



NEWS of the 29 Churches of the York Association

York Association website:

www.yorkassociationucc.org

Email: YAPCCUCC@aol.com

**Partners in Blessing - Cooperative Mission,
Cooperative Ministry**

February 2015 - Newsletter

Mission Statement

We, the members of the York Association of the United Church of Christ, are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to represent Christ by:

- supporting one another in our covenantal relationship;
- calling clergy and laity to mutual accountability to the faith and order of the church;
- witnessing together to God's redeeming love.

(Adopted April 28, 1991)

Letter from the President

Question: "What sort of New Year's Resolution should a Christian make?"

With Christmas and New Year's Day behind us for another year, we now look ahead to a bright new 2015. Some of us have already made our resolutions. Some take it seriously. Some bid them farewell just after the clock strikes twelve. Some call it a Second Chance to Dream with Eyes Open.

People change with time, so do their aspirations. Seriously taken, a New Year Resolution is an opportunity to gauge our goals. The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make? Here are some suggestions:

Take It Easy: We know you work hard and play hard, but you probably also stress too hard and even think too hard! This year, give yourself a break from unnecessary stresses by slowing down. Forget running errands all day on your Saturdays. Instead,

give yourself the gift of a leisurely walk, a Sunday night movie, or an afternoon spent gardening.

Read the Bible: Reading the Bible is not only a great way to get in touch with God, but to relax and take time for yourself as well. Instead of spending your Monday evening watching reality TV reruns, reread your favorite verse in the Bible... or find a new one to help you get motivated for the New Year. There is definitely an amazing verse just waiting to become your mantra for living better

Go Gadget Free: Yes, we know your smartphone is fun and it's a great way to stay in touch with your friends and family, but it's also an addiction. Make a rule for yourself that involves turning off all computers, cell phones, tablets, etc. at least once a week (Sunday seems like the perfect day to us)! At first this may seem like it's hindering you from making connections, but it's actually going to help you make even deeper connections with those around you!

Remove Negative Elements: January is the perfect time of year to give up all the things holding you back from your best self yet! From negative friends to bad habits (smoking, drinking, gambling), it's time to clear out all of the things you spent 2014 complaining about. Make a list of anything and everything you find negative in your life and remove them while you can. Now is the time to make yourself happy, so do it!

Add Positive Energy: While you're removing all the negatives from your life, fill the void left behind with positive people and hobbies. Think about your funniest, most caring friends and ask them to lunch next weekend. Or, help yourself to stop obsessing with those cigarettes you're giving up by keeping a journal of positivity. Every time you get the craving to smoke, head to your journal to jot in everything you're thankful for in your life. You can also take up new hobbies like hiking, running, weight-lifting or yoga. Good luck with whatever you resolve to do this year!

Submitted by: Barbara Crum - President

Church Leader's Banquet Scheduled for April 19th

The Church Leader's Banquet has been held, for many years, in February and most year's the weather was not the most suitable. This year, the Parish Life Committee has scheduled it for **Sunday, April 19**. The location will again be at the Valencia Ballroom.

Attn: Pastors and church office personnel, please look for registration and other material, in your email inboxes in March.

Submitted by: Steven Roush, Sec – Parish Life Comm.

Around the Association

Shiloh UCC, West York

- The Church & Ministry Committee would like to extend a hearty welcome to the new pastor at Shiloh UCC, West York, **Pastor Sue D'heedene**. She was installed on January 18.

New Hope Fissel's UCC, Glen Rock

- New Hope Fissel's UCC, 3426 Fissels Church Rd., Glen Rock, PA 17327 will hold their Annual Family-Style Ham Supper and Bake Sale on Saturday, March 14, 2015. Serving begins at 3 pm. Tickets are available at the door. Handicapped Accessible. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the church office at 717.235.2033. All are welcome!

Submitted by: Glenda Smith

Heidelberg UCC – York City

- The Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus is coming to Heidelberg UCC, 47 W. Philadelphia St., York for a debut concert performance on



Friday, January 30 at 7 pm (snow date February 6). Their music is magical, their performances lively and fun, and their energy is contagious. There are no tickets needed; a free will offering will be taken at the door.

www.harrisburggaymenschorus.org

- Heidelberg UCC is also hosting a *Valentine's Day Dinner Dance* for Singles and Couples and Families and Friends on Saturday, February 14. It is a fund raiser for building renovations for the church.

5:00 pm - Appetizers/Dinner Music

5:45 pm - Dinner

7:00 pm - Dancing & Dessert

Tickets cost \$15 per adult, and \$7.50 for children. Contact Alison @ the church office for tickets and menu information.

Email: HeidelbergUCC@aol.com or

Call: 717.854.7125

Submitted by: Sue Barnes

March newsletter deadline is February 5.

The March newsletter will be emailed on February 15 from the Association President.

Newsletter Editor – Sue Barnes

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