

DPC Weekly Update
Darnestown Presbyterian Church
www.darnestownpc.org

[This Sunday, December 17, 2017](#)

Join us this Sunday (8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services). Rev. Neill Morgan will lead the services on this Third Sunday of Advent, and his sermon title is "The Virgin Mary: Not Just for Catholics Anymore," with scripture taken from Isaiah 61 and Luke 1.

Advent Tree Decorating Continues

Children and parents are invited to put an ornament on the **Sanctuary Christmas tree** prior to the worship services each Sunday during Advent. **Come early** to add some Chrismons to the tree each Sunday (with parents' help) so that the tree will be completely decorated on December 24.

Sunday School for all ages meets at **9:30 a.m. Adult Class**-in the Parlor. We will explore the "Names of the Messiah." Christians have always claimed that Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament. In this study, we will tackle the questions: "What were these expectations?" and "Did Jesus fulfill them?"

Session calls for a **Meeting of the Congregation** on Sunday, December 17 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons and the 2018 Nominating Committee.

Youth Group - On December 17, **Christmas Party, 6-8 p.m.** Carrie, Brooke and Ben Daughtry have graciously invited us to their home for the annual DPC youth and college student Christmas Party! Join us for good food and fellowship.

Church News

Christmas Worship Schedule: Sunday morning, December 24

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service, No Sunday School

Christmas Eve at DPC:

5:00 p.m. - Family Service

8:00 p.m. - Candle light service; Teen Choir, guitar

9:00 p.m. - Fellowship Time, Social Hall

9:30 p.m. - Musical program, Sanctuary

10:00 p.m. - Candle light service of Lessons and Carols; Chancel Choir, Bells, Guitar

Monday, December 25 - A Blessed & Merry Christmas to All!!!

Sunday, December 31

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service, No Sunday School

December 16: Wreaths Across America Ceremony

Please mark your calendars for December 16 to attend the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the DPC Cemetery, in honor of the 75 known veterans interred in our Cemetery. Wreaths Across America is a nationwide program whose mission is to Remember fallen veterans, Honor those who serve, and Teach children the value of freedom. DPC is the first location in Montgomery County to participate in this event. The ceremony will include live patriotic music, military honors, and veterans representing all branches of the armed forces.

Family members of veterans buried in the Cemetery will have the opportunity to place a wreath on the graves of their loved ones. **If anyone is interested in doing this**, please let David Layton (laytond@gmail.com) know so that we can plan accordingly. Boy Scout troop 1094 will assist with the laying of wreaths.

Please note this is an outdoor event and will be held rain or shine, so dress appropriately for the weather.

Schedule of events:

11am - 11:50am: Refreshments and social in the Fellowship hall, served by DPC youth and Girl Scouts

12:00pm sharp: Ceremony begins in the parking lot, near the entrance to the Cemetery. Everyone is welcome - feel free to invite family and friends in the community. Children and youth are especially welcome and encouraged to attend.

Thanks to your loving support, DPC served Thanksgiving meals to 36 families in the **Adopt-a-Family - Holiday Giving Program** sponsored by Germantown HELP. And if you volunteered to serve your family for both Thanksgiving and Christmas, please ignore the "Thanksgiving" notation under "Event Selected" on the family information sheet you received. That is an artifact of the new database the county is using to register recipients and does not mean that your family did not request Christmas dinner. Unless you specified Thanksgiving only on your pew card or email request, please do contact your "adopted" family and arrange for Christmas delivery. If you have questions or cannot deliver for Christmas, please contact Rob Garretson at rgarretson@gmail.com or 301-527-8587. **Grocery or holiday gift cards to help support the program can still be dropped by the DPC office or in the offering plates on Sunday morning. NOTE: If you've volunteered to adopt a family for Christmas only but have not yet received your family assignment and instructions, email Rob at your earliest convenience.**

Christmas Lunch and Party - Everyone Is Invited to Join The DPC VIPS and St. Nicks Lunch Bunch! Tuesday December 19 - 11:30 AM, DPC Fellowship Hall

Great Fellowship - Carols - Fantastic Food - Fun Game

Game: Everyone who wants to participate brings an unmarked, wrapped gift, \$12-15 in value, and places it on the gift table. Each participant receives a random number. Numbers are randomly selected and called randomly one at a time; when your number

is called, you may either select a gift from the gift table, or "steal" an already selected gift from someone who went before you. If your gift is "stolen," you may either select another gift, or "steal" someone else's gift. **Come Join the Fellowship and Fun!**

Bazaar Christmas Items in Parlor

Bazaar Christmas items remain in our Parlor for sale. If you are looking for a great gift for someone or remembered you need a wreath this year, you can still purchase these items. The Parlor will be open every Sunday and arrangements can be made during the week as well. Checks or cash can be given to Sally, Carole, or Kathy Kurkjian.

2018 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Update

We are in the last few weeks of our Darnestown Presbyterian Church 2018 Stewardship Pledge Campaign entitled "Forging Our Future."

We have received 78 pledges totaling \$355,891 towards our 2018 goal of 110 pledges and \$385,000. Please accept our thanks in advance for your early pledge.

This is a friendly reminder that you if you haven't had a chance to turn in your 2018 pledge, there is still time. You can bring your pledge card (in the envelope) and place it in the offering plate at either the 8:45 AM or 11:00 AM service or mail your pledge into the church office. The deadline for 2018 pledge commitments is December 22, 2017.

Let's finish strong. Please help us reach our goal of 110 pledges. Thank you in advance for your generous support of Darnestown Presbyterian Church.

Methods of Giving:

This is just a reminder that in addition to good old cash and checks, we also have other methods of giving available. Making payments on line is an option for your giving to DPC. You can use your credit card, debit card or make direct transfers from your bank account. You can use our website at www.darnestownpc.org. Or you can use the mobile app: My Church. In either case, you must be registered as a user on our website. These methods can be used for your regular offering or for special offerings, designated contributions, memorial gifts or just about anything you want. You can make single payments or set up recurring payments.

You can also gift stock and other securities to DPC. This can be very effective if you have stock that has appreciated, allowing a tax deduction for the current value, but avoiding the capital gain. Instruct your broker to transfer the stock to the DPC account at Schwab: Routing: DTC-0164; Account 3336-8468.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Jim Hoffman, Treasurer, at 202-494-3724, jemskr@comcast.net.

Volunteers needed for the Junior Church program during the late service - We are in need of volunteers to help with the Junior Church program during the 11:00 service every Sunday. This is an invitation to ALL church members, not only parents of

children participating in this program. We hope to have enough volunteers so that each one will only need to help once or twice a year - **you will not volunteer alone.** Please see or email Kelvin Choi, kelvin.choi.tc@gmail.com, to sign up.

Come join a Choir! Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings. Bell Choir meets at 6:30 p.m. and Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. Please see Eric Waggoner if you are interested in playing with the Bell Choir.

Welcome Bags are available in the Narthex each Sunday.