

# DISPATCH DECEMBER 2023

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

The year is coming to a close, and it has been quite a year for our church! Between Confirmation classes, VBS, music Sundays, mission projects, and more, we have been very busy. We have been excited to welcome new family and friends to our church over the last year, and it has brought wonderful life into our midst. Financially, this has been a better year for us than many, as I am sure you have noticed in your bulletins each week. Thank you for your commitment to the mission and ministry of Dunlap United Methodist Church!

As we approach the end of the year, the Ad Council and I felt it was important that we update you on the state of our church financially. We want to thank each and every one of you for your generosity, as it has allowed us to serve God in incredible ways. We have been very blessed over this last year that giving has mostly been able to cover this year's bills.

Unfortunately, for the last ten years or so, we have been running the church on an unbalanced budget. Our income has been far below our projected expenses. In order to be good stewards of our resources, we have worked hard to spend no more money than is strictly necessary, but it has still left us in a deficit of about 15,000 dollars. We are working hard to keep the budget tight so we can pay that back, but it is a long and difficult process. Because of this, we only pay about 2/3 of our apportionment requirements to the Annual Conference.

In the last several months, we have had a unexpected expenses in the properties as well as ongoing costly expenses. The parsonage had a serious mold problem that required remediation and repairs that amounted to about 7000 dollars. We are working hard to find a quote to fix the parking lot, but the last quote came to 27,000 dollars—we are still looking for better quotes. Other expenses, like keeping our chair lift registered properly for 550 dollars, snow removal, and boiler maintenance are ongoing and require us to pay every year.

We know that expenses are tight for everybody these days, so giving can be difficult. We also know that no one can give if they do not know the need. If you find yourself looking for a way to give before the end of the year, please consider supporting the general fund or the improvement fund. Your gifts, regardless of size, are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all you do in support of Dunlap United Methodist Church and our task of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are all a blessing.

God bless,  
Pastor Melissa

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 18th    Dennis & Teresa Kline

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 3rd	Josiah Englehart
December 3rd	Karen Weeber
December 7th	Kaye Scheetz
December 7th	Joan Zehr
December 9th	Abigayle Montgomery
December 9th	Morgan Weatherholt
December 10th	Kay Adkins
December 14th	Judy Wells
December 18th	Gene Rosenberry
December 18th	Lacey Utley
December 19th	Jim Kuhn
December 21st	Kristen Weatherholt
December 24th	Delfino Flores
December 27th	Paula Kercher
December 27th	Ron Pressler
December 30th	Patsy Hartwick

## DECEMBER LITURGISTS

December 3rd	Jane Hunsberger
December 10th	Carolyn Anderson
December 17th	David Vollmar
December 24th	Karen Weeber
December 31st	Karen Newland

## DECEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

December 3rd	Poinsettias
December 10th	Poinsettias
December 17th	Poinsettias
December 24th	Poinsettias
December 31st	Poinsettias

# 2023 DECEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 Christmas Luncheon	4 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	5 Worship @ 6:30PM	6 SWANS @ 1PM Meal @ 6PM	7 Grief Group @ 1PM Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	8	9
10	11 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	12 Preschool XMAS Program	13	14 Grief Group @ 1PM Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	15	16
17	18 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	19	20	21 Grief Group @ 1PM Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	22	23
24 Worship Service @ 10AM & 11PM	25 	26 	27	28 Grief Group @ 1PM Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	29	30
31						

# **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

Everyone is invited to a Christmas Luncheon on Sunday, December 3rd immediately following Morning Worship. If you can bring a side or a dessert to share, great! If not, we still want you there! We look forward to celebrating the season as a church family!

## **DUMC PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Join us December 12th at 6PM for our preschoolers Christmas program! Each class will sing a few songs each and then we will have refreshments in the parish hall to follow!

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

Make plans to join us for a special time of worship at our Christmas Eve Service. Service will begin at 11:00PM. Everyone is welcome! Invite your friends and family to welcome in Christmas Day with a time of worship.

## **DUMC PRESCHOOL HAT, SOCK & MITTEN TREE**

Wishing you the joys & blessings of the season!

Once again we will be accepting donations for our Hat, Sock & Mitten tree the weeks of December 1st thru 17th. All donations will go to families in need. Items should be new and unwrapped. The tree will be on display in the preschool hall and you can place your donations there. Thank you for joining us in this season of giving! Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! - DUMC Preschool Staff & Committee

## **CALLING ALL YOUTH AND CHILDREN!**

December 17: Stay after church for lunch and dress rehearsal (all participants).  
December 24: Arrive by 9 AM for a run through and costumes.

On December 24, all youth and children are invited to be a part of our worship service and Christmas pageant. Please let Pastor Melissa or Alice know if you would like to participate in some way!

# COOKIE WALK 2024

When the questionnaire concerning support of the Cookie Walk was sent to the congregation, the results were support for cash donations rather than hosting a Cookie Walk.

The Cookie Walk has been a big fundraiser for our church for over 20 years! In trying to be creative to find a way to help make up those missing funds we are presenting the opportunity to help on Sunday, December 10.

The Cookie Walk committee will provide a donation container for you to deposit cash or checks. When trying to decide on how much you would like to donate, please consider all the costs you had when you baked your BEAUTIFUL cookies. Nothing can replace those cookies, nor the fun times we all had making trays, manning stations, meeting some wonderful people.

Please consider this carefully. As an incentive.....shh! There will be a surprise!  
Thank you in advance. We hope your Christmas season will be merry and bright!

## DUMC Shut In Ministry

*Some information concerning our Shut-Ins has been updated. Contact the church office for the updated copy of the Shut-In list, or pick up a paper copy of the newsletter in the church lobby on Sunday Morning.*



Dunlap United  
Methodist Church  
*Growing in Christ-like Love  
through intentional Outreach  
and Worship*

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Pastor's Cell: (765) 438-4545  
E-mail: [dunlapumc@frontier.com](mailto:dunlapumc@frontier.com)  
Office Hours:  
Mon. - Thurs.: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
(closed 12-1)  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### Our Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Melissa Englehart
Education Director	Alice Morris
Preschool Director	Cindy Covey
Office Manager	Brianna Primm
Custodian	Laura Utley
Choir/Bell Choir Dir.	TBD
Organist	Lois Coney

### Find us online!

**[www.elkhartdunlapumc.org](http://www.elkhartdunlapumc.org)**

Want to watch a service you missed?  
Need a bulletin?

Wonder what time your meeting is?

Want to pay your tithe?

All of this and MORE is available  
on our web site!