



December 2021

Hayshire United Church of Christ

Pastoral Reflections

Each year, at the beginning of Advent, our church year starts anew. We enter into the season of waiting – like parents anticipating the birth of their first child, and like children waiting for Christmas morn. Our expectations are high with the possibilities of what will be, and yet, there is a bit of uncertainty, of hesitancy for what will be. There is enough unknown to peak our interest and to give us a bit of pause.

Holding onto both of these feelings, we enter into Advent once again. Each week we journey ever closer to the stable where the birth of God in the flesh will burst forth, pushing back the darkness with the cries of an infant born into our world – Emmanuel, God with us once more.

In Week 1, we hear from the prophet Jeremiah about the hope of a savior, a righteous branch that will spring up for David. He is proclaimed to have royal blood and will be the new king – *the King* of kings, the one whom the world has been waiting for. We sing the haunting tune of hope: *“O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel. That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appears”* (NCH #116).

Hope carries us into Week 2, where the intentional preparation of our hearts begins, as we hear the Prophet Malachi tell us that God is sending a messenger ahead of the Messiah, so we must begin to prepare the way of the Lord. We hear the first hints that the hoped for peace is coming for all people; what has been a time of upheaval, fighting and discord will soon give way to peace and comfort: *“Comfort, comfort, O my people, tell of peace, thus says our God...Speak unto Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them.* (NCH #101).

With hope and peace in our hearts, joy is truly possible. We slide into Week 3 of Advent and hear John the Baptist crying out in the wilderness that Jesus is coming, as the Prophet Isaiah reminds us to always sing praises to the Lord, for God has done glorious things for us. “Rejoice always” is Paul’s cry from Philippians chapter 4. We join with generations past as we sing: *“O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here; Love stir within the womb of night, and death’s own shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice!”* (NCH#116 v.6)

And finally, on Week 4, we hear Mary’s song of praise, devotion, and love as she rejoices at what God is doing through her: *“My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways. My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is God’s name. All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim”* (NCH #119).

On Christmas Eve our joy is complete when the hoped for promise is born. Light bursts forth in the humblest, darkest corner of a tiny stable amongst God’s creatures, fulfilling the promise of God’s love born into human flesh for each of us. The angel’s proclaims: *“I bring you good tidings of great joy for all people...Christ the Lord is born”* (Luke 2:11-12). And, as we prepare to go home, we lift our voices in praise and love that God is born in us once again: *“Joy to the World, the Lord has come! Let earth its praises bring; Let every heart prepare Christ room, and heaven and nature sing!”* (NCH #132) May our hearts be filled with hope, peace, joy and deep abiding love.

Blessings on this holy season,

Pastor Brenda





BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 • Kathi Motter | 14 • Brandon Workinger |
| 6 • Robert Motter | 15 • Thomas Grentz |
| 7 • Dale Leckrone | 18 • Abbey Paxson |
| 9 • Shonna Rupert | 21 • Crystal Martin |
| 10 • Jean Carotenuti | 22 • Alexander Schirk |
| 10 • Wanda Waltz | 22 • Max Teyral |
| 14 • Meredith Eisenhart | 27 • Lowell Briggs |
| 14 • Freedman Kottmyer | |



ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 • Ethan & Laine Knaub
- 18 • Fred & Judy Stabley
- 28 • John & Carol Mummert



PRESCHOOL NEWS

December will find us busy getting ready for Christmas. We will be making special projects, talking about the true meaning of Christmas and making holiday crafts. We are excited that Santa will be visiting all of our classes, even if from a distance. We are looking forward to our Christmas parties.

We are hoping for no snow days.

We will be off for our Christmas vacation December 22nd through January 1st.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Jackie Bailey, Preschool Director



PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

Martha Pringle • Manor Care-Kingston Court
 Helen Bair • Manor Care-Dallastown
 Ken Darone • The Village at Kelly Drive-York

MEMBERS

Pat Strine, Deanie Lloyd, Jim and Barb Knight, Bill Klinedinst, Phyllis Miller, Larry Slenker, Dellinger/Grentz Family, Ron Workinger, Blauser Family

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Carol Hess, Linda Sents, Craig Mehring, Tom Leckrone, Dan and Rachel Conway, Patrick Hall, Ruth Cassell, Susan Martin & Linda, Ruth Ann Bubb, Kimberly Hill, Mr. Sandy's Homeless Veterans and staff, Alicia Sanders, Cynthia Nimmer, Glenn Hedrick, Diane Berkheimer, Jerry Nimmer, Bonnie Lawrence, Tory Gross, Michael Johnston, Ramon Nimmer, Susan Wollwage, Norma Whitmoyer, Kitty Everhard, Michael Cutright, Jeffrey Davidson, Selina Bliss & Family, Dawn & Chuck Hughes, Nan Horne, Kwashi Frimpong, William Brown, Mary Eck, Clayton Shawver, Beth & Bob Bixby, Donna Eberts' niece, Ricky Snellen, Jay Shewell, Trenton Knoll, Tammy Masburger Glassmyer, Tom Chronister, Bill Chaney, Tony Heath, Family of Diffendarfer, Sam & Ginny Wantz, Ginny Weber



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Published monthly by:
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**DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER:
 December 15, 2021**

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES TO:
 haylo@hayshireucc.org

From the President . . .

On November 11, 2021, there was a special ceremony held prior to the Boston Bruins/Edmonton Oilers hockey game for Colby Cave, a 25 year old professional hockey player, who died back in April 2020 from a colloid cyst which caused bleeding of the brain. A colloid cyst is a slow-growing tumor typically found near the center of the brain. Colby Cave, a well respected NHL player, left a young widow, Emily. I remember reading about Colby's tragic death last year. Emily lost the love of her life and her best friend far too soon.

My first reaction was how sad it was for someone so young to die. I cannot begin to imagine the pain of losing a son, daughter, husband, wife, or friend at such a young age. In this instance, a professional athlete, in top physical shape, seemed in good health one day and was battling for his life the next day. I know it can be difficult some days, but we need to make the most of each day we have. Enjoy each precious moment with your family and friends.

Another thought that crossed my mind was the timing of Colby's death. Back in April of 2020, the COVID pandemic had shut down many businesses, school lessons were being done remotely, and visits to nursing homes and hospitals to see loved ones came to a halt. Far too many people were dying alone. A limited number of people were allowed to attend the funeral or memorial service, so families were not able to have the normal support that they would typically receive. I have spoken to a couple of friends who lost loved ones during the pandemic and know it was an extremely difficult time. Hopefully, we will never have to face this situation again.

Since Colby started his brief career with Boston Bruins and finished it with the Edmonton Oilers, it was fitting for the two organizations to have a tribute during one of their games. November 11th was the first time the two teams met since Colby's death. Before the game, highlights were shown including his first goal as a Bruin. Emily walked out to center ice for the ceremonial first puck drop. They do put a mat on the ice, so Emily did not have to skate to meet the captains of both teams. Once at center, Emily shared hugs with both Patrice Bergeron, Boston's captain, and Conner McDavid, Edmonton's captain. Both will be in the

NHL Hall of Fame once their careers are over. I will admit that my eyes were watering the first time I saw a replay of the ceremony. After dropping the puck and the photo shoot with Bergeron and McDavid, Emily walked over to both benches where she received many more hugs. The next day on Instagram, Emily's response was "No words will ever be able to describe last night". It may have taken 19 months, but I am glad so many former teammates had the opportunity to extend their condolences to Emily.

The next day, Emily also explained why her embrace with a Boston Bruin, Brad Marchand was so meaningful. I did watch the tribute again and I did notice the hug was much longer than the rest. Marchand happened to be the last Bruin to see Colby alive. One of her fondest memories was enjoying a Thanksgiving meal at the Marchand's house. Being a veteran, he wanted to make sure the rookie and his wife had company for their Thanksgiving meal. Emily seized the moment to tell Marchand "he loved you so much". On her instagram the next day, Emily revealed what she said and added "I feel that is an understatement". In my opinion, a professional hockey team is more of a close knit family than any other professional sports team. The tribute to Colby Cave only solidifies my feelings.

Emily is currently involved doing charity work with the Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence, RI. In a shout out to her late husband, she commented that "despite you being in Heaven, we are still changing so many lives down here. Forever your #1 fan, #26". Despite her tremendous loss a year ago, Emily is living her life and is having a positive influence on so many lives.

I know the holidays are coming and most of you will be spending quality time with family and friends. Enjoy those precious moments. Plus, it doesn't have to be just over the holidays. None of us knows how much time each of us has left. Please don't put off that visit until next month. I'm sure that call or visit will be greatly appreciated.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Scott Shue



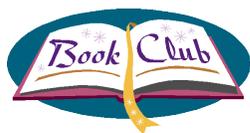
Bible Study — Revelation

Tuesday, November 9th, ten of us met for our first session, discussing the first chapter of Revelation. Zoom was and will continue to be available for those who are unable to venture out in the darkness of these winter hours. We will be meeting every other Tuesday, at 6:30pm, in the sanctuary.

Our next session will be Tuesday, November 23rd and we will be discussing Revelation chapters 2-5. Study guides are available at Church, and, if you would like to join us, just show up with your Bible, or we can provide one.

Hope to see you at our next session.

//JoAnn Stoner

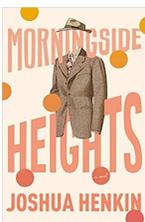


Hayshire Book Club

The next Book Club will be on Thursday December 9th at 6:30pm. We will be trying out a new venue beginning in December to better accommodate all of our book lovers! We will be meeting at Senior Commons at 1775 Powder Mill Rd. (the multi-story building). Jean Carotenuti will be there to assist with sign-in. If you are interested in carpooling, please contact the office to make arrangements. Zoom will be available for this meeting as well.

Upcoming Books:

- **December 9th** - Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine, by Gail Honeyman
- **January 13th** - Morningside Heights, by Joshua Henkin



We will take some time during the December meeting to choose books for the upcoming year. Please come with your suggestion for a book for 2022!

//Stacy Kunkel

Advent Collection

This year during Advent we will be collecting needed items for the Northeastern Food Pantry.

- Week One - single rolls of paper towels and tissues
- Week Two - family size shampoo and deodorant
- Week Three - dental products (toothpaste, brushes, dental cleaner)
- Week Four - coffee, tea and jelly (no grape)

You can drop off these items during office hours Monday thru Thursday from 9am-1pm or on Sunday mornings.



The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a Special Mission Offering that congregations have been supporting for over 100 years. The offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards. Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks.

On Sunday, December 19th, Hayshire will be collecting for this fund. There will be an envelope enclosed with your bulletin that Sunday. Please give as your heart moves you.

Thank you

Mission

Holiday BAZAAR

Our Holiday Bazaar fundraiser was a success! On October 23rd we opened our church to some local vendors and invited the community to come and shop. Some vendors included Thirty-one, color street, and many crafters. We also had food and goodies available to purchase as well as a raffle. I would like to thank everyone who helped coordinate, volunteer, and made donations. With all your help we were able to raise over \$1000! I look forward to doing it again next year!

//Christine Daniels



Cookies and Story Time with Santa

December 4th starting at 4:00pm

Families are invited to bring their children to meet Santa and enjoy a special story time to learn about the true meaning of Christmas. There will be cookies, juice, and hot chocolate for all. Participants will be able to enter a free raffle to win a Christmas themed stocking for a child. Doors will open at 4:00pm and story time will be at 4:30pm. Invite friends with young children to come and join us and plan to volunteer if you are able! It's sure to be a special day at Hayshire. Please RSVP by going to www.hayshireucc.org/events.html

Masks are required to keep Santa and all his elves safe for Christmas.



Sock and Mitten Tree

This Christmas we will once again ask for adult size socks, mittens, gloves, and scarves for the Christmas tree in the gathering area. These will be passed on to Mr Sandy's Veterans Helping Hands. It is amazing all the men and women that frequent the Shelter. With the cold weather quickly moving in, these will be most needed. Please give in the Christmas spirit and help warm lives.

Share your time, talents and skills

As the Holiday season approaches please consider giving the gift of your time! SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice is looking for volunteers to join the Hospice Team. Volunteer to visit hospice clients in your community to offer friendly support. Volunteers also help with office work, bereavement calls & visits, baking bread for bereaved families, sewing memory teddy bears.

See flyer on bulletin board in Gathering Place.

Call Cathy Sweeney, Volunteer Coordinator at 570-599-5390 to learn more.

Giant and Weis Grocery Cards

We continue to sell grocery cards. Whether you are looking to purchase for yourself or as a gift for the up coming holiday season, please reach out to the church office for assistance if you are unable to make your purchase on Sundays. Checks need to be made payable to: Hayshire UCC

With each purchase 5% of the value comes back to the church.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual meeting will be right after worship service on January 30th
- We have collected specific clothing items for Hayshire Elementary school's nurse.
- Asking for hats, gloves, scarves, and heavy socks for Mr. Sandy's Homeless Veteran Center.



MONTHLY SCRIPTURE

December 5, 2021
 Second Sunday of Advent
 Malachi 3:1-4
 Luke 1:68-79
 Philippians 1:3-11
 Luke 3:1-6

December 12, 2021
 Third Sunday of Advent
 Zephaniah 3:14-20
 Isaiah 12:2-6
 Philippians 4:4-7
 Luke 3:7-18

December 19, 2021
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Micah 5:2-5a
 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7
 Hebrews 10:5-10
 Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

December 26, 2021
 First Sunday after Christmas
 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
 Psalm 148
 Colossians 3:12-17
 Luke 2:41-52

Worship News

Join us as we gather around the table as we celebrate communion during worship on:

Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 6



26th Annual Garden of Life at Homewood at Plum Creek

On Friday, December 3rd, anytime from 5:30-7:30pm travel through a live nativity story, beginning at the main entrance of Town Hall. Enjoy the display of Christmas lights decorating the campus in seasonal spirit.

See bulletin board in Gathering Place for more information.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 4	Cookies with Santa 4PM
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service 8PM - seasonal music prior to service

A Matter of Balance

Concerned about falling? York County Area Agency on Aging is offering FREE classes twice a week for 9 sessions for those 60+ years old. YCAAA is offering tips and tools to help build strength and balance. This is a virtual class using your computer. The device must have a camera and internet access. Class is from January 19, 2022 thru February 16, 2022. Register by January 10th by calling Faye at 717-771-9610.

Please see bulletin board in Gathering Place for more information.

Upcoming Events through Lutheran Camping

- Advent Day Apart - Saturday, December 4, 9AM-2PM. All are invited to a day of prayer and meditation in preparation for the birth of the Christ Child. Register by calling 717-677-8211 or visit www.lutherancamping.org by November 20.
- Kirchenwald Winter Youth Retreat - January 7-9, 2022. Enjoy winter games, creative bible study and worship. Register by December 15 by visiting lutherancamping.org. See bulletin board in Gathering Place for more information.



CALENDAR //December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Cookies with Santa 4PM
5 Communion	6	7 Bible Study 6:30PM	8	9 Book Club 6:30PM	10	11
12	13 Council Meeting 6PM	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Bible Study 6:30PM	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Music 7:30PM Service 8PM	25 Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	

Current church office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9am-1pm.



WORSHIP SUPPORT //December

Nursery will not be staffed but parents are welcome to use the room.

	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 24	December 26
Worship Leaders	Austin Waltz	Charlie Eisenhart	Glenn Young	Barb Crum	Wendy Parson
Greeters					
Nursery					
Bulletin Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor
Altar Flower Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	* Be a Sponsor	Mr. & Mrs. Freedman Kottmyer in memory of Freedman's mother, Mary A. Kottmyer	* Be a Sponsor
Altar Guild					
Head Usher	Tom Grentz				
Newsletter Sponsor					



Monthly Newsletter // December 2021

Hayshire United Church of Christ
100 Haybrook Drive
York, PA 17406

CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Brenda K. Marin, Pastor
Dawn Jones, Administrative Assistant
Laine Knaub, Music Director
Jackie Bailey, Preschool Director & Teacher
Stacey Knisely, Teacher
Cathy Jennings, Assistant
Kristen Seitz, Assistant

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Christine Daniels, Secretary, Preschool
Barb Crum, Spiritual Formation