



Bethany Banner

December 2018

*The Newsletter of
Dover Bethany UM Church
4510 Bull Road
Dover, PA 17315*

Light It Up and Celebrate!

I am not exaggerating to say that I have about 2 dozen strings of Christmas lights coiled and laying on my living room floor. I've spent the last couple of nights sitting in my easy chair while fixing light strings and replacing burnt out bulbs.

My recent knee problem has got me a little behind schedule. I try to have my Christmas lights all up and out so that by Thanksgiving eve I can throw the switch. Not sure when that is going to happen this year, but I have some young guests coming on December 16th, so I need to get outside and inside done before then!

So why all the lights Pastor Sal? 1. I'm just a big kid. 2. We have a lot to celebrate.

Now, you don't have to have Christmas lights to celebrate, but for me, it adds to the festivities. You don't have to decorate at all in order to celebrate, but for me it lifts the mood and creates atmosphere. You don't have to sing or dance in order to celebrate, but for me I can't repress it. I think you do have to have at least a smile in order to celebrate.

In the New International Version of the Bible, the word "celebrate" appears 68 times. 62 times it appears in the Old Testament alone! So much for the Old Testament being boring and stuffy! Most of those appearances are commands. To celebrate is something we are commanded to do!

How are you doing in fulfilling the command? Check out these verses:

- * "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with *thanksgiving*, present your requests to God." **Philippians 4:6**
- * "Be *joyful* in hope." **Romans 12:12a**
- * "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, *joy*, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness," **Galatians 5:22**
- * "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an *inexpressible and glorious joy*." **1 Peter 1:8**

If Christmas lights help you celebrate – light it up! If inviting folks over for food and fellowship cause you to celebrate – throw open the doors and get those invitations out. Do whatever you need to do in order to get in the mood and to genuinely celebrate.

We celebrate a God who loves us and sent His Son to die for us, so we could have not only a relationship with God, but we will get to spend eternity with Him. That's reason to celebrate!

"Take Risks" and God Bless,
Pastor Sal

P.S. Merry Christmas from our family to yours!





Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry Update

- ☑ Fund raising – over \$13,500!!!
- ☑ 2 Parades – over 50 participants!!!
- ☑ Packing party – the largest shoebox event in the entire York area!!!
- ☑ 2 teams are heading to Baltimore (16 persons)
- ☑ Last count – 1,544 shoeboxes!!!
- ☑ **NEXT YEAR'S GOAL – 1,500 again!**

Poinsettias

Poinsettias Order Forms are available in the lobby. **Orders and payments are due by Sunday, Dec 9th.**

Dementia/Alzheimer's Support Group Meeting

Monday, December 10th, Dementia/Alzheimer's Support Group will meet at 5:30 pm. We will be having a covered dish meal. Everyone who attends is asked to bring a covered dish to share for all to enjoy. Place setting and beverage are provided.

Mark Your Calendar for Christmas Worship Times



Christmas Eve Services – December 24th

- * **1st service at 7:00 PM** is family friendly with glow sticks and the Worship Band
- * 8:05 – 8:25 PM Christmas Carol Sing-a-long
- * **2nd service at 8:30 PM** is the candle light service with the organ

Christmas Day Services – December 25th at 10 AM – An informal service led by the Buonocore family. We will serve Communion during this service.

Invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to join you for one of these holiday services.

Desserts needed for Wonderful Wednesdays

Please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board to provide desserts for WWAB for Nov, Dec and Jan. Thanks for your help.

AMAZON Smile

While you shop with Amazon this holiday season, Amazon donates to Dover Bethany UMC. Don't forget to enter: www.smile.amazon.com and select Dover Bethany to receive your donations.

The Essentials of Inductive Bible Study

Learn how to engage in relationship with God through knowing His Word. In this three hour workshop, you'll be introduced to the most essential skills for Inductive Bible Study so you can personally interact with God's Word, understand its meaning and apply it to your life.



When: January 26th, 2019

Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm

(Check-in 8:30am)

Where: Hanover Fellowship Church

200 South Street

Hanover, PA 17331

Cost: FREE (3 hours of training) Includes student materials

To register online: training.precept.org (search by state) OR email:

pjharling50@gmail.com

December 2018 Volunteer Schedule	2	9	16	23	30
Sanctuary door Greeters	Steve Green Carla Green	Barry Hoover Deb Hoover	Jerry Keller Peg Keller	Robert Lamparter Brenda Lamparter	Mike Lehr Ginger Lehr
Hospitality Center	Mark Burkhart Margie Burkhart	Jeff Stief Lynette Stief	Linda Deneen Ray Deneen	Kathy Aughey Marlin Aughey	Kevin Drawbaugh Becky Drawbaugh
Nursery	Joan Wilt Ruth Beveridge	Mark Burkhart Carolyn Blymire	Margie Burkhart Denise Brulinski	Pat Keller Bertie Neiman	Carla Green Ellen Krause
Head Usher	Rich Crager	George Laird	Jeff Stief	Ray Neiman	Jack McLeod
Counters	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird



Warming Tree

From **January 6 - 27, 2019**, we will be collecting socks, gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for children (Kindergarten—6th grade) in need in our area.

Craft Show and Bake Sale

Thank you to all who participated and donated to this fundraiser. Special thanks to Shirley Saylor for heading up this event.

Thank You

Pastor Sal has had some knee trouble for the last month. Thank you for all your cards and prayers. They have been greatly appreciated.

Dover Bethany United Methodist Church Calendar						December 2018
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>Merry Christmas</h1>						1 9a-2p Craft Show 1-5pm Baltimore Shoebox Trip
2 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School	3	4 11:30am Ladies' Bible Study @Shirley Saylor's	5 9am-2pm Mission Central Trip 6p Wonderful Wednesday	6 10am Thursday Bible Study	7	8
9 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 1:00pm Christmas Caroling 6:15pm Meal at Old Country Buffet	10 5:30pm Alzheimer & Dementia Mtg (a covered dish meal)	11	12 9am Stitches of Love 6pm Wonderful Wednesday	13 10am Thursday Bible Study	14	15
16 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship (ELC Program) 10:45am Sunday School FOOD BANK Sunday	17	18 9am NO Ladies' Bible Study	19 6pm Wonderful Wednesday	20 10am NO Thursday Bible Study	21	22 7am Men's Covenant
23 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School	24 Christmas Eve Services: -7:00pm Family friendly with glow sticks -8:30pm Candle light service	25 10:00am Christmas Day Service MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26 NO Stitches of Love NO Wonderful Wednesday	27 10am NO Thursday Bible Study	28	29
30 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School						

**Dover Bethany United Methodist Church
4510 Bull Road
Dover PA 17315**

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***Knowing God
Growing in Faith
Serving Others
Sharing the Good News***

Christmas Caroling – December 9th

Mark your calendars to go Christmas Caroling with church family on December 9th. We will meet at the church at 1:00 PM to carpool to caroling locations. In the evening, we will meet up at Old Country Buffet on Route 30 at 6:15 PM to share a meal (\$13.25 for adults/\$5.29 for children) - all ages are welcome to come to sing or eat or BOTH!



If you know someone who would be blessed by our group caroling to them, please call the church office (717-292-2716) to give us the name and address. We traditionally go caroling to our shut-ins, but will try to visit as many as possible.