

# 1st UCC News

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 01– Sal Carrera

January 03– Elise Moran

January 11– George Boyer

January 12– Shirley Ahlers

January 13– Scott Benfield &  
Cecelia Day

January 15– Marjorie Mowery

January 16– Joan Dickinson

January 17– Evan Dickinson

January 18– Darcy Bradley

January 19– Kirk Wilson

January 21– Sally Herman &  
Aidan Kane

January 24– Tanis Monroy &  
Garrett Orr

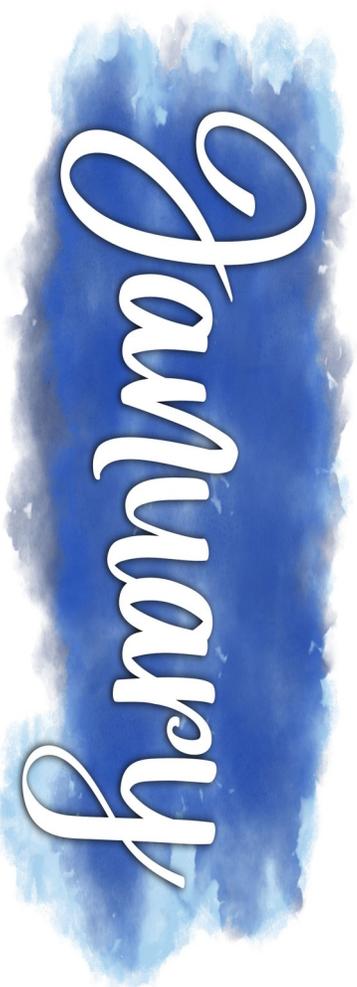
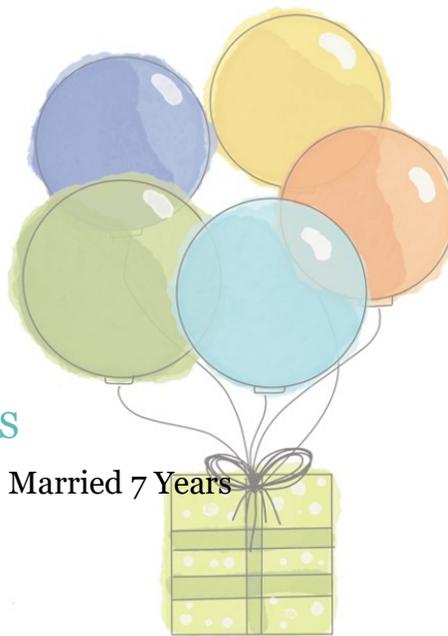
January 26– Patricia Lewis

January 27– Ryan Bonshock

January 29– Alan Reich & Nan-  
cy Wise

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & Barbara Kell– January 6, Married 7 Years



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## KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE



### Sharing Our Light in 2023: A Song of Praise from Isaiah 26:3-4 (NIV)



“You [LORD] will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. [THEY] Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD himself, is the ROCK eternal.”

The glowing light reminds us to be open-minded and listen to others when they share their concerns with us.

- 🕯️ Let us be attentive to their requests.
- 🕯️ And, open-minded by our replies to their needs.
- 🕯️ May we be a light to brighten 🗡️ their paths.

May we ALL take our bright light and serve our LORD.

GLORY BE TO GOD

Chaplain Donna



## SELF CARE WITH PASTOR RACHEL

### **Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem**

**By Dr. Maya Angelou**

Thunder rumbles in the mountain passes  
And lightning rattles the eaves of our houses.  
Flood waters await us in our avenues.

Snow falls upon snow, falls upon snow to avalanche

Over unprotected villages.  
The sky slips low and grey and threatening.

We question ourselves.  
What have we done to so affront nature?  
We worry God.  
Are you there? Are you there really?  
Does the covenant you made with us still hold?

Into this climate of fear and apprehension, Christmas enters,  
Streaming lights of joy, ringing bells of hope  
And singing carols of forgiveness high up in the bright air.  
The world is encouraged to come away from rancor,  
Come the way of friendship.

It is the Glad Season.  
Thunder ebbs to silence and lightning sleeps quietly in the corner.  
Flood waters recede into memory.  
Snow becomes a yielding cushion to aid us  
As we make our way to higher ground.

Hope is born again in the faces of children  
It rides on the shoulders of our aged as they walk into their sunsets.  
Hope spreads around the earth. Brightening all things,  
Even hate which crouches breeding in dark corridors.

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.  
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.  
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.  
We hear a sweetness.

The word is Peace.  
It is loud now. It is louder.  
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

We tremble at the sound. We are thrilled by its presence.

It is what we have hungered for.  
Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace.  
A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies.  
Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.

We clap hands and welcome the Peace of Christmas.  
We beckon this good season to wait a while with us.  
We, Baptist and Buddhist, Methodist and Muslim, say come.  
Peace.

Come and fill us and our world with your majesty.  
We, the Jew and the Jainist, the Catholic and the Confucian,  
Implore you, to stay a while with us.  
So we may learn by your shimmering light  
How to look beyond complexion and see community.

It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.

On this platform of peace, we can create a language  
To translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.

At this Holy Instant, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ  
Into the great religions of the world.  
We jubilate the precious advent of trust.  
We shout with glorious tongues at the coming of hope.  
All the earth's tribes loosen their voices  
To celebrate the promise of Peace.

We, Angels and Mortal's, Believers and Non-Believers,  
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at our world and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves  
And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation.

Peace, My Brother.  
Peace, My Sister.  
Peace, My Soul.

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Please note the following message that will be seen periodically in the church bulletin, as well as posted on the sanctuary doors:

Good day to you! We are glad that you are choosing to worship with us today. Please note that the time before, during, and after the worship is livestreamed and videotaped. There is the possibility of anything you say may be recorded, and your image may be captured by the video depending on where you are in the sanctuary. By attending or participating in any event in the sanctuary, you are giving your consent to be photographed and/or video recorded, and you are waiving all claims regarding the use of your image and voice by 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle. We tell you this so that you may be fully informed. Blessings to you.

The leadership of 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle





## FROM THE EDITOR

From the book *Today I Affirm* by Alexandra Elle

“In what ways do I need to shift into my higher self?”

This is a perfect question for the new year, especially as we all contemplate new year’s resolutions. If God calls us to live in fullness and we are changed from glory to glory, doesn’t that mean we always have something higher to which to aspire?

Think about this question as you meditate on the truths of who God says you are outside of all your roles in life (no matter if you are a mom, dad, sister, brother, employee, employer, aunt, uncle, friend, etc.). What energizes you, brings passion into your life, and what makes you a better you? Write these down, ask God how he wants to accomplish these things in you, and see where this year takes you.

## WORSHIP SERVICE UPDATES

### **Update on In-Person Services**

◆ Colossians 3:12- Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

◆ Mark 12:31- You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Based on the fact that Covid cases continue to decrease in our community, Consistory decided at its February 21, 2022 meeting that starting this Sunday, February 27, 2022, not only will we return to in-person services, but those who have been fully vaccinated and boosted have the option to unmask if they so desire. They may remain masked if they want. Those who are not fully vaccinated and boosted are asked to remain masked while in the church. All attendees are asked to continue to social distance at all times, and when in the pews should stay at least six feet from other attendees who are not a part of their immediate family. Consistory feels that First Church can do this at this time if all remain careful, follow this policy, and do what is right for everyone. If you have any questions, please call Mike Coulson at 717-574-4595.

◆ Philippians 2:4- Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.

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*“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”- Colossians 3:12*

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### **Update on Locked-Door Procedure**

Please know there is only one entrance to the church for office hours and worship days. It is the gray parking lot door.

Once the worship service begins, that door will be locked. If you happen to arrive slightly late to service, you can ring the church office doorbell to be let inside or call the church office. This will be monitored for up to 15 minutes into the worship service.

After 15 minutes, the church office will be empty, so please try to be timely when it comes to attending church services.

COVID Updates Provided by  
Dr. Greg Lewis of 1st UCC.



## COVID-19 UPDATES

There are no COVID-19 updates for January.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Consistory**– 3rd Sunday Every Month

**Church & Ministry**– 1st Sunday Every Month

**Advisory**– Quarterly

**Caring Fellowship**– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

**Christian Ed**– 1st Sunday Every Month

**Church & Community Connections**– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

**Property Management**– 4th Wednesday Every Month

**Stewardship**– 2nd Wednesday Every Other Month

**Special Mission**– Samaritan Fellowship

\*You can find all council reports on the church website ([www.1ucc.org](http://www.1ucc.org)). If you would like a copy, please email Lyndsey ([Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org)). Check out the “Council News” for highlights!



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ♦ Carlisle Friday Game Night– Friday, January 6th from 5:30pm to 11:00pm @ Stuart Community Center
- ♦ “The Way I See It” Art Exhibit– Saturday, January 14th from 10:00am to 5:00pm @ Carlisle Arts Learning Center



## COMMUNITY CARES AND PROJECT SHARE DONATIONS

On the **1st Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where **Project Share** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce** for the organization.

On the **2nd Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where **Community CARES** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Ramen Noodles** for the organization.





**CommunityAid**  
THRIFT STORE & DONATION CENTER

**BRING YOUR GOOD, USED CLOTHING, PURSES, AND SHOES TO CHURCH TO  
BENEFIT PROJECT SHARE**

## COMMUNITY AID DONATIONS

**First United Church of Christ is still collecting good used clothing, purses, and shoes year-round to benefit the community and our Community Aid Partner, Project Share.**

Remember when you're organizing your closets and drawers, First UCC is accepting year-round donations of good, used or new clothing, coats, boots, shoes, socks, purses, hats and gloves for all ages. Place your items in the bin across from the Church Office during hours the building is open.

First UCC earns a monetary percentage of items donated to Community Aid. More importantly, our donations are made available free or at low cost to people who shop at Community Aid in Mechanicsburg.

When we hear of a specific need from Community CARES, our donations are taken to them directly. This winter First UCC donated numerous coats and cold-weather wear for all ages, which was greatly appreciated by CARES and the people they serve.

**Items needed:** Clothing for all ages and sizes, shoes, and purses. Please put donations in plastic bags, with shoes and purses in separate bags from clothing. Bags are available beside the cart, across from the Church Office.

Home Pick-up of donations is available - call Lyndsey at 717-243-2512 or text/ call Suzy at 717-580-8063.

**Our cart is ONLY for clothing, shoes, and purses.** If you wish to donate other items, you may take them to the local Community Aid Thrift Store - 4833 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg. Please let them know that you are a member of First UCC's Project Share partnership. Ask them to credit **Project Share Partner Number # 10166**, so those donations will count, too. Receipts are available upon request.



**Questions? Contact Susan Coulson 717-580-8063 or [scoulson@comcast.net](mailto:scoulson@comcast.net); or Lyndsey Hendricks in the Church Office 717-243-2512 or [lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org).**

For more information about Community Aid go to the website at <https://communityaid.org>.

This is a project of the Church & Community Connections Council of First United Church of Christ. We appreciate your support!

## BOOK DONATIONS

### Bosler Bookery Donations

Are you interested in donating books? Our local Bosler Bookery at 158 W High Street - inside the East Wing of The Bosler Library - accepts a variety of donations year-round. The Bookery sells gently-used or new books, puzzles, games, music, greeting cards, artwork, and many other items that have been donated by the community. Proceeds help the Bosler Library. Bookery guidelines are printed on flyers available in the hallway across from the Church Office. If you are unable to come to the church for a flyer, you may call to request one from the Church Office to be sent to you by mail. Or go to the Bosler Friends website ([www.boslerfriends.com](http://www.boslerfriends.com)) on your computer and click on The Bookery section or call The Bookery at 717-243-3313.

## SPY UPDATE

SPY Summer Program for Youth THANKS First United Church of Christ!

This summer, First United Church of Christ became the newest church in Carlisle to be a host church for the SPY Program. SPY stands for Summer Program for Youth AKA "SPY CAMP".

For 6 weeks in June and July, approximately 50 SPY Campers and 8 SPY staffers met in Fellowship Hall for activities, learning, and discussions about important topics like responsibility, kindness, politeness, and respect. Every day after lunch, the campers went outside to play games and draw with sidewalk chalk on the First UCC Plaza. Every Friday the group enjoyed a Field Trip.

Special guests visited to teach the group skills, like ukelele lessons and vocal music. One day, adult leaders helped the children create their own quilt-squares to be stitched into a quilt to help create awareness about homeless people. This quilt will be displayed along with many others on the lawn of the US Capitol in Wash-

ington, DC.

On July 28, the final day of SPY Camp, the children and staff from First UCC, St. John's Episcopal, and St. Paul's Lutheran produced on-stage musical performances at the Carlisle Theater. Many family members and volunteers attended, cheering, clapping, and enjoying the students' performance.

THANK YOU to our First UCC members and friends who volunteered to set-up, serve, and clean-up lunches for the SPY children and staff during the 6-week session. A good time was had by all! Everyone remarked how respectful and responsible the SPY campers were during their stay. It was rewarding to see Fellowship Hall used to help the community in such a meaningful way!

## THE BOOKERY'S DONATION POLICY

### WE ACCEPT DONATIONS OF:

**Books** – hardback and paperback books in **good, salable condition.**

**Artwork** – All types – for the ongoing art sale

**Audiobooks**

**Books** – hardback & paperback

**Comics**

**Games** – board games and computer games

**The Great Courses** – on CD or DVD

**Greeting cards with envelopes**

**Magazines** – current 3 months

**Movies/TV on DVD**

**Music on CD/DVD**

**Puzzles**

**Records, Vinyl** – up to 25-30, no more at one time without prior approval from Bookery mgr.

**Textbooks** - published since 2016

**Unusual items** – contact The Bookery's manager if you have something else that you would like to donate. From time to time we have sold donated needlepoint pillows, antique teacups, etc.

### WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

**Cassette tapes.**

**Condensed Books.**

**Damaged Books** - that are very dirty, smell, or have been wet. **Rule of thumb - If you would not give us \$1 for the book you are donating, no one else will either!**

**Encyclopedias** – we do not accept encyclopedias.

**Ex-Library Books.**

**Magazines** - older than the last 3 months. Including old Life, Look, National Geographic, etc.

**Old sheet music**

**Records in bulk** – to donate more than 25-30 talk to the Bookery Mgr. first.

**Textbooks** - with a copyright date older than 2016.

**VHS tapes**

### What you can do with some of the things we don't accept:

**Books** - Chambersburg Waste Paper will recycle books 2047 Loop Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17202, 717-264-4890

**Magazines** – you can recycle any type of glossy paper in the Ronald McDonald dumpster generally located in the parking lot of one of the local McDonald's.

12/2021



### WANT TO INCLUDE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR COUNCIL?

If you would like to include any highlights of your council, please email Lyndsey (Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org) within the last week of each month. Your highlights will be included in the next month's newsletter.

## CHURCH & COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

First UCC will collect **WINTER WEAR** in our **BACKDOOR BLUE BIN** during November & December 2022 and January & February 2023. Good Used Winter clothing for all ages and genders is needed.

**DONATIONS** may be placed in the **BLUE BARREL** right **INSIDE THE PARKING LOT ENTRANCE** of our church. **NEEDED ITEMS** are Coats, Gloves, Hats, Warm pants, Sweaters, Boots, and Socks.

Let's all take a look inside our closets. Help our community in need this winter!

Home Pickup can be arranged by calling Suzy Coulson at 717-245-0651 (landline - leave a message) or 717-580-8063 (cell- call or text a message).

**NOTE:** This is a **DIFFERENT** collection from our regular Community Aid donation in the Great Hallway. Regular donations may still be placed in the Community Aid bin, with Winter Wear going in the Community CARES Blue Bin.

Call the Church Office for information. (717-243-2512)

THANK YOU!

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

We have completed the HVAC air conditioning replacement. First UCC now has two separate HVAC systems to cool/heat the Fellowship Hall and to cool the Church Sanctuary.

These two systems run independently of each other and should allow for better performance, efficiency, and comfort in our beautiful 100 year-old facility. Over the next several weeks we will be monitoring and adjusting temperatures (if needed) to find a comfortable temperature for all. This may require a slight learning curve during this time.

The Property Management Council appreciates your patience during this process. Please feel free to contact Dallas for any questions.

## EARTH STEWARDS

### January Tip of the Month

#### From HGTV's "Tips for a Green New Year"

1. Carry a reusable bag with you for groceries, shopping and take-out food.
2. Clean your home with non-toxic and natural cleaning products. Just about anything can be cleaned with white vinegar, baking soda and a few drops of lemon.
3. Buy locally grown food that's in season. Food that hasn't traveled thousands of miles to your plate is fresher and tastier, and buying local food drastically cuts down on global-warming pollution.
4. The next time you brew a cup of fresh coffee at home, don't toss the used coffee grounds into the trash. First, spoon some warm grounds into your hands and mix it with your favorite hand soap, then scrub away. The grounds will exfoliate dead skin and the soap will render your hands squeaky clean. Scatter remaining grounds around your evergreen shrubs and trees — it's an energizing fertilizer for them.
5. A compost pile or composter turns your food and lawn wastes into rich mulch. It's a great way to reduce your trash production and you'll have rich compost in time for spring planting.
6. Fix leaky faucets. A faucet that drips once each second can waste over 8 gallons of water per day and more than 3,000 gallons per year.

"Tips for a Green New Year." *HGTV*, <https://www.hgtv.com/lifestyle/clean-and-organize/tips-for-a-green-new-year>.



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Mission:** First United Church of Christ is a Christian community of faith united through worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and service by:

Seeking to create opportunities that empower members to grow spiritually and to serve the community.

Live a life of stewardship of God's gifts to us.

Proclaiming God's love as told in the Gospels of Jesus Christ.

**Vision:** First United Church of Christ strives to:

Foster an environment of intellectual openness.

Encourage members to grow spiritually through study and inspiring worship.

Provide opportunities for the church family to serve the community.

Encourage fellowship of members through activities and service bringing everyone together as one body.

30 N Pitt Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
Phone: 717-243-2512  
E-mail: [oneucc@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:oneucc@1stuccofcarlisle.org)



## CHURCH GROUP UPDATES

### Book Chat Update:

The Book Chat group is currently reading *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. This is one of the group's longer selections, at 576 pages, but the author has proven to be worth the long read with his two previous novels, which were favorites of the Book Chat group - *A Gentleman in Moscow* and *Rules of Civility*. Set in 1950's America, the central character, Emmett Watson, has just returned from a juvenile prison, to the failing family farm in Nebraska. He and his younger brother Billy make travel plans, but friendly escapees from the prison work farm change these plans into a cross-country journey. Book Chat meets monthly on the first and third Sundays at 11:00 AM in the Upper Room for devotions and discussion.



### Color, Craft & Fellowship Update:

Yearning for some fun and fellowship? Well, come join us on **Wednesdays** from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** to **Color, Craft & Fellowship!** Bring your coloring books, markers, paints, crochet hooks, knitting needles, or whatever craft you feel like doing that day! If you are interested in joining, please contact **Lyndsey** at **[Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org)** or **717-243-2512**.



### Lunch Bunch Update:

The Lunch Bunch Ladies will be meeting the following dates at **12pm**:

January 26th– Hoss's  
February 23rd– May's  
March 23rd– N. Hanover St. Grille  
April 27th– Hamilton Restaurant  
May 25th– South Side Deli  
June 22nd– Pizza Grille  
July 27th– Hickory Ridge  
August 24th– Leo's Ice Cream (time change @ 1:00pm)



If you are interested in joining, please call **Barb Simonton** at **(717) 258-3250** for reservations.