

# Steeple Notes

## Central Church

*“Where Jesus is Lord  
& Neighbors are Loved!”*



Huntington, New York

December 2019/January 2020



*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.*

*Through him all things were made;  
without him nothing was made that has been made.  
In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

*The light shines in the darkness,  
but the darkness has not understood it.*

John 1:1-5

***Merry Christmas, everyone!***

As our calendar year draws to a close, the one thing we can always rely on is that Jesus, the Light of God, shines in our present darkness. And where there is light, darkness CANNOT stand. So as we discussed throughout the Gospel Shaped Living series, let's all shine together—for we are Jesus' people.

Let's be loving and forgiving to our neighbors and friends. This is one of the most effective ways we can shine with the Light of Jesus. Share an encouraging word, especially if you see someone down in the dumps. Knock on a neighbor's door and see if they are all right. Especially if you have a young family living next to you, and they are from far away, this could be one of the most important calls we make.

Let's be generous and caring with the people around us, as well as in our lives. Many of our neighbors live in the darkness of poverty and financial hardships. As the people of God, let's show generosity to other believers. And let's extend God's care to even the strangers.

As we read in Proverbs 11:25: ***"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."***

And speaking of forgiveness earlier, try forgiving a debt to someone who may owe you. Tell them Jesus has paid for them. Especially if they know you are a Christian (regardless of whether they're one already), this may be one of the most powerful witnesses they see.

Most of all, let's celebrate Jesus Christ as the Light of the world in our hearts! If we make this time all about our relatives and family, chances are, we will be discouraged. This is one of the ways that this holy day has been misinterpreted. Just as the merchants tried to turn this into a shopping time, others have tried to make this into family time. In other parts of the world that is not Christian, they have tried to make this into a romantic time (misunderstanding God's love). But let's show the world WHOM we celebrate on Christmas Day. As the angels declared to the shepherds...

***"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy  
that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David  
a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.  
This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths  
and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company  
of the heavenly host appeared with the angel,  
praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."  
Luke 2:10-14***

We will celebrate Christmas as a church on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at our 10 am worship service. And our Christmas Eve worship and candlelight service will be at 6:30 pm. Bring a friend and let's celebrate Jesus!

Merry Christmas everyone! And a Happy New Year!

Pastor Paul Lee

P.S. Starting from January 1, my email will be: [paul@huntingtoncentral.church](mailto:paul@huntingtoncentral.church)

# **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ~**

## **December Birthdays**

01 Phil Byler  
12 Drew Lewis  
12 Jon Larson  
14 Charlotte Russell  
15 Leevon Black  
15 Maris Swanson  
16 Rachel Roman  
21 Barbara Larson  
25 Ted Folprecht  
28 Trafford Watkins  
28 Zach Grill

## **December Anniversaries**

21 Derek & Julie Novinski  
27 Bev & Dave Vandergoot

## **January Birthdays**

07 Sharon Lenardo  
09 Elizabeth Stuyvesant  
10 Muffy Carlstrom  
12 Andrew Sutherland  
13 Lucy Malm  
14 Dave Vandergoot  
14 Margaret Breland  
14 Shakayah Boyle  
15 Debra McCoy  
16 Ethel Berge  
16 Adela Dickson  
17 Frank Marlow  
18 Dotty Kannapin  
20 Maggie Marlow  
23 Foster Bradley  
26 Doris Agardi  
27 Diane Garafola  
31 Lillian Tillotson

## **Anniversaries**

05 Diane & Joseph Garafola

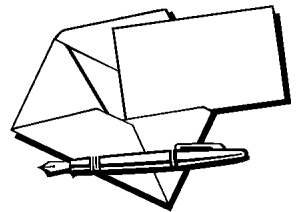
*Don't see your special day here??  
Contact Linda in the Church Office with  
your info and she'll be happy to post it  
in Steeple Notes.*

## **PASSAGES ~**

Our condolences to Lucy Malm on the passing of her sister, Margaret Akortei in October. Lucy traveled back home to Ghana for Margaret's funeral.



## **Central Mail Box ~**



To our  
Central Family,

Thank you all for your expression of kindness and sympathy on the passing of our beloved mother, Karen Lai. We are grateful for all your prayers.

With appreciation and thankful hearts,  
Sandy Chin & Family

# WCC HAPPENINGS

## DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

### **Tuesday, December 10**

10:00 am - Board Meeting

12:00 pm - Christmas luncheon & Carol sing.

All ladies are welcome to this delicious Christmas luncheon and Carol Sing at noontime.

### **Tuesday, December 17**

All Circles will meet at church or in homes. Watch for more details in your Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> bulletin.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

### **Tuesday, January 7, 2020**

10:00 a.m. - Board Meeting

### **Tuesday, January 14**

All Circles will meet at church or in homes. Watch for more details in the Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> bulletin .

## JOIN A CIRCLE

Why not start the new year off by coming to one of our three Circles which will meet on Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>? We would love to have you visit or join one of our Circles and get to you know better!

## ONGOING COLLECTIONS

- Nonperishable food for the Helping Hand Rescue Mission. Your donations for Helping Hand can be left in the wooden chest in the hallway near the Church Library.
- Gently-used eye glasses, hearing aids and costume jewelry for New Eyes for the Needy.
- New and gently-used baby items for the Weinberger Layette.
- Campbell product labels.
- And items for the veterans at the VA Hospital at Northport. A list is posted on the WCC bulletin board next to their workroom. Please mark these items for the "VA." If you have any questions, speak with Dotty Kannapin.

These items can be left in, or outside of the WCC Workroom which is located opposite the Church Nursery.

For more WCC information, please contact WCC President Ruth Korinek at 631-271-8566.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year! God bless you!

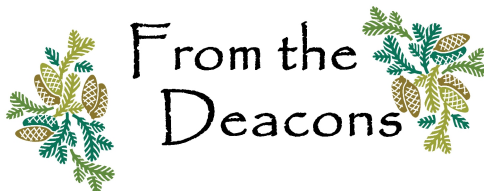


## NOTES FROM YOUR SESSION:

Here are some actions taken at recent regular meetings of Session:

- approved Pastor Paul's attendance at the ECO National Gathering in Dallas, TX in February 2020.
- approved the Pastor's Terms-of-Call for 2020.
- Approved dates for 2020 Vacation Bible School - June 29 through July 3, 2020.

– Frank Marlow, Clerk



As we suddenly find ourselves in the middle of this very joyous season, the Board of Deacons has much to be thankful for.

We have been blessed by the congregation's faithfulness in giving and have been able to help a number of people in our own church family, as well as those who come through our doors looking for help and comfort. Recently, thanks to two of our members, we received a donation from the Charles Schwab Charitable Foundation. This will help us to fund current and ongoing projects. Please continue your financial support for the Deacons – this is an important outreach.

There are many angels among us who we wish to thank for their recent efforts: Trish Roach, Michael Engelhart and Freeman McNeil headed up the Thanksgiving Luncheon again this year, and it was a wonderful event. Cindy Lombardo has tirelessly taken on the Camp Hope Dinner for the past several years, but she is currently recovering from knee replacement surgery, so Nancy Clous is stepping in to be Cindy's hands and feet for this ministry this year. We are all indebted to all of these wonderful people.

This year we had only one family for Project Angel Tree, which our Deacon's Treasurer, Carolyn Thuro, will be managing. However, we are searching for someone who would be willing to take over Angel Tree next year. Would that someone be you?? Please pray about it and speak with Carolyn if you have any questions.

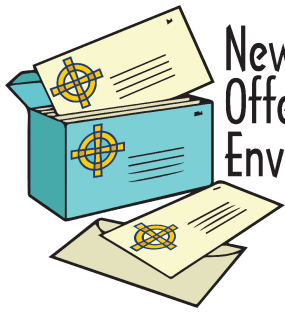
As we head into winter, we once again need to ask for volunteers to assist with the HiHi (Huntington Inter-faith Homeless Initiative) program. The Monday dates that we will be hosting are: December 9 & 16; January 6 & 13; February 3 & 10 and March 2, 10 & 16. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Courtyard for this purpose.

We wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a healthy holiday season.

With hearts bursting with gratitude,

Suzanne Valerio, Deacon





## New Offering Envelopes

The Offering Envelopes for 2020 will be available in the Courtyard at the end of December.

If you have not used envelopes before and would like to start, please call Lori McLaughlin in the Church Office, 631-421-3663, and she will make sure that you get a set.

The envelope system of giving helps us to keep an accurate record of your financial giving and can also help you keep on track with your giving as well.

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Attention to all staff members, board members, committee heads, ministry heads, and everyone else who usually submits an Annual Report:



## ANNUAL REPORT

Just a quick reminder that your portion of the Annual Report for 2019 is due in the Church Office no later than Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

Please assist Linda by getting your report in **ON TIME** (and submitting a type-written rather than hand-written report if possible). Many thanks in advance for your help and cooperation.



If you know of someone you haven't seen at church for awhile, or anyone you feel could use a call or visit from Pastor Paul and the Visitation Team, please call the Church Office, 631-421-3663, and we will be happy to arrange it.

Remember they don't have to be a senior citizen or a shut-in to be visited!

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## THE HELPING HAND RESCUE MISSION

is holding their Christmas Boutique Thursday through Saturday, December 5-7, at the Mission located at 225 Broadway in Huntington Station.



*Christmas Boutique*

The Christmas Boutique always has some very nice "buys" and you can find some very nice Christmas gifts there.

Why not check it out???



**ADVENT BEGINS ON  
S U N D A Y ,  
DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>.**

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word “adventus” meanings “to come.” Today, Advent has a double meaning as it looks backward to the coming of Christ as a child in Bethlehem to save us from our sin, and looks forward to Jesus’ promised second coming to establish His Kingdom in power and victory.

The season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time the new Christian year begins with the 12-day celebration of Christmastide, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**THE ADVENT WREATH**, in it’s unending circle, shows the eternal and unending nature of God and His love. We begin our Advent season with the symbolic lighting of the candles, signifying the Light of Jesus coming into the world.

The first candle is the candle of **HOPE**, the second is **LOVE** and fourth candle is **PEACE**; these candles are purple, a royal color, reminding us of Christ the King.

The third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday” Gaudete is the Latin word for **JOY**, and on this day we focus on our anticipatory joy in the coming of our Savior. This day is represented by a pink candle.

The white candle in the center is the

**CHRIST CANDLE** which will be lit on Christmas Eve; it reminds us that Christ gives light to all the world.

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Romans 15:13

\*

**joy**  
**grace**  
**hope - love**  
**faith - peace**  
**honor - purity**  
**justice - charity**  
**courage - loyalty**  
**goodness - prudence**  
**sympathy - humility**  
**fortitude - temperance**  
**brotherhood - cooperation**  
**and**  
**GOD**  
**is**  
**love**



The Shelter” is a joint ministry of Central Church and Shelter Rock Church which meets here at Central on the first and third Sundays each month.

The Shelter is a vibrant, contemporary evening service full of great music, inspiring preaching and awesome worship. Everyone is welcome!!

Come at 6:00 pm for some coffee and fellowship. The service begins at 6:30 and lasts about an hour and a half. And there’s usually some sort of refreshment afterwards for those who are interested in some more fellowship.

In December, they will be meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> only, and in January they will meet on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Shelter is always looking for volunteers to come and help in various ways. If this is something you’d like to be involved in, call the Church Office and we’ll point you in the right direction.

Come on and check it out! And bring your friends! You’ll be glad you did!

**CHRISTMAS**  
*Brunch*  
Kay Jahn’s  
annual  
Christmas  
Day Brunch  
is happening again this year!!!

Kay invites you to her home from 10 am to 12 noon on Christmas Day for food and fellowship and a time to celebrate Jesus! It’s always a great time to eat, chat and remember God’s blessings over many Christmases.

She’ll be serving her famous egg strata and ham. You can bring any food you want – and bring along extra people too!!!

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### Decking the Halls



Join us on  
Saturday,  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, at  
9:00 a.m. as we  
gather together  
for fun &  
fellowship to  
decorate our church – inside and out –  
for the Advent Season.

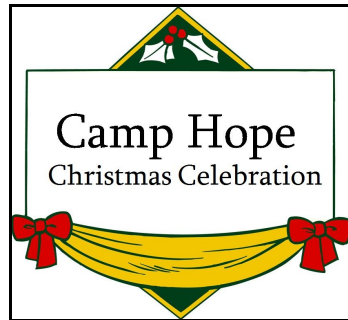
For the past few years we’ve only had a handful of folks come and help – we hope many more of you will come out this year!!! .

Any questions, speak with Sandy Valerio.



***It's that time again  
and we're so  
excited!!!***

Our annual Christmas Party for our disabled friends from Children's Bible Fellowship's Camps Hope and Joy, located in Carmel, New York is Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 in the afternoon and we hope you can join us.



gifts, candy and “extras” (beverages, bread, etc.).

We are grateful that Nancy Clous will be assisting Cindy Lombardo this year with all the planning, preparing, purchasing, etc. But your help is needed as well.

Call Cindy directly at 631-549-1303, to volunteer.



This is a highlight of our year as we celebrate the Christmas season with our guests, which include the campers, a few of their family members and staff and, of course, you, our church family. As always, it is a wonderful night!

For many of our guests, this is the only Christmas celebration they have, so we want to make this party extra special for them.

We also will need lots of help, so can you help us by ...

- making homemade cookies for the tins.
- putting the cookie tins together the Thursday before the dinner which is December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- setting up and decorating Fellowship Hall that Saturday morning
- serving our guests
- cleaning up afterwards
- bringing casseroles
- bringing salads
- bringing desserts

Also monetary gifts are needed for the

# DECEMBER & JANUARY YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

6<sup>th</sup> Grade through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tuesday, Dec. 3 7:30-8:45 pm  
**Regular Youth Group Meeting**  
***"Christmas Preparations"***

Tuesday, Dec. 10 7:00-8:45 pm  
**Youth Group Christmas Party**  
**@ Church** (note early start time)

Tuesday, Dec. 17 **No Youth Group**

Tuesday, Dec. 24 6:30 pm  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**  
**No Youth Group**

Tuesday, Dec. 31 **Happy New Year**  
**No Youth Group**

Tuesday, Jan. 7 7:30-8:45 pm  
**Regular Youth Group Meeting**

Tuesday, Jan. 14 7:30-8:45 pm  
**Regular Youth Group Meeting**

Tuesday, Jan. 21 7:30-8:45 pm  
**Regular Youth Group Meeting**

Tuesday, Jan. 28 7:30-8:45 pm  
**Regular Youth Group Meeting**



Our Fall/Winter session of Kids Central comes to a close on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The children will meet as usual that afternoon at 4:30 and will rehearse for their closing program that will begin at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

The congregation is invited to join family and friends of the children at our closing program. Dessert will follow.

The Winter/Spring Session of Kids Central will begin on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> and run through the beginning of May.

This has been a great semester and we're glad that we have this outstanding program for children. Can't wait until next term!!!!

Merry Christmas to all and a very happy New Year too!





## ***“Making a Joyful Noise for Advent!!!”***

Beginning on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> which is the First Sunday of Advent, and continuing the next three Sundays, we invite you to remain after worship and join us as we make a ***“Joyful Noise for Advent!”***

During the four Sundays of Advent, we will be celebrating the season by singing our favorite hymns, praise songs Christmas Carols and other music (and you get to choose what to sing)! Various Central musicians will provide the music.

And on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, our missionary Alan DeCerff, serving the Lord with The Navigators will be with us as well.

So, join us in the White Room promptly at 11:30 am – and bring your voices – this will be a great time of singing and celebrating!!!



On Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. please join us for our traditional, family-friendly...



Join us as we come to worship the One who was born to set us free ~ our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

***O come, let us adore Him!  
O come, let us adore Him!  
O come, let us adore Him!  
Christ the Lord!***



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am The Shelter - 6 pm NA Group - 7 pm	2	3 Deacons' Mtg - 7 pm Youth Group - 7:30 pm "Christmas Story"	4 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm  Gym in use by outside group - 2-5 pm	5 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Kids Central - 4:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	6	7 NA Meeting - 9 am "Decking the Halls" - 9 am Camp Hope Christmas Lunch - 3 pm
<b>8 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am NA Group - 7 pm	9 HiHi begins - 6 pm Trustees Mtg. - 7:30 pm	10 WCC Board Mtg - 10 am WCC Christmas Lunch - 12 pm Youth Group Christmas Party - 7 pm ( <i>note time</i> )	11 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm	12 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Kids Central - 4:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	13	14 NA Meeting - 9 am
<b>15 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am NA Group - 7 pm	16 HiHi - 6 pm  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	17 WCC Circles - morning Session - 7:30 pm  <i><b>No Youth Group Tonight</b></i>	18 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm	19 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	20	21 NA Meeting - 9 am
<b>22 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am NA Group - 7 pm	23  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	<b>24 <i>Christmas Eve</i></b> Christmas Eve Service - 6:30 pm  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	<b>25 <i>Christmas Day</i></b>  <i><b>Happy Birthday Jesus!!!</b></i>  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	26 <i><b>No Events or Activities Today</b></i>  <i><b>The Church Office is open from 8 am to 12 noon today</b></i>	27 <i><b>No Events or Activities Today</b></i>  <i><b>The Church Office is open from 8 am to 12 noon today</b></i>	29 NA Meeting - 9 am
<b>29 <i>Season of Christmastide</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am NA Group - 7 pm	30  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	<b>31 <i>New Year's Eve</i></b>  <i><b>The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>	January 1, 2020  <i><b>New Year's Day The Church Office is Closed Today</b></i>			

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**Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm unless otherwise specified.**

**Please check your Sunday bulletins for any additions, deletions or changes to Church events, ministries and meetings.**



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			1 <b><i>New Years Day</i></b>  <b><i>The Church Office is Closed Today</i></b>	2 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	3	4 NA Meeting - 9 am
5 <b><i>Epiphany</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am The Shelter - 6 pm NA Group - 7 pm	6 HiHi - 6 pm	7 WCC Board Mtg - 10 am Deacons Mtg - 7 pm Youth Group - 7:30 pm	8 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm  <b><i>Annual Reports Due Today</i></b>	9 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	10  <b><i>February Steeple Notes Due Today</i></b>	11 NA Meeting - 9 am
12 Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am NA Group - 7 pm	13 HiHi - 6 pm Trustees Mtg. - 7:30 pm	14 WCC Circles - morning Youth Group - 7:30 pm	15 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm	16 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Kids Central Kick-Off - 4:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	17	18 NA Meeting - 9 am
19 <b><i>Sanctity of Life Sunday</i></b> Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am The Shelter - 6 pm NA Group - 7 pm	20	21 Youth Group - 7:30 pm	22 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm	23 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Kids Central - 4:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	24	25 NA Meeting - 9 am
26 Children's SS & Morning Worship - 10 am Coffee Break - 11:15 am C.E. Hour - 11:30 am NA Group - 7 pm	27	28 Session - 7:30 pm Youth Group - 7:30 pm	29 Ladies Community Bible Study - 9:30 am Staff Mtg - 1 pm	30 Morning Prayer - 9:30 am Kids Central - 4:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal - 7 pm	31	

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