



Jarrettown United Methodist Church
1460 Limekiln Pike
Dresher, PA 19025-1116

**Making Disciples • Relieving Suffering
Glorifying God**



**Winter
2018/2019
NEWSLETTER**

Footprints

**Jarrettown United
Methodist Church**
1460 Limekiln Pike
Dresher, PA 19025
215-646-4129

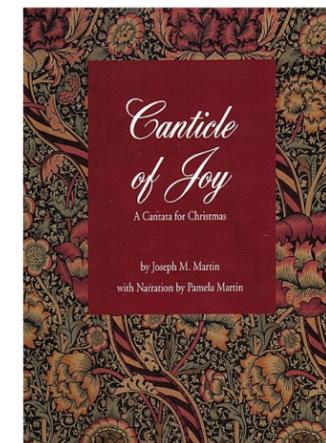
JarrettownUmcOffice@gmail.com
Jarrettown.Church

***Weekly Opportunities
for Worship***

Sunday
8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Contemporary Worship
10:20 Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Worship

Wednesday Night
Informal Worship
7 pm Friendship Center

In addition to every Sunday at
8:00 am, *Holy Communion* is
celebrated the first Sunday of
each month at
9:15 am and 11:00 am



JUMC's
Chancel Choir
presents
**CANTICLE OF
JOY** on
Sunday,
December
16th at 11 am



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Worship Services
4:00 & 7:00 pm**

***In His Steps
(Annual Stewardship
Campaign)
Luncheon
Sunday, January 27***

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Worship Services
4:00 & 7:00 pm**

A Message from the Pastor

GOD WITH US

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

(Luke 1:22)

A remarkable thing happened that first Christmas, just as Isaiah had prophesied 700 years earlier – Jesus was born as Immanuel – which means "God with us!" Jesus, the Son of God, became the Son of Man, fully divine yet fully human. This was God *with* us. Not God out of reach – out there somewhere. Not God cold and distant. Not God angry and condemning. But God with us.

In a season often marked by frenzied busyness, Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas) is an opportunity to set aside time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Our worship services are designed to help us place our focus on the greatest gift ever given – and to experience his presence in our lives today.

One of our traditions during Advent is the lighting of the candles on the Advent wreath. A circular evergreen wreath represents God's never-ending love for us. And the lighting of the candles throughout the season represents Jesus' coming to a world lost in darkness. Isaiah 9:2 says, *"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."*

May the Holy Spirit lead you as you embark on a journey of hope, love, joy, and peace – and ultimately to a deep encounter with God with us.

Our Advent/Christmas schedule looks like this:

- December 2 – God with Us Brings Hope (Love Feast during worship)
- December 9 – God with Us Brings Love
- December 16 – God with Us Brings Joy (Choir cantata at 11:00)
- December 23 – God with Us Brings Peace
- December 24 – God with Us (Candlelight services at 4:00 & 7:00 pm)

May God be with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

Pastor Bob

Reminder - **In His Steps Commitment (Annual Stewardship Campaign) Luncheon** will be on Sunday, January 27 in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15. Look for your packets after the week of Christmas.

Music Notes



JUMC's Chancel Choir & Chamber Orchestra present Joseph M. Martin's CANTICLE OF JOY on Sunday, Dec. 16th at 11am.

Is it not a profound blessing that we celebrate our Lord's birth in December? It always comes at just the right time; in the bleak of winter when days are shorter, nights are colder, and memories of springtime are fading. It is then that Christmas comes sweeping into our lives with song and celebration.

Against the silence of our spiritual winter, heaven's song of joy leaps into hearts with angelic alleluias and jubilant Glorias! This special time connects us all with our shared heritage of song and faith and decorates our lives with hope for tomorrow. When our candles burn low, it is our sustaining light. When trees stand barren against the sky, it grants us a clearer vision. When the night is silent, it is our lullaby of peace. Let the music of Christmas reawaken the promise of God's presence and love in our lives and remind each of us that our faith is a song worth singing -- a Canticle of Joy that is made all the more glorious when it is shared- Joseph M. Martin

Participating in JUMC's Choir or Praise Band is a great way to make new friends or strengthen existing relationships while using your gifts for the glory of the Lord. If you would like more information, contact SHERI MELCHER or FRANK MALFI

Does Your Child Love to Sing?

All children are welcome to join the JUMC Children's Choir. Practice is held every Thursday at 6 pm, and is located in the Kid's Choir Room, which is across from the Music Room.



The Children's Choir sings and plays the bells in church once a month at the 9:15 am and 11 am services. For more information, contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar at jumc.childrens@gmail.com.

Looking to join a **Sunday morning Adult Sunday School**? Then meet us in the Library at 9:30 am. For more information, contact Marilyn Mansfield at mansfield84@gmail.com



Interested in a **Seekers Class**? We meet Sunday mornings at 10:00 am in the Resource Center. For more information contact Bill Ackerman at backerman1@verizon.net



Thrive Youth Events

On Saturday, Nov 3rd three of our youth joined the Sew-Haat crew at JUMC from 9-11 to make pillowcases and no-sew blankets for OHAAT. They did a great job under the direction of our experienced pillowcase makers.

We will help deliver beds with OHAAT on Saturday, December 29th.

We will also join Gloria Dei youth for a Friendsgiving Fellowship dinner on Friday, November 30th. Some of the youth that attended the winter retreat with us last year are a part of that group. They also have a small group so we may do more fellowship events together this year in addition to our volunteer days.

Some of our youth are now serving as part of the tech team for worship services!

JUMC MOPS: Learning, Sharing and Growing Together

The Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) have been meeting monthly at JUMC to enjoy some "mom time" and to get know each other, as we have a lot of new members this year! We have been partaking in fellowship, fun crafts and activities, and have enjoyed a few guest speakers, including Bobbie Burkhardt, a professional organizer, and Pastor Bob, who discussed remembering and teaching our children the true meaning of the Christmas season during such a busy time as a parent.

The new year will bring more guest speakers, fundraisers and an Aid for Friends service project.

A LuLaRoe Fall Fundraiser was held in October in the JUMC parking lot. Thank you to everyone who came out to support us.



Our group meets on the third Tuesday morning of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 am. We welcome all moms of babies and young children to join and celebrate the journey of motherhood together! Childcare (nursery and preschool) is provided by wonderful members of JUMC. Childcare volunteers are needed – please contact Debbie Ackerman if you would like to help.

If you are a mom and would like to join us or have a mom in your life that would benefit from some quality time with other mothers, please share this information with them. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information or to register, please call Lisa in the church office or email the group leaders at jumcmops@gmail.com.

Unstuck Update

The Jarrettown Unstuck Team that was formed in July is still working to help us navigate the future of our church. We want our church to be a church that your children and grandchildren will want to be part of. We have 3 main action initiatives that we are currently working on related to leadership development, worship and communication. We are also developing our long-range vision so that we can be aligned with where God is leading. We have received some great feedback and we continue to look for your input. But even more important, we invite you to volunteer to get involved.

Leadership Development (Team Leader: Greg Diehl)- In this area we are reworking the organizational grid of the Church to focus on our mission. It is an all encompassing project that involves every area of the Church, not just the Council. In most areas there won't be any modifications, just the way they are organized. There will also be some new opportunities for leadership. The top line grid is just about complete although it is still fluid at this time. At some point soon I will be reaching out to many of you for a brief description of what you do so that we can develop a program that a visitor would be able to understand.

Worship Experience (Team leader: Frank Malfi) - The Worship Experience team has several items on the agenda to work through. Several members are currently "secret shopping" other local churches to get a sense of the worship experiences they receive as they arrive and take part of the services that they attend. So far there's a pretty diverse set of experiences based upon the early feedback, but the team will meet again in early December to discuss those experiences and how they may be able to help shape some of Jarrettown's future worship service offerings. The team will be looking at many aspects of the worship, including the music, children's ministries that are integrated, the format of the services (contemporary, traditional, blended, etc.) and the times that they are offered. More to come on what ideas this may generate for Jarrettown in the near future!

Communications (Team leader: Jean Graber) – The communications team is working on streamlining communications. We hope to improve how we communicate as staff, leadership, and as a congregation. We also want to focus and improve on our strengths - the great work we do to serve others through our many missions. Our congregation is very supportive of serving others with their donations and volunteer time. We will be working to show the community this side of Jarrettown and invite them to join us. This coming year we will be meeting with as many of you as we can to share what we have been working on and how you can get involved.

A Minute with the Trustees

2018 has been a year of Progress for Jarrettown. We've been following our schedule of replacement and repair to insure our Church remains in tip top shape. None of this would be possible without your support. Remember, just \$5.00 extra per week per member, *dedicated to the capital campaign*, makes it possible to keep Jarrettown in the shape we're all proud of.

JUMC Family Ministry



Fun at the Annual Fall Church Picnic

We were blessed to have a beautiful day for the annual church picnic in September. Over 120 attended and enjoyed an afternoon of good food, great music, fellowship and fun games. Who doesn't love a good whipped cream pie eating contest.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to make the day an extra special one.

Another Great Trip to the Farm

JUMC's second annual trip to Freddy Hill Farms was held in October. It was a fun family day filled with pig races, hayrides, pumpkin picking and, of course, ice cream!



Caroling Night Spreads Holiday Cheer

Join us for our annual Christmas Caroling and Pot Luck Dinner on Sunday, December 16. Everyone is welcome, so please bring your family and friends, and don't forget the kiddos. Our smiling faces and cheerful voices will surely bring some happiness to others during the Christmas season.



Meeting time is 4 pm in the church parking lot. You can take the church bus and/or van or you can follow in your own car. We will visit two local Retirement Communities. Upon our return, there will be a Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall. If you are joining us for dinner, please bring a side dish or main dish (serving for 6) to share. If you would like to bring a plate of cookies as well, that would be appreciated. Drinks will be provided.

Please fill out the sign-up sheet in the lobby, so we can plan accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa.

FAMILY PLAYGROUP COMING IN JANUARY - We will have our first family playgroup meeting on Sunday, January 13th from 11-1 in Fellowship Hall. All families with children are invited to attend. We will have informal activities for the children while adults fellowship together. Families should bring a snack/lunch item to share with the group. There may be a mission project or other activities planned also. For more information, contact Jean Graber.



MLK Day of Service – January 21, 2019

We will again this year be offering volunteer opportunities on Jan 21, for MLK Day of Service. How can you get involved?!



We will be doing some projects to support OHAAT. We will stuff teddy bears, make no-sew blankets and sew pillowcases from 10am-12pm with pizza for lunch. We will use Thrivent Action Teams to purchase supplies for OHAAT projects and lunch. (Teddy bears to stuff, pillowcases and no-sew blankets).

The girl scout groups that meet at JUMC will be participating again this year, as well as other groups and members of JUMC.



On the same day, we will be hosting a "Rise Against Hunger" event from 9:30-11:30. Check out their website for more info about meal assembly. <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org>. Rise Against Hunger is working along with other organizations to eliminate world hunger by 2030. They make it easy for people to package lots of meals during this fun event.

There is a cost involved for Rise Against Hunger. We will be making over 17,000 "meals" at a cost of \$.34 each. I will be looking for local businesses who may be interested in partly sponsoring our event. If you know someone who may be interested in partnering with us for this event please let me know. The Plumstead Christian School and others who participated last year are planning to attend again. The Plumstead school families will also have the opportunity to donate.

If you can help with set up 7:30-9 or clean up 11:30-1, please let Jean Graber know. Look for more info closer to MLK Day. If you would like to help with anything please let Jean know.

NEW OHAAT Sew-Haat Ministry

Nancy Larsen is leading this ministry. The group will meet the first Saturday of each month from 9-11am to make pillowcases. (except December because of Ladies tea). Nancy is planning on teaching anyone interested in learning how (she even taught me). Michele Scholtz will also be available for anyone who would like to make no-sew blankets. All pillowcases and no-sew blankets will be given out through OHAAT and their Beds for Kids program. On November 3, 16 people attended and made 4 no-sew blankets and 46 pillowcases. The pillowcases were delivered by the Jarrettown Group on Saturday November 10th.



Do you enjoy knitting? Would you like to learn? Our visitation team would love to have some new **prayer shawls** to bring to those who are under the weather. We will provide **EASY** directions (knit 3, purl 3) and yarn if needed. People REALLY appreciate receiving this reminder that God and their church family cares for them and wishes them a speedy recovery. Contact the church office with any questions - 215-646-4129.

Greetings from Living Hope High School & Connie Damon in Kenya!

What Does It Take to Run a School in Africa? - It takes prayer, faith, courage, flexibility and perseverance. It takes doing without the luxuries we have here in the U.S. Many times there is no electricity and the generator breaks down making it necessary for water to be carried by the bucket-full up through the fields from the stream.

The Principal, teachers and Staff need to be paid for their services. There are wood choppers and cooks who prepare meals for the 86 students. There's a van driver, office manager and the person who takes care of the livestock. Locals are hired to maintain the buildings and "Mudders" come on an as-need basis to re-mud the cottages. One of the most important employees is Catherine, the nurse whose office is in the Healing Hut to help students in need.

Living Hope could not do without those here in the U.S. who are sponsors (like several JUMC members and the Adult Sunday School Class)-those who take on the responsibility of paying \$88/month so an orphan can stay at Living Hope for 4 years until he/she graduates from the school. There are those who work diligently to secure sponsors for the students, those who maintain the website and write the newsletter. Then there is our Accountant, based at Riverton UMC in West Virginia, who does a wonderful job of keeping the finances in order. Increasingly there are mission teams who go to Living Hope for 2 weeks at a time to help in leading Bible Studies, doing construction work.....whatever is needed.

Living Hope graduates show their appreciation for the gift of the Christian, high quality education they received by coming back when they can on holidays and volunteering their skills. The Healing Hut which we here at JUMC helped to fund was built by a former student who went on to and graduated from a technical school with a degree in building construction.

All of the above is amazingly coordinated by Marilyn Uhl, Founder and Manager of Living Hope. In just nine years she has been able to provide countless orphans with a high quality high school education in a Christian atmosphere. Her foresight and perseverance has, and continues to be, demonstrated daily as the school continues to grow and thrive.

MESHACK CAN SEE! - Meshack Kundu is a little boy who came to the first-ever Eye Clinic at Living Hope in August. He is a 12 year old that was born with one eye severely crossed. His mother had taken him to many eye doctors, but they were unable to help him. One of our JUMC members graciously paid for doctors to come to Living Hope for a 2-day program where the students, teachers and staff had their eye checked and those in need were given eye glasses. There was enough money left over to be able to send Meshack to one of the only two pediatric optometrists in all of Keyna. The surgery was a success. Meshack was fitted with special glasses which he wears all the time. The kids in his school call him "the Professor". He and his mother say "It's a miracle! Thank you."

PLANS FOR RETURNING TO LIVING HOPE - I have purchased my ticket for the NY to Amsterdam to Nairobi flight and for the shorter flight that will take me to within 2 hours of Living Hope. In Amsterdam I will meet the nurse with whom I will be working to test children for a variety of diseases and administer vaccines if needed. I plan to leave here on February 5th, returning after mid-month.

The money I have collected from the on-going Book Sale in the mission hallway will enable us to purchase the testing materials and vaccines we will use while I am there in February. So far you have donated \$142 of the \$400 needed. I am grateful for your help. Please keep reading and donating! I know Marilyn Uhl thanks you as well. Be sure to see a note from her on the bulletin board in the mission hallway.

Children's Sunday School

Join us for Sunday School! Classes for all ages begin after the Children's Moment at 9:15 am Service. Nursery Care is available during the 9:15 am and 11 am Services.

Classes: Preschool, Kindergarten & 1st Grade, 2nd & 3rd Grade, 4th to 6th Grade

Sunday, December 2 begins the Winter session of Sunday School. The children will continue to learn and grow in God's loving ways. This is also a fun time as they learn and celebrate the holiday season during their lessons and through activities.

We are still looking for a part-time teacher in the 4th to 6th Grade Classroom. If you have a calling to educate this great group of tweens and/or are interested in learning more about this role, please contact Lisa.

The 4th to 6th Grade class enjoyed participating in church on the 5th Sunday in September. They will be attending the 9:15 am Service again on Sunday, December 30. Also, some of our children in this class have been trained to acolyte, and have been doing a great job assisting during services.

Compassion Child - An offering is collected in the Sunday School classrooms each week. This benefits our child, Rebecca, from Compassion International. Our commitment to Rebecca is \$38 dollars a month. Any contribution you can make as a family is greatly appreciated, and helps Rebecca and her family. We ask that everyone prays that she will know the Lord and grow strong in Him.

Sunday School Check-In System

Just a reminder for parents/guardians to sign their child/children in and out for Sunday School. The Check-In Chart is located in the lobby to the left of the Sanctuary doors for sign in. The sheets are in your child's classroom for quick sign out when you pick up.

VBS - SAVE THE DATE...July 8 to 12, 2019!

Planning for VBS will begin in January 2019. If you are interested in being a part of this wonderful program for the children in our community, contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar.

Tweens Having Fun and Helping Others

On October 28, our tweens celebrated the fall season with a Tween Halloween Event filled with dinner/popcorn and a movie, a lesson on the meaning of All Hallows Eve and All Saints Day and fun games and yummy treats.



The tweens made vegetable soup for Aid for Friends on Sunday, November 18. They all learned how to prep, cook and package meals for those in need. The kids did a great job! Events for the winter months are in the planning stages. Contact Lisa for more information.



JUMC WOMEN'S MINISTRY - The Women of Jarrettown

Looking forward to the **CHRISTMAS TEA** on December 1. We will fellowship again this year in the Friendship Center at 11 am.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the **Ladies Night Out Social and Fundraiser**. Exact numbers are not in yet, but we made approx. \$600 for the missions supported by the Women of Jarrettown.

We are looking towards spring and having an **Attic Treasures and plant sale** in May. Look for more information to come!

As always, we pray that you and your families stay blessed.

WAWA SHORTIE COUPONS — 4 for \$15—Like hoagies? Then help us with our local missions fundraising. Coupons are available in the Welcome Center and church office.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES



A new women's small group bible study will meet Wednesday evenings monthly. We will be reading the book "Pew Sisters" by Katie Schuermann. Every woman in the pew has a story of God's Faithfulness, and women love to revel in one another's experiences and celebrate the sisterhood of believers. Pew Sisters helps get that celebration started. Join us beginning December 12th for a celebration of sisters and faithfulness. For more information, contact Kim Kellenbenz kolebenz@comcast.net 215-266-8983 or Jean Graber.

You are invited! There is also a Small Group meeting Sundays from 9:30-10:30am. The group is currently studying a book called "What is the Bible?" by Rob Dell. It's a deep look at stories in the Bible and what they teach us from a different and interesting perspective that really makes you think. For more information contact Jean Graber or the Church office.

Interested in learning about becoming a Small Group leader? Attend a small group leader training class being held on Wednesdays in January (9, 16, 23, 30) Tom Kerrigan and Cheryl Malfi are planning to recruit a group to be trained as small group leaders with the training curriculum for four weeks.



The **CARE TEAM** enables Jarrettown to supply meals to our members who are recovering from an illness or loss. If you hear of a need please contact Jean Graber. Also, we can always use more volunteers to make meals. When there is a need for meals there is a profile set up through the "Take Them A Meal" website. A link is sent to those on the list and they can sign up for available dates as they are able.

STAY CONNECTED! Never been on our on-line directory?

Go to Jarrettown.ccbchurch.com* (You can also access the directory through the website, **Jarrettown.Church-scroll to bottom of home page and choose Membership Directory**) click on the small blue words that say **Sign Up**. Type in your **email address** and a link will be sent to you. Contact the church office if you need some help. (*Chrome browser works best)

Once logged onto **Jarrettown.ccbchurch.com** you can explore all it has to offer, including **JUMC's Online Directory** with the people tab. **After Logging in - you can check out your Personal Giving Statement** by choosing **Involvement** and then going to the Financial box (need help? Call the church office).

WE would love to have an updated picture for the directory - stop in and we can take your picture or just email one to the office.

CONTACT WENDY IN THE OFFICE FOR HELP USING THIS GREAT RESOURCE!

**You can also access our facebook page & weekly sermons from the website—
"like us" on facebook!**

Challenge from Church Council

I would like to thank all of our Leaders who have remained in their position for as long as they have to maintain the consistency and continuity as we have navigated our way through what had been a difficult time. The last few years have brought us hope and normalcy and I credit Pastor Bob with making that happen. This year we will see the normal rotation of committee members and leaders and they will help us navigate through what we hope to be a period of growth and renewal.

As I sit here watching the first snow flurries of the season fall, I am reminded that time keeps moving forward and it is up to us to move forward also. One of the easiest ways to move forward is for you, as an individual, to assess your commitment to God and our Church. Do you, as an individual and as a family, feel comfortable with what you are giving on all five points of Stewardship? One of the rules I was taught as a child was that if I had a decision to make, could I look my Mother in the eye and tell her what I did and be proud?

Can you pray to God and be proud of the contribution of your finances and more importantly your time and effort to support the missions and ministries of our Church? I know a lot of you can and I want to help the rest of you to feel the power and satisfaction of giving.

Each new year many of us make self serving resolutions. I want to lose 10lbs, quit a habit, stop this or stop that. I challenge you to NOT stop something and rather to START something. I'm going to increase my pledge, I'm going on that Philabundance bus 6 times this year, I'm going to learn to garden and take a plot in the JVG, I'm going to help at the food pantry, I'm going to...the list of positive things you can do goes on and on. Instead of STOPPING something, START something wonderful! You will feel proud of yourself and your family and I know that God will be proud of you too.

God bless you all everyday! Greg Diehl

Missions

After a bountiful season the **Jesus Victory Garden** has been closed until spring next year. Our gardeners, both JVG and home, have provided nearly 1,000 pounds of produce to our cupboard in North Hills and to Manna on Main Street.



Though humidity, changeable weather, and pests conspired to damage crops, our dedicated gardeners worked hard to nurse the plants and increase the harvests. Our new crop this year was okra, planted at the request of Manna on Main Street. In addition to our vegetables, our oldest pear tree produced fruit and the blueberries went to North Hills rather than the birds. Gardeners will celebrate with a pizza party soon. We can always use more gardeners; so, if you have a green thumb or an interest in helping, even if you have never grown a plant, please consider signing up next year. We want to continue to be able to supply our community so please continue your commitments in 2019.

St. Philip's Community Meal continues its 18-year tradition of Wednesday lunches, ministry and worship to the neighborhood of Kensington. Needs are many: homelessness, substance addictions, legal issues, etc. The assistance you provide helps in their efforts. With love we ask that you keep them in mind when shopping for your own family—food items needed include canned fruits/vegetables, cereal, pastas, mac & cheese and canned soups. Place your donations in the "Feeding the Hungry" box in the Mission Center.

Speaking of feeding the hungry, our usual group of "riders" are still trekking down to South Philly to see what **Philabundance** has for them to do. On the fourth Tuesday of each month they gather in the church parking lot and depart at 5PM sharp. One exception was October, when a special event was scheduled for that night instead of the regular volunteer works. A "Hunger Simulation" invited volunteers from relief organizations as well as financial donors to take part in a program designed to make people aware of just what "hunger-challenged" means. Each volunteer was given an "identity" complete with name and life situation who then had to experience applying for and qualifying for different kinds of assistance, including SNAP, pantry and housing. They had to figure out transportation, time spent waiting for benefits and then at the end, meal planning for the "family." There was a survey of participants and the results are available on request (see Michele Scholtz for a copy).

Operation Christmas Child was again a program that this congregation feels inspired to support and support well. Over 170 boxes were dedicated along with over \$200 in cash donations for shipping costs.

September was a double hit – not only did we house, feed and transport three families in the **Interfaith Alliance** network, we gave our **Laurel House** appeal a wonderful response. Three large boxes of personal care items plus a check for \$240 were delivered following the end of the month. In addition, a group of Women of Jarrettown attended a fund-raising luncheon sponsored by Laurel's Loft, the lovely consignment shop in Lansdale. The speaker, Sarah Lopata, from Nicole's Place, gave a talk about the services from their locations in Lansdale, East Norriton and Huntingdon Valley.

As of this writing, the North Hills Food Cupboard is geared up for the holidays. We were able to put together 38 Thanksgiving dinner bags from a special collection of 432 pounds of food to go with the turkeys and pies from the Ambler location. Extra volunteers helping to distribute those dinners were greatly appreciated as were the volunteers who helped bag the donations. Our clients have made out their "wish lists" for their childrens' Christmas gifts. The main office in Ambler solicits donations from many sources and enables us to make Christmas bright for many of our folks.

Corner

Around 16 of us (mostly women, but a couple of great guys, too!) gathered in the Friendship Center on the first Saturday of November to make our no-sew blankets and pillowcases for OHAAT (**One House at a Time**). We got word that another church that had been sewing pillowcases discontinued their program and Nancy Larsen agreed that we could take it on. Our most recent donations to OHAAT included too many stuffed animals and books to count, sheets, pillows, blankets and 46 pillowcases and 4 no-sew blankets.



And then there's our **Angel Tree**. What a beautiful thing!! Every year it's loaded with gifts and wrapping supplies that will go to the Methodist Children's Home. You are indeed Santa's helpers and are blessed by it.

December's Mission of the Month, as usual, is the **Aid for Friends** appeal for Gifts of Warmth. Large sizes are preferable in things like sweat pants and shirts, socks, PJ's, hats, gloves. Remember that things like buttons and zippers can be difficult for many of our seniors so look for things that wrap or Velcro. And please make sure you don't throw out those leftovers!! Many meals are made from just such thoughtful planning. Trays are always available in the Mission Center.

A Glimpse into North Hills Food Cupboard - Many years ago, Bill and Barbara Baird asked me to help deliver donations from our church members to Mattie N Dixon's Community Cupboard in Ambler. The Bairds had been doing this for years. When they were no longer able to do it, I continued with this mission.

Mattie was still in charge in those days. She could always be found behind her desk, smiling and helping her neighbors. She had originally begun this mission in her home, but, when her doorbell would ring at all hours, she soon realized she would need to find a building, which she did. Churches, stores, etc, were used until the present building was donated. The cupboard has grown year after year, and has continually provided food and much more, such as clothing, housewares and financial assistance. Christine Bouley is the executive director.

Four years ago, we at Jarrettown church opened the North Hills Food cupboard. This cupboard is a subsidiary of Mattie N Dixon's cupboard. We serve the 19038 zip code at North Hills facility. It is a joy to be able to help people and to see their appreciation. We have gotten to know our clients and are happy to greet them each Thursday morning.

It is a joy to be a part of this mission - Bette Derr

 The **Red Cross** thanks all those who participate in the blood drives. The Red Cross has now collected more than 10,000 units of blood and this resulted in over 30,000 blood components over the 25 years of the Dresher Program. **The next blood drive will be on Thursday, January 3** from 1:30 to 7:30 at JUMC in the Fellowship Hall

There are times when those in our church family who are also Thrivent Financial members use their "Action Team" seed money to supplement ongoing ministries or fund new ministries at Jarrettown. If you are a Thrivent member and would like to participate or find out more information, contact the church office.