

# January & February

Volume 199 - Issue 199 - January & February 2019

## Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

### Jottings from Joy

*2 Thessalonians 3:16 Amplified Bible (AMP)*

*Now may the Lord of peace, always grant you peace and in every way [that peace and spiritual well-being that comes to those who walk with LOVE from above, regardless of life's circumstances]. The Lord be with you all.*

Seems funny to be thinking of January during Christmas! Yet, a sense of peace is in common for both times! January brings calm, rest, and sigh of relief! A new year yet familiar territory in that resolutions again get tried, sometimes last, sometimes don't. Families again go their own ways to responsibilities, locations near and far and routines resume. Some go to Christmas sales and get bargains for the next Christmas. Other's make plans for the next holiday Martin Luther King and Presidents Day.

How can this January be exceptional peace for each? What could give you lasting, sturdy, strong, certainty that all is well with your soul no matter what? I urge you to seek that inner Spiritual centered calm and seep in it so that this year will not only start with an inner reconciled soul but continue throughout this year and beyond so that no matter what occurs in the coming year, your spiritual being is solid and connected to Emmanuel!

Peace and Love, Pastor Joy

### Pledge Commitment

As we finish out the year, please remember to fulfill your 2018 pledge commitment. You will receive a letter in Jan. for income tax purposes stating your donation. Thank you to all who pledged for the upcoming 2019 year.

### Confirmation Class to Begin

Attention all parents off 6<sup>th</sup> graders and up as of January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, another confirmation class of our awesome youth will begin. We will meet Monday nights, from 6pm to 8pm and discover how much God is in our lives! There will be a field trip each month and possibly have a retreat at the end depending on the group! The process is guided through the book titled "Confirm" and it is based on Our Founder, John Wesley's balanced source of living our faith according to reason, experience, scripture, and tradition.

Parents will be expected to be part of the process by driving, attending at least one of the meetings and or trips. Much is in store and sign ups will occur at the first meeting so families can plan ahead. At the first meeting the calendar, itinerary, and expectations will be shared with the youth and at least one parent of each youth attending. It is expected that they will be received into the church community on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, communion Sunday in Lent and two weeks before Easter!

Hopefully they will be planning and leading one worship along the way. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Joy at her home number 518-621-7313 or via email at [joylow69@gmail.com](mailto:joylow69@gmail.com). Thank -you for the privilege of assisting your youth in part of their life long faith journey.

### Administrative Council News

The Administrative Council met on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

- Financial Reports were submitted for approval. .
- Committees reported on what each has been doing in the past month. Though several committee chairs were absent, information was given to the council.

Old business was addressed.

- Men's Group will be getting together to clean stoves in Fellowship Hall. May be on Hold till after Holidays.
- General (Charge) conference will be on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Women's Group will be meeting to put together some gifts for the Bazaar.
- The Christmas Bazaar will be on December 1<sup>st</sup>. with Jill Walton chairing the event.

New business was discussed.

- Women's Group agreed to change their name to Friendly Circle.
- Instead of Poinsettias, there will be Tea Lights being sold for Christmas Eve. The proceeds will go to support Campership Application Fees.

Check the website for updated information on coming events.

The website is: [www.centerbrunswickumc.com](http://www.centerbrunswickumc.com). Our next meeting is January 10 at 7:30p.m.

### CBUMC Woman's Group

The Woman's Group of Center Brunswick United Methodist Church will not be meeting in January or February due to weather concerns. The upcoming meeting will be held on March 16 at 10:00 a.m. Anyone is welcome to join. Contact Judy (518)577-6885 [momriston@yahoo.com](mailto:momriston@yahoo.com)) or Lana (518)326-3636 ([lanamae@gmail.com](mailto:lanamae@gmail.com))

### Bell Choir

There will be NO Bell Choir rehearsal in Jan. Rehearsals will resume on Monday, Feb 4.

### CBUMC Weather Related Closings

The Church will be using an automated closing system. If the church needs to cancel worship due to inclement weather conditions you will find the information broadcasted on one of the following media sites: The Times Union, WFLY-FLY92, WGY-810WGY, WNYT/WNYA TV, WRGB/WCWN TV, WRVE-The River, WTEN/WXXA TV-WYJB, B-95.5, Spectrum Local News

### Updates & Corrections to Contact List Birthday - Anniversary

Update for Evelyn Brustman - Birthday: November 21. Address: 4500 Oakhurst Blvd, #326 Harrisburg, PA 17110. Phone: (717) 350-1083 [brustmane@aol.com](mailto:brustmane@aol.com)

### Guided Footsteps at The Center Brunswick United Methodist Church - Sunday, January 13

"Guided Footsteps" is a liturgical dance group from the Emmaus United Methodist Church. This group wants to perform and share their dance ministry in a way that would appeal to all. With the assistance of dedicated adult volunteers, the youth formed the group, scheduled rehearsals and raised funds for uniforms. The youth range in age from 9 to 18 years of age and are a culturally diverse group of young people with a choreographer, Dayshawn Jones, who is a young person dedicated to dance.



The music they dance to is inspirational and focuses on praising and rejoicing in the spirit. The week before, Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany Sunday) all youth and children meet at Jubilation station, (The building behind the church) at 11am to meet with the Emmaus dancers and learn a step or two and get to have fun with youth of various cultures! ALL WELCOME!

These young people have demonstrated their faith and commitment to this dance ministry for the past several years. Their enthusiasm and joy is a visible witness to their walk in faith and the joy they show in this ministry is uplifting. Their next performance is at the United Methodist Church, Center Brunswick, 990 Hoosick Rd, Troy, NY, Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at Sunday Morning Family worship 9:30 am. All are welcome to come and be spiritually inspired by youth praising God in Body, Mind and Spirit!

### Continual Missions

Did you know every third Sunday is food Sunday? Folks can bring food for the Pittstown food shelf, place it in basket in the entrance way) and Helen and Ed Godfrey (THANKS to them!) deliver it along with bags brought for distributing the food. The bags also go to Unity House and for mats for the homeless (Hope to have a speaker in January about this!) So, continue to bring them in and put in the cloth bag hanging on the bulletin board or near there!

Bottles Bucket in new place! The elevator room is always open and bottles are welcome to go in the large garbage bucket anytime! Please rinse bottles and de-cap (caps can shoot out from machines and cause harm). Also, only deposit bottles which have not been rejected. The amount is growing and will start to be used for the confirmation youth expenses! Thanks to Betty Schott for keeping an account!

Medicine bottles -starting in February thru March will again be collected for that month. If you cannot store them til then contact Pastor Joy and she will take them. These are used to distribute meds overseas!

The Special Sunday in January, 2019 to give beyond our Church, and local community is January 20<sup>th</sup> *Human Relations Sunday* for those living in the margins of society, struggling to survive. People like: An immigrant teenager in Texas' poorest county, being recruited by a local gang, a father struggling for sobriety in Little Rock, Arkansas, an Oklahoma woman recently released from incarceration looking for work. Focus is on those Jesus served the least, the last and the lost!

Finally! We continue to serve Damian House a ministry that is within the oversight of Troy Area United Ministries! The fourth Monday of the month we take a meal to 372 Second Ave in Troy (THANKS to Helen and Ed.) where 30 to 40 people ranging in age from babies to adults are provided a meal! As hunger has grown, this population has also grown. This mission of hands on is much appreciated. The Confirmation class will be touring TAUMS, providing and serving the meal in February!

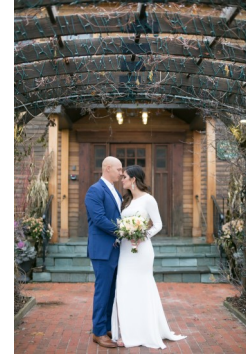


### The Marriage of Colton & Samantha

Congratulations to Colton & Samantha Hill who were married on November 2 in Chittenden Vermont.

Colton is an engineer consultant and Samantha is an RN in the ICU at Samaritan Hospital.

Colton is the son of Kathleen and Jim Burden and the grandson of Lorraine and Gerry Looney. The newlyweds live in Troy.



January Birthdays	February Birthdays
02 - Michele Cassaro	08 - Penny Corlew
05 - Sheryl Burke	09 - Aaron Johnson
07 - Trevor LeVan	09 - Vicki Ouimet
09 - Scott Burdick	12 - Peter Foust
10 - Joan Patrick	16 - Tracy Foust
11 - Bob Smith	23 - David English
16 - Pamela Berger	27 - Peace Goyette
17 - Kathleen Burden	28 - Jean Powis
20 - Barbara Greene	28 - Doris Shaffer
21 - Heather Berger	
January Anniversaries	
12 - Keith & Kathy Hoffman	

### Bishop Mark Webb Met With Albany District on Sunday, Dec 2, 2018 The General Conference "On the Way Forward"

Laurie, and Barb Conroy with Pastor Joy attended the Albany district meeting where Bishop Webb explained "The Way Forward" and answered many questions. Asked at the meeting, as a member of the Wesley Covenant Association, (WCA) his views, the Bishop explained that he was taking a "wait and see" attitude and urged his comrades in that organization to see what develops at the February General Conference in 2019. The WCA, has formed to separate, if the need be, from the Present United Methodist Church. We are urged to pray for the General Conference Delegates, for the United Methodist Church, and discernment for our way forward.

**In the link below\*** you will find the proposed plans which will be discussed, altered and reconstructed (At the General Conference in February, 2019) to obtain the best way forward. There also is another proposed way forward that is called "the Simple Plan" which says to delete the 1972 divisive language inserted in the Discipline (The United Methodist Book of Law) about gay lifestyle and return to the basic language which does not divide us!

My mind, heart, and spirit repeats the scriptures daily:

<sup>37</sup> *But in all these things we win a sweeping victory through the one who loved us.* <sup>38</sup> *I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers <sup>39</sup> or height or depth, or any other thing that is created.* Romans; 8:35-39

<sup>14</sup> *Christ is our peace. He made both Jews and Gentiles into one group. With his body, he broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us.* Ephesians 2:14

<sup>18</sup> *I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers.* <sup>19</sup> *I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God.* Ephesians 3:18-19

Please let Pastor Joy know if you want to meet to discuss, share, or pray about any of this! Together is better than separation! Christ calls us to be ONE BODY in, through and as he is One with our Maker!

\*Link to compare the three proposals: [Overview of Proposals for General Conference](#)





## Four Kinds of Racism - Two Levels of Racism

LEVEL 1 – INDIVIDUAL RACISM - what most of us (whites) recognize and deny because equated with “bad people

”Two kinds:

- INTERNALIZED RACISM: Lies within individuals. These are our private beliefs and biases about race and racism, influenced by our culture. Internalized racism can take many different forms including racial prejudice toward other people of a different race, internalized oppression, the negative beliefs about oneself by people of color, or internalized privilege, beliefs about superiority or entitlement by white people. An example is a belief that you or others are more or less intelligent or beautiful, better because of your race.
- INTERPERSONAL RACISM: Occurs between individuals. These are by biases that occur when individuals interact with others and their private racial beliefs affect their public interactions. Examples include racial slurs, bigotry, hate crimes, and racial violence.

LEVEL II – SYSTEMIC RACISM – implanted rules and understandings by organizations and societies.

Two kinds:

- INSTITUTIONAL RACISM: Occurs within institutions and systems of power. It is the unfair policies and discriminatory practices of particular public and private institutions (Schools, workplaces etc.) that routinely produce racially inequitable outcomes for people of color and advantages for white people. Individuals within institutions take on the power of the institution when they reinforce racial inequities. An example is a school system that concentrates people of color in the most overcrowded schools, the least - challenging classes, and the least -qualified teachers, resulting in higher dropout rates and discriminatory rates compared with that of white students.
- STRUCTURAL RACISM: Is racial bias among institutions and across society. It involves the cumulative and compounding effects of an array of societal factors including the history, culture, ideology, and interactions of institutions and policies that systematically privilege white people and disadvantage people of color. An example is the overwhelming number of depictions of people of color as criminals in mainstream media, which can influence how various institutions and individuals treat people of color with suspicion when they are shopping, traveling, or seeking housing and employment all of which can result in discriminatory treatment and unequal outcomes.



### Imagine No Racism

Yes! Prayers will be answered as we all learn and grow in the knowledge of this complex power structure unconsciously, living in our USA. Whenever I sing the song “We shall Overcome!” and come to the word “Someday” I replace with the word “Today” to keep myself reminded that the responsibility lies with each person of power in our country which are the white dominates in power and control. See enclosed definitions of racism.

As Pastor of Center Brunswick, I am attending the Commission on Religion and Race training program on “Imagine No Racism” (INR) Most ask “Why?”. The reason we have the Commission on Religion and Race in the United Methodist Church is because we are still segregated and have systematic racism in our Christian church! Until 1968 when we joined the Evangelic Brethren Church who required us to desegregate, were we able to start the journey of “Unity”. We are not there yet but with education, awareness, and growing positive racial interrelationships (sharing power and position) we are better and better each day!

Jesus came to access to God for all people! Gentile and Jew, men and women, children and youth, clean and unclean, healthy and unhealthy, rich and poor – the least last and lost! So, how do we do it? Raise our consciousness! Be aware of our own power and control that needs to be shared with all people. Recognize how we have opportunities and benefits we take for granted that are in our systems since our countries birth. Yes, all this is not our fault was created before we arrived, but it is OUR responsibility to change it and help our world become more just and fair for all people.



# January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 2-6 pm - Brook's BBQ (Eat in or take out)
6 9:30 am - Worship Epiphany Sunday Communion  11 am - Jubilation Station <i>Guided Footsteps</i> from the Emmaus UMC	7	8 7 pm - Choir	9	10 6:30 pm - Finance Mtg.  7:30 pm - Admin. Mtg.	11 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	12
13 9:30 am - Worship <i>Guided Footsteps</i> from the Emmaus UMC  11 am - Jubilation Station  1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	14 6 pm - Conf. Class parsonage. Parents and Youth	15 7 pm - Choir	16 2 pm - Diamond Ridge  7pm—SPPRC parsonage	17	18 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	19
20 9:30 am - Worship Human Relations  11 am - Jubilation Station  1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	21 Martin Luther King  4 pm - Conf. Class attend All Faith Worship at Bethany Baptist Church	22 7 pm - Choir	23	24 7pm—SPPRC parsonage - Snow Date	25 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	26
27 9:30 am - Worship  11 am - Jubilation Station  1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	28 6 pm - Conf. Class parsonage	29 7 pm - Choir	30	31		

# February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	2
3 9:30 am - Worship Communion 11 am - Jubilation Station 1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	4 6 pm - Conf. Class parsonage. 7 pm - Bell Choir	5 7 pm - Choir	6	7	8 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	9
10 9:30 am - Worship 11 am - Jubilation Station 1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	11 6 pm - Conf. Class parsonage. 7 pm - Bell Choir	12 7 pm - Choir	13 7pm—SPPRC parsonage	14 Finance / Admin. TBD	15 6:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	16
17 9:30 am - Worship 1:30 pm - Highlight Acting Troupe	18 6 pm - Conf. Class parsonage. 7 pm - Bell Choir	19 7 pm - Choir	20 2 pm - Diamond Ridge 7pm—SPPRC Snow date	21 Finance / Admin. TBD	22	23
24 9:30 am - Worship 5 pm - Conf. Class at Damian House Tour TAUM provide & serve meal at Damian House. Mission trip accomplished	25 7 pm - Bell Choir	26 7 pm - Choir	27	28		

Center Brunswick United Methodist Church  
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## The World is Hugged By The Faithful Arms of a Volunteer

Looking to Lend a Helping Hand?

Scripture Readers  
Greeters  
Ushers

Contact Pastor Joy  
for further information

If you are feeling down — unsure — unhappy — or just lost  
Go Volunteer!

I promise you—the best feeling in the universe is  
helping someone in need.

I believe that the quality of your life is solely  
determined on the quality of your contribution to others.

When you take the time to stop thinking of yourself,  
and start working to improve the life of someone else,  
God steps in and improves yours.

Unsure of how to begin?  
Start where you are - use what you have - and do what you can.

*LeeAnne Locken*

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