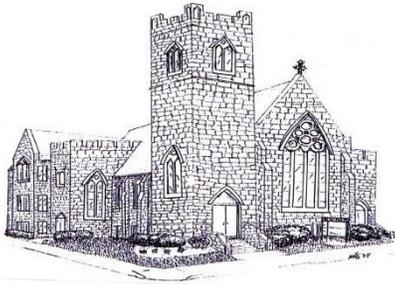


Rosedale United Church of Christ

# Rosedale Visitor



1301 E. Bellevue Ave., Laureldale, PA 19605  
610-929-0331

[www.rosedaleucc.com](http://www.rosedaleucc.com)

Email: [church@rosedaleucc.com](mailto:church@rosedaleucc.com)

December 2017/January 2018  
Issue X

## Sundays at Rosedale

**7:45 am**

Spoken Service with  
Communion

**9:00 am (Sept. to May)**

Sunday School

**10:30 am**

Choral Service with  
Communion

---

### Pastor

Rev. Selina Hamilton

### Organist/Choir Director

Dr. Brenda Leiby

### Assistant Organist/Director

Judy Becker

### Secretary

Marcia Reinert

### Treasurer

Timothy Becker

### Income Secretary

Cindy Vesper

### Sexton

Carl Wolfe

---

## February Newsletter

**Deadline**

**January 15, 2018**

## December/January Highlights

### December 10

Chili Luncheon 12:00 pm

### December 17

Caroling to Homebound 6:00 pm

### December 24

#### Sunday Morning Service

9:00 am - Worship with Communion  
No Sunday School

### Christmas Eve Services

7:00 pm – Family/Children’s Service

10:30 pm – Candlelight Service with Communion  
Ring-in Christmas

### December 31

7:45 am – Worship with Communion

10:30 am – Service of Lessons & Carols

### January 28

12:00 pm – Annual Congregational Meeting  
Bring a Covered Dish



## Leadership

### Consistory President

Steven Schory

### Consistory Members

Robert Ames

Joanne Bilski

Michael Fowler

Michael Heller

Curtis Hoyt

Betty Reeser

Karen Sandman

Helen Schory

Terry Ventresca

### Webmaster

Betsy Blankenbiller

### Facebook Editor

Alexis Ames

---

We are a welcoming community of faith open to all. We would love to have you worship with us!

---



[www.facebook.com/RosedaleUnitedChurchofChrist](http://www.facebook.com/RosedaleUnitedChurchofChrist)

Follow us on Twitter  
@UCCRosedale

Follow us on Instagram  
RosedaleUCC

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God! We have entered the season of waiting: the season of Advent. We definitely do a lot of waiting in the month of December. We wait in line. We wait in traffic. We wait for packages. We wait for our oven timers to ding. We wait for our guests to arrive. We wait for snow. We wait for the snow to end. We wait. And wait. And wait.

Most importantly of all, we wait for Jesus. We wait for Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of our Savior that happened so long ago, in that little town so far away. We wait to celebrate the light of the world, God's son, who broke into the world in an unexpected way. And as we wait, we remember what Jesus brought into the world with him: more hope, more peace, more joy, and more love than the world had ever seen before.

In this season, we also remember that we are waiting for Jesus to come again, to reenter this world with grace and power to bring about God's kingdom. This is what we hope for every time we pray together or separately in our private devotions, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Our Savior taught us to pray those words. Our Savior also taught us to act, to offer to the world the hope, peace, joy, and love that we know we have received from God. Our Savior taught us to take care of those who need our care, to offer our love and support to those who need it, and to share what we have with those who are lacking.

So while we wait, let's live into God's vision for us. Let's share our hope, our peace, our joy, and our love with all the people we meet while we prepare for our celebrations and while we wait—even while we wait in those long lines we're sure to encounter in the month ahead.

May God bless this season of Advent, as we wait for the light of Christ to break into the world. And may God help us to share the light that already shines in our hearts with our neighborhoods and communities. May God guide us as we seek to experience and to share God's Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love in our hearts and in our world. Amen.

In Christ's Peace,  
Pastor Selina



## DECEMBER 2017

### Sundays in December

#### Advent 1 Dec. 3

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37

#### Advent 2 Dec. 10

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Mark 1:1-8

#### Advent 3 Dec. 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

#### Advent 4 Dec. 24

##### Christmas Eve

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:47-55  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

#### Christmas 1 Dec. 31

##### New Year's Eve

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

---

***Do we have your  
email address?***

---

*Blessed Infant,  
nestle near my  
heart, and live in  
me forever.*



## Church in Society

### **Students Experiencing Homelessness**

Thank you to all who wore red on November 19<sup>th</sup> in support of students experiencing homelessness to be their voice and bring awareness to this situation. Thank you to **Tabitha Kramer** for setting up an information table in the sanctuary and talking to the children about homelessness at the second service.

### **Winter Outreach**

This year, as before, the Muhlenberg Elementary School nurse is requesting the following: socks, underwear, sweatpants and leggings in children's sizes 4 to 12. On occasion some students have accidents and with these donations they will be able to wear clean clothing. You can place your donations in the basket in the back of the sanctuary. The clothing will be delivered after January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please ask Peggy Hoyt.

### **Facebook Challenge**

When you decorate the outside of your house for Christmas, take a picture and post it to Facebook with #RosedaleUCC.

### **Fall Ham & Beef Dinner**

Thank you to all who worked at the dinner, ate at the dinner, helped prepare for the dinner. We had a steady crowd and all had a good time. This time we would like to highlight the potato peelers who came in to peel potatoes for our famous potato filling: **Curt, Hoyt, Joanne Bilski, Dennis Blair, Faye Cochran, Phil & Elinor Giles, Judy Heins, Larry Kirk, Glenn & Sylvia Knouse, Brian Moyer, Ed Stewart, and Jerry Weyandt**. We thank **Peg & Curt** for roasting the meats, **Tim & Judy** for getting kitchen workers lined up, and **Terry Ventresca** for his leadership as head chef. The waiters, those setting tables and busing tables, the take-out crew, and all who worked in the kitchen, including scrapers and dish washers are much appreciated. The Women's Guild baked goods table had some wonderful items to sell (thank you to all who donated items). And there were beautiful items made for the door prizes. The dinners take a tremendous crew to get everything done. If you haven't helped at a dinner, join us in the spring! Thank you to all!

### **Halloween Thanks**

Thank you to all who donated to the Safe Halloween event and those who handed out food, cooked food, helped to set-up and clean-up. We had at least 500 people stop at our stand that night!

### **Giving Trees**

This year, the tree in the back of the sanctuary will hold suggestions for things that are needed by the Animal Rescue League. It will be the same idea as the angel gifts we bought in



# January

## Sundays in January

### Epiphany 1 Jan. 7

Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

### Epiphany 2 Jan. 14

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

### Epiphany 3 Jan. 21

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

### Epiphany 4 Jan. 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

Would you like to be on a list to receive an informational email from the conference once a week?



Would you be interested in visiting homebound members?

If you are interested, please let Marcia know in the church office.

the past, but instead of children, we will be getting things needed by the animals at the ARL.

If you wish to participate, you can take one of the suggestions from the tree, purchase it, and bring it back to church by Christmas Eve. There is no need to wrap the gifts.

The tree in the Ridgeway stairwell will be decorated with ornaments made by the Sunday School kids and these will then be given to our homebound members.

### **Letters to Santa**

Each year the American Cancer Society offers letters from Santa and phone calls from Santa for a donation to the Cancer Society. Last year a few of us volunteered to write some of these letters and we really enjoyed ourselves. If you would like to volunteer, please let Marcia know as soon as possible. They would like to know by the end of November.

### **Worship Resources**

#### **Order Poinsettias**

We are selling poinsettias which will be placed in church for December 24. The price is \$8 each. We have a choice of red, white, or jingle bell.

<b>Poinsettias</b>	\$8.00	Deadline to order Dec. 17
Name	_____	
#Red	_____	#White _____ #Jingle Bell
In memory of/in honor of:	_____	
Pick-up after late service Christmas Eve		

### **Christian Education**

Our Confirmation class has begun. They are meeting Sundays during the Sunday School hour. If you are interested in the class, talk to Pastor Selina.

We will be giving out stockings to the children on Christmas Eve. If you would like to donate candy or small trinkets, please give your donations to Bob Ames.

Note: There will be no Sunday School Christmas Eve morning.



### Giant & Redner's

Buy gift cards to use at Giant and Redner's to help Rosedale financially. Rosedale then gets 5% of the gift card sales. It is money you will spend anyway, so why not help Rosedale at the same time? Cards are available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 amounts.

If you have a Save-A-Tape card at Redner's, and you hand in your grocery receipts to us, we receive 1% of the total submitted.



### Upcoming Events at Lancaster Bible College

The Worship & Performing Arts Department presents a Nostalgic Christmas Journey highlighting classic stories and carols of yore Dec. 1, 7:00-9:00 pm, Dec.2, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, and 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

## Women's Fellowship

The Women's Guild will have a cookie sale on Sunday, December 10, after each service. If you would like to donate cookies to sell it would be appreciated. If you would rather make a cake or pie, that is welcome, too.

The Women's Guild would like to thank everyone who made and purchased sandwiches or baked goods this year. We love to see everyone coming up to the bake table to see what was made that day and try to decide what to take home for a treat. Your support is greatly appreciated and all of the Women's Guild profits help support Rosedale UCC. We will continue our bake sales next year.

The Women's Guild is accepting donations toward the fruit baskets they will make for our homebound members. The fruit baskets are delivered when our members go caroling. Donations can be given to any guild member or by putting an envelope in the offering plate and marking it "snack baskets."

The RADA cutlery catalogs are in the back of the church. All items are made in the USA and make great gifts.

### Ladies' Night Out

Our first ladies night out was a lot of fun and we will be planning another one very soon. Watch for the date or check with Alexis Ames.

## Rosedale Happenings

### Facebook Prayer Circle

On Facebook, Rosedale has a group exclusively for Rosedale members. We would like to start a prayer circle. When a prayer request is listed, each member who sees the prayer request would then say a prayer for that person. That way many prayers would be sent for that person or situation. All you have to do is join the Rosedale Group on Facebook to participate.

### Looking Forward to Chili!!

This will be our **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Dinner** on December 10. All those who can, bring a chili dish to share with others, and those who do not wish to do chili can bring cookies to share. This event takes place in the Social Hall immediately after the 10:30 am worship service. Mark your calendars! See you there!

### Rosedale Library

All kinds of books are available to be borrowed by any Rosedale member in our new library on the first floor. Come and browse the books available, and when you return them, place them in the basket for our librarians to re-shelve them.



## **UCC Updates**

### **Theology With A Twist**

Dec. 12 – Byron Borger –  
“Reading as a Subversive Practice, Books as Tools for Transformation: 10 Things Books Can Do For You”  
The second Tuesday of the month. 7:00 – 8:30 pm  
Kutztown Tavern, 272 Main St., Kutztown, PA 19530

### **Spirit on Tap**

Spirit on Tap is held the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Doubletree, 701 Penn St., Reading, 19601.

---

### **Check This Out**

[www.NewSacred.org](http://www.NewSacred.org)

#NewSacred

New Sacred is where progressive religion and progressive culture collide. They feature writers from popular sites such as *Huffington Post Religion*, *Religion Dispatches*, and *For Harriet*, as they tackle the taboos of church culture, trending topics, and personal triumphs and tragedies.



**A United Church of Christ Blog**

### **Thank you**

Thank you for all the cards and prayers from everyone and for Pastor Selina’s visits. They were much appreciated.  
Betty Reeser

### **Giving Envelopes**

Please consider giving to our **Families Helping Families** fund. There are church families who could use assistance – especially at this time of year. There are envelopes in the back of the sanctuary.

Included in the mailing of this letter is the **Advent envelope** which replaces the Advent coin folder. The money received in this envelope goes to current expenses.

Also in this mailing is the **Christmas Fund** envelope. This fund provides UCC congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in kindheartedness to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church and now find themselves facing worrisome financial needs. The Pension Board passes on this direct support so that real needs may be met and support may be felt.

There will be envelopes for **Erasing the Debt** and for the **Roof & Chimney** fund in the back of the church for your continued support in these areas.

### **Installation Thanks**

Thank you to **Bonnie Coller, Linda Kemmerling, Eva Fox, Alexis Ames, Nancy Henn, Mike Fowler, Steve Schory, Curt Hoyt, Marcia Reinert, and Karen Sandman** and all who helped with the set-up and planning for the reception after Pastor Selina’s Installation service in November. It was a very enjoyable day.

### **Join Us For Caroling**

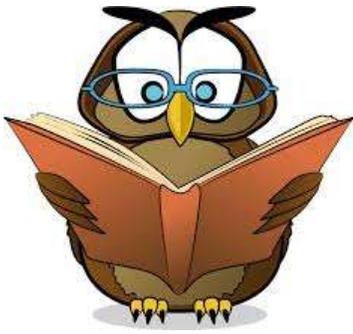
Please come out and enjoy our evening of caroling to homebound members. They really enjoy seeing us and are so happy to have us visit. Caroling will be on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We meet in the social hall and try to leave right at 6:00 pm, and we come back to the social hall to have cookies and hot chocolate.

### **End of Year Giving**

All giving for 2017 must be in by Dec. 31. Any giving after that will be put toward 2018.

### **Personal Giving Statements**

Statements will be available in church in January and mailed at the end of January.



**Rosedale Readers**

Don't forget to pass your books on Dec. 3 and Jan. 7!

**Join a committee – get involved!**

- Worship/Music Committee
- Evangelism Committee
- Executive Committee
- Property Committee
- Finance Committee
- Social Committee

Or –  
 Join Women's Guild.  
 Help at a dinner.  
 Express an interest in serving on Consistory.

**Lights & Heat**

When you leave the church after an event, be sure the lights are off, the heat is off, and the door is closed and locked after the last person is out.

**New Flower Chart**

Watch for a new flower chart to be posted in the Ridgeway stairwell.

**Annual Congregational Meeting**

Our Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon will be held January 28 following the second service. Please come and bring a covered dish to share.

**Annual Reports Due**

Please turn in or email your reports to the church office by January 2<sup>nd</sup>. They may be emailed to [rosedaleucc1301@yahoo.com](mailto:rosedaleucc1301@yahoo.com) or [church@rosedaleucc.com](mailto:church@rosedaleucc.com). All church groups and committees should submit a report.

**Financial**

**Facts 'N Figures  
November 2017**



	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Income</u>
11/5	7:45 AM - 18	
	10:30 AM - 69	\$ 7,633.82
11/12	7:45 AM - 20	
	10:30 AM - 53	2,815.92
11/19	7:45 AM - 23	
	10:30 AM - 56	5,123.15

Ave. Sun. Attendance – 80 Total \$15,572.89 (as of 11/24)

**Current Operating Statement**

Total "Current" Income – Oct.	\$18,472.65
Total "Current" Income – YTD	\$112,521.41
Total "Current" Interest Income – Oct.	\$467.57
Total "Current" Interest Income – YTD	\$6,598.35
Total "Current" Expenses – Oct.	\$13,080.28
Total "Current" Expenses – YTD	\$97,511.39
<b>Total Variance – over/(short) – Oct.</b>	<b>\$6,294.94</b>
<b>Total Variance – over/(short) – YTD</b>	<b>\$3,982.38</b>

**There is now a donate button on our website for your convenience!**

**2018 Offering Envelopes**

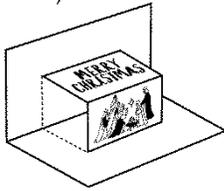
Your 2018 offering envelopes are in the rear of the sanctuary. When you pick up your envelopes, please take along those for family members and close neighbors also. This will help us distribute them as quickly and inexpensively as possible.

# POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

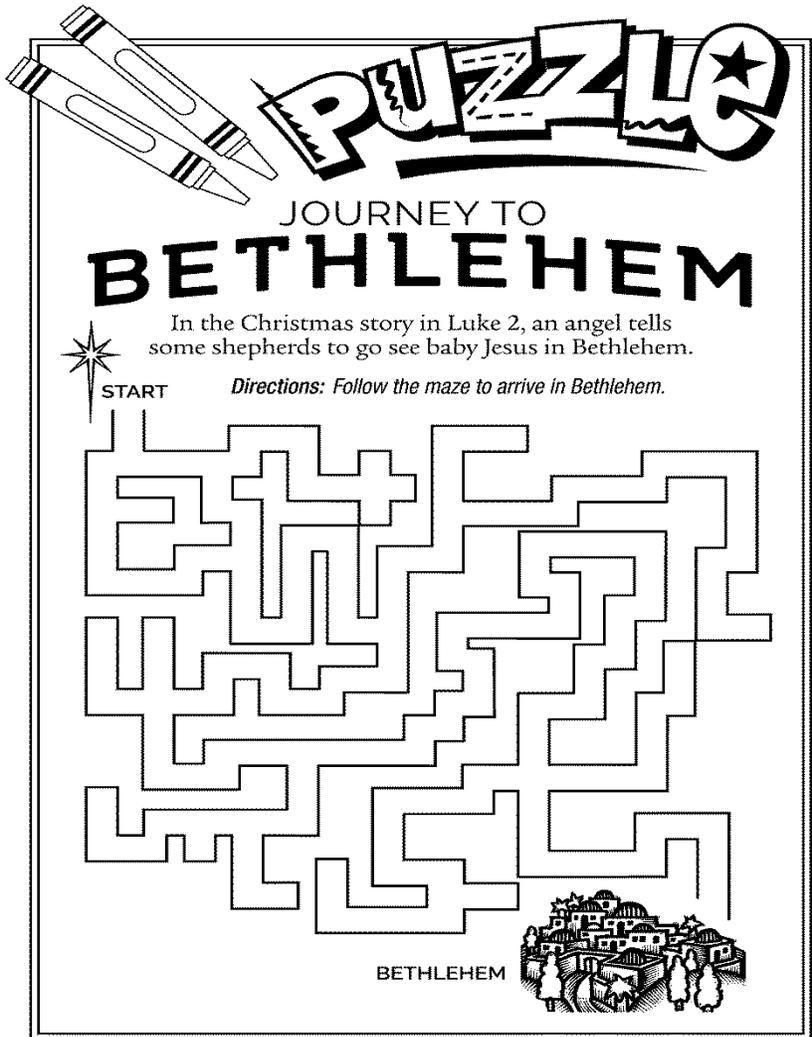
## What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



## What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.



*"A smile is a curve that sets everything straight."*

—Phyllis Diller

*"Kindness is like snow—it beautifies everything it covers."*

—Kahlil Gibran

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."*

—Martin Luther King Jr.