

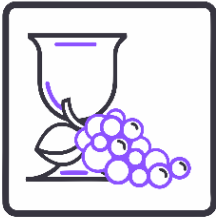
Zwingli

United Church of Christ

December 2023

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Zwingli
United Church of Christ

ZWINGLI HILL NEWS
December 2023
Volume 61 No. #10

Dear Zwingli Church,

When I was six or seven-years old, I remember spending what seemed like hours lying by the Christmas tree in anticipation of Christmas Day and the opening of presents. I recollect the glistening lights on the tree, the smell of the evergreen tree – before we got an artificial one. We didn’t celebrate Advent in the Southern Baptist Church of my youth. I didn’t really know what the season of Advent was or what it meant until I reached my mid-20’s while attending a UCC church for the first time, but I did know a little bit about waiting.

We all know what it feels like to wait for something, especially for events or things we feel are important: waiting for members to say yes to serving in a leadership position; waiting for the birth of a child; waiting in those last weeks or days by the bedside of a loved one that is dying; waiting for the building to be built (remember that?); waiting for an anticipated event, like graduation, a birthday, a special concert, or vacation; waiting for a bus, train, or airplane; waiting for something to cook, to boil (a watched pot never boils!); waiting for family to arrive; waiting for the answer to prayer; waiting for peace to reign. All these examples involve waiting, but each kind of waiting is of a different quality and teach different lessons.

Advent is known to be the season of waiting...and preparation. But waiting for what? The word Advent is taken from the Latin word *adventus*, which means coming or arrival. Traditionally, Advent focuses on the past, the coming of the Christ Child, and the future, the 2nd coming of Christ. We also see Advent as preparing for the coming of Christ right now into our hearts, our worship, our faith journey, our lives. Yet, in our culture, where technology speeds up expectations, waiting has become a little old-fashioned. We can barely wait a few seconds or minutes anymore for a social media response, or website to load, or tv program to appear on our smart tv. We've lost that sense of what it truly means to wait and anticipate.

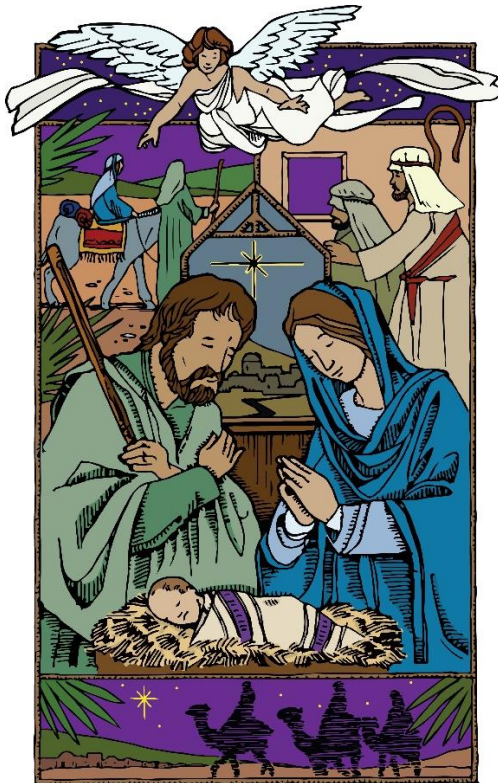
However, I believe that waiting is a spiritual exercise that strengthens our faith. If we pay attention, waiting, along with preparation, can strengthen our faith in amazing ways. Mary's faith was one of the reasons she was chosen to bear the Christ-child. Yet, she didn't simply laze around and do nothing while awaiting Christ's birth. Though the Bible isn't full of many stories about that time of waiting, many a mother could fill us in on what it means to carry life inside their body and how waiting is filled with joy and exhaustion, excitement and fear, pain and exhilaration, and many a lesson. However, there are some great stories, especially in Luke, about Elizabeth and Zachariah and Mary in that time of waiting. Read those stories closely and you will see lessons about faith, denial, fear (or "Do not be afraid"), rejoicing, preparation, God doing the impossible, God's care for the marginalized, and so many more. At one point in the story Mary utters the words that we all hope to reflect in our own lives – *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...."*

SO, in this Advent, I hope that you will spend time learning about waiting and what it means to prepare your hearts for the Lord's coming, and how to let your soul magnify the Lord. It's part of our tradition and our present. Waiting, and the preparation that goes

along with it will teach valuable faith lessons. Strive to learn them. And if you need a little inspiration, read the birth narratives in Luke, or other scripture devoted to the Advent season.

May your Advent and Christmas seasons be blessed!

Peace,
Pastor Butch



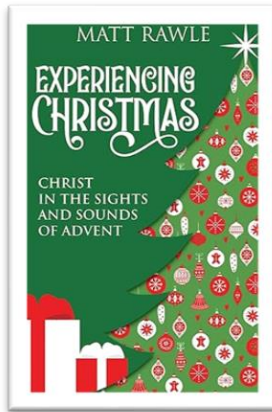


CHRISTMAS CONCERT COOKIES

Cookies are needed for refreshments to be served after the Festive Choral Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 3rd. Please drop off in the kitchen by the afternoon of Sunday, December 3rd and label them "Christmas Concert". Please see Charlotte Kramer with questions. Thank you!

STILL GOING STRONG

Time to bake our cookies for our homebound members. We will meet on December 7th, have lunch and pack the bags full of cookies to deliver to our homebound members. Of course, when we are finished, we get to eat the leftovers. 🍪. See the sign-up sheet on the fellowship board. If you are unable to attend, please consider making/buying cookies and dropping them off at church the week of December 3. Put them in the kitchen marked SGS.



ADVENT BOOK STUDY

Everything seems different at the end of the year. We put lights on our houses to dispel the growing darkness, Christmas music floods local radio stations, apple cider and cranberry sauce are again on the menu, and wrapping paper and tape are always ready. Things just look, smell, and taste differently during the Advent and Christmas season, and these differences are a sign to us that God is about to do something radical and different. What signs do you see during the Advent and Christmas season that point you to the divine? Join us for our Advent book study, **Experiencing Christmas** on **Wednesday evenings at 7 PM**. You can join us **in-person** or **online starting November 29**. Email Pastor Alan pastoralan@zwingli.org to register.



Sunday, December 3

First Sunday in Advent

Hanging of the Greens

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Holy Communion

7:30 pm Souderton Alumni Men's Chorus Concert

Wednesday, December 6

Advent Book Study

Experiencing Christmas

Sunday, December 10

Second Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Wednesday, December 13

Advent Book Study

Experiencing Christmas

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday in Advent

Continental Breakfast at 8 am

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Congregational Meeting Following the Service

Wednesday, December 20

Advent Book Study

Experiencing Christmas

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle



HANGING OF THE GREENS

The advent “Hanging of the Greens” service will be held on Sunday, December 3. Help us decorate our beautiful sanctuary during our morning worship service, as we prepare our hearts and homes for the Christmas season. *We'll also celebrate communion!* **Please bring an ornament to place on the Sanctuary tree.**



*The Advent
Stocking*

Plans are to continue the Advent Stocking Children's Message Series during Advent.



WE NEED YOU FOR THE SOUDERTON CHRISTMAS PARADE

The parade is scheduled for December 2, 2023 at 11 am. Zwingli will be participating in the parade. The theme is Toyland. Anyone that would like to participate or has some decorations that could be borrowed to help portray a Toyland theme, please contact Flo Rutherford or Jen Smeed.



CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

December 10 - Arrive at church a couple minutes earlier and enjoy a continental breakfast. The Shepherds will be hosting a Continental Breakfast between 8:00 and 9:00. Join us in the Family Life Center for Bagels and cream cheese, fruit, and yogurt, and of course, baked goods. Grab a cup of coffee and join us for breakfast and fellowship.

2023 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

I am calling to order a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 17, 2023 immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on the slate of nominees for 2024 Church Council and Church Ministries and to vote on the proposed 2024 Mission Plan for Zwingli UCC. Nominees for a couple of positions on our Trustees and Evangelism Ministries are still available. If you are interested, contact the office, Pastor Butch or myself. Many thanks and appreciation to all who have answered the call to serve in leadership positions.

Please plan to attend this important meeting involving the operations and leadership of your church. If you have any questions or proposals for the agenda, please contact me at 215-723-5029 or via email at: angelamosby@yahoo.com

Questions regarding the Mission Plan can be directed to the Ministry of Stewards whose members are Rick Rogers (Chairperson), Tara Kuhnsman, Charlotte Kramer and Lois Johnston. See you on December 17th!

Yours in Christ, Angela Mosby, Moderator, Church Council.



Check upcoming bulletins for more information.



BOY SCOUT TROOP #401 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Tis the Season! Sales began Black Friday and will continue until they are sold out. Please check their Facebook page for their hours: <https://www.facebook.com/Troop401> The Scout Cabin is located at 447 Wile Avenue in Souderton, across from the Souderton Pool.

All profits help with Troop #401's operations, camping gear, membership fees, and to subsidize expensive outings.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the Troop or tree sales, please reach out to them on Facebook or Instagram!



Christmas Eve

S E R V I C E

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
Sunday, December 24th

5 pm - Family Service

Join us for a kid-friendly Christmas Eve service put on by our children and youth. The service will end just in time to spend the rest of Christmas eve at home with your beloved families.

7:30 pm - Lessons & Carols

The Christmas Story is told through scripture and music, with both the Adult Choir and Bell Choir taking part. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Candle lighting at both services.

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

COLUMBARIUM SURVEY

Every member's participation in this survey is important! Even if you are not planning to reserve space in a Zwingly columbarium, other information in the survey will assist in this study. Further, before any conclusive action can be taken, a congregational vote will be required. So please take a few minutes to complete the survey and deposit it in the green collection box in the atrium. If you received your November newsletter electronically, you must open the attachment to view and print the survey. Extra copies will also be available in the Atrium. For more information, please speak to any of the following committee members: Rick Rogers, Sue Wack, Carol Wenger.



ZWINGLI FALL CLEAN-UP **Saturday, December 9, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Please bring your favorite garden rake and work gloves
Refreshments will be provided



MUSIC MINISTRIES

This year Music Ministries is offering a full and varied program of musical events.

Sunday, December 3 @ 7:30 pm Christmas Concert

Join us on Sunday, December 3 at 7:30 pm for a Christmas Concert performed by the Souderton Alumni Men's Chorus Classic. It will include Men's Chorus Anthems and nostalgic holiday songs. This concert will be led by Jon Leight, Director with Steve Emery on the organ and Beverly Stover and Susie Childs on the piano. No tickets required - a free will offering will be taken. A free reception will follow the performance. The concert is being held at Zwingli UCC, 350 Wile Avenue, Souderton, PA 18964. www.zwingli.org or 215-723-1186 for information.

Friday, December 22 @ 7:00PM A Charlie Brown Christmas

The Eric Mintel Quartet, a jazz ensemble, will present A Charlie Brown Christmas. The day and time of this program is a departure from our usual Sunday performances as it will be a Friday evening show!

February 11, 2024 @ 2pm Celtic Music

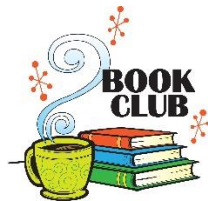
Charlie Zahn returns with a concert of Celtic music.

This is the first time Music Ministries has scheduled this many performances in one year. As you can see we have a variety of musical offerings, and we hope to see a nice turn out for these performances. We have not yet scheduled a swing dance. It would be a nice event to close out our musical year, but we need your input as to how much interest there is to do this again.

Please contact Gene Mattes, Mark Comden or Charlotte Kramer with your thoughts.

In addition, we would like to ask the congregation for some assistance. As you know we always provide refreshments after each program. We are hoping to have assistance with this tradition. Please contact Gene Mattes or the church office if you are interested in helping at any one of our events. Thank you for your consideration.

Gene Mattes
Chairman, Music Ministries



THE CIRCLE OF SISTERS BOOK CLUB!

The next Circle of Sisters Book Club will meet Wednesday, **December 13 @ 7 pm** in the Bright Space. The book title for December is *Olive Kitteridge*: Fiction by Elizabeth Strout. Family and friends are welcome! Pick up a Book Club brochure (located on the bulletin stand) for a full description of the books being discussed this program year. Below is the description for this month's discussion.

Olive Kitteridge: Fiction – In a voice more powerful and compassionate than ever before, New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Strout binds together thirteen rich, luminous narratives into a book with the heft of a novel, through the presence of one larger-than-life, unforgettable character: Olive Kitteridge. At the edge of the continent, Crosby, Maine, may seem like nowhere, but seen through this brilliant writer's eyes, it is in essence the whole world, and the lives that are lived there are filled with all of the grand human drama—desire, despair, jealousy, hope, and love. At times stern, at other times patient, at times perceptive, at other times in sad denial, Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher, deplores the changes in her little town and in the world at large, but she doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her: a lounge musician haunted by a past romance: a former student who has lost the will to live: Olive's own adult child, who feels tyrannized by her irrational sensitivities; and Henry, who finds his loyalty to his marriage both a blessing and a curse. As the townspeople grapple with their problems, mild and dire, Olive is brought to a deeper understanding of herself and her life—sometimes painfully, but always with ruthless honesty. Olive Kitteridge offers profound insights into the human condition—its conflicts, its tragedies and joys, and the endurance it requires.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are planning to reinstate the nursery during the worship hour for our youngest members (0-5 years of age) beginning in December. Depending on your response to this announcement, we will begin to staff the Nursery as early as December 3rd and hopefully at least one or two Sundays a month thereafter. You must have up-to-date clearances in order to help with this ministry. We will need two people per Sunday to keep this a safe space. Please let the office know if you are interested in volunteering for this important ministry of the church.

FACEBOOK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few more people to run Facebook on Sunday mornings. This ministry allows Zwingli to share God's word on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. The people who worship through our Facebook page are members and nonmembers; local and out of state; homebound and mobile. This ministry touches many people for different reasons. If interested in helping, please let Lisa Cinciripini know. Training is available and there is a step-by-step guide to help you. It's not hard! Feel free to sit with one of our volunteers on a Sunday morning to see what it's like!

CHURCH FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2023

Offerings were short of expenses for October increasing our deficit increased by \$17,648 last month. Our total deficit for 2023 now stands at \$66,221. Please prayerfully make a catch-up offering to help the Zwingli catch up on expenses. You will find catch-up envelopes in the sanctuary chair-backs for your use or you can mail a check to the office or use the donate button on the church's web site to make a donation through PayPal. We only have less than two months to do this. Thank you!



SCAN THIS PAYPAL QR CODE TO MAKE A CASH OFFERING

Use your smart phone's camera or a QR scanning app. It will open up your PayPal app and Zwingli's account so you can make your offering to Zwingli right from your seat. Don't have a PayPal account? Scan the QR code to download PayPal and create an account. Any questions? See one of the members of the Ministry of Stewards (Lois Johnston, Charlotte Kramer, Tara Kuhnsman, or Rick Rogers).



ADULT ELECTIVES

December 3

Joint Adult Electives and Adult Bible Study
Profiles in Faith led by Jonathan Widgins

December 10

Volunteer Work with Non-Profits

VOAD, COAD, MARC, Eastwick, and Antietam. Catch a glimpse of what Disaster Recovery looks like in Pennsylvania.

December 17

Happiness: The Secret to a Happy Life

By Robert Walding – Ted Talk video

We all want to know the secret to a happy life, right? Join us as we learn the results from Robert Waldinger, director of the

Harvard Study of Adult Development. This study spans eight decades of research following people since 1938. Let's share our thoughts on the findings of the study, following the video.

December 24
No Sunday School

December 31
No Sunday School

January 7
Joint Adult Electives and Adult Bible Study
Learning about Faith led by Jonathan Widgins

January 14
TBD

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Looking for volunteers to **teach or help** the Children's Sunday School. We have a combined class from grades Pre-K- 5th grade. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know and interact with our Zwingli children. The schedule, lesson plan link, and sign ups can be found on the sign-up genius on Zwingli's website, or a printed version is hanging on the board as you enter the Sunday School wing.

We are also looking for teachers and helpers on the first week of every month so some of our volunteers can attend the LYFT class. **Our current need is for Jan 7th, helper only.**

Thank you so much for volunteering.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4FADAA2BAAF E3zwingli1>



**SUPPORT THE BETHANY CHILDREN’S HOME ANGEL TREE –
SPONSORED BY THE ZWINGLI SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Things are back to normal this year for the Bethany Children’s Home Angel Tree. We have decorated angels available for you to take home. There are two ways you can participate in this important ministry.

1. Purchase a NEW gift from the lists out in the atrium and place it (UNWRAPPED) in the box in the breezeway before the atrium by **Friday Dec 17th**.

OR you can purchase a gift from the **Bethany Children's Home Wish List**: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

You may receive a notice that this could be a duplicate gift – that is ok. Bethany needs multiple orders of all the items on our wish list. Go ahead and order the item even if it’s a duplicate.

2. You can have the items shipped to you and bring them to church no later than Friday Dec 17th OR you can have your gifts shipped directly to the Bethany Children's Home but using the below address:

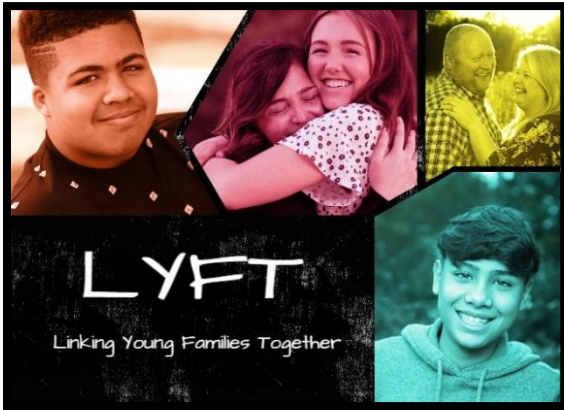
Bethany Children's Home
Amazon Gift Registry
1863 Bethany Rd
Womelsdorf, PA 19567

We thank you for your continued support of this mission.



UPCOMING FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!

Please join us on Saturday December 9th at 6:30 (Doors open at 6pm) in the Family Life Center . Our featured movie is **The Polar Express**! We will be serving Hot chocolate and selling Concessions for a small fee.



**ARE YOU A PARENT NEEDING SOME TIME AWAY FROM THE KIDS
AND WITH OTHER ADULTS?**

Join us for our parent's Sunday social hour, LYFT. We will meet for social and spiritual time together on the first Sunday of each month. While your kids enjoy Sunday school and youth group, take a break, and join us for some time with other adults. The next date we will meet is **December 3rd at 10:30 AM.**



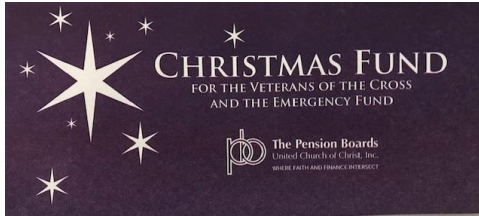
ADVENT MISSION PROJECT

Advent is the season of hope, peace, joy, and love in anticipation of Christ's birth in the world as it is today. Each year at Advent, we give to a mission project. This year, we are keeping our Advent Mission project close to home by focusing on balancing our budget, paying off our loan, and looking forward to the year ahead, possibly debt free.

The Ministry of Stewards will use your donation first to balance the budget. Any excess will go directly to paying off the remaining principal amount of the personal loan. Please prayerfully consider how you can help erase this debt and allow the church to eliminate the \$3,000 monthly payment and give us the freedom to share our love with our community and the wider-world.

We are truly blessed. Please use the envelopes marked Advent Offering or Catch-up Offering found in the pew pockets and at the entrance to the sanctuary. You can drop your donation in the plate on Sunday morning or you can mail it to or drop it off at the office.

Thank you for your continuing generosity and support of the ministry and mission, the work of God, through Zwingli UCC.



CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING - DECEMBER 24

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross is an annual UCC offering that expresses thanks to retired and active UCC pastors and lay church workers and their families, providing direct assistance to supplement pensions, medical insurance costs, and funds to meet emergency needs. This year's Christmas Fund theme is "Grace upon grace," from John 1:16:

"From Christ's fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."

Join with others in the United Church of Christ to return "grace upon grace" to those who have given so much to each of us and to our churches. Watch for Christmas Fund envelopes throughout the month of December. Thank you.



MILLER-KEYSTONE
BLOOD CENTER

HOLIDAY GIFT OF LIFE

Every year blood supplies become dangerously low around the Thanksgiving/Christmas holiday season. Zwingli hosts the Indian Valley Community Blood Drive every 4th Tuesday of the month. Hence the December 26 drive is of most importance to ensure that blood is available to those who need who need it. Please consider signing up by registering at **GIVEaPINT.org**. Click on **Give**

Blood at the top left, click on **Schedule Now**, key in **18964** for the Zip Code, leave Mobil Drives set to **Yes**, set both dates to December 26, then click on **Search**. Choose the **Indian Valley Community Blood Drive** and pick your time. For further information, contact Jim See at 21m5ee@comcast.net.



DEI TEAM
(Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE VIGIL

Transgender Day of Remembrance is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

This year, Souderton Area for All hosted this vigil at Zwingli. It was a sobering account of forty-one transgender folk in America who were killed this past year just for being themselves. The candlelight vigil was quite meaningful, and we encourage our congregation to attend next year's vigil. The leaders read the names of everyone, where they lived, their age, and how they were murdered. A bell was rung after each name.

We thank Pastor Alan for his message at this vigil, the Zwingli members that attended and we thank Souderton Area for All for organizing and promoting this event.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for your generous donations to the PSEC Addiction and Recovery Task Force Winter Drive. It was a success! There were lots of coats, scarves, gloves, socks, hats, blankets, and sweaters. Thanks to the Rev. Dr. Deborah Clemens for delivering our collection.



THE PHOENIX

RISE | RECOVER | LIVE

THE PHOENIX

The Phoenix is a nationwide program and open to anyone in Recovery of addiction with at least 48 hours sobriety. The group meets every Sunday from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Trinity UCC, Telford. Come for social fun of indoor and outdoor games. There is no charge and no questions asked about recovery. It is not a meeting.

The purpose is to build an active, sober community committed to living vibrant lives in recovery. Do you know someone in recovery who might enjoy a social activity? Contact Joanne Kramlik at 215-815-7104. Or email jkramlik@yahoo.com



WEDNESDAY PRAYER CIRCLE

*We will meet for Prayer Circle with Pastor Alan or Pastor Butch **each Wednesday** of the month from 12:00 to 12:30. The zoom invitation will be sent ahead of time.*

We feel that heartfelt communal prayer is especially needed on a consistent basis as we continue to deal with individual, family and church concerns, the pandemics of COVID 19 and racism, as well as other societal issues and direction.



Healthy Moment
Avoiding Weight Gain Over the Holidays
Kristie Lowery, Congregational Health Nurse

"¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. " 1 Corinthians 10:13

The holidays are fast approaching and along with that, many holiday meals, gatherings, and parties. One of the biggest complaints around the holiday meals and parties is often heard as "I ate too much", or "I can't eat another thing." Recent research identified that nearly 75% of Americans admit to gaining weight over the holidays and many do not lose the weight afterwards. How can you stop this hamster wheel that keeps us battling the food and weight gain dilemma? An article written by Zindy Gracia lists some healthy tips for eating during the holidays.

1. Avoid going to a holiday dinner starving. If you are hungry, you are most likely to overeat. Eat a light snack beforehand so you are not tempted to binge.

2. Fill your plate with veggies first. Vegetables are low in calories and high in fiber, which will help to fill you up without putting on pounds. Try to fill half of your plate with veggies and a smaller portion of the main dish and sides.

3. Limit your portion sizes. Practice moderation. Fill your plate with a small amount of each food and save room for dessert. Keep starchy veggies to a minimum, as they are higher in calories.
4. Go for lighter appetizers. Choose ones that are baked or grilled. Or just skip the appetizers and save the calories for other parts of the meal.
5. Avoid traditional recipes when possible. Go for recipes that are lower in fat, calories, and healthy ingredients.
6. Drink water. Staying hydrated will help you feel full and prevent you from overeating. Be sure to drink plenty of water throughout the day, both before and after your meal.
7. Avoid alcohol. Alcohol can affect interfere with your resistance to avoid overeating. It is also high in calories. Avoiding alcohol helps to motivate you to stay healthy. If one does decide to drink, moderation is the best policy.
8. Don't drink your calories. Many people do not realize how many calories are in their favorite holiday drinks. Eggnog can have over 500 calories per cup. If you are watching your weight, skip the festive beverages and stick to water.
9. Don't eat until you are stuffed. Pay attention to your body's cues and stop eating when you are no longer hungry. It takes 20 minutes for your brain to register that you are full. Slow down and savor your meal. After clearing your plate, wait a few minutes before getting seconds.
10. If you are not hosting, bring a healthy dish to share. Check with the hostess first, but if there is agreement it will assure that there is at least one healthy option available. Some ideal dishes include salads, roasted vegetable, or whole grain side dishes.

11. Get moving! Exercise is a great way to offset any weight gain from your holiday feast. Make sure to get moving as soon as you can to burn up the additional calories consumed.

The holiday is a time to enjoy family, friends, and good food. But it does not need to be an unhealthy holiday. You can make healthier choices and avoid overeating. If you do overeat, get right back on track with healthy eating and exercise the following day.

Wishing each and everyone of you blessed holidays with family and friends, making pleasant memories.

References:

Zindy Gracia.. *“Healthy Benefits Behind Thanksgiving Foods That Make You Feel Better About Overeating.”* BetterMe .

<https://betterme.world/articles/healthy-thanksgiving-tips/> .



IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED

Due to HIPAA privacy procedures implemented by all healthcare facilities, it is very difficult for the church to obtain patient information. **If you (or a family member) are hospitalized or at a rehab or other health facility, please inform the church office and the pastor(s) directly.** This is the only way to guarantee this information will be received by the pastors.



SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Grocery Store Gift Card Fundraiser

Purchase a grocery store gift card from Zwingli Church and 5% of your purchase goes to Zwingli's General Fund.

On Sunday mornings or through the church office during the week, you can purchase a \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift card to Giant Stores, Landis Supermarket, or Shop Rite to use for your grocery shopping. This fundraiser supports the ministry of Zwingli UCC.

Thank you for your participation in this program!



STAY INFORMED

If you want to stay current on what Zwingli Ministries and Council are doing, pick up a Pre-Council Report from the vestibule or contact Lisa in the office for an electronic copy. See the wonderful ideas that are being shared by your leaders!



2024 FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS

Would you like to sponsor the flowers in the chancel one Sunday morning or a bulletin?

Chancel flowers are \$50.

Bulletins are \$15.

To sponsor the flowers or bulletin, please pick up a form from the bulletin board next to the office. Once completed, attach a check and drop it off in the office. You can also mail it or drop it in the offering plate. Our mailing address is 350 Wile Avenue, Souderton, PA 18964. We appreciate your support.



Fasageo's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria Fundraiser

We have partnered with Fasageo's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria, 724 Ridge Rd., Sellersville, PA, for an ongoing fundraiser.

Fasageo's will return 10% of any food sales purchased to Zwingli. You just need to inform them when placing your order –whether for dine-in, carry-out, or delivery- that you are a member of Zwingli. It's that simple!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25-26 for the Christmas holiday.



WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATIONS

If there are cancellations due to inclement weather, please check the following:

Worship Service

Website: www.zwingli.org and check the Twitter feed on the left side of screen.

Facebook: ZwingliUCC

Email

Church Office: 215-723-1186

Call Lisa at 215-808-8926

Evening Events/Activities

If the Souderton Area School District dismisses early or is closed due to inclement weather, all evening events will be cancelled unless you hear directly from your leader.

SUNDAY MORNING USHERS/GREETERS

- December 3 Jen Smeed, Miles Smeed
Pam and Pete Myers
- December 10 Jessica and Mike Jalboot
Laurie and John Reynolds
- December 17 Charlotte Kramer, Carol Wenger
Rick and Missy Rogers
- December 24 The Chalmers
Lois and Lee Hunsicker
- December 31 Charlotte Kramer, Lois Johnston
Joan Yeager, Gladys Amspacher
- January 7 Joanne and LaMar Kratz
Jonathan Kratz, Rhonda Landis
- January 14 Maureen Hartman, Liz Bibic
Tom and Toni Kramlik

REFRESHMENTS

- December 3 Ministry of Missioners
- December 10 Marian Eide, Rhonda Moyer
- December 17 Carol Reiff, Karen Rosenberger, Janet Rosenberger
- December 24 Ministry of Shepherds
- December 31 Kristie Lowery, Charlotte Kramer
- January 7 Erin Chalmers, Joanne Kramlik
- January 14 Marian Eide, Rhonda Moyer

ACOLYTE

- December 3 Ryan Chalmers
- December 10 Nora Jalboot
- December 17 Madison Klausfelder
- December 24 Evan Chalmers
- December 31 Jack Beidleman
- January 7 Caleb Jalboot
- January 14 Adalyn Neff

FACEBOOK MONITOR

December 3 Lisa Cinciripini
December 10 Laurie Reynolds
December 17 Tony Villareal
December 24 9 am Lisa Cinciripini
 5 pm Lisa Cinciripini
 7:30 pm Katie Farina
December 31 Kristie Lowery
January 7 Toni Kramlik
January 14 Lisa Cinciripini

GIFT CARD SALES

December 3 Carol Wenger
December 10 Betsy Villareal
December 17 Lisa Cinciripini
December 24 **No Sales**
December 31 Maureen Hartman
January 7 Pam Myers
January 14 Carol Wenger

MONEY COUNTERS

Steward of the month – Tara Kuhnsman
December 3 Charlotte Kramer, Liz Bibic
December 10 Carol and David Reiff
December 17 Tara Kuhnsman, Rick Rogers
December 24 Stewards on 12/26/23
December 31 Ed and Liz Bibic

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING MAILING
ARTICLES FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY MAILING IS
MONDAY, JANUARY 12!**

YEAR END REPORTS DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 5!

Zwingli UCC Staff

Butch Kuykendall, D.Min.....Senior Pastor
Alan Miles, M.Div..... Associate Pastor
Steve Emery.....Director of Music/Organist
Lisa Cinciripini.....Office Administrator
Kristie Lowery.....Office Assistant

Zwingli United Church of Christ, 350 Wile Avenue, Souderton, PA

Phone: 215-723-1186 Fax: 215-723-5402

www.zwingli.org

office@zwingli.org

Office Hours

M- TH: 8:30-4:30, F: 8:30 – 3:30 Closed Daily 12-1

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At Zwingli United Church of Christ, we promise to engage and nurture Christ's light in all of God's people, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity, race or ethnic background, social status, soul injury, religious beliefs, age, and physical, mental, or addiction challenges.

We aspire to be a counterweight to exclusion and discrimination. We choose to purposefully welcome and include all people in every aspect of our church family, including worship, fellowship, and leadership, lay and ordained, and will meet you where you are on life's journey to share God's love with you. Our commitment is that all members feel and be safe as we express God's universal and unconditional love in our church, community and daily lives. 9-12-21



The Community is Cordially Invited to Attend:

**A Festive Choral
Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 3, 2023

7:30 P.M.

**Souderton Alumni Men's Chorus
Classic Men's Chorus Anthems
Nostalgic Holiday Songs**

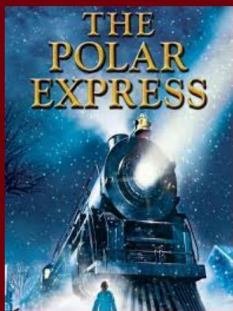
**Jon Leight, Director ~ Steve Emery, Organ
Beverly Stover and Susie Childs, Piano**

No Tickets Required ~ Free Will Offering!
A Reception will follow the performance!

**Zwingli United Church of Christ
350 Wile Avenue, Souderton 18964
215.723.1186 ~ www.zwingli.org**

**CHRISTMAS
FAMILY
MOVIE
NIGHT**

FEATURING:



**Saturday, 9 December
Doors Open At 6 PM
Movie starts at 6:30 PM**

**Free Hot Chocolate, Cookies, Popcorn
Candy for sale.**

Bring your own blanket to relax on.



Zwingli
United Church of Christ

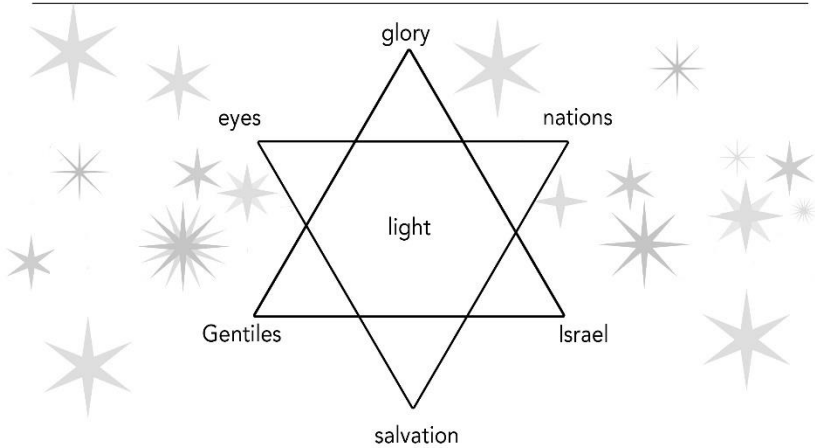




SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.



"For my _____ have seen your _____, which you have prepared
 in the sight of all _____: a _____ for revelation to the
 _____, and the _____ of your people _____."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

Answers: eyes, salvation, nations, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel