conditions, or inadequate shelter. Once they have confirmed who is eligible for the Zoe Empowers program and have allowed time for children who are not interested to drop out and others to join, then the staff creates the name list. Please note, children joining the Zoe program often have no parents or birth documentation and have suffered multiple traumas in their young lives. Sometimes they are suspicious of the people asking questions. For these reasons, the children occasionally provide erroneous information which we later correct.

Some of the children live with an elderly grandparent or disabled caregiver. Most often such arrangements include shelter only and the caregiver is unable to provide food, education, health care or other support which children need. Child rights are especially important in such situations so that the children are not abused.

Here is the list of names and a picture of our group. The names in bold are heads of household, followed by their siblings and dependents.

The children are encouraged & strengthened by the knowledge that their partner is not only supporting them with resources, but also with prayer and in the belief that they are capable of great things. Thank you for making this journey of transformation with them.



POINSETTIAS



Red poinsettias will again be available for order this Dec. The size is 7.5" & cost is \$12.75. We will only be ordering a quantity of 20, so get your order in early! They will be on display in the sanctuary on Dec. 20th and Christmas Eve, during the streaming of these services. Call or email Becky at the church office (215-295-9593 or mumc19067@gmail.com) to place an order.



Cookies for Friends



Most of us look forward to Christmas with anticipation & joy, but for those in our church family who live alone, are homeless, or homebound this can be a very lonely season. The COVID virus has made the past several months more difficult. The United Methodist Women have had a tradition of remembering these friends with a short visit & a plate of homemade cookies. Although indoor visits are impossible this year, we can still share our love, prayers & Christmas spirit with our friends. You, our church family, have lovingly assisted with this mission project in past years & we hope you will join us again. Please consider baking 2-3 dz. cookies. Then bring them to church on Mon., Dec. 7th from 9am to noon. Plates will be assembled & delivered. Thank you for supporting UMW & sharing your love with others. Questions? Call Carol Young at 215-321-6679.

Christmas Eve Worship

Due to the decision to close our sanctuary for in person worship, our Christmas Eve worship service will be available on our website (mumcpa.org) at anytime on Christmas Eve. We have a team of people creating a meaning worship experience that will be available when your family is able to join. More info. will be made available as the time gets closer.

We will also have a communion service on Christmas Eve for all who would like to join together for a simple telling of the Christmas story and communion shared with Pastor Wendy through Zoom. More information will be available soon.



The Communion Fund story

Everyone's 2020 life story is different than other years – much different! And that is the case with the Communion Fund story. This fund has been around for many years under a couple of names: Pastor's Fund, the Discretionary Fund, and the Communion Fund. In the past, the money you place in your communion offering envelopes is what funds this charity account, which the Pastor is responsible to distribute. Generally, around \$5,000 passes through this account every year.

This year, because of the growing needs in our community, your generosity has quadrupled, and over \$25,000 has been given! As community members have learned about the ministry our church is extending, they have contributed, as have friends from all over the country who watch our live stream worship service.

Here is how your giving has been used to help our friends and neighbors:

Rent Assistance: \$5,652

PECO Assistance: \$1,158

Worship enhancement: \$725

Local Charities: \$5,050

Food and meals: \$5,215

Generic help with families: \$525

Children's Programs: \$870

This is in addition to the thousands of dollars of gift cards that have been handed to me, and the products you have dropped off for the food pantry. It is also in addition to the meals that have been provided and the twenty thanksgiving boxes given.

It is impossible to count the number of people and families who have experienced caring and the love of Jesus through our actions. Let's continue to be the hands and feet for Jesus in a world experiencing pain and grief, in need of kindness and the life-giving message of salvation!

Are you looking for ways to give back to your community? [Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need \(AHTN\)](#) has many volunteer opportunities for our Code Blue winter shelter mission. This year we are blessed to be running our Code Blue shelter out of Calvary Baptist Church's Outpost Gymnasium at 250 Green Lane in Bristo. We are allowed to use this space for all 4 months so we do not have to move every month to a different church. AHTN is following all CDC Guidelines to make sure that our guests & volunteers are as safe as possible while riding our buses & in our shelter. We are looking for new volunteers for the following volunteer positions:

- Drivers (no CDL necessary) & Attendants – pick up the homeless using our 15-passenger vehicles and bring them to the shelter
- Intake Staff – help guests with bedding, clothing & intake questionnaire
- Overnight Staff – man the shelter for one of two overnight shifts
- Dinner Help – assist the Calvary staff with serving dinner Morning Clean Up – disinfect the shelter using foggers and cleaning supplies.

Due to the pandemic AHTN will NOT host in person Volunteer Orientations. If you want to learn more about volunteer opportunities, you can take our online Orientation by following these directions. Read our "Getting Involved" Volunteer section of our website:

<https://www.ahtn.org/volunteer-with-ahtn>

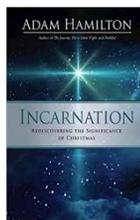
Donations requested

The Conference has reached out to us for help with their Hispanic ministry. They've been overwhelmed. The migrants are in need of red beans, rice & corn meal. Also coats, blankets, warm hats, gloves & scarves.

For anyone who would like to contribute: a bin was placed inside the Morrisville UMC foyer for food and clothing donations, by the coat rack. Monetary/gift card donations can be mailed directly to Newtown at the address provided below, given to me, Rhonda Rea, or Pastor Wendy, or else dropped off with Becky when she is in the Church office. If you would like to contribute but need/prefer to have the contribution picked up, please let me know and it can be arranged.

Send money payable to: Rev. Lucretia Cotto @ St. Paul's UM Church, 2131 Palomina Drive, Warrington, PA, 18976. She sets up \$50 accounts for ladies at a supermarket. As you can guess, that does not go far, but it is a 'gold mine' to the families.

Advent Bible Study
“Incarnation” by Adam Hamilton
Tuesday 10:00am and Wednesday 7:00pm
by Zoom



Explore with us the names of Jesus during this five-week study taking us from December 1st to January 13th. This is a video-based study asking “Who is Jesus” based on the New Testament stories of Jesus’ birth. Register with Pastor Wendy so you can receive a book and a zoom invitation.

Interfaith Food Alliance Update

Thank you to all who participated in our virtual Angel Tree gift program. Because of your generosity, 20 children from our community will each receive 2 "wished-for" gifts this Christmas. This is a significant piece of the larger IFA program that provided 105 children from 40 families with 210 gifts! We are so grateful for ALL the participating faith communities as well as community folks who connect with us via facebook for supporting this effort.

Our volunteers have had an extra busy month, also distributing more than 100 new winter coats to children and adults and 40 Thanksgiving Basket/Meals to our guest families.

The IFA continues its commitment to feed the food insecure in our community throughout these difficult pandemic times. Please remember we are always appreciative of your food donations, that can be left at the church during office hours, labeled IFA, AND your financial donations. You can make financial donations via the IFA website, or write a check to the IFA and send it/drop off at our church.

Wishing all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and PEACE and HEALTH in the NEW YEAR.

Rhonda Rea - jrpiz@aol.com - IFA Board Member at Large

faith and **finances**

Finance Committee News

If you have not turned in your Pledge card for 2021, please send it in as soon as possible. Thank you. It is important to know our expected income so we can plan our budget for the next year.

Offering envelopes will be available starting November 21, 2020 at the church in the hallway by the entrance to the Sanctuary. If you can pick yours up, please do. We will try to deliver all remaining envelope boxes from December 13th through the end of December. Please contact Jim Rea at 215-493-9505 or the church office if you would like a box of offering envelopes and have not used them in the past. Jim Rea, Finance Chair



UMW SOUP/BAKE/CRAFT SALE

Thank you to all who helped to make this a success! We sold over 200 quarts & 40 pints of soup. At this time we have approx. \$2400 in proceeds which will go to our Mission activities. Our appreciation goes out to all those who helped prepare, sell, donate, make and purchased items from the various sales. Way to GO!!!



Red Cross Blood Drive - MUMC Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, December 23 - 9:30 to 2:30

For the three summer blood drives held at MUMC 68 productive units of blood were collected, which will go to possibly help save 204 lives. Because there is still a need, we will host two more drives this year. Please check the Red Cross website to sign up to participate.



Thank you to Megan Price for making 100 face masks for our homeless friends.



THE PURPOSE

United Methodist Women is a **community of women** whose purpose is:

To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ

To develop a creative supportive fellowship and

To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We welcome all women who commit themselves to our Purpose, including you. You don't have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse: women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining this **multicultural, multilingual,** and **multiracial** organization of women.

All women are welcome to attend.

December Schedule

DECEMBER 7 (Monday) 9am to noon - Women are encouraged to bring: 2 doz.cookies that will be made into trays for our homebound members. (Sugar-free cookies are always appreciated for trays for our diabetic friends.)Please call Linda Mier at 215-736-8350 if you need someone to pick up your baked cookies

DECEMBER 8 (Tuesday) - UMW GENERAL MEETING - 7:00 P.M.

Program – Variety of Christmas music *ALL ARE INVITED!!!**

This will be a ZOOM meeting. To join the meeting, use this link:
<https://zoom.us/j/617873305?pwd=RzgyRlpLNXYvRE1pV0VNYmM1L3BWUT09>

One tap mobile
+16468769923,,617873305# US (New York)
Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 617 873 305

Love Offering – Contributions may be mailed to Carol Young, 1298 Knox Drive, Yardley PA 19067, or placed in MUMC's mailbox at the rear entrance of the church by **December 8. Make checks payable to Morrisville UMW. Envelopes dropped off at, or mailed to, the church should be addressed to UMW.**

DECEMBER 16 - ELIZABETH CIRCLE – Tentative. Please check with your circle leader closer to the scheduled date.

DECEMBER 21 - MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE

Christmas Social with cookies baked by circle members.

Cookie drop-off December 19, pick-up 11:30 December 20. Specific details to follow

7:00 P.M. – ZOOM Meeting - Watch your email for the invitation. Here is the link to join the meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3702473204?pwd=a3R2QlUwZldTUdFEeWl4MWYxRGxpZz09>