



# NEWS of the 29 Churches of the York Association

York Association website:

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

## January 2016 - 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)

### **From the President**

Advent; the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event; a coming into place, view, or being, arrival. The period beginning four Sundays before Christmas, the coming of Christ into the world. Whichever one of these definitions you chose, Advent is a time of preparation, anticipation, and waiting. What is your tradition during these 4 weeks? Holiday parties, choosing just the right gifts to put under the tree, looking forward to seeing friends and family? Or is yours a more spiritual journey spent in prayer and affirming that Christ has come, that he is present in the world today, and that he will come again in power.

The world is going through horrendous and trying times. Fear has been instilled in many peoples' hearts. It is said that out of fear comes hope. There is a yearning for deliverance from the evils of the world, first expressed by Israelite slaves in Egypt as they cried out from their bitter oppression. It is the cry of those who have experienced the tyranny of injustice in a world under the curse of sin, and yet who have hope of deliverance by a God who has heard the cries of oppressed slaves and brought deliverance! O Come O Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel! May you all have a very Merry Christmas & a Happy and Hopeful New Year!

*Submitted by: Barbara Crum, YA President*

### **YORK ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION BANQUET Sunday, April 10, 2016**

This banquet will replace the Church Leader's Banquet. Gone is the old venue, keynote speaker and worship service. A new venue, new menu items and new program. The event will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 2000 Loucks Road, West Manchester Township. Additional details coming in January. Our still speaking god will be there in entertainment. Mark your 2016 calendar  
*Submitted by: Steven Roush, Secretary Parish Life Committee*

### **Jesus has Left the Building**

Emmanuel UCC (York) will be trying something new in January. Under the theme "Jesus has left the building," the congregation will gather somewhere other than our normal meeting place in the Monarch Room of the Courtyard Marriott in East York. On each of the fifth Sundays throughout the year, beginning with January 31st, we will either do a service project or worship and/or dialogue with another faith community instead of holding our standard worship and discussion hour. It is our intent and desire to become more deeply involved in service to our community and to be in dialogue with our sister faith communities, within and outside the UCC, including both Christian and other faith traditions.

*Submitted by: Rev. Mike Loser*

## ST. JOHNS UCC – RED LION Little Free Library



There's a new **Little Free Library** located at the front of St. John's United Church of Christ, 161 North Main Street, Red Lion, PA. The purpose of the Little Free Library is to provide books for people in our community and beyond. The books will appeal to all age groups from babies to adults. The concept is to "take a book, return a book" so that there will always be a varied selection available. The library is also registered on the Little Free Library's world map so that people who are traveling can find the nearest library to borrow from. The map can be found at [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org). We are very happy to provide this wonderful service to our church and our community. Please visit our Little Free Library soon.

*Submitted by: Wendy Tompkins*

Editor Note – Last week I drove past St. Paul's UCC, 205 W. Main St, Dallastown and they too have a "Little Free Library". How about your church?

### Organist Needed

Mt. Zion UCC in Spring Grove is looking for an organist. If anyone is interested, please call Cathy Brown at 717-880-2695. This position would include a 10:15AM Sunday service and a Wednesday 7PM practice. (The practice day is open to change).

## Around the Association

### St Jacobs UCC, 100 East George St, York New Salem

- St. Jacob's **Family Movie Night** January 15 will be showing: Inside Out. Doors open at 6:00PM and the Movie Starts at 6:30PM. Hot Dogs, popcorn, snacks, and drinks! Admission is FREE! Come and join us for a fun filled family night!

### Heidelberg UCC, 47 W. Philadelphia St, York City

- Plan to spend New Year's Eve at **HeidelBean Coffee House**. The downtown will be festive and our doors will be open from 7-10 PM to welcome in the New Year. Our band will be on the stage and our organist will be playing. Drop in for a bit or a while and enjoy the last moments of 2015 with Heidelberg friends.

### St. Paul's UCC, 205 W. Main St, Dallastown

- The church is hosting a **Children's New Year's Eve Party!** Children and families welcome to ring in the New Year on Thursday, December 31st. The party commences at 6:00 PM and children will enjoy many games and snacks! No charge to attend. At 7:00 PM St. Paul's will conduct a "countdown for 2016" and drop the official mascot! Make this fun children's event a tradition for your family on New Year's Eve! *Submitted by: Chris Raffensberger*

### Girl Scout Volunteers Needed

We are always looking for volunteers to help in many capacities. We will provide one-on-one training and support that allows you to be the best leader for girls. We are also always looking for meeting space. If you would be open to allowing Girl Scouts to use your facilities or for more information on volunteering please contact Holly Anderson at 717-884-5987 or [Handerson@gshpa.org](mailto:Handerson@gshpa.org). Thank you!

### Reminder: Join Us on Facebook

Please like and follow the **YA News & Views** group to keep up-to-date on what is happening in our Association. All pastors and lay members are encouraged to join our group page! Invite ALL!

### February newsletter deadline is Jan 7.

This newsletter (JANUARY) will be emailed on December 15 by the Association President, Barbara Crum.

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