Happy New Year! A new year means the start of new things, perhaps a diet or exercise program, or new semester at school with new classes. But within St. John’s it means there will be some new people within leadership of the church. I want to speak about our 2015 church leaders shortly but I would also like to mention my gratitude for those who served in 2014 (and for some, many years before that) but will not be in 2015. Thank you for all you have done to make St. John’s a place that seeks to do the will of God. You have sacrificed your time, effort and in some cases your own money to make sure the task was done. I am very grateful for you and have listed your names below:

Jamie Wagner—Ad Council Secretary
Kari Espenshade—Children’s Dept.
Luke Ellenberger—Youth Fellowship
Evan Baker—Youth Group Rep., Memorial Fund
Cheryl Goss—Trustees
Scott Adams—Finance, Memorial Fund
Dee Spitler—SPRC
Ron Couch—SPRC Chair
Jenna Adams—Librarian
Janet Kline—Lay Member to Annual Conf.
Buzz Kuhns—Trustees
Cheryl Wunderlich—Communion Steward
Janet Sandy—Nominations
Dale Lebo—SPRC

Thank you!

This is an important time in the life of St. John’s. As we figure out how to reach children, youth and adults in our communities for Christ we need strong, godly leadership. I believe we have it; however, this leadership won’t be effective without the leading and guidance of God. I pray, and ask all of us to pray for the leadership of St. John’s. This is perhaps the most important task we can do for our church. Secondly, please support them wherever and however you are able. In this issue of the newsletter we have included our list of officers. Thank them for their work and especially remember to pray for them.

We are grateful for all those who have labored to serve God through St. John’s. I am confident that those who are currently serving will continue to bring glory to God, and that St. John’s will continue to be God’s means of transforming lives in Grantville and the surrounding communities.

May God bless you richly in 2015 with His abundant blessing!

--- Pastor Dennis

Snow Watch
In the event of inclement weather please tune into the following stations for Sunday service cancellations:
Radio: 90.3 FM   TV: Channel 21 or Channel 27
BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Administrative Board: George Kline, Chair
Administrative Council: Bill Jewby, Chair
Administrative Board Secretary: Sally Hostetter

Work Area Chairpersons
Sunday School Superintendent: Janet Kline
Congregational Care/Outreach: Jeanette Weaver
Finance & Stewardship: George Kline
Mission: Rev. Dennis Adams
Staff-Parish Relations: Donna Eyler
Worship: Kevin Weidner
Vacation Bible School: Mary Forshey

Age Level Coordinators
Adult Christian Ed Coordinator: Janet Kline
Children Sunday School Coord.: Sue Heitsenrether
Librarians: DeeDee Shea, Mel Weidner
Orchestra: Kevin Weidner
Stephen Ministry Coordinators: Lorna & Bill Jewby
Youth Fellowship Coordinators: Steven May, Laura Weidner

Ex Officio Members
Pastor: Rev. Dennis Adams
Church Historian: Linda Mills
Financial Secretary: George Kline
Lay Leader: Gene May
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Christine Light
Alternate Member to Annual Conf.: Steven May
President, United Methodist Women: Nancy Allen
President, United Methodist Men: Randy Weaver
Treasurer: Donna Eyler
Assistant Treasurer: Frances Backenstoes

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Chair Dale Espenshade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2015</th>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
<th>Class of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Troy Hostetter</td>
<td>Paul Herr</td>
<td>Dale Espenshade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marilynn Antonio</td>
<td>Randy Weaver</td>
<td>John Heitsenrether</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Chew</td>
<td>Don Bivens</td>
<td>Austin Billman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNION STEWARDS
Lynn Bivens   Dorothy Cassel   Cleon Cassel
Barb Lindsay

SAFE SANCTUARY
Bill Jewby    Donna Eyler     Pastor Dennis

MISSION COMMITTEE - Pastor Dennis & Marty Sherwin, Chairs
Betsy Babik   Peggy Couch     Luke Ellenberger
Betty Exum    Clarence Hitz   Mary Hitz
Jo Kuhns      Linda Mills     Marty Sherwin
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP: George Kline, Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2015</th>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
<th>Class of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gene Espenshade</td>
<td>Chris Wagner</td>
<td>Dreama O’Neal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peggy Couch</td>
<td>Cleon Cassel</td>
<td>Brian Goss</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex Officio Members: Donna Eyler, Paul Herr, George Kline, Dale Espenshade

NOMINATIONS: Rev. Dennis Adams, Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2015</th>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
<th>Class of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judi Espenshade</td>
<td>Ashley Koons</td>
<td>Luke Ellenberger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scouting Liaison - Kevin Weidner
Scout Master - Doug Baker
Prayer Coordinator - Jo Kuhns
Social Justice - Deanna Baker
HUB Coordinator - Linda Mills
Camping Coordinator - Luke and Cindy Ellenberger
YF Assistants - Pastor Dennis, Carol Adams, Nathan Buse

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS: Donna Eyler, Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2015</th>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
<th>Class of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Forshey</td>
<td>Nancy Allen</td>
<td>Donna Eyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Gumpher</td>
<td>Steven May</td>
<td>Sally Hostetter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deb Sheaffer</td>
<td>Lyn Koons</td>
<td>Christine Light</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNITED METHODIST MEN
President: Randy Weaver   Secretary/Treasurer: Luke Ellenberger
Vice President: Vacant

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
President: Nancy Allen   Secretary: Lynn Bivens
Vice President: Janet Sandy   Treasurer: Deb Sheaffer

WORSHIP - Kevin Weidner, Chair
Flowers: Anna Goss
Communion Steward: Dottie Cassel
Lay Leader: Gene May
Lay Reader Scheduler: Janet Sandy
Head Organist: Bill Jewby
Choir Director: Cathy Weidner
Orchestra/Praise Band: Kevin Weidner
Head Ushers: Ron Gumpher and Deb Shaeffer

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/OUTREACH -
Jeanette Weaver, Chair
Carol Adams  Doris Harmony  Sue Heitzenrether
Lorna Jewby  Ed Macko  Heather Paul
Deb Shaeffer  Jeanette Weaver

MEMORIAL FUND - Members at Large
Janet Sandy, Brian Goss
**Jesus commands us to visit** those who are in prison. One way we can do that is by sending cards and letters to those who are incarcerated. In the case of our own, Chris Cassel, serving time upstate, you have done just that. Thank you St. John’s and you are making a difference in the lives of others as you can see from his letter.

Hey there everyone! How is everyone doing out there? Well, I hope and pray all is well with everyone and their families.

I’m doing good up here. Even though it’s freezing and it’s been snowing up here.

Anyway, I’m now doing my TC program. TC stands for Therapeutic Community. So far it is going very well and I’m learning very important things to help me. I passed my test with the highest score! So, I am being very attentive and actually taking this very seriously. Once this program is over it’s one step closer to home! Soon.

So, the holidays are coming upon us fast. This is a hard time of year for me. And, it’s been some time that I have been able to be at home with my family over the holidays. My mother will be up here this Christmas to spend it with me. It’s just not the same as being home with everyone. I’m sure everyone understands where I’m coming from. But, I still have all of you at church praying for me.

All of you have a part in me wanting to come home and do the right thing.

Well, just so everyone knows my minimum is coming up in a year and a half. So, I’ve been praying that I make it home then. It’s been a long time coming.

I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope ya’ll get enough to eat.

Well, I will write again. I hope to hear a lot of good news back. I love you all. Please stay safe out there.

Sincerely,
Christopher

---

**Note of Thanks**
To our St. John’s Family,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all you do for us during the Christmas season and also all year long. We appreciated all of your kind words and deeds throughout the year. We especially thank you for your compassion for the beloved pets we have lost over the last three years.

During these times of turmoil around the world, we pray that you will remember what we are learning while we read “The Story” - that God is always with us and He takes care of us even when things get scary. “All the darkness in the world cannot put out the light of one candle.” Carry the light into the New year.

Blessings,
Pastor Dennis and Carol

---

**UMW News**

Harvest Home speaker, Rev. Randy Barr, spoke of the Tanzania Mission and how the material things we no longer want, changes lives in Africa. The offering was $924.44. UMWWill decide in January, how to use this.

Rev. Barr sent St. John’s a note, thanking us for having him as the speaker and for being such a friendly congregation. He especially enjoyed the coffee and donuts and time to talk with us. UMWWill thanks CCO and Lorna Jewby for changing Coffee and Donut Sunday to Harvest Home Sunday.

We held our Christmas party at Janet Sandy’s lovely home. It was well attended and we enjoyed hours of fellowship.

UMW’s next meeting will be Jan. 24 at 9 AM in the church social hall. All ladies are welcome to join us for this important meeting. January is when we decide the years meeting dates, fund raisers, missions to support and dates to work at the HUB.

Please join us and bring your ideas on how we can continue God’s work.

Nancy Allen, president

**Tanzania Mission—T4T**

Some have asked what items Rev. Barr can use. T4T is looking for medical supplies and soccer equipment. Also, high school and higher ed text books in any quantity, since the African way is to share books among many. If you have any of these items to donate, contact Rev. Barr at tech4tanzania@yahoo.com

---

**UMM News**

The United Methodist Men meet the third Saturday of each month at 7 AM in the church social hall. All men are welcome to join us for breakfast and fellowship.

**UMM Soup & Sub Sale**

Order sheets are in the north narthex or you may call Randy Weaver. Subs are $6 each and a quart of soup is $6 each. Orders are taken until Jan. 11. Delivery Jan. 17 and Jan. 18 after services.