



Bethany Banner December 2017

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



Light it up!

As a child I remember my grandfather putting up Christmas lights around the door and picture window at the front of our house, which was protected by our front porch. This was back when the lights were large C9 screw in bulbs. The light strings for the Christmas tree were C7s. I was hooked.

Christmas lights and decorating are one of my vices. My son, who I think is a scrooge (not sure where he got that from), does not like all the lights strings and decorating. I think he shirks from all the work of running lights and putting out all sorts of other decorations (inflatables, wire framed and plastic molded shapes). I think what motivates me is the smiles of both young and old when they see everything decorated and lit up.

The tradition of Christmas lights goes all the way back to Germany. Legend says Martin Luther was the first to bring an evergreen into the house and place candles on the branches. We've come a long way since then with our LED lights, projectors and synchronized music. (I haven't gotten that elaborate!)

As Christmas approaches, regardless of our situations and circumstances, we have every reason to celebrate Jesus. Many of us may have experienced some difficulties over the last year, but it does not give us permission to be a scrooge. We celebrate the Light of the world that has come into the world. We get to celebrate the love of God that designed and implemented a plan of salvation so that we could be saved from sin and death. We get to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, our Leader and Forgiver, Jesus.

Regardless of financial problems, health issues, loss of loved ones, broken relationships, or whatever other hurts, we worship, we celebrate, we sing because our God is an awesome God. LIGHT IT UP!

God Bless and "Take Risks"
Pastor Sal



DBELC Christmas Program, Sunday, December 17th Plan to be at worship on Sunday, December 17th to see the Early Learning Center's Christmas Program. We will be welcoming the families of the DBELC center as they join us for worship and the special program.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

Get ready...get set...GO after Christmas shopping! Our goal for 2018 is to pack and pay shipping on 1500 shoebox gifts. God has greatly blessed this ministry the past five years. We look forward to what He can do through us in the new year. Keep your eye open for deals. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.



Thank You to everyone who helped with the craft show and church decorating on December 2nd. The results of the craft show will be published in the church bulletin. A special thanks to Shirley and Terry Saylor for leading up the craft show.

December 2017 Volunteer Schedule	3	10	17	24	31
Sanctuary door Greeters	Steve Green Carla Green	Donna Snyder June Gise	Mike Lehr Ginger Lehr	Jeanne Spahr Sue McCarty	Mark Burkhart Margie Burkhart
Nursery	Bertie Neiman Ginger Lehr	Elaine Kroft Jack McLeod	Tracy Henze Jeanne Spahr	Tennille Burkhart Lynette Stief	Don Barshinger Ruth Beveridge
Head Usher	Jack McLeod	Rich Crager	George Laird	Jeff Stief	Ray Neiman
Counters	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird	George & Ruthie Laird

Book Study: Sing! How Worship Transform Your Life, Family and Church

Our last book was a tough, academic read. This January, the pastor's book study will be a very practical book - **Sing! How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, and Church**. **Sing!** is written from Keith and Kristyn Getty's passion for congregational singing; it's been formed by their traveling and playing and listening and discussing and learning and teaching all over the world.

And in writing it, they have five key aims:

- to discover why we sing and the overwhelming joy and holy privilege that comes with singing
- to consider how singing impacts our hearts and minds and all of our lives
- to cultivate a culture of family singing in our daily home life
- to equip our churches for wholeheartedly singing to the Lord and one another as an expression of unity
- to inspire us to see congregational singing as a radical witness to the world



They have also added a few "bonus tracks" at the end with some more practical suggestions for different groups who are more deeply involved with church singing. God intends for this compelling vision of His people singing—a people joyfully joining together in song with brothers and sisters around the world and around his heavenly throne—to include you. He wants you, he wants us, to sing. Cost: \$14 for book (receive early January) and light lunch (Saturday, Jan 27th)

February Cabin Fever Break: Dover Bethany Restaurant

Sign up on your Communication cards to host a meal in February in your home and raise money for shoeboxes. If you have questions, please see Pastor Sal.

Dementia/Alzheimer's Support Group

The next meeting will be December 11th at 6:00 PM. Anyone who plans to attend, please bring a covered dish to share. Thank you.

Thursday Morning Bible Study – New Study Starting January 4th

We will begin a study on Isaiah, often named “the fifth gospel.” The book of the prophet Isaiah has more to say about Israel’s coming Messiah than any other Old Testament book. Brilliant, courageous, uncompromising, this prophet declared that “the year of the LORD” had come and God’s people needed to either step up, or stand down. Indeed, when Isaiah spoke, kings trembled.

But too often, when Isaiah speaks today, God’s people have trouble hearing. Why? We often miss the larger context. In **The Epic of Eden: Isaiah**, Dr. Sandra Richter takes participants back to the eighth century BC. This eight-week study explains Israel’s religion and economy, explores the definition and role of the prophets, and helps us to apply the message of this great champion of the faith to our lives today.

8 weeks, \$20.00 for the study book.

Baltimore Operation Christmas Child Distribution Center Participants

Fri., December 15th

1. Carl Kroft– Drive
2. Elaine Kroft
3. Lori Redding–Drive
4. Carol Sarver
5. Sonja Crisamore

6. Mary Chronister

7. Nancy Snyder
8. Ruth Beveridge
9. Amanda Heckert
10. Kim Eckert

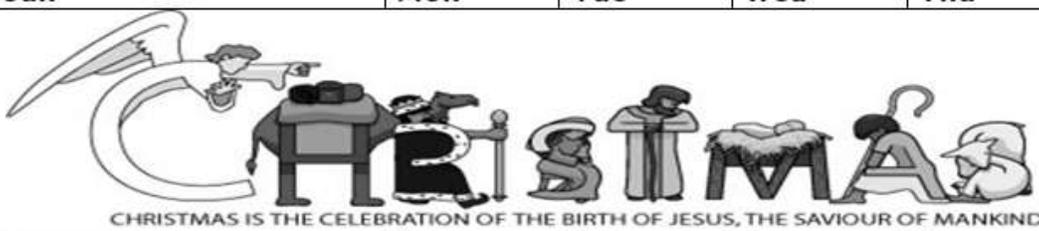
Sat., December 16th

1. Jeanne Spahr
2. Jeff Stief
3. Lynette Stief
4. Marlin Aughey
5. Kathy Aughey

6. Mark Burkhardt

7. Kevin Helsel
8. Gina Helsel
9. Kaley Helsel

Dover Bethany United Methodist Church Calendar December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
 <p>CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND</p>						1	2 9-1pm CRAFT SHOW & BAKE SALE 4pm Church decorating
3 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School	4	5 9am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm Trustees, SPPR, Finance Team Mtg 8pm Board of Directors Mtg	6 9ma-2pm Mission Central Trip 6pm WWAB	7 10am Bible Study	8	9	
10 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 1:00pm Christmas Caroling 6:00pm Dinner at Lyndon Diner	11 7pm Alzheimer & Dementia Meeting	12 7pm Know-Grow-Serve-Share Mtg	13 9am Stitches of Love 6pm WWAB	14 10am Bible Study	15 1-5mp Baltimore Trip	16 7am Men's Covenant 4-10pm Baltimore Trip	
17 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School FOOD BANK Sunday	18 7pm Weigh down Bible Study at The Saylor's	19 9ma Ladies' Bible Study	20 6pm WWAB	21 10am Bible Study	22	23	
24 Christmas Eve Services: 7:00pm 8:00pm - Carol Sing 8:30pm	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! 10:00am Christmas Day Service	26	27 9am Stitches of Love	28 10am Bible Study	29	30	
31 8am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:45am Sunday School			NO WWAB				

**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 10th

Mark your calendars to go Christmas Caroling the second Sunday of December, the 10th. We will meet at the church at 1:00 PM. After caroling, we will go to Lyndon Diner at 6 PM to share a meal (Please sign up on your Communication Card if you plan on joining us at Lyndon Diner, since the restaurant would like a head count). All ages are welcome to come to sing or eat or BOTH!

If you have someone you would like to visit when we're caroling, please contact Mark Burkhart with their name and address at (717)292-4079 or mmburkhart@comcast.net.

Thank you for hand towel purchases for Operation Christmas Child 2018. We raised \$235.

Christmas Services

Sun, December 24th – Christmas Eve Service

7 PM service

8 PM carol sing

8:30 PM service

Mon, December 25th – Christmas Day service – 10 AM

