

**East Canton United  
Methodist Church**

**Shunk United  
Methodist Church**

**Ward United  
Methodist Church**

**St. John's Grover  
United Methodist  
Church**



# ***The Tri-County Parish***

## **Circuit Rider Series November 2022**

**St. John's Grover UMC**

**Worship: 9:30 am**

**539 Grover Road, Grover PA, 17735**

**Church Phone: (570) 673-5444**

**Office Phone: (570) 673-5294**

**Shunk UMC**

**Worship: 11:10 am**

**9881 Route 154, Shunk, PA 17768**

**Church Phone: (570) 924-3099**

**Office Phone: (570) 673-5294**

**East Canton UMC**

**Worship: 10:30 am**

**5791 Route 414, Canton, PA 17724**

**Church Phone: (570) 673-4656**

**Office Phone: (570) 673-5294**

**Ward UMC**

**Worship: 9:15 am**

**587 Church Road, Canton, PA 17724**

**Church Phone: (570) 673-4937**

**Office Phone: (570) 673-5294**

**\*Please make sure all correspondence is clearly marked with P.O. Box 313 without it, it is undeliverable by the US Postal Service and will be returned.**

### **Parish Office**

**Jennifer Jones, Senior Pastor**  
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**Administrative Assistant/Treasurer**  
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**Cell: 570-529-4340**

If a member of your family or a friend is hospitalized, please contact the parish office (570-673-5294) as soon as possible (you can leave a message after office hours). Pastors Jennifer or Julie would like to make a visit, but since hospitals discharge patients so quickly, we need to know as soon as possible when your family member is in the hospital. Also, if you or a member of your family would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please let us know so Pastor Jennifer can arrange a visit. No one should go without this important sacrament in their lives.

### **Contributors**

Jennifer Jones, Julie Wagner,  
Debbie Morse, Suzi Fisher,  
Andrea Sutton, and Dana Vermilya.

Items for the newsletter can be sent to  
your church's contact person  
or by email to  
[tricityparishumc@gmail.com](mailto:tricityparishumc@gmail.com).

The Circuit Rider is available by  
e-mail. If you would like to have your  
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the parish office, or contact us by  
email.

Office: 570-673-5294  
[tricityparishumc@gmail.com](mailto:tricityparishumc@gmail.com).

The Circuit Rider is also available at:  
[www.tricityparishumc.yolasite.com](http://www.tricityparishumc.yolasite.com).

**Give thanks to the  
Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures  
forever.**

**1 Chronicles 16:34**

***Join us in person or stream us on YouTube or Facebook!***

***Facebook: Tri-County Parish***

***YouTube: Canton Ecumenical Parish UMC***

***Website: [www.tricityparishumc.yolasite.com](http://www.tricityparishumc.yolasite.com)***

# *Announcements and Opportunities*

**Mission Opportunity** - I am going to Honduras on a mission trip with Healthy Ninos Honduras January 7, 2023. The team will be running medical clinics or pouring cement floors. Unfortunately, it has become difficult to bring any medicine into the country but if you would like to partner with me, I will be collecting reader glasses, small stuffed animals, work gloves, crayons and coloring books, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and inflatable balls. You can drop off your donations at the parsonage office or St. John's. Thank you. Beverly Unruh.

**Daylight Saving Time: Ends Sunday, November 6, 2022.**

**Election Day: Tuesday, November 8, 2022.**

**East Canton Recycling - Saturday, Nov. 12, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

This program runs March through December on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month.

**The Church Conference: Sunday, November 13, 2 p.m. at East Canton UMC.**

This is open to anyone who attends church. Voting is for members only.

**Submissions for the December Circuit Rider are due November 15.**

**Friday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. is a community Thanksgiving dinner at St John's Grover. Concert to follow with Gideon Lapitan. Please join us!**

## **Bible Studies**

East Canton Parsonage: Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. *Topic: John*

Shunk: Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. *Topic: Esther*

East Canton Parsonage: Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. *Topic: The Chosen*

**Tri-County Parish Youth Group: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at East Canton.**

**Prayer Warriors: Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. at East Canton Parsonage.**

## **Canton Food Pantry:**

- November - Tuna
- December - Cans of Pasta meals (like SpaghettiOs, Raviolis, etc.)
- January 2023 - Instant Mashed potatoes
- February - Cans of Chicken
- March - Spaghetti noodles (pasta)
- April - Spaghetti Sauce
- May - Any kind of canned Fruit
- June - Peanut butter (small or medium jars)

**Sullivan County Food Pantry:** Accepting canned goods and monetary gifts.  
P.O. Box 55 Dushore, PA 18614

# Words of Wisdom

By Pastor Jennifer Jones

As I continue to unpack boxes and try to get organized, I find myself still moving items from place to place, shuffling papers and books, figuring on how to best organize items. We seem to have become busier people and struggle to find organization and calm in our lives.

Then I think about the people of Florida and surrounding areas who are in complete disorganization, and I realize I am blessed to have the simple disruption in my life. I have a roof over my head, clothes on my back, I am not trying to find drinking water or a place to lay down at night. I am truly blessed by God! No, my life isn't perfect. I have struggles like everyone else, but my God is good. Whatever struggles come my way; He is there with me to see me through.

Matthew 6: 31-33, 31 "So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' 32 These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. 33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. Easy for us to follow when we haven't gone through the devastation of a hurricane, tornadoes, flooding and the like there of, but we know what worry does to us. It can make us sick, depressed, anxious, and many other things.

While we can't comfort those with the words from Matthew, we can do something to help them recover. UMCOR, United Methodist Committee On Relief needs our help. We are being called upon for supplies to help those devastated by the hurricane. What do you think? Can the Tri County Parish work together to put either some cleaning kits, or hygiene kits together? I will be waiting to hear from you. Pastor Jennifer Jones.

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## *Month of Thanksgiving for the Canton Food Pantry*

Last year, many of you put together a food box to help the Canton Food pantry with their Month of Thanksgiving gift boxes. We thought it would be a great opportunity again this year to help out. You can either fill your own box or fill boxes together as a church. **Boxes are due by Wednesday, November 30, 2022.**

We will start at the beginning. Genesis 1:11 tells us that God planted every good kind of seedbearing vegetation. Let's put some **cans of fruit** into our box. We remember the soup Jacob made for his hungry brother, Esau, so we will add **cans of soup** and a **can of beans**. We remember how God promised the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey so, lets add a **can of evaporated milk** and something sweet like **syrup or a bag of sugar**. Next, we remember how they grumbled in the wilderness because they had no food and God sent manna in the morning and quail in the evening. Let's add a **box of cereal** and a **can of chicken or another kind of canned meat**. And when Moses and the people arrived at Mount Sinai, God tells them to wash their clothes and prepare themselves because God himself was coming down in the sight of all people. Which means cleanliness is next to godliness! Let's add **laundry detergent** and **dish soap**. We remember how God using ravens provided food for Elijah in the wilderness, so we add a **box of crackers**. A widow, during the famine, made bread for Elijah using her last bit of flour and oil and God made sure she had flour and oil until the famine was over. Let's add a **bag of flour** and a **bottle of vegetable oil**. We remember how Daniel insisted on only eating vegetables instead of "royal food" when he was first taken captive by the Babylonians and how much healthier he was than the other captives. Let's add some **cans of vegetables**. We remember how Jesus washed his disciples' feet at the Passover meal so we add **soap (a bar or bottle of body wash)** Then we will add some **tuna fish (or another kind of canned fish)** as we remember how Jesus cooked fish on the beach for Peter, John and five other disciples. Now as we are reminded how God has provided through the centuries, let's be thankful and generous and add some fun things such as **toilet paper**, **tissues**, and a sweet treat like a **package of cookies or bag of candy**.

The food pantry is truly blessed to have folks like you to help your neighbors in need. God bless you!

# *Minister's Minute*

By Julie Wagner, CLM

Fall is here! The weather is changing, the leaves are changing, we have changes going on in our churches, time changes, and changes happening in our communities.

Change is a part of life. Just like we look forward to gaining that hour in the fall, we dread the loss of an hour in the spring. We look forward to pumpkin spice, but then we are anxious for the next seasonal flavor that comes when the holidays begin. We are anxious for the cooler weather, but it won't be long, and we'll be complaining about the snow and cold. Change is a part of life, and it's a part that we look forward to, or maybe we dread it. I miss the summer camping adventures, but I look forward to cookie baking, present buying, and family time that comes with the next season.

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.*

~Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

God built this all into our lives. Isn't it neat how the

seasons work? What about how our bodies work and change as we grow and mature? When I was

**When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now, we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.**

~1 Corinthians 13:11

younger, I didn't understand things as well as I do now, so it's great that I can grow and mature in my thoughts as well as physically. I guess we can say that everything changes, nothing stays the same, except we can count on it changing, again. What's our constant in all of this? Well, for me my constant is looking to Jesus and the changes that happen all around us. Our lives might not change as quickly as gas prices, but we know and expect that things will change. For me, it's my hope that I will change. I want to change, and grow, and learn to be more like Jesus. I need to experience all of the changes in our world to truly appreciate my need to change, as well as to see and be aware that I am changing.

This fall, I hope to change my prayer life. I want it to grow so that I am more comfortable in saying a prayer – anywhere, anytime, with whomever is around. This fall, I hope to change my devotional life. I want to spend more time, really, reading the Bible, so that I can learn more about God and understand the changes he wants me to go through. What changes are you ready to commit to making this season?

# *St. John's Grover UMC News*

Contributors: Andrea Sutton, Beverly Unruh

The ladies in the monthly Bible group got together at the home of Andrea Sutton last month. Beverly Unruh led the group with a short Bible lesson. Pat Hamilton added to the story about her children setting the table with an extra place setting for the Lord.

On October 24, they got together to work on a Christmas project, that will take two meetings. Everyone was invited to attend. It was held at the home of Andrea Sutton. November date has not been set yet.

In December, they are planning a dinner. Plans are being discussed with Bev being the leader. Watch the bulletin and online for date and time.

On October 29, a luncheon will be held at the Midway restaurant. This is also a monthly time of fellowship, and all are invited.

We are collecting materials for the annual Shoeboxes. Many have already been delivered.

Since November is when the nation celebrates Thanksgiving. St. John's church will do the same with a free Thanksgiving dinner on Friday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m. Concert to follow with Gideon Lapitan. All are invited!



**Ladies making fall decorations to take home at the monthly meeting of the Ladies Bible study.**



**Susan Kline and friends visited St. John's August 28. She stressed the importance of reading the Word of God, the Bible. Susan and her friend sang Thy Word which told us God's Word will guide and light our paths. As you can see from Alayna's face, everyone enjoyed Susan and her friends!!**



# Operation Christmas Child Gift Suggestions

National Collection Week: November 14-21, 2022.



## “WOW ITEM”

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Shoes

## TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)
- Slinky

## PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes

## CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

- Shirts and pants
- Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress)
- Underwear
- Shoes and socks
- Flip-flops
- Tote bag/purse
- Hair accessories (hair clips, hair ribbons, elastic hair bands)

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)

## These frequently addressed items ARE allowed in shoebox gifts:

- playing cards
- batteries (in original packaging or with both ends taped)
- wet wipes or plain alcohol wipes
- toy spiders/bugs/snakes
- superheroes or other licensed characters
- items with company logos
- all types of scissors
- squirt guns (that don't look like real guns)
- glow sticks
- compact mirrors
- lip balm (non-medicated)
- play dough (store bought)
- solid stick deodorant
- makeup (non-liquid)
- adhesive bandages (non-medicated)
- disposable or reusable feminine hygiene products
- eating utensils
- marbles
- Bibles or other religious literature or symbols

## These frequently addressed items ARE NOT allowed in shoebox gifts:

- Vaseline®
- scary items (things that will frighten a child rather than bring joy)
- war-related items (such as toy soldiers, military vehicles, or wearable camouflage)
- liquid paint sets or liquid glue
- rubber balls with liquid filling
- liquid lip gloss
- matches or fire starters
- seeds
- sand/rocks/shells gathered from nature
- all types of food, candy, or gum
- medications or vitamins
- toothpaste
- nail polish
- money or play money
- baby powder
- baking soda
- razors
- liquids or lotions
- breakable items or glass containers
- aerosol cans
- used clothing or toys

# *East Canton UMC News*

Contributors: Debbie Morse

## **The East Canton Methodist Church 1817-1963 (Part II)**

The following condensed article was written in March, 1963, by Miss Clara Smiley (1893-1986), who taught history at CHS, was historian and member of the East Canton UM Church.

Between 1955 and 1962 alterations were made which added to the beauty, comfort, and convenience of the church. The old sheds and "hitching rails" had long since disappeared. Now parking spaces were arranged for cars and a new driveway laid out around the church. The land needed for this on the east was given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Harkness. A lavatory was installed in the basement. An attractive front entrance was built. The sanctuary was redecorated, and the latest improvement was the addition of a much-needed Education Building which was completed and first used in January, 1962. The new building, adjoining the church on the north and extending to the east, has five classrooms, hallway and lavatory.

In spite of all the changes through the years, the beautiful old church still remains its colonial appearance and atmosphere. A lower pulpit, divided Chancel, modern lighting, electric organ and comfortable oak pews have only added to the simple dignity of the sanctuary.

In June, 1962, the Church was transferred from the Syracuse area and now is in the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Pittsburgh area.

The church and parsonage properties and buildings are under the management and control of the trustees of the church. According to a most unusual provision of the Charter granted to the church by the State of Pennsylvania. The three trustees serve for life unless they resign their office. In case of the death or resignation of one, a successor is chosen by the pastor of the church and the two remaining trustees. And so, from the time of those first three trustees in 1832, Solomon Brown, Elisha Bloom, and Levi Landon, the duties of the office have, until recently, been chosen on by a board of only three men so chosen. The present trustees elected under the provision of the charter are Harvey Wright, Ray Stanbery, and Henry Stone. Finally, it was felt that, because of increasing duties, it was advisable to have a larger board of trustees, and three others were elected by a Quarterly Conference in 1962. These three, Dean Bedford, John Brackman and Arthur Harkness, will serve three-year terms. However, the church will continue to have three others chosen for life terms. These men, like their predecessors, serve loyally and give generously and unstintingly of their time.

It would be impossible to list all of the loyal members and friends who have, through the years, worked faithfully for the spiritual growth of the East Canton United Methodist Church; therefore, none have been named. What they accomplished is a challenge to those who carry on the work today.



## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*



| <b>East Canton United Methodist Church</b>   | <b>Ward United Methodist Church</b>   | <b>Shunk United Methodist Church</b>  | <b>St. John's United Methodist Church</b>   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <u><b>November</b></u>   | <u><b>November</b></u>  | <u><b>November</b></u>  | <u><b>November</b></u>  |
| 7- JoAnne Chaapel<br>13 - Laureen Wright<br>13 - Gary Jones<br>30 - Elaine Gustafson | 1- Travis Butcher<br><b>3 - Randy &amp; Amy Bellows</b><br>4 - Dianna Thompson<br>7- Shannon Gleckner<br>13 - Jean O'Connors<br>13- Gary Jones<br>15 - Randy Bellows<br>17 - Ronnie Vermilya<br>20 - Sheila Woodward<br>23 - Barbara Machmer<br><b>24 - Ken &amp; Dawn Boyd</b><br>26 - Lyle Vermilya | <b>4 - Gerry &amp; Marilyn Brown</b><br>11 - Bonnie Williams<br>13 - Gary Jones | 2 - Pat Hamilton<br>5 - Janice Hertel<br><b>6 - Dick &amp; Kathy Turner</b><br>8 - Sydney Crawford<br>13 - Gary Jones<br>16 - Joseph Howard<br>17 - Charlie Hickok<br>19 - Florence Finogle<br>20 - Will Unruh<br><b>23 - Warren &amp; Donna Strout</b><br>27- Roger Castle<br>28 - Brian Greenough |

**If you have corrections or additions to this list, contact the Parish office so we can keep this list as accurate as possible.**



# Shunk UMC News

Contributors: Suzi Fisher

**Prayer Warriors Wednesdays, 11 am** at East Canton Parsonage.

**Bible Study Thursdays** in the basement at 2:00 pm.

- **November 8 VOTE!!! Get out and vote!!!** *Pray, pray, pray and pray some more during this election!!*
- **November 13 Charge Conference** 2pm at East Canton UMC.
- **November 11- Veterans Day** Pray for our brave men and women who are bravely protecting our freedom.
- **November 13- Mission Sunday**
- **November 14-21 Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child.** We have been challenged to have 50 boxes. We're well on our way. Watch Bulletin for collection details.
- **November 27- Thanksgiving....**Take time out to praise God for all the wonderful blessings he has bestowed on you. Say an extra prayer for the families who have lost loved ones that the Lord will comfort them.  
**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!**

Thank you to all who gave to the Baby Bottle Program. We donated \$350.18. The EWPC is very thankful for your generosity!!

*Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains. ~ Psalms 147:7-8*

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## Pecan Pie Cookies

**Prep Time:** 20 mins, **Cook Time:** 10 mins, **Additional Time:** 30 mins, **Total Time:** 1 hr.

### Ingredients

#### Filling:

- ¼ cup butter
- ½ cup confectioners' sugar
- 3 tablespoons light corn syrup
- ¾ cup finely chopped pecans

#### Cookies:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- ¾ cup butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

### Directions

1. To make the filling: Melt 1/4 cup of butter in a saucepan; stir in confectioners' sugar and corn syrup until sugar is dissolved. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring often, then stir in pecans until combined. Refrigerate the filling for 30 minutes to chill.
2. To make the cookies: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Sift flour and baking powder together in a bowl; set aside.
3. Beat brown sugar, 3/4 cup butter, egg, and vanilla extract in a large bowl with an electric mixer on medium speed until the mixture is creamy, about 2 minutes. Gradually beat in flour mixture to form a dough.
4. Pinch off about 1 tablespoon of dough and roll into a ball; press into the bottom of an ungreased cupcake pan cup so it lines the bottom and sides, like a pie crust. Repeat with remaining dough. Fill each crust with about 1 teaspoon of the prepared pecan filling.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until the cookie shells are lightly browned, 10 to 13 minutes. Watch closely after 10 minutes. Let the cookies cool in the pans briefly before removing to a wire rack to finish cooling.

**Tip** - You can spice up the cookies by adding cinnamon, ginger, or nutmeg to the cookie dough.

Recipe by [eibbed0001 https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/212863/pecan-pie-cookies/](https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/212863/pecan-pie-cookies/)

# *Ward UMC News*

Contributors: Dana Vermilya

- October was pastor appreciation month. Thank you to Pastor Jen and CLM Julie for all you do for our congregation!
- Ward Ad Council meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2022, at 7:15pm. The meeting is at the church. We hope to see you there!
- Reminder that we will be filling Operation Christmas Child boxes. You are welcome to fill one on your own or help with the boxes we do together. Collection week is November 14th-20th. If you're filling one to bring in, please have it at church by the 13th.
- The holiday season is right around the corner. At our November meeting we will decide plans for our seasonal giving and holiday programs.
- We hope to have several representatives at the Charge Conference on November 13th. It is at 2:00pm.

## **Fall poems by Blanche McCauley Hallett**

### **Decorating**

Autumn hangs a colored wreath  
On a green tree;  
She's doing her fall trimming  
For all of us to see.  
Yellow leaves, red leaves,  
Orange, pink or brown,  
What a very lovely way  
To trim our town.

### **In The Garden**

(Mrs. Norman Thurston's Garden)

It's Autumn in the Garden  
For the flowers have gone to sleep;  
Instead of purple asters  
There is scarlet in a heap,  
With sudden pools of yellow  
And on elfin brown, like rust,  
And dead grass lying flattened  
In the dry October dust.

