

Good News

From Darrtown United Methodist Church
for November/December, 2007



Dear Friends,

This November-December newsletter is the hardest one to prepare. For one thing, it is the busiest two months of the year. Secondly, two of our biggest and most important holidays fall in those two months. Then the year ends (begins) with another holiday.

In 1621, after a devastating first year in the New World, the Pilgrims' governor, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving in honor of their good fall harvest. The festival was celebrated by the colonists and their neighbors, the Native American Indians.

Later, during the American Revolution, the Continental Congress declared a day of national thanksgiving. By 1871, New York State had adopted a Thanksgiving Day. By the middle of that century, many other states were celebrating a Thanksgiving Day also.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of Thanksgiving. Though it seems fixed on our calendars, each President, each year designates one day as our national Thanksgiving Day.

As our church moves toward Advent, and through Thanksgiving, I would pray that we would begin to see more clearly the part that God plays in our lives and be thankful for all that comes our way. Sometimes we have to learn how to "praise God in all things." But the rewards of a life lived closer to our creator surpass anything we can know otherwise.

Be ye thankful and rejoice!

See YOU in church!

Rev. Ed

Upcoming Events

November

- Each Wednesday: Choir practice at 6:30 pm
- Nov. 1 (Thurs): Part 2 of Charge Conference at Monroe UMC 7:00-8:30 pm. All Admin Board officials should plan to attend.
- Nov. 3 (Sat): Darrrtown's Turkey Dinner & Bazaar 4:30 – 7:00 pm
- Nov. 4 (Sun): 9:00 am The Sacrament of Communion; we honor our deceased members; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am
- Nov. 5 (Mon): United Methodist Women meet at 7:00
- Nov. 11 (Sun): 9:00 am worship; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am; Veterans Day
- Nov. 12 (Mon): Admin Council meeting at 7:00 pm
- Nov. 15 (Thurs): Spirit Seekers meet at McGonigle-Millville at 7:00 pm
- Nov. 18 (Sun): Thanksgiving Sunday; worship at 9:00 am; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am; World Thank Offering boxes accepted during worship service; recognition of Memorial gifts in 2007
- Nov. 22 (Thurs): Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 25 (Sun): United Methodist Student Day Offering; worship at 9:00 am; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am

December

- Each Wednesday: Choir practice at 6:30 pm
- Dec. 1 (Sat): Church Christmas Party at 6:00 pm; bring a covered dish
- Dec. 2 (Sun): First Sunday in Advent – Hope; worship at 9:00 am – Advent Wreath Lighting; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am
- Dec. 9 (Sun): Second Sunday in Advent – Peace; Children's Christmas Program at 9:00 am ; Sunday School at 10:00 am; Hopewell Christmas Celebration at 5:30 pm
- Dec. 10 (Mon): Hold for Admin Council meeting
- Dec. 13 (Thurs): 7:00 pm Community Christmas Music Program
- Dec. 16 (Sun): Third Sunday in Advent – Joy; worship at 9:00; Sunday School at 10:00 am
- Dec. 20 (Thurs): Spirit Seekers meet at McGonigle-Millville at 7:00 pm

- Dec. 23 (Sun): Fourth Sunday in Advent – Love; worship at 9:00 am with Special Christmas Celebration; Sunday School at 9:15 and 10:00 am
- Dec. 24 (Mon): Christmas Eve Worship at 7:24 pm
- Dec. 25 (Tues): Christmas Day – give thanks for the coming of God in human form
- Dec. 30 (Sun): First Sunday of Christmas – 6th Day of 12 Days of Christmas
- Dec. 31 (Mon): New Year's Eve

GREETERS – USHERS - HOSPITALITY

Volunteers are needed. Please indicate your willingness to help by signing the sign-up sheets located on the Annex bulletin boards.

For refreshments, volunteers are needed on a two-week basis. Please use the sign-up sheets or contact Etta Jean at 524-2144.

ACOLYTES

November – Carly Hansel
December – to be announced

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Volunteers are needed for the month of December.



Dorothy Beckett
Melva Ward
Juanita Anderson
Ashley Leck
Anna Kincaid
Irene Nutley

PRAYERS REQUESTS

Jill & Dave Morris (Iraq)
Rev. Ed & Robyn Beck
Bill & JoAnn Coombs
Bernice Coleman
Lawrence Baumann
Jerry & Myra Krauth
Tom Amiot (Mickey Pate's dad)
Christy Cornett
Hollister Family

*God calls us to act when we see injustice.
Doing nothing is not acceptable.*



Looking Forward

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

Remember to join us this Saturday, November 3rd for our annual Turkey Dinner from 4:30 – 7:00 pm. Bring your friends and neighbors. Also, please be generous with your time and donations to help make this dinner another successful event for our church.

Also this evening, plan to browse the United Methodist Women's Bazaar for crafts and baked goods.

NOV. 4 – RECOGNITION OF OUR HONORED DEAD

All Saints Sunday has always been the time to honor the deceased Saints of the church. It has only been done again in recent years.

Both churches will have an opportunity during a special part of the November 4th "All Saints Sunday" worship to recognize family members who have passed on since this time last year.

Only McGonigle-Millville Church has had members go home to God this year. Helen Campbell and Glenn Miller will be honored this year as part of All Saints Sunday.

CHURCH CHOIR

The choir has begun a new season. We welcome you to join with us and share the sincere, loving fellowship each Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30 pm.

Thanks, Donna and Shawn, for opening your home on September 19th with a dinner served to all choir members and their spouses. It was good to be together again as we go about praising and thanking the Lord in song.

ADVENT

Like Lent, which is a time of preparation for Easter, Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas. It is hard for us to believe, in the midst of all the commercialism, that Christmas is a Christian special day.

Advent is the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Each of these special services begins with the lighting of the Advent wreath. Each Sunday has a theme in the preparation of our spirits for the coming of the Christ. The whole Old Testament is preparation for the coming of the Messiah, or Christ.

If you would like to participate in the lighting of the Advent wreath, please let me know! Rev. Ed (896-4025)

ANNUAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Plan to join the fun and fellowship on Saturday, December 3rd at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite covered dish. The United Methodist Women will provide meat, drinks and table service. This evening is a time to share small gifts of appreciation to our pastor and his wife for their dedication and work during the year.

CHRISTMAS BELLS ARE RINGING

Already? Yes, we are starting the Christmas Pageant already! The kids chose which play they want to do. We will practice every Sunday at the 9:00 Sunday School hour. There are speaking parts and non-speaking parts, parts for everyone! Please come and see what we are doing and join in the fun. We will perform our Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 9th during the worship hour. There will be special treats for everyone who is in the play. Give me a call if you have any questions (523-9901). Thanks, Debra Steger

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MUSIC FEST

This year's Community Christmas Music Fest will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 7:00 pm. Come and enjoy many surprisingly talented performances. We also ask that you bring canned foods for donation to "Choice Pantry," formerly the Oxford Family Resource Center.

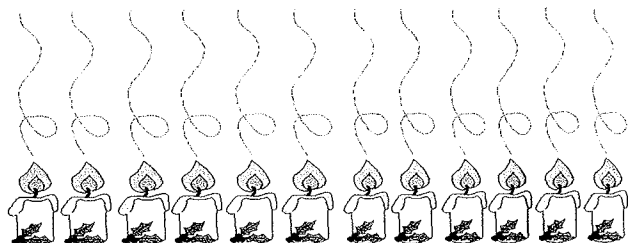
CHRISTMAS EVE

At 7:24 pm on December 24th, the families of the McGonigle-Darrtown Charge will gather in worship and celebration of the birth of God in human form.

This pattern of worship is one Rev. Beck has used for a long time. It includes scripture, carols, choir and candles, and a moving Christmas story. We will be lighting our candles in special cup holders this year.

For many people, the Christmas Eve Service is the highlight of the year. We hope you will join us again – or for the first time.

Celebrate the reason for the season: Jesus the Christ!

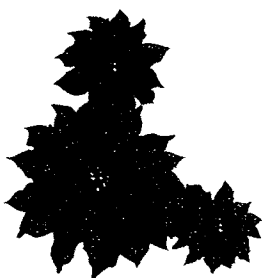


SPIRIT SEEKERS

Spirit Seekers will meet on Thursday, November 15th to complete their study of the "Women of the Bible." They will be exploring other themes for future study and growth. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm and end by 8:30 pm.

December will find these Spirit Seekers gathered again at McGonigle-Millville Church on Thursday, December 20th. All are welcome. The group is composed of women from both churches and the community. Any woman seeking God's Spirit is welcome.

Amy McDiffett does a wonderful job leading our study. If you have any questions, please see Amy.



ALTAR FLOWERS

We want to encourage you to give flowers in honor or memory of a loved one on any given Sunday. Especially at this time of year, you may want to share your love and memories through flowers to enhance our Advent and Christmas season worship services.

Please contact Caren Hansel, Flower Coordinator, at 868-8739 (home) or 523-7597 (work), or you may e-mail her at ceh@dzshq.com.

FOR OUR KITCHEN

Our church is in need of a new dishwasher. At this time, the United Methodist Women have a project going which would provide a substantial amount of money toward this purchase. Cathy Richardson has donated a beautiful log cabin design quilt which she made, and tickets can be purchased for \$1 each or six for \$5. Donations are accepted also. Contact Etta Jean Crawford or Cathy Richardson.

TRUSTEES REPORT

Several projects have either been completed or are presently underway at the church this year.

- The parking lot has been patched, sealed and re-lined
- A new door was installed in the kitchen.
- Our entire social room, kitchen, classroom area and office received a fresh coat of paint.
- The furnace room door was replaced with a new steel slab door.
- Restoration of the stained glass windows has begun. We have been able to do half the work needed on the windows due to the kind gifts from several members. It is hoped that additional families will sponsor a window so that we will be able to continue the restoration next year.
- We are talking with one company about storm windows to cover the stained glass, but are having trouble finding other companies to get bids for the work. If anyone knows of someone who may do this type of work, please let one of the trustees know.
- Thanks to Jerry and Myra Krauth for doing the leg work on finding the new padded chairs for the social room. 100 chairs were purchased. Remember, you can adopt one or more of the new chairs with a \$10 donation to the "New Chair Fund." Thanks to those who have already donated.
- Thanks to all who have helped with this year's projects.

Shawn Gallaghe

Looking Back

UMW ANNUAL DAY

On September 16th, three United Methodist Women attended the Ohio River Valley District "United We Sing" Annual Day at Forest Chapel, where the 2008 District Officers were introduced. Wonderful musical entertainment was provided by the Forest Chapel Ensemble, a group of eight women singers. A memorial service was held for those of the District who had passed away.

Our unit received another Five-Star Unit Certificate, meaning that we participated in five different mission categories throughout the year. (cont)

God's Gifts

*Lift up your voices. Let them ring evermore,
With songs of Thanksgiving to the One we adore.
For the sunshine and rain, animals, flowers and trees,
But for Him there would be no gifts such as these.*

Elizabeth McClung

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.

James 1:17

It was good to be with many, many sisters in Christ. All members of the new Ohio River Valley District team has worked hard in making the transition.

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

In October, to show our appreciation for Rev. Ed and Robyn's continued service and dedication to our church, Rev. Ed was presented with a monetary gift.

CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOUS

- 👍 Congratulations to **Adam Blalock** and **Tucker Lindley** for receiving their Bibles on Promotions Sunday!
- 👍 Congratulations to **Shelby Cook** who will be moving to the Youth Group.
- 👍 Congratulations to **Donna Gallagher** for being awarded a "Special Mission Recognition" pin by the UMW.
- 👍 Thank you to **Ron & Pam Hatten** for volunteering to teach the youth's Sunday School.
- 👍 Thanks to **Donna & Shawn Gallagher** for hosting a dinner / choir practice at their home on September 19th.
- 👍 Thanks to all who helped make our 3rd annual fish fry a success.
- 👍 Thanks to all who donated socks to our September mission. 198 pair of socks, 2 pair of bedroom slippers, and \$10 cash were given to the Oxford Resource Center.



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
RISE, SHINE, GLORIFY GOD**

All women of the church and community are invited to be a part of this caring and sharing group, locally and globally. Our reason is to be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the local and global ministries of the church.

COMING UP

- November's meeting: Monday, Nov. 5 at 7:00 pm. Hostesses: Sarah Jane Nichol and Elsie Nichol. Will be preparing for our shut-in Christmas project.
- December: no meeting. Instead, join us for the annual Christmas party on Saturday, December 1st at 6:00 pm. Bring a covered dish.

MISSIONS

- Month of Nov: World Thank Offering boxes of coins to be collected on Sunday, November 18.
- Month of Dec: Christmas projects to be announced.

REMINDERS

- ✓ Bazaar on Saturday, November 3rd during the annual turkey dinner, 4:30-7:00 pm. Baked goods and crafts need to be delivered by 3:00 pm. All craft items should be priced.
- ✓ Save Campbell Soup UPC labels
- ✓ Save your coins for the World Thank Offering. Boxes to be given during worship on November 18.
- ✓ Save old cell phones

Happy Birthday!

- Nov. 3: Mickey Pate
- Nov. 29: Christy Heinrich
- Dec. 1: Elsie Nichol
- Dec. 27: Carolyn Sadler
- Dec. 30: Laura Cohen

Forgiveness Therapy
Keeping a record of wrongs weighs us down on our spiritual journey.

NOTICE: DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The next deadline date for submitting articles is **December 20, 2007**. Items can be given to Maxine Harris or Ida Mae Lemmons. You may also send information via e-mail to Maxine at: maxakers03@aol.com.

Teens Growing In Faith

By Megan Beckemeier

The youth group hasn't been up to much recently. Sports and school are keeping most of us busy.

Our featured teen is **Chloe Hansel**. She recently turned sixteen and is a sophomore at Talawanda High School. She was named the MVP (Most Valuable Player) of the 2007 JV Volleyball Team. She will also be playing JV Basketball this year. Chloe is an active member of Young Life.

The youth group would like to thank the Hattens (Ron and Pam) for teaching our Sunday morning class and also for being such great people.

We would like to wish Robyn a speedy recovery with lots of love and prayers.

ANGELS



AMONG US

A Child's Eye View of Heavenly Creatures

My angel looks like a clump of snow on a sunny day.

(age 3)

An angel is a bird with a person in the middle.

(age 4)

They could make everybody happy if only people would listen.

(age 4)

An angel is a kind of fairy that controls the weather. When it's sunny, they've lit a candle. When it is raining, it is their tears. Thunder is those angels bowling, and when it is snowing, the angels are having a pillow fight. When leaves fall from the trees in the fall, the angel people are coloring paper and fluttering it down. My angel's name is Thumblestorm.

(age 5)

Angels always walk on their tiptoes.

(age 6)

Angels are silent. They just are there for you. It is like an inside thing.

(age 7)

When angels wave their arms, it makes music.

(age 8)

Angel of Love makes sure you're never alone and you always have friends. It tells you to be kind to people.

(age 9)

From *Drawing Angels Near: Children Tell of Angels in Words and Pictures*, by Mimi Doe & Garland Waller

VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11TH

TAPS

Why "Taps" is played.

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, "Taps." It is the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. Here is the story behind the song.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted.

The haunting melody we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born. The words are:

Day is done ... Gone the sun from the lakes ...
From the hills ... From the sky ... All is well.
Safely rest ... God is nigh.
Fading light ... Dims the sight ... And a star
Gems the sky gleaming bright from afar ...
Drawing nigh ... Falls the night.
Thanks and praise ... For our days neath the sun ...
Neath the stars ... Neath the sky. As we go
This we know ... God is nigh.

Remember those lost and harmed while serving their country and also those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES
OF THE
DARRTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – 2008

RADICAL HOSPITALITY (Congregational Care and Nurture)

Chairperson: Ida Mae Lemmons

- Worship, First Visitors. Robyn Beck
 - Homebound / Nursing Home Visits. Jane Menke
 - Missed Worship Follow-up Donna Gallagher
 - Funeral / Sick / Hospital Flowers. Dodie Ogle
 - Funeral Meals Carolyn Russell / Donna Gallagher
 - Birthdays / Anniversaries. Robyn Beck
 - Membership Secretary. Sally Hansel / Donna Gallagher
 - Prayer Chain Robyn Beck / Sally Hansel
 - Bulletins / Newsletters Maxine Harris
 - Family Fellowship Sandy Beckemeier / Rhonda Knight
 - Church Historian Irene Hansel / Ida Mae Lemmons
 - Lay Leader. Sally Hansel
- Pastor: Ed Beck

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

Chairperson: Donna Gallagher

- Greeters / Ushers Myra & Jerry Krauth
 - Acolytes / Bell Ringer. Lora Richardson
 - Hospitality / Fellowship Time. Etta Jean Crawford
 - Communion Steward. Carolyn Sadler
 - Altar Care. Laura Cohen
 - Altar Flowers Caren Hansel
 - Brass Care. Ken & Carolyn Russell
 - Choir Director. Choir Committee
 - Organist Donna Gallagher / Ida Mae Lemmons
 - Pianist Laura Cohen / Ida Mae Lemmons
 - Seasonal Decorations. Caren Hansel / Laura Cohen
 - Christmas Children's Program. to be determined
- Pastor: Ed Beck

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson: Shawn Gallagher

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Karen Meador	Shawn Gallagher	Bob Ison
Bill Coomibs	Jerry Krauth	Gary Lowe
Larry Simison	Rhonda Knight	Sally Hansel

Pastor: Ed Beck

FINANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Chairperson: Kenny Russell

- Treasurer. Sally Hansel
 - Chairperson of Administrative Council. Harry Ogle
 - Financial Secretary Mickey Pate
 - Lay Member to Annual Conference. Carolyn Russell
 - Representative from Trustees Shawn Gallagher
 - Lay Leader. Sally Hansel
 - United Methodist Women Treasurer Etta Jean Crawford
- Pastor: Ed Beck

CHARGE CONFERENCE SECRETARY: Maxine Harris

PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (A Charge Committee)

Chairperson: Sally Hansel Pastor: Ed Beck
Alt. Lay Member to Annual Conference / McGonigle-Millville . . . Carol Beckett
Lay Member to Annual Conference / Darrtown . . . Carolyn Russell
3 from each church

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Larry Simison (DT)	Dodie Ogle (DT)	Mike Hawkins (DT)
Amy McDiffett (M-M)	Shelee Webster (M-M)	Evelyn Kuhlmann (M-M)
Pastor: Ed Beck		

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Pastor, Ed Beck
Lay Leader: Sally Hansel (9 at Large)

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Rhonda Knight	Donna Gallagher	Carolyn Russell
Karen Meador	Robyn Beck	Laura Cohen
Dodie Ogle	Bob Ison	Myra Krauth

RISK TAKING SERVICE / MISSION

Chairperson: Rhonda Knight
Monthly Mission Project. Ida Mae Lemmons / Ed Beck
Special Events:
Publicity Kathy Menke
Sign Board Donna Gallagher
Ice Cream Social. Laura Cohen / Sally Hansel / Ken Russell
Turkey Dinner Sally Hansel / Sue Hansel / Rhonda Knight
Resurrection Sunday. Robyn Beck / Donna Gallagher
New Member Orientation. Rhonda Knight
Community Events. Phyllis Flick / Ida Mae Lemmons
Pastor: Ed Beck

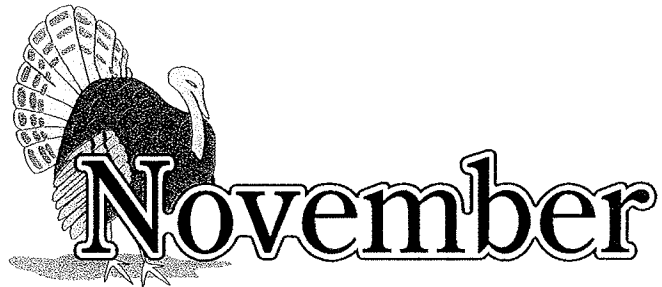
FAITH FORMING RELATIONSHIPS (Education)

Chairperson: Debra Steger
Sunday School Superintendent. Debra Steger
Sunday School Secretary / Attendance. Ida Mae Lemmons
Representative for Youth. Ron Hatten / Sally Hansel
Vacation Bible School Debra Steger / Sandy Beckemeier
Pastor: Ed Beck

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Chairperson: Harry Ogle
Lay Member to Annual Conference Carolyn Russell
Lay Leader Sally Hansel
Treasurer Sally Hansel
Financial Secretary. Mickey Pate
Administrative Council Secretary Maxine Harris
Chairpersons from:
Radical Hospitality. Ida Mae Lemmons
Passionate Worship. Donna Gallagher
Risk Taking Service. Rhonda Knight
Faith Forming Relationships Debra Steger
Finance Kenny Russell
Representative from Trustees. Shawn Gallagher
Representative from Youth Ron Hatten
Representative from United Methodist Women. Ida Mae Lemmons
Pastor: Ed Beck

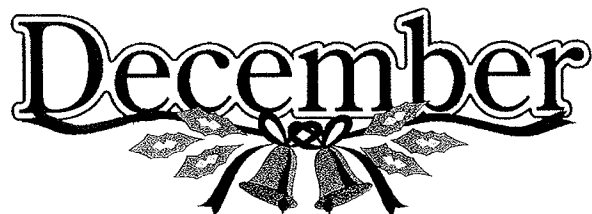
Darrtown United Methodist Church



2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Annual Turkey Dinner & Bazaar 4:30 - 7:00 pm Mickey Pate birthday
4 Communion All Saints Sunday	5 UMW at 7:00 pm Harold & Cathy Richardson anniversary	6	7 6:30 choir	8	9	10
11 Veterans Day Mike Hawkins birthday	12 Admin Council at 7:00 pm Megan Beckemeier birthday	13	14 6:30 choir	15 Spirit Seekers at 7:00 pm at M-M Al & Jane Menke anniversary	16 Stephanie & Stacey Ison birthday Dee Arnold birthday	17 Tucker Lindley birthday
18 Thanksgiving Sunday	19	20	21 Bob & Donna Rungay anniversary	22 Thanksgiving Day	23 Harry Ogle birthday	24
25 United Methodist Student Day Offering Ken Russell Jr birthday	26	27	28 6:30 choir	29 Christy Heinrich birthday	30	

Darrtown United Methodist Church



2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Covered Dish Christmas Party 6:00 pm Elsie Nichol birthday
2 1st Sunday in Advent - Hope	3	4	5 6:30 pm choir	6 Gary Lowe B-day	7	8 JoAnn Coombs birthday Pam Lindley birthday
9 2nd Sunday in Advent - Peace Children's Prog. 5:30 pm Hopewell Christmas	10 Admin Council (?)	11	12 6:30 pm choir	13 7:00 pm Community Christmas Music Program	14	15
16 3rd Sunday in Advent - Joy	17 Corky & Melba Gross anniversary	18	19 6:30 pm choir Andy Bruck birthday	20 7:00 pm Spirit Seekers at M-M Helen Bruck birthday	21	22 Shawn Webster birthday
23 4th Sunday in Advent - Love	24 7:24 pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas Day	26 Zach Russell birthday	27 Carolyn Sadler birthday	28	29
30 1st Sunday of Christmas Laura Cohen birthday	31 New Year's Eve					