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*“Don't wait until the fourth Thursday in
November to sit with family and
friends to give thanks.
Make every day a day of
Thanksgiving!”*

Charmaine J. Forde

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*A monthly newsletter for
the membership of Drexel
Hill United Methodist
Church.*

November 2017

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Lord, I Want to Be In That Number



By Russell
Atkinson

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness. The Lord roars from Zion and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth tremble. But the Lord is a refuge for his people and a stronghold to the sons of Israel."

Joel 3:14-16

"When all the saints go marching in" -- that's what the jazz bands play as they march through the French quarter in New Orleans. I had taken this all in as it happened in movies like *Live and Let Die*, but now, here I was, as if filming on location, and experiencing it in real life. The band was

marching at the head of a funeral procession and, as it swayed its way to the cemetery, it provided an unforgettable spectacle for everyone who saw and heard it.

November 5th is All Saints' Sunday, marking when believers give thanks for all the saints we've known. No, I don't just mean those who, after a long and complicated process, have been beatified and then canonized. That kind of saint tends to be larger than life and impossibly good, a little frightening if I'm honest.

The apostle Paul, in his letters, has a more democratic understanding of saints --they are the ordinary people who take their faith seriously enough to put themselves out for it. That's good enough for me.

When I think of saints in this down-to-earth sense, I think of Mr. Way who taught me in Sunday School, or Earl Castles who

nursed his Ruby right through to the end, or Lillian Williams who helped people pay their bills though almost no one knew about it, or Emily Hillegas who made me laugh even as she died a faithful person's death in a quiet room at the end of a long corridor. Nothing spectacular, but salt of the earth.

In my dreams, these are the people I'll find in heaven. And when people like this are on the move, well . . . I know this: I want to be in their number, when the saints go marching in.

The saints of our congregation marching in that number this year are Rose Marie Amsel, Liola Fusco and Fred Hunter. Good God, thank you for the saints we have known, who set us an example, who believed in you, and who showed us the way to live our lives as they followed your Son, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.

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WORSHIP NOTES



November and the Ultimate

November is a various month for scripture this year. Even though all our Gospel lessons come from Matthew we have two important occasions to mark on the Church calendar – bookends to the month.

They are All Saints Sunday (All Saints is Nov.1, but we'll celebrate it on Nov. 5) and Christ the King on the last Sunday of the month – and also the last Sunday of the year according to the Church calendar.

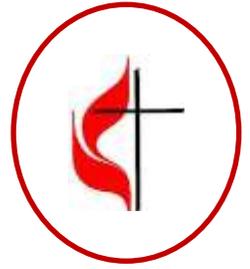
Two of the last three Sundays of the Christian year carry an eschatological focus (that part of theology concerned with the final events of history or the ultimate destiny of humanity). Passages from both Hebrew and Christian Testaments speak of ultimate commitment or of the return of Jesus, or they speak in parables that reflect a

protagonist who has been delayed in an anticipated appearance.

Living more than 20 centuries after the time of these passages makes it difficult for us to appreciate the urgency with which these issues arose for the various faith communities and the crises they endured.

A few thoughts about eschatology; it is not to merely a speculative venture where curious religious folk gamble on a time when the world will end (too many doomsday dates have come and gone). In the Bible, eschatology provides the framework for ethics, the context in which believers are called to live life aright. It is the coming advent of God that demands a distinctive style of life from the faithful. The lessons for these Sundays depict responses appropriate to the end-time.

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November Sunday services

5 November, All Saints Sunday (Communion, Musical Setting C, page 20)

Revelation 7:9:17; Psalm 34; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

711 For All the Saints

707 Hymn of Promise

90 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

12 November 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

“Keep Awake!”

66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

87 What Gift Can We Bring

399 Take My Life, and Let It Be

19 November 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon: “When to Invest” *Pastor Atkinson*

2236 Gather Us In

2150 Lord, Be Glorified

413 A Charge to Keep I Have

26 November Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

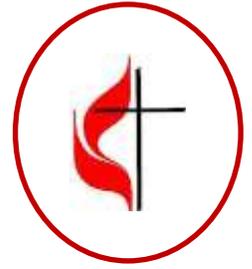
Sermon: “What Is Eternal?” *Pastor Atkinson*

66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

2087 We Will Glorify the King of Kings

327 Crown Him with Many Crowns

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FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:



Celebrate Stewardship Sunday on Nov. 12. The congregation will be receiving a letter soon in the mail containing a pledge card for 2018.

Pledge cards will also be available in the Narthex.

Congregants are asked to fill out the cards, which will be collected at a special service on Nov. 12.

Pledge cards may also be handed in at subsequent church services after Nov. 12, or mailed to the church office, 600 Burmont Road, Drexel Hill, PA 19026.

The Stewardship Committee thanks everyone for their prayerful consideration of their financial gifts to the church.

Thanksgiving Service Nov. 21

Continuing a 10-year tradition, an ecumenical Thanksgiving service with Drexel Hill Methodist, St. Mary Magdalene and The Garden Church will take place Tuesday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m., in McBurney Chapel. All are welcome.

The service will be preceded by refreshments at 6 p.m.

Donated refreshments are being accepted for the service.



Bible Study Tuesday Morning

Our congregation is having a Bible Study/Faith Formation Class! The class meets on Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m., in the Bohn Parlor: **9:30 - 9:45 a.m. - How goes it with your spirit?** **9:45 - 10:45 a.m. - Study** **10:45 - 11 a.m. - Prayer and Praise.**

The group is open to everyone.

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Bacon, Toast, and the Heavenly Host!



PHOTO BY DAVID BJORKGREN

If you've got an appetite for the Word of God and a good breakfast, come on out to the Perkins Restaurant, 706 N. Lansdowne Avenue in Drexel Hill (just a short hop from the high school) the first Thursday of each month. Led by Pastor Russell, you will eat eggs and hear about Ecclesiastes, partake of tea and the Pentateuch, bagels and Bible! The devotional breakfast begins at 9 a.m. The next breakfast will take place Thursday, Nov. 2. Come out for breakfast, a short devotional, and fellowship. Shown above, participants at the October breakfast devotional listen during a discussion with Pastor Russell.

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PHOTO BY ALEX MULLIN

Guest preacher

The church welcomed guest preacher Sharon L. Vandegrift to Oct. 29 services. Sharon was filling in for Pastor Russell who is celebrating his 20th wedding anniversary in France with his wife Barbara. Sharon is an elder and member of the Eastern PA Conference of the UMC. She serves in Extension Ministry as a Coach/Consultant for Bridge-the-Gap Church Renewal. In this capacity, Sharon partners with pastors, lay leaders and churches as they journey toward serving their communities in authentic and relevant ways. You can learn more about her ministry by visiting www.btgechurchrenewal.com. A big thank you to Sharon from the congregation for her inspiring sermon Oct. 29.

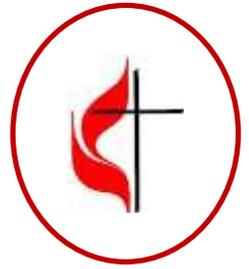
IN THE COMMUNITY

Once a month, on a Sunday afternoon (usually the day after our monthly RSC luncheon on Saturday, sandwiches and snacks are collected for those in Philadelphia having a tough time and delivered to them at Aviator Park across from the Franklin Institute. The visit includes a small worship service. Volunteers are welcome to join Pastor Russell for the next visit, scheduled for Nov. 26. If you'd like to make difference in the lives of others, please contact Pastor Atkinson.



The next RSC luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 25, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Rainbow Room (Fellowship Hall). The Project Reach Serve Care program provides a free hot catered lunch and friendly fellowship, to anyone in the community who wishes to attend.

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

Finding our roots at Mt. Pleasant Church, Part 1

(Information compiled from A History of the Drexel Hill United Methodist Church.)

The early history of Upper Darby indicates two distinct cultures. One was the development which followed along the streams, namely, Darby Creek and Cobbs Creek, which also served as the boundaries of the township. Darby Creek gave the district much prominence, in colonial times and later, because of the many mill-streams and water-powers located on its banks.

Between the two creeks, on higher ground, members of the Society of Friends settled and, by thrifty and careful husbandry, made the area very productive and its inhabitants comparatively wealthy. It is to the first group that we owe our heritage.

Prior to the Revolution, at the bend of Darby Creek and the present Springfield Township Line were several paper mills along with a grist mill.

Upper Darby lacked incidents in the Revolutionary War, but the territory was frequently visited by foraging parties of the enemy who swept the country-side clear of cattle and provisions and frequently robbed the inhabitants of their household possessions and money.

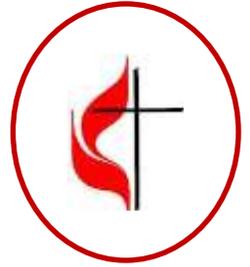
In the 1800s, immigrants from England began to develop mills along Darby Creek. The area north of where Garrett Road crosses Darby Creek was known as Heysville after the owner of two yarn mills. The area continued to grow with more mills begin constructed. The name of the area was changed to Addingham.

By 1832, it was felt there was a need for a church. Some of the men and women with a background of John Wesley in England started meeting in various homes. A society of Methodists was organized and called itself the Mount Pleasant Church.

The church was built behind the home of George Burnley at Garrett Road and Burnley Lane next to a quarry. The cornerstone was laid June 27, 1837. The site was chosen because of its nearness to the mills and to the people of Garrettford.

The mills were converted into factories over time and by 1850 Mount Pleasant's membership grew rapidly. By 1900, owing to a severe depression that closed many of the mills, Mount Pleasant Church was forced to close its doors. **(Part 2 in December)**

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The following thank you notes were received at Drexel Hill United Methodist Church:

Oct. 23, 2017

My dear family and friends,

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!! for the beautiful flowers that were on the altar a week ago. What a beautiful surprise and it was so nice to see Sally Mullin.

I really miss my church family.

I have them on top of the mantel looking down at me in my chair and can feel the church service and hear the hymns. I can see the seat where I always sat next to Fran, in front of Diane.

Thank you again.



Love,
Bettie Krom

July 20, 2017

Dear Rev. Hawes,

My dad asked me to write to you and all the people of Drexel Hill United Methodist Church to thank you for all the Birthday Cards and good wishes that you sent him for his 100th birthday. It has been a blessing. It was so kind and thoughtful. We have been savoring them, by reading a few each time I visit.

It has extended the celebration, and we were able to enjoy each card. They are displayed around his room. Once again, thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Many blessings, Susan Tribit (Ed Klein's daughter)

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“And their life will be like a watered garden, and they will never languish again.”

Jeremiah 31:12



Summer's beauty

A photo is worth a thousand words, especially these photos. The church's landscaping/ gardening project has been a huge success.

Now it's time to plant for Spring's beauty. Everyone is invited to help out at a bulb planting party set for Thursday, Nov. 16, at 9:30 a.m.

Come on out and help make the beauty happen! See Barbara O'Connell for more information, or look for Notices in the Church bulletin, website or Facebook page.

You can check out videos of the original tree plantings by visiting the church Facebook page, www.facebook.com/drexelhillmethodists/

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Coat drive warms lives of up to 19 people

Last week's coat and blanket collection will provide the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County with six blankets, 13 adult coats and a scarf hat. The coats and blankets were delivered to the Center at 63rd and Market. Thank you to everyone who contributed. You have helped some people be a little warmer this winter.



PHOTOS BY ALEX MULLIN

During the Oct. 22 worship service, the children brought donated coats and blankets up to the altar so the congregation could see what was donated.

A video showing this annual tradition can be viewed on the church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/drexelhillmethodists/ or on the church's website, www.dhum.org.

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But wait...there's more coming up from Outreach

The envelopes for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets are now in the pews. The baskets go to poor families in the Upper Darby School District as identified by the Social Workers at the schools.

We are so blessed to have this opportunity every Thanksgiving to help others have a better holiday. Thank you in advance for your help. This is a very generous congregation.

Outreach is also collecting shoeboxes for its annual "Be an Angel" Project at Christmas. The shoeboxes can be left in the Narthex on the shelves near the food collection bins.



And remember, you can bring a food donation for the food bank any and all Sundays.

Nursery school presents Halloween parade



The Drexel Hill Methodist Nursery School continued a tradition started 34 years ago, when the children turned up in costume Friday, Oct. 27, to celebrate Halloween with its annual costume parade around the gym.

From princesses to Spiderman, the cop on the beat to witches, there were plenty of people, characters and things to see at this year's parade.

The event concluded with the traditional dance of the Hokey Pokey with parents and children all joining in. Check out the photos below. You can also see a video of the parade on the church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/drexelhillmethodists/ and on the church website. Thanks to Debby Rogenmuser and her staff for organizing this fun event for kids and parents alike.

To find out more about the nursery school, visit www.drexelhillmethodistnurseryschool.com.

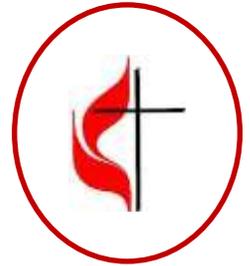
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PHOTOS BY DAVID BJORKGREN



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(The following article comes from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference website)



Bishop Patrick Streiff, left, of the Central and Southern Europe Episcopal Area, greets the Rev. Daniel Onashuyaka Lunge after he is elected a United Methodist bishop by delegates at the Congo Central Conference on March 18. Photo by Eveline Chikwanah, UMNS

Central Congo Bishop to visit our conference Nov. 1-2 ***EPC mission team to visit there in Feb. 2018***

BY JOHN COLEMAN

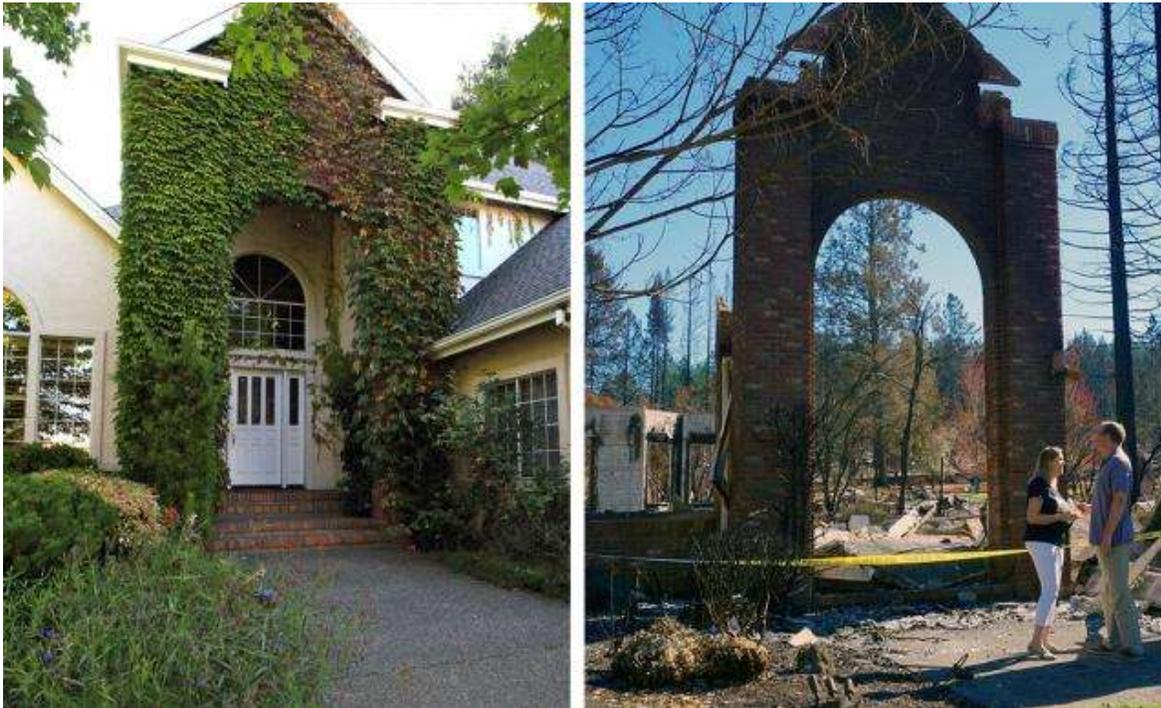
Eastern PA Conference members are urged to come meet the Central Congo Area's new bishop at **Lima UMC on Wednesday, Nov. 1, at 7 PM**, and celebrate our successful, life-saving Congo Partnership mission efforts there. We will also consecrate a team to visit that area next February. [SEE MORE](#)

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AROUND THE WORLD

(The following article comes from the People of the United Methodist Church website)



Photos by Sue Larson, courtesy of the Rev. Blake Busick

The Rev. Blake Busick and his wife, Peggy, returned to their Santa Rosa home after it was destroyed by the California wildfires that started on Oct. 9. Left image shows the Busicks' home before it was ravaged by fire.

Santa Rosa residents return to ashes

By Kathy L. Gilbert
Oct. 27, 2017 (UMNS)

The Rev. Blake Busick and his wife, Peggy, got a first look at their house and neighborhood just a few days ago after the worst California wildfire on record savaged their area. All that remains of their beautiful home is the brick archway. “The striking thing for us was not just that we had lost a home but we have lost a neighborhood,” said Busick, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa. [SEE MORE](#)

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November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 REFORMATION SUNDAY Open Church on Parkway	30 NURSERY SCHOOL Halloween Parade	31 HALLOWEEN	1 ALL SAINTS CUB SCOUTS/BOY SCOUT Open House	2 BREAKFAST AND DEVOTIONS, 9 a.m., Perkins CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary	3	4
5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Daylight Savings	6 SPRC Meeting, 7 p.m., Church office	7 FINANCE Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Church office	8 CUB SCOUTS	9 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary	10	11 SCOUT FOOD COLLECTION
12 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY	13 ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL 7 p.m., Bohn Parlor	14	15 CUB SCOUTS	16 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary	17	18 SHOPPING FOR THANKSGIVING BASKETS
19 PACKING THANKSGIVING BASKETS	20 THANKSGIVING BASKETS PICK UP	21 THANKSGIVING SERVICE, 7 p.m., McBurney Chapel	22 CUB SCOUTS	23 THANKSGIVING DAY	24	25 RSC LUNCH 11:30-1 p.m.
26 Be An Angel Drive begins	27	28 TRUSTEES Meeting, 7 p.m., Church Office	29 CUB SCOUTS	30 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary	1	2