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# CAMDEN UMC NEWSLETTER

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Pastor: Rev. Stephen Maddox

Secretary: Leslie Coe

Organist: Barbara Schwartz

March 2017

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## Pastor's News for the People of God

Worship what does it mean? It depends on who you ask. If you ask the youngest of our congregation they might say that worship is Pastor Steve telling a story about Jesus and being a little goofy and then they get a treat and go off to Sunday school. For the oldest members of the congregation they might say that worship reminds them of days gone by. The old hymns and responsive reading of the psalms and they might ask why aren't we saying the apostles creed anymore. They might be reminded of the day they were married in the old church or the baptism of their children or other wonderful memories. Some might even remember "hat day" when all the ladies came to worship in hats and gloves and the gentlemen arrived at church in their "Sunday go to meeting clothes."

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## Church Office News

The church office hours are Monday through Friday 1-3pm. The secretary is not in the office on Thursday. The Pastor will be in the office most Wednesdays and Thursdays 1-3pm. You may call during these hours to speak with the secretary, 315-245-2600 or e-mail the office at: [camdenumc@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:camdenumc@centralny.twcbc.com). If you would like to come in during these hours please use the side door across from the office, and ring the bell to the right. The doors to our building will remain locked.

If you would like to dedicate our worship bulletins to loved ones please check with the office to book the date. The minimum suggested donation is \$6.60 a Sunday. If you would like to dedicate a hymn to loved ones for one of our worship services, for a donation, please check with the office for the date and to pick the hymn.

The deadline for the **April** newsletter is Wednesday, **March 1, 2017**. If your group has news for the newsletter, please let the office know.

If you are planning an event please be sure to check the church calendar for availability, a copy of the calendar is on the board outside of the office. If your event requires the office to participate or prepare any information for that event, please let the office know before it is announced.

## Choir News

The choir is rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. The informal choir rehearses and sings the second Sunday of the month at 10:45. Come join us!

Easter Cantata rehearsals will start on Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Join us to share the gift of music.

## **Pastor's News** Cont.

There might be remarks about the sound system not working well or that the choir should sing every week and we should have more potluck dinners after worship. All are welcome suggestions that are taken by this pastor as important to the flow of meaningful worship.

What if we asked our teens what they feel about worship? Alas that would be hard unless we called them at home. Sadly there is missing from our church, indeed practically all churches as a matter of fact, young people, teens. Somehow along the way we've failed them. There is nothing for them here they say. I'm bored with the old music they say. I'm not sure I believe in any of that anymore. My friends don't go to church. Their parents don't even go to church why should I? I'm in school all week I deserve to sleep in on Sunday morning. Perhaps that is all true.

So is church only for the very young and for our most senior folks? We are now missing two generations of people, the forty somethings and the teens and twenty somethings. I have to ask where does recovery begin? How do we touch a nerve about God's place in our lives? I heard recently that a superintendent of schools at a school district not far from here directed the teachers and staff of the school district NOT to contact area clergy in the event of the kind of crisis we hear about that can befall a school or school system. It saddened me terribly to hear that. A terrible auto accident, a fire, the sudden death of a favorite teacher or student all of these things can create great pain and grief to students and it would appear that we are to be kept on the sidelines, clergy and people of faith both.

Perhaps we aren't meeting the expectations of our young people after all times have changed. I have always viewed worship as the opportunity to recharge my faith battery. At the end of the week I need a lift. Being in your presence does just that for me. How might we charge the batteries of our teens and twenty somethings?

What is worship? I still remember the past two Christmas Eve services where several members of the congregation gathered to prepare the worship

## **Pastor's News** Cont.

service. I have begun to ask folks to become part of a permanent worship planning team where we might ask questions about how we might recover those who have been lost. I believe there is still hope. I pray fervently that where two or three are gathered together in Jesus name, there he will be too. Please say yes if you are asked to serve on this new team.

Blessings,  
Pastor Steve

## **Adult Study News**

### **Sunday Morning:**

SEEKERS adult study group meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:40 in the Library Lounge. All are invited to join us on our journey through life via the Bible.

### **Wednesday evening**

We have started the Disciple I course. This is a 34 week study with daily reading and thought provoking questions. We have been having very interesting discussions. Come join us!

### **Game day and potluck**

The Wednesday evening study will be hosting a game day and potluck meal on Saturday, April 1 from 2-6 pm.

We had a wonderful time of fun and fellowship at our first game day in January. We had about 23 people. Come to fellowship with each other through games and food in April. Bring your family and your favorite game.

We look forward to spending time with you, come join us!

### **Card Ministry**

If you have someone who you would like to receive a card from our Church please let me know and provide an address for me.

You can e mail me at [janicealvord@gmail.com](mailto:janicealvord@gmail.com) or give me a name and address at Church any Sunday morning. Thanks, Janice.

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

**Please note:** All schedules are available. Please stop by the office for your copy. Thank you!

### COUNTER SCHEDULE-

March 5- Dan Coe & Janice Alvord  
March 12- Mike Waterman  
March 19- Bob & Barb Conniff  
March 26- Karl Keil

### ACOLYTES

March 5- Bella Keller  
March 12- Annaka Stauring  
March 19- Carter Keller  
March 26- Bella Keller  
(If you would like to be an acolyte, young and mature welcome, please let the office know)

### BIBLE READERS

March 5- Charles Norton  
March 12-  
March 19-  
March 26-  
(If you would like to read we have openings. A signup sheet is on the table by the front of the sanctuary. I will let you know what the reading is the week scheduled. The slip has the possible readings for each service.)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

March 5- Karen Regan  
March 12- Carol Stauring  
March 19- Katrina Relyea  
March 26-

### USHER SCHEDULE

March 5- Dan & Leslie Coe;  
Leo Seaton; & Alice Trumble  
March 12- Steve & Racheal Keller;  
Carol Stauring; & Bernice Flagg  
March 19- Karl & Judy Keil;  
Joanne Karboski; & Morgan Comins  
March 26- Bill & Jan Bickford;  
Dan & Leslie Coe

### COMMUNION STEWARDS

March 5- Dan & Leslie Coe & Janice Alvord

(If you would like to help with communion, please see Leslie Coe. Our teams take care of communion about 2-3 times for the year)

## **American Red Cross Bloodmobile**

### **News**

The next Bloodmobile will be **March 6, 2016 1:00-6:00pm**. Come out and help to meet or exceed the goal! Please note that the Bloodmobile is on **Mondays**.

Our Blood drive on January 2 collected 42 pints of blood. Our March goal is for 40 pints, going over is great. Due to the winter weather they have had to cancel recent blood drives. The need is great at this time. Please make an appointment to give today.

Rapid Pass allows you to complete the reading material and the questions the day of your donation, but before you arrive. This will allow more donors by speeding up your registration process. Visit [redcrossblood.org/RapidPass](http://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass) to learn more.

Please help by sharing the gift of life, the need is always present. The cost to you is about one hour of your time.

### **Daylight Savings time Starts March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Reminder to turn your clocks ahead on March 11 before bed.

### **Card Supplies**

There are card supplies available, free to use for personal use or to send a card to someone in our church family near and far. Supplies located on the card ministry table in the hall near the sanctuary. Help yourself.

### **Talent Showcase & Dessert Night**

Friday, March 10, 7-11 pm at the Camden Methodist Church. Admission: \$5.00, 16 and under free

Share your talent! Come sing, dance, play an instrument, perform comedy or drama & a finale jam, or just enjoy the fun!! Call Paula at 315-886-9621 to register. Benefit sponsored by the: New York State Old Tyme Fiddlers Association

## Food Pantry News for January 2017

Dear friends, here is the report from the food pantry for the month of January.

We served 103 families, 307 individuals, and gave out 4,605 meals.

We received oranges and apples to give away at the end of the month, which was really great, because the last day was very busy having to serve 23 families. While waiting for other food, they got to pick out oranges and apples.

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*We had 113 families, 342 individuals, and gave out 5,130 meals.*

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We have also been giving out sheets and blankets to make sure our clients stay warm. If anyone has any sheets or blankets they don't want or need, please donate them to us.

Our church giving for January was \$161.00 and 197 items. This means a total of 358 meals supplied by you.

Thank you all and God bless you for your donations, all of us at the pantry, staff & clients.

The Camden Area Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 12:30 PM, and now Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm. Phone (315) 245-5788.

## Ladies Fellowship

We will be meeting on March 18, 2017 at 10:00am. All ladies are welcome!

## Sunday School News

Greetings to you from the Sunday School class! With the new year well under way, our class is rolling along. Last month we completed unit 2 of our studies and learned about Jesus' teachings on sharing, helping, praying, giving, and pleasing God. We owe a big round of applause to all our volunteer teachers who provide us with a welcoming, nurturing, and caring environment. It is thanks, in part, to them that we are learning to foster a love of Christ and a yearning after God.

## Sunday School News Cont.

As we continue through this month, we hope to celebrate some birthdays together and see each other more frequently in class. Our desire is to develop our connectedness with our friends and church family, and we encourage you to do likewise. Questions and suggestions are always welcome and will be best noted if e-mailed to [katrina.relyea16@houghton.edu](mailto:katrina.relyea16@houghton.edu) or by calling (315)245-3817. Alternatively, face to face conversations are always appreciated. May you find time to slow down and re-discover a simpler life during this Lenten season.

Pax et bonum,  
Katrina Relyea  
Sunday School Superintendent

## Special Offering March 26- UMCOR Sunday (formerly "One Great Hour of Sharing")

"None of us is exempt from a disaster; while we may not be directly impacted by an event, we may be called upon to assist others in their relief and recovery efforts." (Rev. Tom Vencuss, Disaster Response Coordinator, New York Annual Conference)

Your contribution ensures UMCOR's response in times of crisis. The UMCOR Sunday offering restores and rebuilds lives in Cuba, the United States and around the world.

Your generous gift supports UMCOR's administrative costs so that all designated gifts will go to the program of the giver's choice. Your contribution ensures UMCOR's response in times of crisis.

## Pennies for Mission

We had \$31.22 from January. We added \$19.00 in February for a total of \$50.22 towards our 86<sup>th</sup> \$100. Keep those "pennies" coming! (Any amount of money is welcome)

Each time we gather \$100 we send that money to a mission local as well as global.

Thank you!

# March

# 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
Transfiguration Sunday Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30		April Newsletter deadline Pastor library 12-2 Ash Wednesday			AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
First Sunday in Lent Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30 Blood Drive 1-6 pm	Cub Scout Leaders 4:30-6:00 Library	Adult Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Villagers 12-?		Talent Showcase & desert night 7-11pm	AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10 and 5:30-7:30pm
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
Girl Scout Sunday Daylight savings Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 & 10:45am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30		Adult Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Library	Choir Cantata rehearsals 6 pm	St. Patrick's Day	AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10 Ladies fellowship 10am
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30 Cub Scouts 6-7:30pm		Adult Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Library	Choir Cantata rehearsals 6 pm		AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>
UMCOR Sunday sp. offering Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30		Ash Wednesday	Choir Cantata rehearsals 6 pm	World Day of Prayer	AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10 Game Day & pot luck 2-6pm
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
First Sunday in Lent Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30 Cub Scouts 6-730pm	Cub Scout Leaders 4:30-6:00 Library	May Newsletter deadline Adult Bible Study 6:30-8pm Villagers 12-?	Choir Cantata rehearsals 6 pm		AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10

## Prayer List: Names remain on list for one month, unless requested to keep on the list.

Joseph Wiggins; those with dementia and Alzheimer's, their families & caretakers; Nancy & Rachel Curtis; Darrin Halstead & family; Aaron Keville; those fighting cancer; Police, Fire, Rescue, & Military personnel; Scott Manzer; Destinee Sobles; All religious minorities under persecution; Tom Young; Paul Horn; Those troubled and carrying out violence; Skyla 8 yr old; Liborio Barbagallo; Service members & families; Jack Estrella; The world, our country; Students, Teachers, & Parents; Lillian, 6yr. old; Carole Abbott; Terry Polini & family; Marcia Bogle; Walt DeLosh; Prayers to calm hearts; Brayden Hughes; Cindy Polniaszek; Jeff Johnson's friend Carole; Susane Lewchanin and family; those dealing with loss from violence, hurt, and anger around the world; Tom Fanning; Those dealing with domestic abuse; Rev. Janet Gibbs; Diane Hayes; Lorraine, Beth, & Josie; Families dealing with health issues and concern for finances; Rosemary Winters; Tom Hertweck; those dealing with colds, flu and seasonal depression; Chelsey Illingsworth; Peggy Kowalski's family; John Petri; Unspoken request; Ann Whitney's family; Ray & Winnie Dunn and family; Aaron Sloper; Alayna Rose McCanney's family; Leo Seaton; the President, new administration, and country; Marion Scoville; Judy Pfister; Jean Edminster & family; Jim Christmas Sr.; Terry Fox's family; Roderick Pelliter; Darleen Vosler; Steve & Jeannie Maddox; Sandy Megerrrell; Stan Lord's family; Elaine Cripe; Janet Stacy's family

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