

ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 20, 2019

CHURCH DINING ROOM



THE MUSTARD SEED
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLLBRAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
P.O. BOX 160
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DECEMBER 2018

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November and December are always busy months at the Collbran Congregational Church.

We had a very successful Turkey Dinner on November 17th. The food was delicious and we have to give kudos to Cindy Price for the great job she did on preparing the dressing from Clara Ward's recipe. There were amazing desserts to accompany the dinner and fresh baked dinner rolls. We want to thank the community for your support this important fundraiser for Womens Fellowship. We were missing both Nancy Karlson and Clara Ward this year for health reasons. They have been a vital part of this dinner's preparation for a very long time. It is great to have them both home and doing better.

The Sunday following Thanksgiving had for a lunch of hot soup and rolls before the younger group decorated the Christmas tree for the Sanctuary. The Sunday school kids had created a very long paper chain which is a tradition for the tree. It is wonderful to have those very tall and helpful dads to reach the top of the tree with lights, ornaments, and tinsel. We want to thank all of them and Becky Cornett for the fresh wreath and garland for the entrance of the church. They are beautiful where anyone passing by can enjoy them.

The Creche is in place and the manger on Christmas Eve.



for the fresh wreath and church. They are beautiful where anyone passing by can

baby waiting to be placed in the



The Christmas Recital was held December 2, 2018. This recital is in memory of Shirley Lyons and her years as a piano teacher. This year there were more children performing than adults. It is our greatest hope to have a **Children's Recital**, once again, in 2019. More and more children are finding teachers for piano, guitar, violin, and voice, which is very encouraging for us aging musicians in the valley. We look forward to 2019

Janet Bristol, Grandmother to Kyri and Kora Marvin, accompanied them on piano for rousing arrangements of Christmas favorites. Kyri even talked her mother into performing a duet with her. Paige is a former student of Mrs. Lyons.



The Murphy family was well represented. Julia played "Deck the Halls" and "Joy to the World". Reese played "Up on the Housetop" and "Jolly Old St. Nicholas".



Reese and Tage were accompanied by Kyri Marvin on piano and Julia Murphy on organ for the singing of "Silent Night."



Joining us for the first time was Vivian Arthur, 7 years old playing “Jingle Bells” on the violin. She was accompanied by her mother, Erin Arthur.



Also on the violin

Dani Moore and her instructor, Louise Terpstra, playing “O Holy Night”

Pastor Anne, Cindy Price, and Sue Bellotti played “Patapan” six hands at the piano, to wrap up the children’s program.



Annie Hughes and Pat Hubbard sang beautifully performing “O Holy Night “ and “Always.”

Gerry Gaddy read “A Letter from Santa Clause” to the children and Charli played “Ave Maria” on the flute, accompanied by Sue Bellotti on piano.

Louise Terpstra and Erin Arthur’s fiddle and guitar joined for “Snowflake Hornpipe/Snowflake Reel”

The Crystal Crackers closed the program with the “Antiphonal Deck the Halls, a beautifully sung, “The Lord’s Prayer” , and “Little Drummer Boy”.

The church ladies prepared cookies and hot cider for the reception that followed.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND
ALL!**

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

Our annual turkey dinner was a success. We served about 80 hungry folks with a traditional turkey dinner. Thanks to Cindy and Sue the we had almond toffee to sell. We raised about \$1500 from the event.

Several outreach programs have been completed and we thank the church members for their support and generous donations.

Hats, gloves, and socks were delivered to the Veterans Hospital to be distributed to veterans needing them. Health kits were assembled and delivered to the GJ Rescue Mission.

Hats and gloves were gathered and given to the pre-school and kindergarden classes at PV School to keep little hands and heads warm during recess.

Thanks to the Collbran Supply for allowing us space for the Free Winter Coat display for the valley. We have a new batch of smaller coats and snowpants in this week. Please keep your kids warm and dry.

Candy sacks will be passed out following church on December 23 following church.

TRUSTEES REPORT

Trustees are overseeing safety issues at the church. The snow and ice fall from the roof on the east side, facing Elm Street can be hazardous. Please stay away from the portion of the sidewalk marked with orange traffic cones. We do our best to keep the sidewalks clean and safe and always after it snows, there will be slides of icy snow falling off the roof and doorway canopies. When you can, please park nearest the door you will use in entering the building, to avoid having to step around any ice on the walkways.

Walk with care and caution on the handicap ramp to the dining room during winter months. For Lions Club, 4-H, Cattlewomen, etc., using the meeting room downstairs, please use the stairwell when you are able.

The picnic tables have been removed from under the slope of the north roof. We plan to move them back to the concrete slab, come Spring.

Please continue to pray for the churches in our valley. The buildings are all aging and requiring more and more upkeep and repairs. Do your part the best you can, in financially supporting them. And give our God the praise when something in your church works!

Prayerfully submitted,

Trustees Sue Bellotti, Julia Cox, Cindy Price

Pastor Anne's Message, December 2018

Dear Family and Friends of Collbran Congregational United Church of Christ,
Thanksgiving, Advent, and now Christmas have brought love, joy, and fellowship to our congregation, church family, and all the community!

During November my sermons were woven together by the theme: "What's in Your Cornucopia?" We explored scriptures from Philippians, Ephesians, Psalms, and Luke. Sermon topics were: No Matter What, Be Thankful; The Benefits of a Grateful Heart; A Lesson from the One Leper; and Fill Your Cornucopia with Five Keys to Giving Thanks. Our Adult/Teen Sunday school Class studied Philip Yancy's book The Jesus I Never Knew. The Children's Messages included: "What's in Your Cornucopia?", "Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed", "Giving Thanks", and "Psalm 100: A Good One to Know." Talented musicians Sue Bellotti (piano and organ) and Charli Gaddy (flute) fill our services with beautiful music. I appreciate their sharing of their musical gifts with us. The children of the church often delight us with impromptu and rehearsed songs and piano solos. I am continually impressed by our beautiful, clever, and well-spoken children and youth. They are a blessing to us all!

December: The Advent Candles of Hope, Joy, Love, Peace, and the Christ Candle were lit by families including the Murphy and Cox Families, The Klingler Family, The Yanez Family, and the Steve Hittle Family. Sermons were: Advent Hope in Our Times; John the Baptist's Message; God's Gift Delivered in Person; with one more to follow on December 23. At this writing we happily anticipate a traditional candlelight **Christmas Eve Service at 7:00PM on December 24.** The Adult/Teen Sunday school class is using the 2018 Advent Devotional "Come Lord Jesus" which is published by the United Church of Christ Stillspeaking Writers Group. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:45AM. All are invited to come join us! Our children are in Sunday school class at the same time ~ very convenient.

I continue to teach fulltime in Grand Junction at Clifton Elementary School. About 55 second graders performed the Christmas music program, "The Littlest Reindeer" on December 6th at Clifton Elementary.

Remember: We would love to have you join us Sunday mornings (11:00AM) **AND** "wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" We believe that "we are His hands and feet" and I hope you'll join us whenever you can! Merry Christmas and great blessings to you in the New Year 2019!!

With love and prayers,
Pastor Anne

