News & Views

Brownback’s United Church of Christ November 2019

Spring City, Pennsylvania

# Annual Holiday Bazaar

Join us on Saturday, **November 9**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, for the Brownback’s UCC Annual Holiday Bazaar. Lunch is served from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The Fellowship Hall will be filled with attic treasures, baked goods, crafts, toys, plants, and books.

Consider donating a **gift basket** to be raffled off. All proceeds from the raffle go to the church.

**Donations for the Attic Treasures** can be dropped off at church any time now. You can place them on the stage or in the hallway at the outside the Ladies restroom downstairs. Please be sure that donations are in working order and CLEAN. Given the volume of donations, the team does not have time to clean dirty donations. Donations should be dropped off by **Monday, 11/4**. Many volunteers are needed to help sort through the donations. Contact Michelle Kullen or Greg Siwik if you can help.

We cannot accept donations of electronic devices such as televisions and computers. Due to safety regulations, we are also unable to accept baby car seats and booster seats.

Help is needed to set up tables on **Saturday, 11/2 at 9:00 am**. Then on **Sunday, 11/3**, following the Worship Service, help is needed to move the Attic Treasure donations from downstairs and from the stage to the tables in Fellowship Hall.

Plan to do some **baking** for the big day, too. Pies are always a big hit – at the Bake Table and as dessert after lunch. Drop your baked goods off at the church by **Friday evening, 11/8**. If you’re crafty, **crafts** are also always needed! Then, come and enjoy the big day – our Holiday Bazaar on November 9.

**Schedule Recap:**

* Sat., 11/2 – Set up tables
* Sun., 11/3 – Move Attic Treasures to Fellowship Hall tables
* Mon., 11/4 – Deadline for Attic Treasures donations
* Fri., 11/8 – Deadline for dropping off baked goods
* Sat., 11/9 – The bazaar begins!!

If you have any questions, contact Linda Bauer.

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## Calendar of Events

| Date | Time | Event |
| --- | --- | --- |
| November |
| 2 | 9:00 AM | Set up tables for Church Bazaar |
| 3 | 11:00 AM | Move Attic Treasures to Fellowship Hall |
| 4 |  | Deadline for Attic Treasures donations |
| 8 |  | Deadline for Baked Good donations |
| 9 | 9:00 AM | Holiday Bazaar |
| 10 | 11:00 AM | Music and Worship Committee MeetingOperation Christmas Child boxes due |
| 17 | 10:00 AM | Operation Christmas Child boxes blessed |
| December |
| 8 | 10:00 AM | Children’s Christmas Musical |

## Recurring Events

### Sunday Worship:

8:45 AM – Adult Sunday School

10:00 AM –Worship Service, Worship Time for Children, Kids JAM

### Faith Formation:

Women’s Bible Study – 10:00 AM, Tuesday

Men’s Breakfast – 8:30 AM, 2nd Monday

### Music:

Chancel Choir Rehearsal – 9:15 AM, Sunday

Worship Ensemble Rehearsal – 5:30 PM, Wednesday

Good News Singers Rehearsal – 6:00 PM, 3rd Wednesday

Chancel Handbells – 6:45 PM, Wednesday

### Fellowship:

Fitness Classes – Monday/Wednesday at 8:45 AM

Young at Heart – Noon, 2nd Thursday

## Pastor’s Ponderings

Hello again and as I write this piece, a lot is going on. So much planning occurs in this season of the church as we set our sights on the birth of Jesus. We started the month of October with a baptism for Jennifer and Scott Wysocki’s son, Preston Scott. We then celebrated Harvest Home, with the sanctuary filled with many of the goods needed for the Spring City Food Pantry. We then heard from Good Samaritan Services Executive Director, Nate Hoffer on October 20th. He shared his history and connection to Brownback’s and what Good Sam is doing now, which is growing in their ability to help others by many people giving their time, talent, and resources.

We ended October with our 2nd baptism on October 27th. On this day, we brought into God’s family Samuel Jacob, who is Kaitlin and Brian Iezzi’s son. Our church continues to grow in fellowship with a community dinner and our Annual Bazaar. We are hosting the Ursinus Association’s Fall meeting, which centers on a theme of unity. Our invited guest that day is Episcopalian Rev. Peter Kountz from St. Stephen’s in Center City, Philadelphia. He will share how his church has embraced the diversity in which it is nestled and how it continues to blaze new trails of being a congregation and building community.

New ways and new ideas are a great way to bring us our vision and what we are praying, striving, and working towards. I encourage all of us to continue to read, ask about, and most importantly, continue to work with God in this new endeavor for Brownback’s. It is only with everyone’s eyes set towards God’s will that true change will occur. I believe that we have to put down the expectations we are carrying to be able to dream about and live into God's will for us. May we always experience the newness and love of our still speaking God to move us into the future!

Peace,

*Pastor Mark*

## All Saint’s Sunday

All Saint’s Day is celebrated on November 1, with All Saint’s Sunday occurring on **November 3**. Brownback’s will commemorate those who have passed away during this past year.

## Hanging of the Greens

Our annual service of The Hanging of the Greens will be held on Sunday, **December 1** during the 10:00 am Worship service. Plan to be with us as we decorate our Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Come learn the significance of each type of greenery, as the youth of the church help to decorate the Sanctuary.

## Christmas Eve Services

Brownback’s UCC will have two Christmas Eve services this year on **December 24**. A Family Service with communion will be held at 6:15 pm, while the 8:00 pm service will be a Traditional service of readings, carols, and communion. Look for more details in the December issue of *News & Views*.



## Christmas Fund Offering

You may have noticed a special offering in your church offering envelopes called **Christmas Fund Offering**. The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a special mission offering that UCC congregations have been supporting for over 100 years. The offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards. Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas “Thank You” Gift Checks.

This offering is collected on **December 22** this year.

## Daylight Savings

Daylight Saving Time is the practice of moving the clock forward by one hour at the beginning of Spring and moving it back one hour in Fall. The aim is to make use of daylight longer into the evening by starting daylight an hour later in the morning. "Daylight Saving Time” is the term used for this adjusted time in the United States and Canada. In Europe it is usually referred to as "Summer Time" with the time observed during the rest of the year is usually called "Standard Time".

Daylight Saving Time is observed in all US states except Arizona and Hawaii. Outside of North America and Europe, the time adjustment is only practiced in a very small number of countries, so that only about a quarter of the world's population live in countries that observe Daylight Saving Time.

So remember… Spring forward, Fall back. This year, we fall back on Sunday, **November 3**.

## Harvest Home

*Deuteronomy 16:10*

*Then celebrate the Harvest Festival, to honor the Lord your God, by bringing Him a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings He has given you.*

On **October 13**, Brownback’s celebrated Harvest Home by decorating the sanctuary with donated non-perishable food and supplies. These much-needed gifts were distributed to the Spring City Pantry and the Pottstown Cluster.

A special thanks to Jeanette Francesco and Michelle Kullen for decorating the Sanctuary and to Bob Jacob for making the deliveries.

## Kids’ Christmas Musical

The Kids' Christmas Musical will take place during the Worship Service on Sunday, **December 8**. This year's show is titled *CAKE: Christmas Acts of Kindness*, where a group of students is given a group project over Christmas Break that encourages them to show God's love and kindness to all. Mark your calendars to come out and support the kids in sharing a relevant message for all ages! Rehearsals have already begun!



## Worship Play

Your help is needed! Each Sunday, three adults are needed to teach our children ages 4 through grade 6. One teacher leads a lesson for ages 4 through grade 2, while the second adult teaches our older kids in grades 3 through 6. With about 10-15 children on a Sunday morning, we also need one adult to assist the teachers; this person does not need to prepare anything – simply show up and interact with kids!

The children’s lesson is based on the same lectionary the adults hear in Pastor Mark’s sermon, but it is presented in a kid-friendly, age-appropriate way. The curriculum for Worship Play, while educational and fun for the kids, is also very user-friendly for the teachers. Here are a few steps to prepare for a lesson:

1. Go to [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com) the week before your lesson and read the Bible story and lectionary.
2. From a list, choose activities, crafts, and/or games with which you would like to accompany your story. They all help enhance the Bible story!
3. In case you have extra time, there are worksheets related to the story as well – a coloring page, word search, dot-to-dot, etc.

It is that simple! If you are interested in teaching or assisting the teachers, please talk to or email Kaitlin Iezzi (Kaitlin.iezzi@gmail.com). A great way to decide if you would like to teach one of the age groups is to sign up as the assistant and see in person how it all works!

Sign up by talking to Kaitlin or online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e48ada822a4f85-worship1>

Not sure if teaching is for you? We always need volunteers in the Nursery for our littlest children through age 3.

## Men’s Breakfast

The men of the church are invited to breakfast at The Ridge Restaurant on **November 11** at 8:30 AM. Breakfast is BYOB – Bring Your Own Bible. We will discuss Luke 21:5-19.

## Food Collection

The Missions Committee of Brownback's United Church of Christ is challenging church members to donate 50 boxes of instant mashed potatoes (water base) for Holiday Boxes to be distributed to the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities. The Missions Committee will match the 50 boxes, which will equal 100 boxes for PCRC client holiday meals. The collection will run from Sunday, November 10 until Sunday, **December 8**.

## Pumpkin Fest Thank You’s

Congratulations and thank you to all who made Pumpkin Fest a success. Culinary and artistic masterpieces graced our tables, and fun and fellowship was shared by all.

## Tractor for Sale

The Cemetery Board has upgraded its equipment and is now selling its John Deere Tractor X500 with a 48” mulching deck. It was purchased new in November 2009 and has 1429.6 hours of use. The Board is asking $800 for this well-maintained tractor. If you or someone you know is interested and would like to know more, contact Greg Siwik at (484) 919-7665.



## Young at Heart

On Thursday, October 10th, Young at Heart held its luncheon, a fall theme with colorful leaves, flowers, and gourds. Nancy Peiffer offered Scripture and prayer and then we all gravitated to the luncheon tables for stuffed shells, side dishes, and desserts.

Nancy Peiffer introduced Glenn Miller, who presented the program “Glenn Miller and His BIG One-Man Band.” Glenn picked up his accordion and harmonica and started playing foot-tapping tunes. In between Elvis Presley, Country, Italian, and Irish music, he interacted with the audience. Before we knew it, we were laughing, tapping, and humming along with music also accompanied by trumpet, train sounds, etc. Very accomplished as a musician and comedian, Glenn Miller and his “boxed orchestra” rounded out the program to a great round of applause.

Bob Parke had the winning number for the door prize of a “Basket of Fruit.”

Nancy reminded us that there will be NO Luncheon in November because of Brownback’s Bazaar on November 9. Our next Luncheon and program will be held **December 12th**. Elva Hurst will present “Chalk Talk,” an old art form using florescent chalk, with music, sound effects, and narration; an exhilarating experience. She will also share her life in Lititz on her 48 acre “Plain and Fancy Farm” with art studio, gift shop, and art gallery. This will be a wonderful introduction for us to the Season of Christmas.

## Samaritan Purse’s Christmas Shoeboxes

Samaritan Purse’s Christmas Shoeboxes for Children are due at Brownback’s by Sunday, **November 10**. They will be dedicated during our Worship Service on November 17. A sincere “Thank you” to all who contributed to this mission project.

## Cemetery News

A friendly reminder from our Cemetery Board… Any items which are deemed a safety hazard to the lawn service or are not allowed will be removed. Thank you.



## News & Views Deadline

The deadline for the December issue of the *News & Views* newsletter is **November 21**. To include information in the newsletter, you can leave information in the *News & Views* mailbox in the church lobby or email information to Penny Sallade at pennysallade@yahoo.com.

## Paper and Plastic Grocery Bags

The Spring City Food Pantry is in critical need of paper and plastic grocery bags (particularly paper bags). Please consider donating your used bags at church to be delivered to the pantry. Boxes are labeled and located under the table at the back of Fellowship Hall.

The Spring City Pantry thanks you for the paper and plastic bags and egg cartons. They are needed all 52 weeks of the year!

## Prayer Concerns

“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” – Matthew 21:22

For those who serve:

* Reed Bauer, 2nd year cadet at West Point, The United States Military Academy
* Derrick Boaman, Army Reserves
* Nathaniel Cherubini, Chief Warrant Officer 3.,
United States Marine Corp. Nephew of Rick and Jeanette Francesco
* Brock Fasnacht, nephew of Doug and Sue Kandler, Army National Guard
* Paige Juliette Freeman, Trooper First Class, Delaware State Police
* Andrea Shade, 4th year cadet at West Point, The United States Military Academy
* Thomas Shade, Captain in the Army based in South Carolina

**Members**: Joe Kandler, Sr., Bob Keeley, Sr., Bob Miller, Thelma Nelson, Marie Painter.

**Friends of Brownback’s**: Eva Diener, Sean Mahoney.



## November Birthdays

We rejoice with those of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in November.

11/2 John Stone

11/4 Bill Moore

 Thomas Schmidt

11/6 Julie Radel

11/7 Rachel Laird

11/8 Lisa Blair
Lindsay Keeley
Emma Valbert
Judy White

11/9 Amy Meravi
Nancy Stout

11/10 JoAnn Bauer
Barry Copenhaver

11/11 Derrick Boaman
Hannah Laird

11/12 Deb Boaman

11/14 Joe Laird

11/16 JoAnn McFarland

11/17 Maureen Siwik

11/20 Joanne Weaver

11/21 Linda Acar
Mary Ann Glocker

11/24 Reed Bauer

11/26 Nick Procyk

11/27 Vaughn Francesco
Everett Kolb
James Ritschard

11/28 Joyce Miller

11/29 Olivia Vento

 Larry Potts

## November Anniversaries

We congratulate the following in our church family who are celebrating wedding anniversaries in November.

11/6 Bill and Gerry Marvel

11/17 Bob and Danielle Hewitt



## Our Church Leaders

Rev. Mark Stryak, Pastor and Teacher

Barry Vining, President

Linda Raifsnider, Vice President

Amy Stone, Secretary

Anne Behe, Financial Secretary

Holly Vining, Current Treasurer

Kaitlin Iezzi, Benevolence Treasurer

Calvin Idler, Major Improvements Treasurer

#### Elders

2019 Pat Diener Linda Raifsnider

2020 Earl Brungess Barry Vining

2021 Randall Ruilova Mark Sweitzer

#### Deacons

2019 Amy Stone Polly Roussey

2020 Derrick Boaman Kaitlin Iezzi

2021 Calvin Idler Anne Behe

#### Cemetery Board

2019 Calvin Idler Bob Jacob

2020 Rick Francesco

2021 Brian Iezzi Greg Siwik

#### Endowment Board

2019 Rich Bauer John Stone

2020 Mike Houck

2021 Bob Keeley Barry Vining

#### Our Church Staff

Kris Houck, Parish Administrator

Penny Sallade, Choir Director

Patricia Kandler, Organist

Larry Simmers, Sexton

Kaitlin Iezzi, Christian Education Chair

Greg Siwik, Cemetery Superintendent

Brownback United Church of Christ

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Spring City, Pennsylvania 19475

Address Service Requested