By December each year, even with all the busyness of the Christmas and holiday season, we already begin to look ahead to another year. As a pastor, I certainly do that – for practical reasons like nominations and budgets and program planning – and for reasons like asking
“What do we want to do as a congregation this coming year?”

Here is a question for us to ask:
“How can we enjoy our life and work together in 2020?”

What changes will be needed? What steps can we take to do what we do in ways that we all enjoy being together and working together toward our mission? I have ideas – don’t I always? – but I invite you to think about your own answers to the questions. What ways do you see for us to do things differently to make a real difference in our life together?

We are still in 2019, though, and entering this Christmas season. More information about some of our programs can be found in this Dialogue. Here are the highlights:

- **Dec. 1: Hanging of the Greens** – Please join us for worship at 10:00 am for our traditional service of decorating the sanctuary for Advent and remembering the meaning behind it all.
- **Dec. 3: Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas?** – Co-sponsored by the Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue at Nazareth College, this first of two Community Nights will feature a panel representing the Abrahamic faith traditions – Judaism, Islam, and Christianity – as we take an interfaith look at the holidays which come around Christmas each year.
- **Dec. 7: Christmas Craft Fair** – Bring the family, friends, and neighbors for a fun afternoon making various Christmas crafts.
- **Dec. 15: Children’s Christmas Program and Christmas Tea** – Children and youth will present the annual Christmas program during the morning service, followed by our traditional Christmas Tea. Please join us.
- **Dec. 17: Happy Holidays of Merry Christmas?** – This second Community Night will bring together people from other faith traditions, such as Buddhism, Hinduism, and Baha’i, as we continue our interfaith look at celebrating the holidays.
- **Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service** – Our traditional candlelight service for the family will be at 7:00 p.m.

Merry Christmas!
CHOIR NEWS
The Choir has been practicing music for Christmas for over a month now! Watch -- and listen -- for anthems with familiar songs, as well as one new anthem, "Creation will be at Peace", which we will sing on December 8. We are fortunate that Linda and Dan Burnett are working on a flute duet for the Christmas Eve service. Hearing them play is always a special treat.

We miss Marilyn Grunert, who needs to be at home with Hal for now, and Bob Stookey, who is healing from his fall. With Bob missing, our versatile Michelle Kwarta is helping Dan with the tenor part when it's not too low, and we appreciate that. I greatly value the talents and dedication of the members of our small-but-powerful choir, who come when they possibly can be there.

Fearless Leader Dot Borden
ARE YOU A CRAFTSMAN?
We would like to create new, moveable kneeling bench with rails for communion in the Methodist tradition.
If they are lightweight, yet sturdy, we can put them on wheels with locks and set them on the Sundays during the year when we will use them. If you know someone who might be interested, please let us know. Contact the pastor of Don Reeve. Thank you.

SECRET SANTA
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION
We are sponsoring one family who recently graduated from RAIHN. If you would like to buy a gift for them (or go in with someone else), check under the green and red RAIHN-brella in Howard Hall on the Missions bulletin board and follow the steps in order to participate.
Please return all gifts by Wednesday, December 11.

MITTEN TREE
Once again, we will be collecting mittens and gloves on our "mitten tree" in Howard Hall. They will be distributed to those in need.
Let the warmth in your heart allow others to feel warmth in their hands!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED
The trustees are looking for someone who could commit to being at the church on any day it has snowed overnight to clear the entrance and sidewalks by the driveway to the parking lot. It must be done by 8:30 for PUNS parents to drop off their children for preschool. Two or three people might share the responsibility with clearly-defined schedules. If you are interested, please contact Don Reeve (704-3748) or the church office (586-6870). Thank you.

FOOD CUPBOARDS
Serving our community and our city!

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD
December 1: tuna
December 8: box of tea bags
December 15: canned fruit

PITTSFORD FOOD CUPBOARD
Worship Services Collection Sundays:
December 22 and 29
Contact: Marilyn Krager

Please consider the following items:
● Hearty Soups ● Canned Meals ● Meats ● Tuna ●
● Vegetables ● Fruit ●
● Cereals (Cold and Hot) ● Coffee ● Tea ● Hot cocoa packets ●
● Dry Skin Lotion ● Chap Stick ● Deodorants ●
● Shampoos ● Laundry Detergent ●

Donate during the week!
There is a collection basket in the church office for PFC!

Thank you for your very generous support of requested Thanksgiving food items.
Many families will indeed have a Blessed Thanksgiving meal.

Marilyn Krager
We are signed up once again to participate in Flower City Work Camp! This is an opportunity for 7th through 12th graders to spend their spring break meeting kids from different schools and serving all throughout the Rochester area! Applications should be completed as soon as possible. www.flowercityworkcamp.org/student-app/
Please sign up no later than Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
“All My Christmas Friends”
In this Christmas pageant, a girl falls asleep while waiting for her family to make it home through a snowstorm for Christmas. Sha has a vivid dream where people from the Bible tell her all about the first Christmas, bringing the nativity to life in her house.

ATTENTION ACTORS:
Save the dates! We will be rehearsing on the following Sundays at 9:00 am:
December 1, 8, 15
SATURDAY DRESS REHEARSAL:
December 14 at 10:00 am

PERFORMANCE DATE:
Sunday morning
December 15

FAMILIES OF FAITH
CHRISTMAS FAMILY EVENT:
12 ADVENT IDEAS
“You’re probably familiar with the classic Christmas Carol “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” In it, a true love gives a gift every day for 12 days — from a partridge in a pear tree on the first day to 12 drummers drumming on the very last. In the spirit of that song, we’re giving you 12 amazing advent ideas you can use or share with families to help them prepare their hearts for Christmas. Try one, or try them all. They’re our gift to you — out of true love!”

Read more at childrensministry.com/the-12-ideas-of-advent
Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays?

Muhammad Shafiq
DIRECTOR OF HICKEY CENTER FOR INTERFAITH STUDIES, NAZARETH COLLEGE

Amy Fowler
PRESBYTERY LEADER, PRESBYTERY OF THE GENESEE VALLEY

Hava Leipzig Holzhauer
DIRECTOR OF THE KONAR CENTER FOR TOLERANCE & JEWISH STUDIES, NAZARETH COLLEGE

Jimmy Reader
MINISTER, UNITED CHURCH OF PITTSFORD

Tuesday December 3
7:00pm - 8:30pm
123 South Main Street • Pittsford
(Parking available off Sunset Blvd)

CO-SPONSORED BY

UNITED CHURCH
of PITTSFORD

&

THE HICKEY CENTER FOR INTERFAITH STUDIES & DIALOGUE @ NAZARETH COLLEGE

Join us after Pittsford Candlelight Night for a panel that will invite everyone to dialogue about how we differ and what we share in common.

Hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies will be available.

No fee • Donations accepted
FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDS

RISE & SHINE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

- Sausage Links
- Pancakes
- Scrambled Eggs
- Maple Syrup
- Blueberry Topping
- Coffee, tea and juice

$5

United Church of Pittsford
123 South Main Street (at Sunset Blvd.)
(585) 586-6870 • www.ucpittsford.org

Proceeds will be donated to the Flower City Work Camp

HOLIDAY SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
Saturday, December 7, 4:00
White Haven Memorial Park
All Seasons Chapel
Everyone is invited to remember those we have loved and lost. This service is a time for friends and family to unite in a service of reflection. You are also welcome to submit names, photos, stories, and poems. Send to nate@whitehaven memorialpark.com by Monday, December 2. We will enjoy some music by Madrigalia. A cookie and beverage reception will follow the service. For more information, please call 585-586-5250.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/4
Leta Williams
12/13
Karen White
12/15
Marty McCollum
12/22
Jaxon Young
12/25
D’Arcy Dobbertin
FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDS

HOLIDAY LIGHTS & FRIENDLY FACES
Check out what Mike and Maggie Broker are doing new this year in Victor -
Www.roclights.com.
Pictured below: Maddie Broker

COFFEE HOUR
THANK YOU
A big THANK YOU to all the ladies who volunteer to help prepare the coffee for the Coffee Hour in Howard Hall on Sunday mornings. Also a thank you ahead of time for those who have said they will help for 2020.

USHERS AND SHEPHERDS
A big thank-you to all the Ushers (and particularly their Team Leaders), and to all the Shepherds! Your dedication to the church and tireless work ‘behind the scenes’ helps make UCP the warm and caring community that people appreciate and compliment us on.
Have a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year! - Donella

Take a break from the Holiday rush and come join the fun!

- Gingerbread houses
- Salt shaker snowmen
- Button trees
- Table decorations with greens, etc.
- Cookie decorations
- Pasta or candy trees
- Decorated balls
- Pine cone bird feeders
- and more...

Suggested donation:
$3.00 per person, $10.00 per family
All ages welcome!
Children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends
Hot chocolate and other beverages and snacks will be provided.

Save the Date!
Don’t miss our popular annual
CHRISTMAS CRAFT PARTY
on Saturday December 7th
from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
WOODS ELECTED AS ACTING GENERAL SECRETARY
OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA
VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/10/19) – At the November 2019 meeting of the Board of General Ministries yesterday, the Board voted to approve the nomination of Rev. Dr. C. Jeff Woods as Acting General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA). Woods has served in the role of Associate General Secretary for Regional Ministries with ABCUSA since 2003. In this role, Woods is responsible for encouraging the health and vitality of the 33 regional judicatories coast to coast throughout the United States. He previously served as Acting General Secretary from September 2018 through February 2019.

Read more: tinyurl.com/woods-abc

OGHS FUNDS RELEASED IN RESPONSE TO KINCADE WILDFIRE IN SONOMA COUNTY
VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/4/19) – American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), has released $10,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Disaster-relief Funds to CrossWalk Community Church, Napa, California. CrossWalk – which has been a Red Cross evacuation site for many years – has been providing shelter since Oct. 27 for those evacuated from their homes because of the Kincade wildfire that began Oct. 23 in Sonoma County wine country.

According to news reports, the fire has burned 77,758 acres of both state and private land. The fire has destroyed 352 structures, including at least 94 homes. Another 55 structures have been damaged. Four confirmed injuries are of fire personnel and civilians.

Read more at tinyurl.com/abc-sonoma-fire

GATHERING DREAMS OF INCLUSIVE FUTURE
K. GILBERT, ROLLING HILLS ESTATES, CA, UM NEWS
More than 200 United Methodists from the Western Jurisdiction gathered Nov. 14-16 to cast a vision and dream of a future for The United Methodist Church that is diverse and inclusive of “all God’s children.”

Participants at the Fresh United Methodism Summit at Rolling Hills United Methodist Church included the Western Jurisdiction bishops, delegates to the 2020 General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference, communicators and other leaders as well as a limited number of observers.

By the summit’s end, a working group of five clergy and five laity were elected as a visioning team. That team will bring a report to the 2020 Western Jurisdictional Conference to be held July 15-18, 2020, in Billings, Montana.

Read more at tinyurl.com/inclusive-future

YOUNG UNITED METHODIST ADVOCATES FOR ABUSED CHILDREN
REV. TE MAFORO, HARARE, ZIMBABWE, UM NEWS
The church needs to listen to the voices of young people and offer a safe space for abused children, said a member of junior Parliament during a Sunday service at St. Dorcas United Methodist Church.

“We do not need adults to become voices of the voiceless in the face of abuses against children,” said 17-year-old Melody Rudairo Nyamadzi, who represents the Kuwadzana East constituency in junior Parliament and is a member of United Methodist Youth Fellowship at St. Dorcas. “We have voices.”

Her call was echoed by scores of children during a special Sunday service led by the children’s ministry at St. Dorcas. Pre-schoolers and junior scholars recited poems and Bible memory verses around the theme of “Our Faith, Our Rights and Our Livelihood.”

Junior Parliament serves as a leadership development and advocacy arm of the government on the rights and welfare of children. It mirrors the structure of senior Parliament.

Nyamadzi attends Kuwadzana One High School. Read more: tinyurl.com/young-umc-stands

OGHS FUNDS RELEASED IN RESPONSE TO KINCADE WILDFIRE IN SONOMA COUNTY
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<td>9AM Christmas Play Practice</td>
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<td>2PM Christmas Craft Party</td>
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<td>10AM Worship Service</td>
<td>9AM PUNS 7PM Music &amp; Worship Committee</td>
<td>9AM PUNS 7PM Community Night</td>
<td>7PM PUNS Cleaning Night</td>
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<td>9AM PUNS 6PM Village Squares</td>
<td>9AM PUNS</td>
<td>8AM Rise &amp; Shine Pancake Breakfast</td>
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<td>9AM Christmas Play Practice</td>
<td>9AM PUNS 7PM Music &amp; Worship Committee</td>
<td>7PM Deacons Meeting</td>
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<td>10AM Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal</td>
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<td>11:30AM Way of Life Series</td>
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PLANNING AHEAD? Check out our calendar online!
NAMES AND NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Office Phone Number: 586-6870
Rev. Dr. Jimmy Reader, Minister 315-9241
Leta Williams, Minister of Education 315-360-6908
Dot Borden, Choir Director 624-2284
Chen Liang, Organist and Pianist

Scott Hanson, Moderator 586-6861
Don Reeve, Chair, Trustees 704-3748
Richard Ashworth, Chair, Deacons 381-2189
Jennifer Cranch, Chair, Board of Christian Education 749-4758

COLLECTION CONTAINERS

We have the following containers in the office:

Used eye wear & HEARING AIDS
(including batteries, etc.):
These go to Lions Clubs International.

Box Top$ for Education
These go to Pittsford and Brighton School District.

Labels for Education
Discontinued by Campbells Co (2018).

Can pull tabs
(from canned fruits, vegetables, soups, meats, sauces, and beverages):
These go to St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Penfield for Schriner project funding.

123 South Main Street
Pittsford, NY 14534
Phone: (585) 586-6870
We’re on the Web!
www.ucpittsford.org
Email us at: ucpittsford@gmail.com
“Like” us on Facebook at United Church of Pittsford.