



THE TELESCOPE

First United Methodist Church of Delmar

www.delmarmethodist.org

It's time to remember bringing Christmas gifts for those without

During Advent, we have an opportunity to provide gifts for the AUMS Christmas toy "store." For some, ours may be the only Christmas gifts they receive. Our toy/mitten tree at the chancel steps will be the collecting area for toys, as well as other gift items (such as gloves, mittens, scarves and caps) for children and teenagers **through Dec. 13.**

Please bring an unwrapped new toy appropriate for ages newborn through 12 years old for the annual AUMS toy distribution. (For teenagers: a \$20 gift certificate for Target, Kohls or Walmart.) AUMS will offer your gifts in its "store," where parents who cannot afford to purchase gifts may select items at no charge. And please think about providing name-brand items; remember that advertisers reach children in poverty as well as our own children.

Habitat for Humanity build

Our next build date is Saturday, Dec. 19, 9 am -4 pm. We are scheduled to be in the north end, at 486 North Pearl (near Emmet St.), doing finish work. On our last build, we installed sheetrock on the 2nd floor and basements in this house. If Habitat is ahead of schedule, we may be moved to 5 Stephen Street. For information or to volunteer, please contact Kevin Conley (473-9034, kconley1@nycap.rr.com).

Our worship schedule for Christmas Week

Sunday, December 20

- 9:30 am, Sanctuary — **Fourth Sunday in Advent.** Special Christmas Music and Handbell Choir with Brass Quartet
- 5 pm, Hummel Chapel — **Blue Christmas Service:** Remembering Those We Miss at Christmas

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

- 6:30 pm, Front Lawn — **Live Nativity**
- 7 pm, Sanctuary — **Family Candlelight Service.** The Christmas story told through anthems by the Junior and Intermediate choirs, and congregational carol singing.
- 10 pm, Sanctuary — **Candlelight Service.** Special music featuring our Christmas and Handbell Choirs and Instrumentalists. *A service of Word and carols.*

Be an 'Angel'

This year, as in the past, we are having an "angel tree" for the AIDS/HIV clients in the residential programs of Support Ministries. The tree is set up on the table outside Fellowship Hall. We ask that purchases be kept to \$20-\$25. Our "angel tree" has been hung with cards listing individuals' names and their gift requests. Directions for the purchase of these gifts

are located on the table. Please wrap the gift and attach a card with the first name and last initial of the individual clearly labeled. Sign your name, if you wish. Other than gift cards, **your gifts should be left under the tree in the Hummel Chapel between Nov. 29 & Dec. 13.** Gift cards and monetary donations should be brought to the **Church Office** during the same time period. For information contact Lisa Ball (439-5514).

Support for the Heifer Project

Heifer Alternative Gift Cards and catalogs will be available in Fellowship Hall following worship on Dec. 13 and 20. Information will also be available on funding specific Heifer projects.

Special prayers in Advent time

Are you looking for a few quiet, private minutes? There will be a special Advent prayer vigil in the chapel from 8 am to 5 pm on Saturday, Dec. 12. Individuals or families can sign up for a half hour for prayer and meditation. There will be a written guide for thought and prayer. The meditation will be centered on the individuals in the Christmas story and what they were doing those few weeks before Jesus was born. To sign up call Connie Tilroe at 439-7571.

Church Conference notice

District Superintendent Rev. Dr Jim Fenimore has called for an Annual Church Conference to be held on Dec. 13, 2009 at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall following Fellowship Hour. At this time, we will receive reports of committees. This is open to all members of the congregation.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays at 9:30 am

December 13

If your life became uncluttered from regret, how would you use the space?

Sermon by Rev. Janice Palm:
"The Gifts of Repentance"

Text:
Luke 3: 7-18

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'A Christian community, growing together in faith and in service to God'

Church Calendar

Wednesday, Dec. 9	10:30 am – Bible Study (Delmar Place) 10:30 am – Playgroup (Nursery) 7:15 pm – Education team (207)
Thursday, Dec. 10	6:30 pm – Bell Choir (201) 7:30 pm – Christmas Choir (Choir Room) 8:15 pm – Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Fri.-Sat., Dec. 11-12	Joint Confirmation Retreat begins at: 6 pm Friday (Newtonville UMC)
Saturday Dec. 12	8 am to 5 pm – Prayer Vigil (Hummel Chapel)
Sunday, Dec. 13	8:30 am – Adult Bible Study (Library) 9:30 am – Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 am – Fellowship Hour 11:15 am – Church Conference (Fellowship Hall) 11 am - Theological & Social Issues (Lounge) 11 am – Intermediate Choir (Choir Room) 11 am – Junior Choir (219) 11 am – Youth Singers (217) 11:15 am – Christmas Choir (Sanctuary)
Monday, Dec. 14	10:30 am – Playgroup (Nursery)
Tuesday, Dec. 15	8 am – Men's Breakfast (4 Corners) 10 am – Treasure Cove (Lounge) 7 pm – Staff Parish (Room 207)
Wednesday, Dec. 16	10:30 am – Bible Study (Delmar Place) 10:30 am – Playgroup (Nursery)
Thursday, Dec. 17	6:30 pm – Bell Choir (201) 7:30 pm – Christmas Choir (Choir Room)
Church Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9 am – 3 pm	

Any news items that need to be published before Jan. 6 must be submitted by Dec. 18.

Nativity sets needed

Do you have a special nativity set? We would like yours to grace a Sanctuary window sill Dec. 13 through Epiphany, Jan. 6. The space is approx. 7.5 in. deep by 22 in. long. We ask that you set up your Nativity anytime between Dec 6 – Dec 12. Please contact Jamie Cable at jlsgoes@nycap.rr.com or 729-5516 if you would like to be a part of our Advent/Christmas Celebration in this way.

RPMs need winter clothing for their 'Midnight Run'

Look for donation boxes for our Midnight Run, which will be at the church starting in early December through February. We need lots of WARM winter items, preferably dark colors, such as: hats, gloves, sweaters and sweatshirts (large and x-large), pants (sizes 32-40), boots and/or sneakers (men's 9-12, women's/ 8 plus), long underwear, toiletries.

School's Out: At the Movies

Time: 1 pm Place: Fellowship Hall
 Admission: Food Item(s) for AUMS
 Popcorn: \$.50 (or byop)

Upcoming: Jan. 18 – The Sandlot

Notes on our holiday schedule

- Nan Rabinow, Office Manager, will be on vacation from Dec. 25 – Jan. 1. Please direct all needs to Natalie Darrone, Office Assistant, at 439-9976. If sending any email to ChurchOffice@delmarmethodist.org, please note in the subject line if the need is urgent.
- Offices will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.
- Office hours on Dec. 28 – 31 will be 9 am – 1 pm. Normal hours (9-3) will resume on Jan. 4.
- Our last **Telescope** edition for 2009 will be Dec. 23. Weekly publication will resume Jan. 6.

Our Church Family

Our congratulations: To Mark and Lynn Edgar on the birth of their second daughter, Abigail Wishart, on Nov. 24.

In our thoughts and prayers: Woody and Carole Carver, Henry Carr, Stan Kaltenborn, Beatrice Wallace, Jim Holland (Nan Rabinow), Jay Gallagher (David Shaffer), Kathleen Gingerskyl (Debbie Way), Ray Scheesley (Ten Eyck Family), Gil & Elsie Faustel (Karen Tedesco), Judy & Jim King (Julie Bushart), Dorothy Gisotti (Joe Gisotti), Tiffani Hughes (Byron & Barbara Wilson), Sam Kunis (Dana Burns), Mary Storm, Geneva Long, Jean Drew, Chris Sheridan (Dick & Jeanne Herrmann), Bernice Drozd (Karen Ward), Edwin Busch (Joan House).