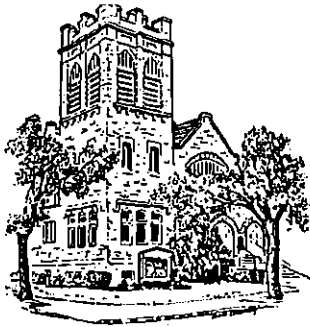
 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
301 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
KITTANNING PA 16201
CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

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A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
We turn our hearts to you on this
day for giving thanks, mindful of
your many gifts.
For each one, we are grateful.
For each one, we are blessed.
For each one we are opened to the
abundance of your love.
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a
reminder to be generous with others,
as you are with us.
We praise you.
We rejoice in you.
We give you thanks.
Amen.



Monthly Messenger

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NOVEMBER 2018



**DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE,
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 20, 2018**

CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: Deb Kociban
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Brenda Sommerville-Schall
CHURCH SECRETARY: Audrey Green
PIANIST: Emily King
SEXTON: Valerie Kachur
CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR: Brenda Beers
NURSERY ATTENDANT: Linda Powell
MESSENGER VOLUNTEERS:
Carolyn Gallaher, Sally Krozely
June Pollard, Linda Scaife, Carol Wolfe,
Kathy Coleman

WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE: 724-548-4312

PARSONAGE: 724-543-4808

E-MAIL: fumchurch@windstream.net

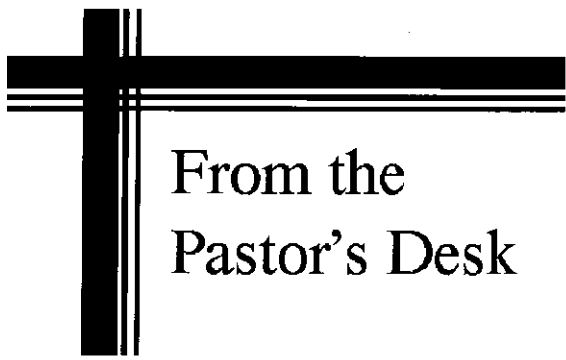
WEB SITE: www.firstchurchkittanning.com

FAX: 724-548-5157

RAINBOW ROAD: 724-548-7569



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:00 PM



From the Pastor's Desk

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." Hebrews 12: 1

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

They just keep coming. Everyday they arrive in my mailbox. I have not asked for them and I don't want them. But the Christmas catalogs just keep coming. They don't care that I still have Halloween candy and they simply ignore the Thanksgiving holiday. It is not time for Christmas yet but nonetheless the catalogs greet me every day.

I thought of this verse today as I was driving home. It is such an encouraging word from the writer of Hebrews. We all know about running the race of faith with perseverance, but it is the 'cloud of witnesses' that speaks to me tonight. We all know someone within the cloud of which the writer speaks. The cloud is a gathering of innumerable saints who have gone to be with Jesus ahead of us. I can think of Sunday school teachers, pastors, grandparents, my Dad and even friends who are in that cloud and who taught me much about living a life of faith. They have taken their place with many others who stand by us all and cheer us on every time we take a step of faith.

All Saints Day is an underappreciated holiday within the Methodist tradition. Falling between Halloween and Thanksgiving, it is lost in the hubbub of secular celebrations. This year I am resolving to remember with gratitude the saints who stand by me unseen every day. I pray that the lessons they taught me will some day allow me to take my place alongside them cheering on others who are running their race with perseverance.

For now, the Christmas catalogs will have to wait and before I cook my Thanksgiving turkey, I will thank God for the saints that God placed in my life so that I might have a relationship with his Son, Jesus. Let us all remember them and honor them through the living of our faith, the very faith they taught us. Can't you just hear them cheering?

Blessings,
Pastor Deb

*JUST A LITTLE
Reminder*

Have you remembered First Church in your will? What a powerful way to recognize God's goodness in a lasting way.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

Lectionary Readings

November 4, 2018

11:00 AM, Communion, All Saints Day
Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9, Psalm 24,
Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44



November 18, 2018

11:00 AM,
1 Samuel 1:4-20, Hebrews 10:11-25,
1 Samuel 2:1-10, Mark 13:1-8

November 11, 2018

11:00 AM, Veterans Day
Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17, Psalm 127,
Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

November 25, 2018

11:00 AM,
2 Samuel 23:1-7, Revelation 1:4b-8,
Psalm 132:1-18. John 18:33-37

WELCOME CENTER

4 Sarah Heckert
11 Melissa Flanders
18 Karen Scaife
25 Beverly Patton



READERS

4 Karen Scaife
11 Sue Hankey
18 Janet Mckelvey
25 Meaghan Volek



USHERS

4 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski & Communion
11 Asbury/Mary Jo Lipski
18 Epworth/Melissa Flanders
25 Epworth/Melissa Flanders



SOUND SYSTEM

4 Dave Yanoschick
11 John Yankasky
18 John Wolfe
25 John Yankasky



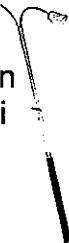
COUNTERS

4 Yankasky
11 Flanders
18 McKelvey
25 Scaife



ACOLYTE

4 Hallie Hoffman
11 Isaac Zielinski
18 Emily Corbin
25 Dane Dimond



BELL RINGERS

4 Carlee Beers
11 Chelsea Beers
18 Jocelyn King
25 Ashley Yankasky



RAMPS OF HOPE

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each of the churches in the Allegheny River Charge for their support of the Ramps of Hope program. Through their contributions and giving of time, we have provided ramps for 14 people this year. I would also like to thank Habitat for Humanity for their efforts in funding and providing workers

for a couple of ramps. People who receive ramps express their gratitude in different ways. Following is one of the thank you notes that we recently received after completing a ramp.

To all of you,

Words cannot express the gratitude that we feel for all you are doing. This ramp will make our lives even better. It has been very hard to get in/out of our home. God has blessed our hearts and lives in so many ways. No matter how difficult life gets He lifts us up every time. God's grace is sufficient and He never leaves us! Again, Thank You Beyond Words!

Dan & Tammy Mauthe



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME ENDS**
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2



7:00 PM Sunday, November 18th at St Luke's
UCC. Pastor Deb will be preaching.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Psalm 116:12

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?

Thanksgiving is a time of joyful celebration and a time to reflect with gratitude on the blessings and bounty that we've received. While making holiday plans and reflecting on all we have to be thankful for, it's a perfect time to demonstrate our gratitude by making a special **Thanksgiving Offering** to sustain and enhance the mission of First Church.

It is also a perfect time for us, the Finance Committee, to express our gratitude for your faithful support. Your belief in the value of our mission and the trust you place in us to manage your gifts is never taken for granted.

This Thanksgiving, may it be easy for all of us to recognize that we have received much for which we owe thanks to God – as individuals, families, and a congregation.

YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE



POPCORN SALE

Double Good

Popcorn is back. We will be selling popcorn during the month of November. The Popcorn will be delivered before Christmas if you are looking to do some early shopping. The profits will benefit Rainbow Road. Watch the bulletin for details.

TURKEY DINNER

First United Methodist Church
Covenant Center
332 North Water Street
Kittanning PA

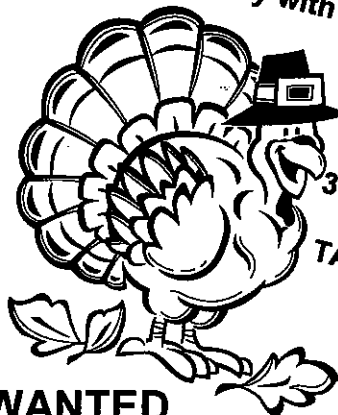
FRIDAY, November 9, 2018
4:30-6:00 PM

MENU: Turkey with all the trimmings

ADULTS-\$9.00
AGES 4 THRU 12
\$4.00
3 and under-FREE

TAKE OUTS ARE AVAILABLE

724-548-4312



HELP WANTED

Our Covenant Center is a busy place. We have Sunday School classes, bridal showers, birthday parties, funeral dinners, meetings, etc... That means it also gets dirty. We have a group of volunteers who clean about once a month. We sweep, steam floors, wash tables and chairs, and clean the kitchen. We could use a few more people on our "clean team". So, if you have a couple of hours a month to volunteer, we could really use your help. If you can help, let Tim or Linda Scaife know.



THANK YOU! AND MORE

We would like to thank the congregation for the cards, prayers and support for Harry as he struggles with his health issues.

Thanks! Michelle & Harry Waldenville

AH, SEPTEMBER-Another year older (85) great grandchild #32. I should feel old but I really don't, thank God! Everyone is taking good care of me. Miss all of my Kittanning friends and the church. so nice to hear from you. God Bless all-

Thanks! Jean Wolfe



MISSION UPDATES



4 GALLON BAGS of travel-sized personal hygiene items (shampoo, conditioners, lotion, soaps, etc.) were donated to **HAVIN** (Helping All Victims in Need). These were greatly appreciated and will enable HAVIN to provide support and care for persons in abusive situations. **THANK YOU** to the thoughtful person who donated these items!



U.M.C.O.R. HYGIENE KIT ITEMS

Our church family generously contributed the following items for these greatly needed kits:

26 Nail clippers	38 Hand towels	73 Combs
109 Washclothes	149 Bars of soap	187 Toothbrushes
468 Gallon storage bags	670 Band-aids	

Along with these items, \$50.00 was also given. **THANK YOU** Church Family!



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

On September 22, our church participated in RAH. Here are the stats and volunteers.

Total Contributions \$7,187.74	Total Contribution (6 years) \$46,996.98
Total FUMC Contributions \$115.00	Total Meal Packets (6 years) \$170,149
Total Meal Packets 24,785	Total Volunteers 105
Total FUMC Volunteers 17	

Members and friends: Brenda, (also donated cookies) Carlee & Chelsea Beers, Bonnie Bowser, Kathy Coleman, Sue Hankey, Joe & Sarah Heckert, Patty Heasley, Janet McKelvey, Emily, Elizabeth, Luke & Caleb Murrell, Merissa Smith (donated case of water), Meaghan Volek and Kim & Abby Yankasky.

THANK YOU to our church family for their financial giving and volunteers for giving their time.



MISSION FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD shoeboxes will again be collected for Samaritan's Purse. For the past 25 years, these special gifts have been delivered to 157 Million children in need in over 160 countries. How wonderful!

These boxes will be on the altar rail folded and ready for you to take home on Sunday, October 28th. Be sure to get your boy/girl label, a prayer card, and how to pack you shoebox. No toothpaste or candy will be accepted

due to customs regulations.

IMPORTANT: we had some 2017 boxes left over and we will be distributing these first. They need a \$7.00 check inside for shipping. Make check payable to "Samaritan's Purse" a memo note "Operation Christmas Child"

Once these boxes are taken, we will use the 2018 boxes. Note that the shipping cost has increased, so these newer boxes need a \$9.00 check inside. Again, make checks payable to "Samaritan's Purse" with a memo note "Operation Christmas Child".

Feel free to "team up" with another person (or two!) to complete a box. Perhaps a Sunday School class or committee would like to "team up" to fill a box. Perhaps your pew or the persons who hold hands with at the end of our worship services would share in a box. (What a nice touch!)

ALSO IMPORTANT: Once your box is completed, place it on the altar rail. National Collection Week is November 12-18! Our boxes will begin to be taken to our local collection site the week of November 11. Last day for boxes to be collected will be church service on Sunday, November 18th. NO EXCEPTIONS.

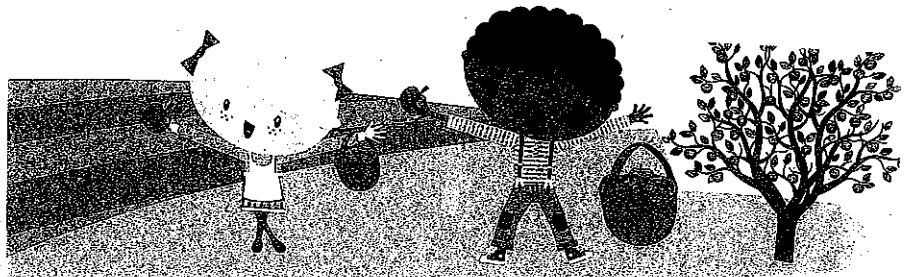
May God deeply move us as we give generously to those in need!

Missions Committee



Fun Zone

Let's Go Apple Picking



Summer is fun, but fall is just around the corner. And autumn means apples! There is something delicious about walking into an orchard and knowing that you're a few hours away from having a sweet slice of apple pie. If you get a hayrack ride, bob for apples, or sip a cup of cider, too – all the better! Try out this word search, get a few chuckles from our apple jokes, and then plan to visit an orchard near you.

Word Search

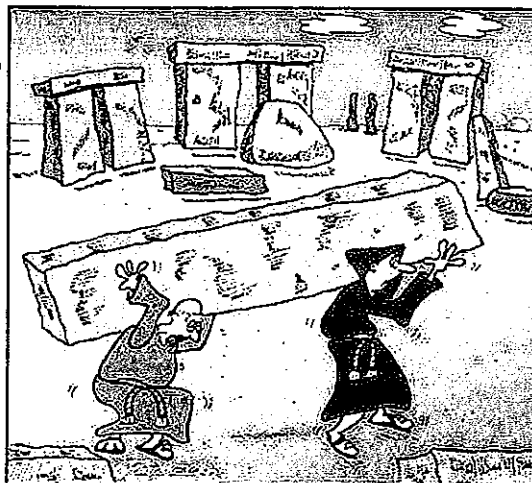
H H J O N A T H O N M P F Y R U S N I J D R
M J J Q V V W J E L L Y M C K U M T E M E Z
I N F K T Z M C E H V Y X A M N S G C D O J
M C G T V T M R O T A K D I R E T I I A R X
G I R V J G B O I T R P O N V K M C T I C Y
T N X G M P Q Z P E P G P R S D E Q T S H A
G N L U R G A S V W K H A L G V O T X N A E
S A X E Q S I O V I B H I S E L T Z B I R L
G M S N L R N K E F A X A H F S A V O H D J
C O V O C R L V Y X T V O R V O R V N G H G
M N H Y U E C O B B L E R T M B T X U U O S
C V F T H G G Y U S L J B F A H V M T V Z Q
Y Y P S F P R P N F Z Z L L A S A S R W Z J
U W U X B H A K R E O P A V Y M G C I R D S
T B P E A U N U R T T G J U I C Y R T T Z D
W R U W S D N M M R A J M B K H G C I R V P
K C E J X J Y M C R W I I N Y O Z A O B Z C
F L F E C K S P A S T R I E S S B R U O W K
A E F A S J M W O K V G P K W T A A S B Q O
G N E H N U I U R S F E I R U R S M O B J R
D W I K N Q T P Z T P N V M V U K E J I G H
R A Q G G S H J G T J J K D L D E L T N F Q
Z A N I Y E B N Y H D P T A H E T J V G I V
S S H M Z U X N B V K E H D B L K Y I P K A
N S Y P D S S P S E E D S W L L O Y Y V H S

Word Bank

- Apples
- Basket
- Bobbing
- Bushel
- Caramel
- Cider
- Cinnamon
- Cobbler
- Crisp
- Gala
- Granny Smith
- Harvest
- Jelly
- Jonathon
- Juicy
- Market
- Nutritious
- Orchard
- Pastries
- Seeds
- Strudel
- Tart
- Trees
- Turnover

DEUTERONOMY 27:6

WE WANT TO THANK YOU LORD FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN US. IN RETURN I HOPE YOU LIKE THIS BURNT OFFERING MY MOM PREPARED FOR ALL OF US...



"I hate changing to Daylight Saving Time."

We Give Thanks For





It is fall and thoughts turn to baking and warm family activities. In last month's newsletter, I first announced the news about SPARK 2019, that event is scheduled for January 11-13, 2019. Our efforts to fundraise have already begun. We have just completed our October fundraiser with Boscov's, and we are looking forward to baking our Christmas cookies. In past years, this congregation and

others have supported us with their many orders for cookies. The youth bake the cookies under the guidance of parents and leaders. We are offering a couple different types of cookies for your consideration when placing your holiday order this year. The cookie order form is enclosed in this month's newsletter. Look for the green insert.

Early registration for SPARK starts November 2nd and runs through December 19th and the price is \$185/person. After that the price goes up to \$210/person. Any youth, ages 12-18 are welcome. To receive more information and register for the event contact Melissa Flanders. We are hoping to raise enough money so all costs for this event will be fully paid from the youth account. Thank you in advance for all your support in nurturing the next generation.

NOVEMBER'S LIBRARY NEWS

The following Thanksgiving book was given to the children's section of our church's library: "Sometimes It's Turkey-Sometimes Its's Feathers" by Lorna Galian.

These books have also been donated:



- "Breakthrough Prayer" by Jim Cymbala
- "Battlefield of the Mind" by Joyce Meyer
- "The Long Road" by Randy Keeling and
- "Unspoken" by Dee Henderson



The CD set, "Charlton Heston Presents The Word" was given to our library. In this set, Mr. Heston narrates a collection of his favorite Bible stories.

Crisp days and autumn leaves make me want to read more books.

Carol Wolfe, Librarian

OPPORTUNITIES AT OTHER CHARGE CHURCHES

FORD MEMORIAL UMC~ Soup & Sandwich dinner, **every Thursday** from 4:00-6:00 PM. Free, donations accepted. Food Bank and Care & Share Shop 2nd and **last Tuesday** of month from 10:00-1:30 PM.

November 13, 2018—Pancake dinner from 11:00-1:00 PM and 4:00 -7:00 PM. There will also be a silent auction and a bake sale.



Free turkey dinner on Thanksgiving.

MANORVILLE UMC~ Everyone is invited to come to Casual Church at Manorville UMC on the second Wednesday of each Month at 6:00 PM. Please come! For more information call Sandy McKee at 724-763-9494.

November 2nd at 6:30 PM—Manorville Chief of Police, Chief Eric Petrosky will be discussing holiday safety (mall shopping with children and home safety) Light snacks will follow the presentation.

UNION AVENUE UMC~ United Methodist Women, 1st Monday of the month except for months with a holiday falling on Monday and during the summer. The meetings are held at the Kittanning Cottages Community Room at 4:00 PM. Our next meeting will be **November 5, 2018**. Please come join us!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Tim King	14 Killian Vandevort 
4 Logan Green	16 Christopher Christie
4 Cindy Volek	16 Grace Edwards
6 Karen Scaife	18 Sarah Heckert
9 Christopher Hankey 	19 Jack Heim
9 Greg Lemons	19 Diane Weibel
11 Joshua Fiscus	20 Tony Krozely
11 Chet Schall	20 Anita Smith
11 Katie Smith	20 Greg Toth
12 Noelle Lemons	21 Peyton Zielinski
13 Rachel Snow	22 Mert Hellein
14 Sarah Fiscus	29 Kelly Hoffman

FRIDAY NIGHT CIRCLE
Thursday, November 8
6:00 PM

Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Thanksgiving
 Potluck Dinner--Christmas
 family planning

DEVOTIONS: Linda Cornman

HOSTESSES: Mary Lipski



Happy Thanksgiving

SIFT LUNCHEON

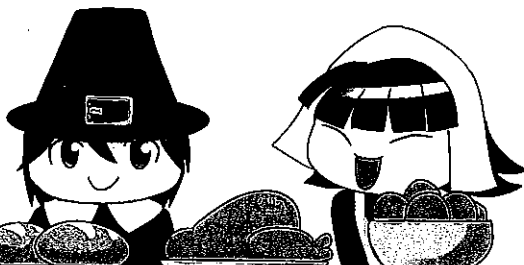
Thursday, November 15th
12:00 Noon

Covenant Center

PROGRAM: Gospel music by John
 Waldenville

MENU: Turkey & Stuffing, Mashed
 Potatoes, Gravy, Corn, Green Beans,
 Cake, Cranberries, Roll & Butter

Reservations due by
 Monday, November 12th at noon.



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1 Bruce & Jayna Harkleroad
 13 Pastor Deb & George Kociban
 15 Harry & Michelle Waldenville-21yrs
 25 Fred & Gail Blaney-57yrs
 26 Roy & Bobbi Williamson-58yrs

2019 VBS ALUMINUM CANS

Our aluminum can collection for Habitat for Humanity continues:

Cans received (September 15-October 15) 3,290

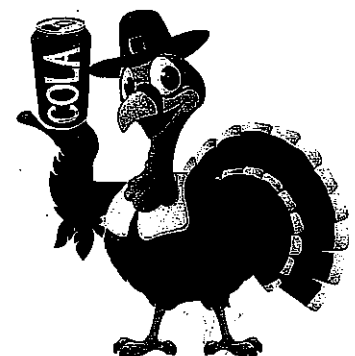
Cans received since end of VBS 2018 (June 22) 11,509

Please continue or start saving aluminum cans of all sorts (pop, tea, fruit juices, health drinks, power drinks, beer and any other type of aluminum cans).

Drop them off at the ramp behind the church at any time.

Thanks to the folks at Arc Manor for continuing to save their drink cans and to be in Mission with us.

Thank you, The Can Man



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

The Fellowship Committee is planning a Trunk-or-Treat for:



WHEN: Saturday, October 27th

WHERE: Covenant Center Lot

TIME: 4:00-6:00 PM



Please dress as your favorite super hero, favorite princess or prince, or favorite animal or favorite robotic... We can't wait to see many different and unique costumes. (Please no witches or devils)

We will need volunteers for their trunks (We will love to see how you decorate your trunks) and candy donations.



Please sign up below for how you want to participate.

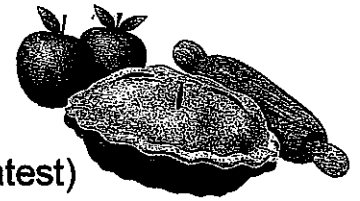
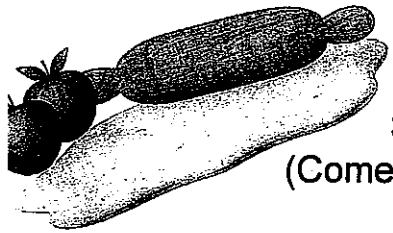
I will decorate my trunk and pass out candy _____

I will donate candy for the Trunk-or-Treat _____

Name _____



Happy Halloween,



PIE BAKING CLASS

Saturday, November 10th from 9:00-4:00 PM

(Come as you want we should be out by 4:30/5:00 at latest)

Please bring your favorite rolling pin for rolling crust, bowl for crust, pan for on stove for cooking pudding. A light lunch will be available if want to eat after pie is completed.

After we see the number of people that sign up, you may be asked to bring an ingredient or two to help with making pies and crust. If making a fruit pie—please bring the fruit.

Please sign up by November 3rd to join the fun in baking pies. Please sign up with type of pie you wish to make. Brenda's favorite pies are cream pies:

Coconut
 Peanut Butter
 Chocolate
 Chocolate Peanut Butter
 Lemon Meringue
 Other (_____)
 NAME _____



ADVENT-SUNDAY-DECEMBER 2ND



After Church on December 2nd, a light lunch will be served and then we will start advent. For a different twist this year, we thought we would try to set up stations that celebrate the "True Meaning of Christmas". We will need volunteers and plenty of helpers to make it extra special and fun. We thought we would have different stations with different "true meanings of Christmas".

Station 1- The story of Jesus birth... (Would like to have people volunteer to dress as Mary, Joseph etc.. and tell the story and then have a small craft to do...



Station 2-Symbols of Christmas. Crafts for each symbol of Christmas: need people to help with the crafts. (Candy Cane, Wreath, Cross, Bell, etc...)

Station 3-Story of ST. Nicholas-need someone to tell the story of who St. Nicholas is..etc.. and a small craft.

All crafts will be simple and easy to do. All supplies and instructions will be provided. If you would like to help, please sign up below.

I would love to help:



NAME _____ I WILL HELP BY _____





YOUTH CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

Mark the number of cookie by the type of cookie. All cookies are sold by the dozen and are \$5.00/dozen

_____ Sugar-snowman trees, stars, stocking

_____ Raisin-filled

_____ Orange

_____ Peanut butter kiss

_____ Coconut Dip- like a mounds bar

_____ Oreo Dream- crushed oreo cookies, dipped in milk or white chocolate

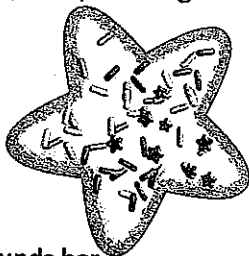
_____ Gingerbread men

_____ TOTAL dozen Amount Paying _____ Payment method _____

Name: _____

I would like to donate money/supplies: _____

Any questions call Melissa 724-859-2607



Deadline to Order: December 09, 2018

Pick up date: December 16, 2018 @ Covenant

Center, following worship.

