

WILLIAMSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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From our Home to yours celebrating the joys of our faith

THE MESSENGER JANUARY 2012

FROM THE HEART OF THE LITTLE FISH

The old is passed, the new has come. Happy New Year to one and all! As we enter 2012 we enter a leap year. Instead of 365 days we will have 366. What will you do with the extra day God has given you?

Every January people begin to think about what they will accomplish in the new year. Goals will be set and promises made. People will begin to work on their diets after feasting during the holidays and getting in shape for the summer, which is 5 months away. Many just look at the new year and decide to go on just as they are. What will 2012 have in store for you? We never know, do we? There's a reason that we don't know the future because we might not handle it very well. God wants us trust in Him for all things. He tells us to take one step at a time when we walk in this life. Always remember He will light the way.

The church enters a new year with dreams, goals and a mission. God still has work for us to do. We are the church together and we work together to fulfill God's call to ministry to His people in our neighborhoods and beyond. We are the people of God and His witnesses wherever we go.

At home we continue to work on the building even though most has been accomplished. The Trustees are trying to make this church warm and welcoming for our visitors and those who come every Sunday. Linda Selinger continues to provide such meaningful music for our worship. We have been blessed eavesdropping on her "private" worship as we enter the Sanctuary each Sunday. She plays to the "glory of God" and invites us to join in her worship as we await the call to worship.

Beyond our doors we are involved in many ministries. We give our time and finances. We have some who have come out of their "comfort zones" and have been stretched beyond. God at work transforming His people for His purpose.

We had wonderful Advent and Christmas Eve services to remind us Christ was born and is always with us. May we forge ahead this new year growing in our faith and trusting God's will for our lives. God is good.

May you have a blessed year!

Your pastor and friend,

Dick

HAPPY NEW YEAR

SENIOR LUNCHEON
January 3rd

Noon

Come and enjoy a good potluck meal with your Williamsville friends and family. Invite a friend to come with you. We eat and fellowship in the Green Room.

TRUSTEES MEETING
Wednesday, January 11th
6:00 p.m.

Due to several canceled meetings we will hope to get together this month for the purpose of planning changes and improvements to be done during 2012.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Wednesday, January 11th
7:00 p.m.

Program: Pastor Dick
Hostess: Carole Piscatelli

All women of the church are welcomed to come and be a part of these mission-minded Christian women.

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS are lifted for Judy Krell on the loss of her mother, Dorothy Johnson, who passed away on December 20th.



THANK YOU,
Congregation
and

John and Sandy Moynahan!

We appreciate your gift of FIVE DAYS at the Moynahan condo in Destin, Florida. We will probably be enjoying our time at Destin in October. Also, there was a gift card for a local restaurant. We appreciate you more than we can say!

OUR CHRISTMAS GIVING

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – We sent 75 shoeboxes through Franklin Graham's group that distributes the shoeboxes filled with toys, candy and other goodies for poor children across the world.

FRIENDS IN NEED – Our church contributed 76 books for area children and a total of 5200 books were given through Friends in Need enabling the organization to give two books to each child!

CUNNINGHAM CHILDREN'S HOME – United Methodist Women with the generous financial help from the congregation contributed \$350 toward new Bibles for the children and youth. Also, many bags were delivered with gifts overflowing to give the troubled kids who are away from family a merrier merry Christmas.

LOCAL FAMILY MINISTRY – United Methodist Women contributed anonymously four large food bags to needy families through the school.

SHUT-INS – Those who received the fruit and goody packages were very grateful and wish to thank the UMW for remembering them at Christmas time.



NATIONAL PIE DAY
Sunday, January 22nd
5:30 p.m.

Come and bring your favorite pie... or just come and eat one or two of your favorites! There promises to be a great selection and plenty for all! If you would like to bring a board game it can be fun. We assure you that you will not be “bored!”

Before U were thought of or time had begun
God stuck U in the Name of His Son

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name.
For U He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crucified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead with U in His plan?

The stones split away; the gold trumpet blew
And this word resurrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

“Go into the world and tell them it's true.

That I love them all – Just like I love U.”

So many great people are spelled with a U
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do.
He'd like them to know
But it all starts with U!

With not too much going on
this month
we decided to share some
special thoughts.
Enjoy!

DRINKING FROM MY SAUCER
[We are blessed]

I've never made a fortune,
And it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much,
I'm happy anyhow
And I go along life's way,
I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

Haven't got a lot of riches
And sometimes the going's tough
But I've got loving ones
all around me
And that makes me rich enough.
I thank GOD for His blessings
And the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when
things went wrong.
My faith wore somewhat thin
But all at once the dark clouds broke
And the sun peeped through again.

So, LORD, help me not to gripe
About the tough rows I have hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

If GOD gives me strength
and courage
When the way grows
steep and rough
I'll not ask for other blessings.
I'm already blessed enough.

And may I never be too busy
To help others bear their loads...
Then I'll keep drinking
from my saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed.