

**First United Methodist Church
101 E. Main St.
Westfield, NY**

**December 31, 2017
First Sunday after Christmas**



Focus: “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” Luke 2:34-35



Combined 10 am Fireside Service
Rev. Nicholas Perry, Pastor Molly Golando

Quote: Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleaseing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the cloud of heaven.

[From John Wesley's *Select Hymns*, 1761]

The will be no formal Coffee Fellowship today. Please feel free to take a treat bag to enjoy here or at home.

Things to look forward to:

Dec 31 – Combined 10 am fireside service

NO - 5:30 pm – Evening Family Worship

January 8 – 7pm – Ad Board

Jan 14 – Human Relations Sunday – special offering

Jan 20 – Safe Sanctuaries Training

RCL Readings – December 31, 2017

The readings for this week:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Galatians 4:4-7

Psalms 148
Luke 1:26-38

Wanted – plant sitter. We have 2 beautiful ferns that need to be tended to over the winter. If you have a green thumb and are willing to keep them for the winter, please contact Louise Quick or LeAnn in the office.

The winter months sometimes can be quite long for our church friends who don't get out much. You could help by "adopting" someone and making their days a little brighter. Some ideas would be cards, visits, perhaps a small gift. Names are on envelopes, hanging on the clothesline in the hallway outside the office. Tips and ideas are inside the envelope. Please consider choosing one - or two - and spending a little time during December, January, and February making someone's winter more pleasant. Questions? Call Jan VO at 326-2023.

The Sunday Evening Family worship will continue in the New Year! However, this new ministry is evolving as we grow into filling the needs of this congregation and community. We have decided to go to a **once a month** format and now need a team to help with the planning and discernment of this new ministry. If this ministry is something that you feel is important, can you help by becoming a part of the planning team? (This is not a commitment to attend every month, just the ability to give input.) If you are not able to be part of the planning team, we also need people who can help with individual needs such as: planning a particular craft, contributing food and/or preparing a meal, hands on help so each child can have a one on one helper during the activity, or other things/idea that you can contribute. Please contact Pastor Molly if you can help. email: mollygolando@yahoo.com or phone (716)679-8465 (leave a message please if she is not available).

We will be offering Safe Sanctuary Training on Saturday, January 20th from 9 – noon. If you work with children or venerable adults, and do not have conference training in the last 2 years, you need to be recertified. There will be a sign up sheet outside the office door. [snow date, Jan 27th]

Our new monthly Sunday evening Family Worship for the new year will begin January 14, 5:30 pm. We will celebrate how God calls individuals. We start with a kid friendly food at 5:30 followed by music, worship and craft/activity. This is a VERY informal service designed for everyone who wants to share the joy of God presence. This is not just for children, all are welcome to the fellowship/worship/spiritual growth time.

This Week: December 31, 2017 - Jan 7, 2018,

- Sunday (31):** combined 10:00– Worship – Fireside – FH
Coffee Fellowship (FH)
- Monday (1):** New Year's Day – Office closed
- Tuesday (2):** Apple Seed
1 – 2:30 – Food Pantry
6-7 – Class - Private – Fellowship Hall)
- Wednesday (3):** Apple Seed
4:30 – 5:30pm WCK (FH)
6 – TOPS
- Thursday (4):** Apple Seed
7 - Pounding
- Friday (5):** 11:30- 12:30 - WCK (FH)
- Saturday (6):** 10– 5 - Private Function - FH
- Sunday (7):** Communion
8:30 – Worship (G)
9:30 – Sunday School for ages 3+
10:45– Worship
Coffee Fellowship (FH)
- Monday (8):** 11:30- 12:30 - WCK (FH)
7 pm – Ad Board Meeting
- Tuesday (9):** Apple Seed
11:30 - WMW2 - Work Day - FH
1 – 2:30 – Food Pantry
- Wednesday (10):** Apple Seed
4:30 – 5:30pm WCK (FH)
6 – TOPS
- Thursday (11):** Apple Seed
7 - Pounding
- Friday (12):** 11:30- 12:30 - WCK (FH)
- Saturday (13):**
- Sunday (14):** Human Relations Sunday
8:30 – Worship (G)
9:30 – Sunday School for ages 3+
10:45– Worship
Coffee Fellowship (FH)
5:30 Family Worship Service

WCK = Westfield Community Kitchen; FH = Fellowship Hall; San = Sanctuary; G = Gibbs