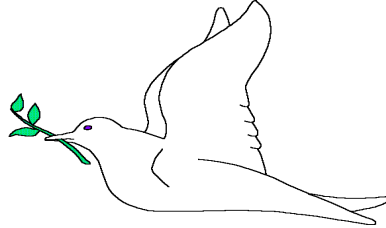


# St. Matthew's UCC White Dove Flyer

*"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"*



## Sunday Services and Activities

9am Worship

-----

Worship Services are being moved inside to sanctuary. We have a limit of 57 people allowed in sanctuary at one time. You can also listen in your car from the parking lot. Please bring your own elements on Communion Sunday.

## January 2021

**Pastor Suzanne Brooks-Cope**

**Secretary Office Hours are:**

**Mon-Wed-Friday 9am-1pm**

**Phone: 610-381-2442**

**Email: [stmatts@ptd.net](mailto:stmatts@ptd.net)**

**Website: [stmattsucckunkletown.com](http://stmattsucckunkletown.com)**

**Mr. Daniel Smale**

Organist/ Choir Director

**Mrs. Starlene Barr**

Treasurer

**Mrs. Rose Arace**

Pastoral Secretary

**Mrs. Staci Gower**

Christian Education



January 2021

Dear Members and friends of St. Matthews,

Howard Thurman wrote this poem:



When the star in the sky is gone,  
    When the Kings and Princes are home,  
        When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins.  
    To find the lost, to heal the broken,  
        To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,  
            To teach the nations, to bring Christ to all,  
                To make music in the heart.

By the time you get this, the left-over turkey or ham from Christmas dinner is probably gone as are the pumpkin and apples pies. Needles are falling from Christmas trees and any family that was brave enough to visit has probably returned home. It has been such a strange Christmas season—COVID19 made a huge dent in our normal routines and world. But Thurman was right—the work of Christmas has just begun.

The light of Christ has come. God with us, Emmanuel has entered into the darkness of our world—into the ICU rooms, into the loneliness of our seniors who are unable to see their loved ones, into the homes of our children learning their lessons by zoom, into the nurses' stations in our hospitals where our front-line health workers gather to collaborate, commiserate, and share their grief. Christ has come to the darkest corners of this planet—even the darkness of our souls. I encourage you to open the door and let him in to the darkness of your life. It has been a hard Christmas and the long winter months are ahead. So, we need his light more than ever. Take the time each day to see the light—his light shines in the phone calls from our friends, the zoom meetings with our family, the late Christmas cards that are arriving in our mailboxes, the squeals of children and grandchildren playing in the snow, the cardinals that perch on your fence and the sunshine that occasionally peeks through our grey winter skies. Take the time to search for the light of Christ in the ordinary events of your day. Then, remember that the work of Christmas has just begun. Let us help heal the broken soul, continue to work and donate to our food pantries, reach out to your neighbor who is struggling, support our small businesses and make music in an old person's heart.

I pray for our new year—I'm ready for a new year filled with hope, a COVID vaccine, and a year without a contentious election. I am blessed to be able to do the work of Christmas with all of you here at St. Matthews. My New Year's prayer is that we continue to make beautiful music in each of our hearts and in the hearts of all those we meet.

May the light of Christ shine within you,

*Pastor Suzanne*

## Happy New Year from CIA

One day as we were snowed in, Diane Huber sent a text to some of us showing an ad for a craft show now on line, that we frequented before this pandemic changed all our lives and kept us home. By the second or third text it was obvious that we may have been suffering from cabin fever. Although if truth be told, as many of you that may have attended a spring fling event of ours, you may have noticed we can tend to get a little wild and zany under normal circumstances. But in the process of our cabin fever, many of us were making it a soup day. Renee asked Linda for her hamburger soup recipe, Linda made my Cheese Normandy soup. Which grabbed my attention as to where she got the recipe from. **THIS IS THE SOUP THAT I MAKE EVERY YEAR FOR THE BAZAAR. MANY HAVE ASKED ME FOR THE RECIPE SO I PUT IT IN THE LAST RECIPE BOOK THE CHURCH DID (THE RED ONE). THERE IS A MISTAKE ON THAT RECIPE. IT TAKES 4 CUPS OF WATER NOT 1.** This led to the possibility of writing a retraction in the White Dove, to have a soup of the month in the White Dove, bringing Julia, Martha, and Paula out of retirement and doing videos on the website, to the food network channel... By now you get the picture. Anyway we did decide to go with the recipe of the month (for now) and we decided to do the Cheese Normandy Soup first so we could correct the mistake in the cookbook. If you know anyone who may have gotten the cookbook and may not get the White Dove, maybe you could share the correction with them. And stay tuned to see what may be next with this lovely bunch of coconuts...

In any case, we would like to live up to our CIA (Christians In Action) title and reach out to each and everyone with a touch of faith as well. We pray that 2021 will be a Happy and Healthy New Year for everyone.

This pandemic has been a horrible experience. And though this is coming from a somewhat pessimistic person, I would like to challenge you into finding something positive that may have come out of this for you. I googled for a verse about, "God being in control". A site came up that I use for audio Bible (as many of you know I don't like to read, I am not good at it). 10 Bible verses to remember that God is in control. [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com) I was going to pick one but decided to give you the site so you may read all 10 and pick your favorite. The site is better at explaining them than I am. Those of you that do not do computer look up Deuteronomy 31:8. I hope that gives you some comfort. I guess I can say that for me, this pandemic has given me more time with God. Heh, maybe that's what He wants. Thoughts to ponder. God bless you all.

## Cheese Normandy Soup

from: Diann Bittenbender

1 lb. bag of broccoli,  
cauliflower, & carrot mix  
1 slice finely chopped onion  
4 c. water  
4 chicken bouillon cubes  
1 stick butter  
7 Tbsp. flour

2 c. milk  
1—12 oz. can of evaporated milk  
1—8 oz. package of cream cheese  
1 ½ c. shredded cooper cheese  
¼ tsp. salt  
¼ tsp. pepper

Cook vegetables with water and bouillon cubes until tender then mash in pot. DO NOT POUR OFF WATER. While the vegetables are cooking make the white sauce. To make the white sauce, in a large sauce pan melt butter, remove from heat and add flour to make a paste. Add milks and return to heat, stir well until smooth. Continue to heat stirring occasionally until thickened. And cheeses, salt, and pepper. When cheeses are melted, add white sauce to the vegetables and broth.



- |                    |                  |                        |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Diane Huber      | 8 Betty Kleintop | 20 Carol King          | 29 Katelin Arace |
| 2 Riston Barr      | 9 Henry Krechel  | 20 Linda Koehler       |                  |
| 2 Jessie Ziegenfus | 9 Ashley Smith   | 21 Jennifer Ray        |                  |
| 5 Donna Waltz      | 11 Leslie Byrne  | 21 Larry Smale         |                  |
| 6 Kim Buskirk      | 14 Jeffery Gower | 24 Kurt Eckhart        |                  |
| 6 Rodney Smith     | 15 Jennifer Hall | 24 James Smith         |                  |
| 7 Lynn Byerly      | 16 Carl Kocher   | 25 Kathy Beidleman     |                  |
| 7 Catherine Dotter | 16 Bonney Kresge | 26 Charolette Kleintop |                  |
| 7 Debbie Kemmerer  | 17 Hailee Snyder | 26 Wanda Wunder        |                  |
| 7 David Kreiser    | 19 Ryker Barr    | 28 Rachel Frable       |                  |



**Welcome to our council the following people:**

**RJ Cramer**

**Cheryl Dorshimer**

**Jessica Slawter**

**Thank you to George Huber,**

**Starlene Barr,**

**Diann Bittenbender,**

**Katelyn Hefflefinger,**

**Henry Krechel**

**For your 3 years of service.**

**Winter Weather  
Delays & Closings**

Incase of inclement weather, please call the church office for any cancelations of meetings or services being cancelled. We will leave a message on the machine if we are going to cancel. If there is no answering machine picking up, that means there is no electric and we will not be having service.

**NOVEMBER FINANCIAL INCOME COMPARISON**

Income for November 2020	Income for November 2019
	11/3/19-9am- 112 Attending-\$4,050.22-All Saint's Day
11/15/2020-50 Attending- \$2,385.20	11/10/19-9am- 68 Attending-\$2,092.22
11/22/2020-46 Attending- -\$1,457.22	11/17/19-9am-104 Attending—\$2,095.22- Baptisms
11/29/2020- 50 Attending—\$1,426.22	11/24/19-9am-65 Attending—\$1,513.22

## Staci's Stuff

By Staci Gower, coordinator of Christian formation

Welcome to 2021. The outgoing 2020 year was one in which we spent a lot of time at home – or close to it most of the time; we faced many challenges; we learned a great deal about our strengths as an individual and as a family; we explored our backyards and local parks; we crafted; we created; we baked; we prayed; we worshiped in new places; and we found creative ways to stay connected while maintaining distance. I suspect that most of 2021 will be a continuation of the way we adapted last year. Our goals and resolutions will continue as we meet each day head on. I hope our Christian Education program continues to inspire and teach your children.

Virtual Sunday School will continue through mid-May. Each week, one of our six teachers plans a lesson around a Bible story. She provides videos, discussion, songs, a craft, and various activity sheets. The lesson is available here: <https://stmattsucckunkletown.com/sunday-school>.

I will lead the January 3 lesson, which includes a New Year's song and coloring page and two animated videos about the Bible's Old Testament (which we finished with Jonah and the Whale) and the New Testament (which we began with Mary and Joseph expecting a baby). The rest of the time on January 3 may be spent catching up on lessons you missed, that are on our Sunday School archive page.



Here are the other lessons this month: [January 10, An angry king](#); [January 17, Jesus is lost](#); [January 24, John baptizes Jesus](#); and [January 31, Jesus chooses his disciples](#).

Keep sending in those photos of your kids doing the lesson and crafts. Ms. Jessica will put them on the website. Email us: [stacigeorge0317@gmail.com](mailto:stacigeorge0317@gmail.com) and [wjlawt02@gmail.com](mailto:wjlawt02@gmail.com).

Happy Birthday on January 10 to Tyler Weidman, one of our Confirmation students. Many of you know him from Vacation Bible School, as he has been a youth helper for the past few years!

Get ready for a fun evening of snow tubing! We will meet at Blue Mountain Ski Resort on Saturday, January 23 at 3:15 p.m. Our tubing session will be from 4-7 p.m. For the group rate, we need at least 15 participants ages 3 and up. Please see me to sign up in advance. Here is the link regarding COVID-19 measures: <https://skiblumtn.com/safety-precautions/>.

Our nursery remains closed. I will continue to hand out activity sheets at the beginning of worship. These sheets usually correspond to my children's message of the day.

For more information or to enroll your child(ren) in the Sunday School class, please contact Staci Gower at 610-283-4696 or [stacigeorge0317@gmail.com](mailto:stacigeorge0317@gmail.com).

# **St. Matthew's UCC Prayer List**

(As of publishing date Dec 22, 2020)

**We Join In Christ's Prayer For Our Church Members at  
Various Personal Care Residences or Our Homebound and Friends  
Who Need Extra Prayers.**

**Lorraine Borger, Jesse Ziegenfus,**

Getz Personal Care Home  
1026 Scenic Drive  
Kunkletown, Pa 18058

**Gladys Lindenmoyer**

Glucoc Lodge  
1127 Kemmertown Road  
Stroudsburg PA, 18360

**Joyce Smale**

Pleasant Valley Manor  
4227 Manor Drive  
Stroudsburg, Pa 18360

**Lillian Kleintop**

Attleboro Village  
290 E Windchester Ave Apt 404W  
Langhorne, Pa 19047

**Arlene Kresge & Lila Kleintop**

Mrs. Bush's Personal Care  
302 Kunkletown Road  
Kunkletown, Pa 18058

**Catherine Dotter**

The Walden III  
325 N Broadway  
Wind Gap, PA 18091

**Alton Kleintop**

The Summit At Blue Mt.  
211 N 12th Street  
Lehighton, Pa 18235

*Please pray for the following:*

Shirley Borger, Doug Hawk, Bill Slawter,  
Eliza Dymond, Janet Gower, Grace Everett,  
Alton and Lila Kleintop, Allen Kramer-Moyer,  
Bruce Eckhart, Gladys Lindenmoyer,  
Erica Pozza, McCoy Rapa,  
Rosemarie Stranahan, Ralph Wunder,  
Lynda Edwards, Janet Fowler, Shirley Smith,  
Andrea Holec, Chapman and Mason Buskirk,  
Brayden Wunder, Kelly George, Kim Cope,  
Josh and Kevin Engler, Mae Borger,  
Gladys Meixsell, George Keller,

