

Nixon United Methodist Church
334 Airport Road
Butler, PA 16002
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www.nixonumchurch.org

Look inside for:

Sewing Circle

Christmas Party

Drive-Thru Nativity

Youth Group activities

Christmas Eve Worship



Merry
Christmas!!

OUTREACH

Special thanks to all those who donated items for our Christmas drive! We had lots of hats, gloves, and scarves to send to New Mexico, and lots of socks, T-shirts, hats, gloves, and coats to send to Virginia. Lots of brightly wrapped Christmas gifts were delivered by all of you for our local families, too. Thank you, Thank you!

Sewing Circle will meet in December on Monday the 1st and 8th, and in January on the 5th and 12th. If there is inclement weather on those days, we will try to let our regular attendees know if we cancel, but please contact Janet Black if you are unsure or not a regular member.



Nixon Blessed Beginnings Preschool



We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Fall "Fudgie Wudgie" Fundraiser. We raised over \$500.00 to help with general school supplies -Thank you!! We hope you enjoy your holiday fudge!

Our students have been very busy practicing their songs for our Holiday Programs! Our T/Th class will have their Christmas Program on Thursday, December 18. Our M/W/F class will have their program on Monday, December 22.

Thank you to Al Helsel for being our "Special Christmas Visitor" :-)

There will be no Preschool Board meeting in December. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to all Sunday School students for decorating the Thanksgiving food bank bags. We delivered 52 bags to the South Butler Food Pantry. Thank you to Ginnie and Al Helsel and Chuck Bodesheim for taking bags to the South Butler Food pantry.



Thank you to all who participated in the Shoebox ministry, Operation Christmas Child! We delivered 18 shoeboxes to St. John's Reformed Church. We would also like to thank those who donated money to pay for the shipping those boxes.



Mark your calendars for the Live Nativity which will be held on **Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14 from 6-8 PM**. Actors need to arrive to dress up 1 hour before the event. This is a community event so all are welcome to participate in this ministry. Actors meet in the Education Building.



Nixon Youth Group Christmas Parties

On **Saturday, December 20, 2014** Pastor Jim and Joan are planning 2 Christmas parties with children and youth from grades **K-12**.

This is an opportunity for parents to go **Christmas shopping without the kids or have a fun date!**

Children in grades K-5 can be dropped off at parsonage at 1:00 p.m. Children will watch a Christmas movie, The Polar Express while enjoying cookies and hot cocoa and work on a Christmas craft! Grades K-5 Christmas party will end at **4:30 p.m.**

Youth in grades 6-12 grade should arrive at the parsonage by 6:00 p.m. Pizza will be served, a faith based movie, and ideas and discussion about the goals for our Youth in 2015! Our Youth Christmas party will end at **9:30 p.m.**

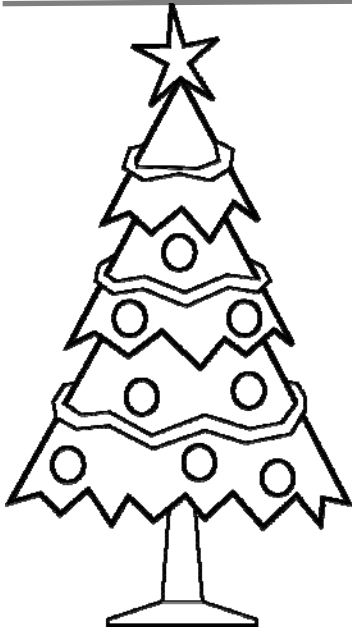
United Methodist Women

Gift wrap

The UM women will be getting together to wrap gifts for our special friends on Wednesday, **December 17. UM Women will meet at 10:00 a.m.** in the Churches Social Hall.



L KING-AHEAD



You are cordially invited to the Church's Christmas Party sponsored by Nixon United Methodist Men Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:30 PM

Delicious food and dessert! Cost \$14.00 per person

Entertainment by "In Transition"

See Don Callen for reservations

Live Drive-Thru Nativity ,Set-up, Saturday, December 13, 2014, 9:00

Nixon U.MC.

Live Drive-Thru Nativity

Saturday, December 13 and

Sunday, December 14 from 6-8 PM.

The Live Nativity is a tradition in Penn Twp. We need a lot of people to make this event successful. We hope if you have not taken part in the past that you will consider participating as an actor or to just drive thru! **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

There will also be hot cocoa and snacks!

Actors need to arrive to dress up 1 hour before the event (**5:00 p.m.**) This is a community event! All are welcome to participate in this ministry.

Actors meet in the Education Building



PRAYER CONCERNS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Names will be listed for one month. Please call the church office if you would like to have names listed. Our congregation is happy to pray for any who request it, be it a church member, a friend or relative of a member.

For God to watch over: our nation's leaders, military Steven Core- Navy, Lisa Fisher-Army, Jake Schmitt-Afghanistan, Tonya Stoner, Gabe Thrower-Marines, Josh Gibson will be deployed to Liberia to help set up hospital to care for Ebola patients, and civilian personnel in our nation and abroad, for the hostility towards Christians around the world, local law enforcement, for the people who are experiencing natural disasters around the world,

Eliana Cicconi, on-going illness-and her family
Julianna, will be graduating from High School this year. She is doing much better! Praise God for answered prayers!

Amber McCreary, on-going-illness and her family

Betty Robinson, on-going illness-and her family

Dr. Jim Thorne, continue to pray for his health

Mark Walker, on-going illness.

TJ Wilson, Keep him in your prayers.

Chris, has a rare blood disorder. Is recovering from his 4th operation on his hip.

Nick Morgain is at home. Keep him in your prayers.

Angie Dannelley, a preschool mom is recovering from a double mastectomy.

Marlene Fisher who has an in-operable, non-cancerous brain tumor

Lynn Keitzer's health continues to improve. She is another testament to God's healing power!

LouAnn, kidney problems and her son, Orien has health issues.

Joan Myers, Newhaven Court in Butler

George Ramsey, chemo

Lillian Rath

Laney Hay, Sunny View nursing home

Tim Weckerly, cancer treatments

Fran Briggs, Concordia

Philip Charles Puhlman, motorcycle accident, broke back and neck

Amber, Joe and Anita Tobin's granddaughter has medical issues

Shalene Dickey and her baby, please continue to pray for them.

Erica, stage 4 cancer, takes chemo every other week, niece of Kent and Josie Shoemaker.

Terry Pokandt, has been in remission from breast cancer for 6 years and cancer was found in her lymph nodes.

Alice Kuhns continues to heal from back surgery.

Keep Amber Thompson in your prayers.

Bob Fisher is out of the ICU! Praise God! Lots of prayers being answered.

Tom Percy, Marion's son, continues to improve! Keep Tom in your prayers.

Norman Geyer is home from the hospital continue to pray for him.

Eric Schwan, having surgery for a smashed hand.

Jean Cannistraci, Pastor Jim's mom, continues to recover from shoulder surgery.

Jennifer Kidd, relative of Lorry Donaldson, has bilateral breast cancer

Charlene, has stage 3 uterine cancer

Wilma Pfeifer continuing health concerns

Sandy Mickey has arthritis in her left knee

Sandy's brother, Lance, injured his finger

Sandy's sister-in-law Arlene Pfeifer had complications from knee surgery

Baby Eleanor has Cerebral Palsy

Maxine Hendrickson who has pancreatic cancer.

Howard Bohnart, Lori Wilson's dad will discontinue cancer treatments,

Valerie Daubenspeck had back surgery, doing well

Michele Baker's friend, Gary, will be having back surgery

Unspoken prayer request.

Donna Gates has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

Lucy Ruiz, a 4 year old who has a large tumor.

Trent Greenawalt, 3 year old Preschool program is recovering from having his adenoids and tonsils removed at Children's Hospital on November 18.

Danny Kantrowitz, Alice Aronson's grandson

Bob Geibel had kidney stones surgically removed this week.

Amber Haynes is 6 months pregnant and is in preterm labor.

Isaac Hesel who broke 2 bones in his right arm.

Chelsea Matis is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

As we pray for those who are ill, awaiting surgery or a diagnosis please remember their caregivers as well.



Our Heartfelt Sympathy go to:

Family and friends of Larry Yoakum,
Family and friends of Lee Bartolicius, Sr.
Family and friends of Betsy Patrick
Family and friends of Wanda Miller





Thank you to all who donated to the South Butler Food Pantry, Ginnie & Al Helsel and Chuck Bodesheim for delivering 52 bags to the food pantry!



Congratulations to

Mr. & Mrs. James A. Cannistraci! Pastor Jim and Joan Ritzert were wed on Saturday, November 29, 2014!

Blessing and best wishes to the newlyweds!



Thank you to all who donated a shoebox filled with gifts for Samaritan's Purse shoebox ministry. We delivered 18 boxes to St. Johns Reformed church. We would also like to thank those who donated money to ship those boxes!



Thank you to all who stayed and decorated the Sanctuary after Pastor Jim and Mrs. Joan Cannistraci's wedding!



A thank you note from Pastor Jim and Joan.

*Dear Friends,
thank you for your thoughts and prayers and well wishes as we begin our new life together.*

Special thanks to all of you who were able to join us at our wedding.

Love, Jim & Joan

P.S. Special thank you for the wonderful cookie table it was soooo delicious and thoughtful!



Thank you to Al Campman, for filling in for Pastor Jim on November 30. Al is a devout Christian, and the former Varsity Basketball coach for Ellwood City High school. He is also one of the coaches on the Armstrong cable show, "Coaches Round Table Show".



Come join us as we await the arrival of God's son, Jesus Christ!

Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 24

At 4:30 and 7:00 PM.

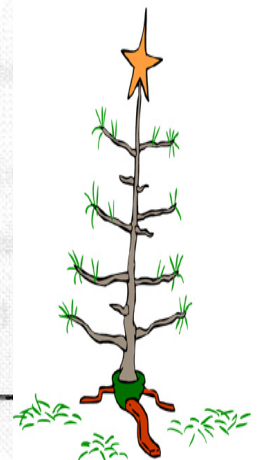
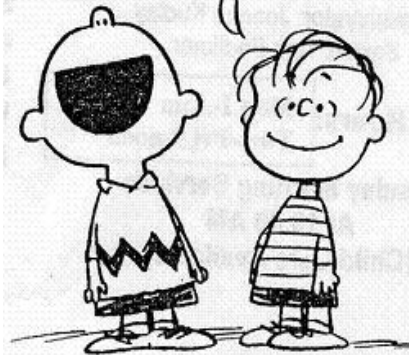
Both Christmas Eve services are Family Friendly! Singing traditional Christmas carols, lighting the Advent Wreath, a special candle lighting and communion will be served. Come celebrate with us!



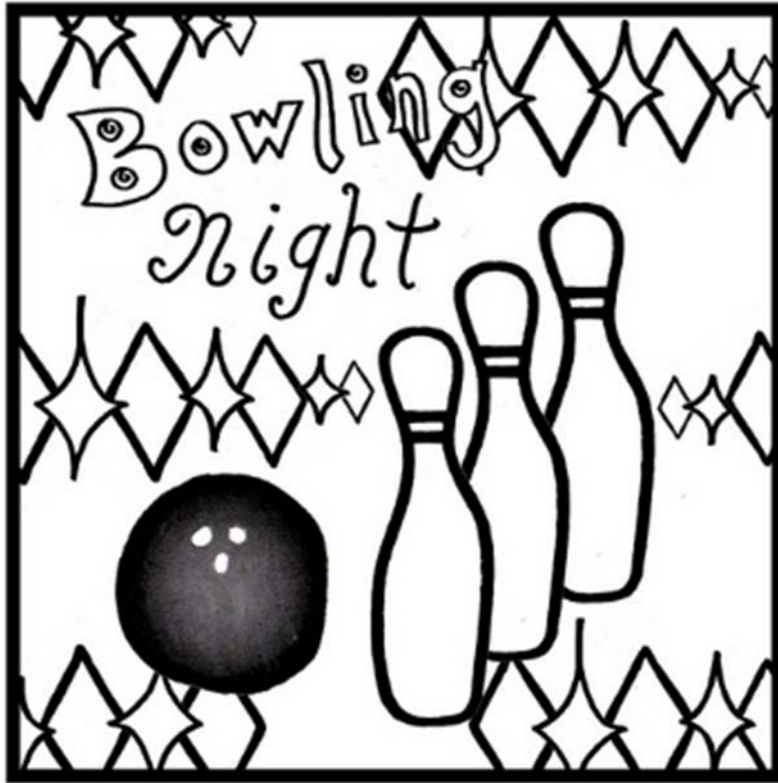
Christmas Cantata

HAPPINESS IS SINGING IN THE CHOIR!

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 11 a.m.



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BINGO BUTTERCUP CRAFTS

Check your church calendar in February for an upcoming bowling event!