
CAMDEN UMC NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Rev. Wendy Morrison Youth Pastor: Matt Morrison Choir Director: Larry Kent Secretary: Leslie Coe

December 2019

Pastor's News

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Have you ever been on a journey? I'm sure most of us have. Maybe to a favorite vacation spot. Maybe to somewhere unknown, somewhere new.

I'm also sure that if you have been on a journey, you can also share some stories about that journey. I'm not talking about the time you had at your destination, but the trip to and from the destination...the journey.

We have taken a few journeys to Florida, always driving. Our longest was from Augusta, ME to Orlando, FL. We took our time, taking three days for the drive. We got to the George Washington Bridge in New York City and our GPS decided to reroute us because of the traffic. If you know anything about the GW bridge, you know it is always busy, usually bumper to bumper traffic. We were rerouted through the Bronx. It was crazy! Our kids said they never wanted to go to NYC again.

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Church Office News

The church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 1-3pm. The secretary is not in the office on Thursday. The Pastor will be in the office most Wednesdays and Fridays. You may call the office at 315-245-2600 or e-mail the office at: camdenumc@centralny.twcbc.com. If you need to reach someone immediately you can call the church cell phone at 315-225-6259, if no one answers leave a message and we will call you back (we can receive text messages as well). Please use the side door across from the office and ring the bell to the right, so I can let you in as our building is locked.

If you would like to dedicate our worship bulletins to loved ones please check with the office to book the date. **December 8, & 29 January 5, 19, & 26.** The minimum suggested donation is \$6.60 for 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 **January** newsletter is Wednesday, **December 4, 2019**. If your group has news for the newsletter, please let the office know.

Leslie Coe
Church Secretary

Prayer chain

If you have a prayer request that needs to be shared, please contact the office (phone 315-245-2600 or 315-225-6259 text as well; email: camdenumc@centralny.twcbc.com) and we will start the prayer request both by email and by phone. The office will contact Winnie Dunn so she can contact those wishing to be called, by phone.

Pastor's news cont.

Another time, just Matt and I went on the trip. We drove through a snowstorm on the way down and through an ice storm on the way home.

We have had other journeys that were uneventful. We have had others that we made special stops along the way.

The journey sometimes is better than the destination. Sometimes, the journey is the worst part of the entire trip. Sometimes the journey is uneventful. We all experience journeys differently. Some of us enjoy the journey, no matter what it brings. Some just want to get to the destination as quick as possible. Some won't even begin to journey anywhere, they are content where they are.

This Christmas, we are going on a journey. Will you come along? Will you join us through this Christmas journey? Our journey is not just to the manger, but beyond the manger. After all, we are no longer waiting for the baby Jesus. We are waiting for the second coming of Jesus. We aren't there yet. Some of this journey we will be familiar with. Some is a journey to the unknown or somewhere new.

Our journey with Christ is an adventure. We are not in alone. There are many who are journeying with us. Will you be one of them?

Blessings,
Pastor Wendy

You can reach Pastor Wendy by phone at 315-832-8640 or email at:
wendymorrison.church@yahoo.com

Game Night

We will be having a game night on Sunday January 4th at 4:00pm. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share. Mark your calendars for a fun evening of fellowship and games!

Adult Study News

Sunday Morning:

SEEKERS adult study group meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:40 in the Library Lounge. We use the "Upper Room daily Disciplines" each week and have discussions of what we have learned through the week. All are invited to join us on our journey through life via the Bible.

Loaves & Fishes

For Loaves and Fishes we gather from 6-6:30 for a time of fellowship and food. Our study starts at 6:30 with prayer requests, prayer and study discussion ending at 8pm.

Our schedule for December is: December 4: Hosea; December 11: "The Nativity" movie. We will pick up again January 8 with the books of Joel and Amos. Come join us!

Worship Planning

We will meet on December 8 after church to plan January 2020. We will have a snack to share. Please feel free to join us as we work to put our faith in action to make disciples in all the world.

Coffee Hour 3rd Sunday of the Month

We are still looking for bakers and hosts for the monthly coffee hours. Available dates are: **December 15** as well as next year starting January 19th! Please sign up when you are enjoying the goodies and drink, or stop by the office to sign up! This is a time of fellowship that many enjoy.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

COUNTER SCHEDULE

December 1- Debbie Leach
December 8- Dan Coe & Janice Alvord
December 15- Mike Waterman
December 22- Barb & Bob Conniff
December 24- Karl Keil
December 29- Debbie Leach

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

December 1- Anna Gilsenan
December 8- Emily Gilsenan
December 15- Kalea Skinner
December 22- Bella Keller
December 24- Carter Keller & Anna Gilsenan
December 29- Emily Gilsenan

USHER SCHEDULE

December 1- Bill & Jan Bickford,
Charles & Jeri Norton
December 8- Dan Coe, Leo Seaton,
Todd Alvord, & Howard Brooks
December 15- Steve & Racheal Keller,
Carol Stauring & Bernice Flagg
December 22- Karl & Judy Keil,
Joanne Karboski & Morgan Comins
December 24- Lloyd & Janice Alvord,
Margaret Smith, & Michelle Relyea
December 29- Bob & Barb Conniff,
Darrell & Kathy Flinchum

SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 1- Matt Morrison & Alice Trumble
December 8- Matt Morrison & Carrie Hollis
December 15- Youth Service, No Sunday school
December 22- Matt Morrison & Michelle Relyea
December 29- Matt Morrison & Laurie O'Hern

COMMUNION STEWARDS

December 1- Dan & Leslie Coe & Janice Alvord

(If you would like to help with Communion, please see Leslie Coe. Each team takes care of communion about 4 times a year)

COFFEE HOUR

December 15- (bake)
(host)

Food Pantry News for October 2019

Dear friends,

Here is the Food Pantry report for October. We served 102 families, 343 individuals in those families, and gave out 5,145 meals.

We have had a “wonderful” October filled with many blessings of food. Yogurt, apples, grapes, potatoes, and yes, even some kale and Swiss chard. Then, when Ruth Norton began to chop down her weeds, she discovered squash. Bell, acorn, spaghetti, and even a few pumpkins. Well, that seemed to bring on the start of magic! One day there appeared... squash, squash, squash, and more squash. Then pumpkins, pumpkins, and you guessed it more pumpkins. It felt like winning a lottery! “Sweet Pea farms” donated over 150 squash and pumpkins. What a surprise and blessing! Good thing they weren’t all delivered the same day. Talk about having choices. Then came those words I got to say, “Take whatever you want” sure brought on a lot of excitement!

We served 102 families, 343 individuals in those families, and gave out 5,145 meals.

To top it off, our church’s giving was \$194 and 72 items. Thank you for doing a great job helping our poor. We all love you for it.

The staff and clients of the Camden Area Food Pantry

The Camden Area Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 12:30 pm, and Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm. Volunteers are welcome! Phone (315) 245-5788.

Ad Council

Our next Ad Council meeting is December 18th at 6pm. Please share your reports to be discussed at the meeting no later than **December 11th**. This is to give people a chance to go over the information before the meeting to minimize the length of the meeting. We can discuss and ask questions, or just approve as shared.

Pennies for Mission

From October through November we have collected \$85.75 for our Pennies for Mission. That leaves us \$14.25 to reach our next \$100.

Each time we gather \$100 we send that money to a mission local as well as global. Please let Jay Posner or the office know if you have a suggestion for where to send the pennies. Thank you!

Choir News

We sing every Sunday. Come join us at 10:15 to share your gift of music with us!

We will be doing Cookies and Caroling in the community on December 13th at 6pm.

We will be singing the Halleluiah chorus at our Christmas Eve Service December 24th! Rehearsals will be Sunday mornings at 10:00 on December 1, 8, 15, & 22.

We are excited to share the Joy of the Christmas season with our family, friends and community! Come celebrate with us!

Rotary Christmas Baskets and Toys for Tots

Donations of new unwrapped toys will be collected at the back of the sanctuary now through December 6th.

The Rotary basket and Toys for Tots pick up will be Saturday December 14th in the Camden Middle School cafeteria.

American Red Cross Bloodmobile News

The next Bloodmobile will be **January 6, 2020 from 1:00-6:00pm** at Camden UMC, in the fellowship hall. Our goal for November is at least 30 pints. Come help exceed the goal. All blood types are always welcome.

Visit 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.

Youth News

At the beginning of November we collected, sorted, packed and marked 59 shoeboxes to bring the light of Christ to youth around the world through Samaritans Purse Ministry.

Later in November we started to prepare for December 15th, which will be our youth led service, which will be about Christmas around the world. The youth picked which places in the world they will represent. Mark your calendars for this great service! The youth have worked very hard in preparing to share their message with all of you, along with a few surprises.

We have also started sharing the gift of music with the choir by singing and most recently playing the bells. Stay tuned for more music.

There is great excitement and joy in our youth. They are enjoying to get to know one another and learning new skills, such as playing hand bells.

Christmas Bazaar News

The annual Christmas Bazaar at the Camden United Methodist Church was a huge success! Thanks in part to the beautiful sunshine outside, our thirty crafters and vendors had a very productive day.

The Ladies' Fellowship Bake Sale and Hot Food Sale sold out in record time! Thanks to Stewart's Shops, and Tops Friendly Markets, ice cream sundaes and beverages were available for the shoppers and vendors to purchase.

As always, a raffle of donated items piqued the interest of the shoppers. A hand-crocheted quilt, donated by Connie Bellinger, was won by Karen Regan. A commemorative 911 cross, donated by Richard Duerr, was won by Donna Quenneville. Additionally, an overflowing basket of items provided by the vendors was won by Bonnie Hansen. Many thanks to the vendors for their generous donations.

The proceeds of the Camden United Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar will be used to support our church and our community.

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