

December 2017



December's Calendar



**Christmas Eve
Services:**
10am—Combined

Candlelight Services
7pm—Family
9pm—Traditional
11pm—Communion

Every Sunday:

Sunday School 10am
ASL Class 10am

Every Monday:

Super Singing Signers 6pm
Praise Band Practice 6pm
Kids in Mission 6:30pm

Every Tuesday:

Pastoral Bible Study 7pm

Every Wednesday:

AA 9am

Every Thursday:

Pastoral Bible Study 10am
Youth Group 6pm-8pm



A Note from Pastor Dawn

Happy December!!

I can't believe it is already the first Friday in December and the start of Advent. Christmas is definitely coming. It has been a great week in the life of our church as we started out the Christmas Season with the Live Nativity and Bonfire. My favorite picture from the evening is Santa honoring Jesus.



What a great reminder for us when it is so easy to become caught up in the shopping, the parties, and the unrealistic expectations of the season from our materialistic culture. May each activity we do this month be guided by Jesus, the reason for the season.

I am so grateful for each of you and your commitment to our growth here in Waretown and the sur-

rounding area. Your Extravagant Generosity is evident as we have been able to partner with the local schools in Waretown and Dunfee School in Barnegat. Dunfee has the highest number of free and reduced lunches. Right before Thanksgiving, we were able to provide a breakfast for those students as they were paired with a mentor for the school year.

On Sunday, November 19, we were challenged to make a pledge commitment of how you will share your Extravagant Generosity. With everything we are dreaming of doing in the coming year, I want to invite you, if you were not able to submit your 2018 commitment card, please do it now. Our mission and ministry depend upon your faithfulness and generosity.

I look forward to seeing you and your family at the special events and worship services that are planned this month. Have a blessed and wonderful Christmas Season.

Christmas Blessings and
Peace,

Pastor Dawn



Christmas Concert

December 3rd at 5:30

there will be a dinner/soup potluck followed by a concert at **6:30**. Our very own Praise Band and Children's Choir will be performing Christmas classics to help get you into the Christmas spirit.

Bring your family, bring your neighbor, this is open to one and all!





Christmas Happenings at WUMC

Dec 3rd: 5:30pm Potluck Dinner
6:30pm Christmas Concert

Dec 7th: 12pm UMW Luncheon

Dec 17: 9am Traditional Service/Christmas Cantata
11am Contemporary Service/
Children's Christmas Pageant

Dec 21: 6:30pm Blue Christmas Service

Dec 24th:

10am Combined Service

Candlelight Services:

7pm Family Service

9pm Traditional Service

11pm Communion Service

Merry Christmas



Blue Christmas Service

We will be holding a special service on **December 21st at 6:30pm** called Blue Christmas. Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations that make parties and this season painful for many people in our congregations and community.

Come and join in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture and music that acknowledge God's presence is with us and shines light into our darkness.

Advent Bible Study

Advent reflections on songs of the season. Music is powerful and unforgettable. Join us on **Tuesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 10am** as we ponder the meaning of well known Carols & Christmas songs and relate them to our daily lives.



United Methodist Woman



Monthly Luncheon will be held Thursday, December 7th in the Fellowship Hall at Noon.

Your suggested donation of \$8.00 per

person, will get you a full-course meal and a time to fellowship with folks from the community near and far. This is open to the public, so invite your

friends to join you. No reservations necessary.

Further information about the luncheon or joining the UMW please see Barbara Eskelson.

Live Nativity/Bonfire

On November 26th we had our annual Bonfire but added a little twist.....a LIVE NATIVITY!!! That's right we had not only live people recreating the birth of Jesus but we had live animals as well. Thank you to all who helped in making it a success!!!



Blessing of the Animals

On October 29th we had Blessing of the Animals.

Several families braved the torrential rain and attended this wonderful event.

Hopefully next years weather will be better and we will be able to have a bigger turnout.



Kids In Mission

Kids in Mission is for kids grades pre-k to 6th grade who want to make a difference. Each week we take time to either just hang-out and do a fun activity or we work on a missional event.

In **October** our K.I.M. went and visited the residents of Barnegat Nursing Center. Here, we handed out pumpkin decorations made by our children and performed some of the songs taught by Mrs. Natalie Callis during Super Singing



Lauren, Patrick, Mohammed, Kevin, MJ, Jayden and Ryan from KIM visiting with Mr. Roy Bahr.

Signers. We were even able to visit with a member of our church, Roy Bahr, who is a resident there.

The kids also made goodie bags for the animals who came out for our first Blessing of the Animals.

In **November**, the children helped setup stockings for our church's "Adopt-a-Stocking" outreach.

We look forward to many more opportunities to serve our community.

Waretown United Methodist Church

27 Bryant Road
Waretown, NJ 08758
609-693-3134
www.waretownumc.org



Vicky is in the office as follows:
Mondays 12pm-3pm
Tuesdays –Fridays 9am-12pm

Look us up on Facebook!

God is on the move and so are we!!!!

Community Outreach Opportunities

Adopt a Family for Christmas

Please consider spreading some Christmas cheer this holiday season and adopt a family this holiday season. For more information contact the office at (609) 693-3134 or email Office@waretownumc.org.

Township Toy Drive

We will be collecting donations of new unwrapped toys (NO stuffed animals) for ages 4-16 until **December 10th**.

A green bin has been set-up outside of the office window.

Family Promise Adopt a Stocking

Stockings need to be in by **December 17th**

This year we are taking our part with Family Promise one step further. We are asking for those who want to help but can't commit to staying overnight or preparing a meal for the weeks we host Family Promise to adopt a stocking. Pick a stocking and fill it with holiday cheer for the families in the program. Each stocking has the gender and age of the recipient.



Gift Card Donations!

We are asking for donations of gift cards to such stores as Walmart, Target, Gamestop, etc. for middle school and high school aged children. We are partnering with both Barnegat and Waretown schools to help families struggling make their children's Christmas a little more special.

Gift Cards need to be in by December 10th



Easy Giving Opportunity UMC Market. Through this partnership our members, friends, and neighbors can do their normal online shopping and earn money for the Waretown UMC! Setting up an account is simple and there are no hidden costs or responsibilities. It is truly like any other online shopping experience.

(INSTRUCTIONS: Simply go to www.umcmarket.org, and click the 'JOIN' button. Register, login, and search "WARETOWN" (in the organization search). Click on the Waretown link and select 'JOIN ORGANIZATION' and you will be all set-up. On the home page you can search for the stores you want to shop and UMC Market takes care of the rest.)