

News from Hunter

January 2020



Not always what you expect

The summer was sweltering, and the July Sunday in this story was no exception. The congregation was gathered in the sanctuary, and despite the earlier worship time chosen to beat the heat of the season, the heat was overbearing. People fanned themselves for relief, the windows were opened and a few fans were attempting to circulate the air. But, the air was heavy with oppressive humidity. Circulating it seemed to add insult to injury.

There was no supply pastor, so the plan was to allow a couple of hymn requests from the congregation. Some widely popular choices were made before one worshiper raised his hand and requested a song that no one expected in that environment: "In the Bleak Midwinter." The request was met with a sanctuary full of laughter, and the song was sung. Oddly, it provided a bit of respite from discomfort of the heat.

I have been remembering this story since we decided to plan a "Beautiful Songs in the Neighborhood" Sunday. I hope this new year brings you some unexpected goodness. I pray you are exposed to plenty of unlooked for laughter. I also yearn for any relief from illness or other issues you face. Whatever your reality is, remember the last line of "In the Bleak Midwinter:"

"What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise one, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him: give my heart."

J.T. Silence



Session Commendations:

At the 12/15 meeting of the Session of Hunter, the following people were commended for the way they show the light of Christ:

- ◆ **Kelly Telech** for her work with the young people of the church in Christian Education, particularly for guiding them through Youth Sunday
- ◆ **Barbara Rogers** for her presence with the PNC, helping guide them through their ongoing work.
- ◆ **Mackie Lockhart** for her contributions to the Worship committee, notably her help progressively decorating the sanctuary as we move through the waiting season of Advent
- ◆ **Drew Dear** for his contributions to the choir, and the anticipated contributions he undoubtedly will make as he undertakes study in Germany. He will be missed!

CALLING WOMEN OF ALL AGES...

LET'S CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR!

WINTER SOUP SUPPER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020.....5 PM.

Home of Frankie Daniel, 1272 Standish
Way...off Versailles Rd.

Don't dress up, bring something to share;
soup will be provided...No program

RSVP Frankied29@gmail.com



PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

PNC Progress Report

We have so far reviewed Pastoral Information Forms (PIFs) from 37 applicants, and have 13 more to look at in this batch. There will be a whole new batch after that. We are carefully reading and discussing the PIFs to determine the candidates with whom we should have further contact and conversation. Following our December 20 meeting, we are taking a short Christmastide break—but we'll be back on our weekly meeting schedule as of January 6. Please continue to pray for the process: for all the applicants, that their searches may yield the best matches for their gifts; for the committee, that our work may be guided by the Holy Spirit and result in the best match for Hunter; for our congregation, that we may be strong during this interim period; for our Interim Pastor J. T. Silence as he continues to minister to and among us while preparing us to welcome new leadership at the end of the search.

Unity Garden Update

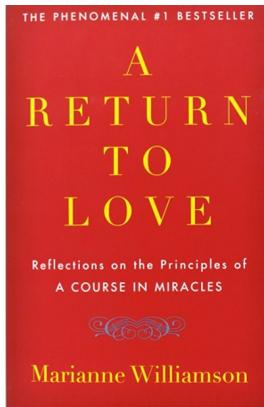
Is there a myth out there that nothing grows in the winter? Many types of grass are alive in winter, while the big agricultural push right now is on cover crops like rye, clover, and vetch to help provide nitrogen for the spring crops. The garden does have plants growing in it this winter. We are now at the point that we have two different people on a waiting list for a garden bed in the Spring.



Next volunteer times to help:

- 1) Tuesday, January 14th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm to work on detaping cardboard (if school is canceled due to snow then we will not be meeting)
- 2) Tuesday, February 4th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm for a meeting to prepare for spring planting (no snow date if cancelled due to snow)
- 3) Thursday, February 20th from 6:30 pm -8 pm meeting to prepare for spring planting (if canceled due to weather the replacement snow date is Saturday, February 22nd at 11 am)

All meetings will be held at the church so from the kitchen door just follow the signs to know which room.



Annie Rhoten will lead the Alternatives Class in January with an audio book — "A Return to Love," by Marianne Williamson.

We meet in the 2nd floor lounge at 9:30a.m. for 15 minutes of fellowship and begin at 9:45a.m.



SAVE THE DATE!

Celebration of the Arts 6 p. m.

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Stay tuned for further details!

Memorial Books to Be Added to the Hunter Library

Presbyterian Women of Hunter made a financial gift to the Hunter Library to be used to purchase books as a memorial for members of Hunter. Those of the Hunter family who died during 2019 are Mary Carpenter, Lucy Crabb, Evelyn Evans, Bill Fisher, Phyllis Hanna, Diane Hibbard, Jackie Manning, Pauline Tabb, Midge Rishel, and Janie Surmont.

The new memorial books that will be available in the library in February are:

Believer on Sunday, Atheist by Thursday: Is Faith Still Possible

Dessert First: Preparing for Death while Savoring Life

The Overstory: A Novel

River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey

Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part 1

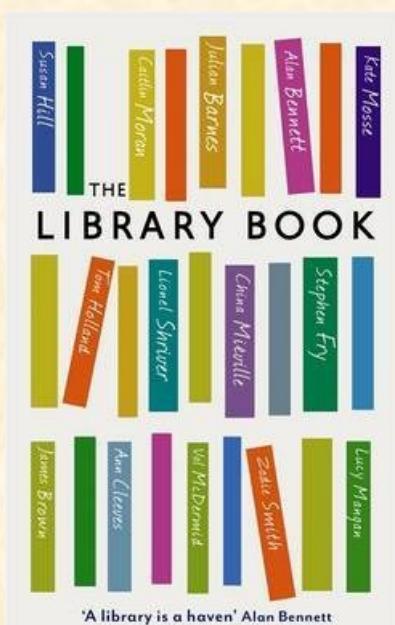
The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion

The Sign and the Sacrifice

Truth Over Fear

Lent in Plain Sight

Holy Disunity



4 Anne Chesnut
6 Holly Brady
7 Tami Daniel
9 Ann Vimont Smith
13 Cara Richards
13 Roger Guffey
17 Ellie Bernard
20 Christina Tipton
21 Julianne Greer
23 Thomas Hulse
25 Mackie Lockhart
29 Amanda Daniel

January Birthdays

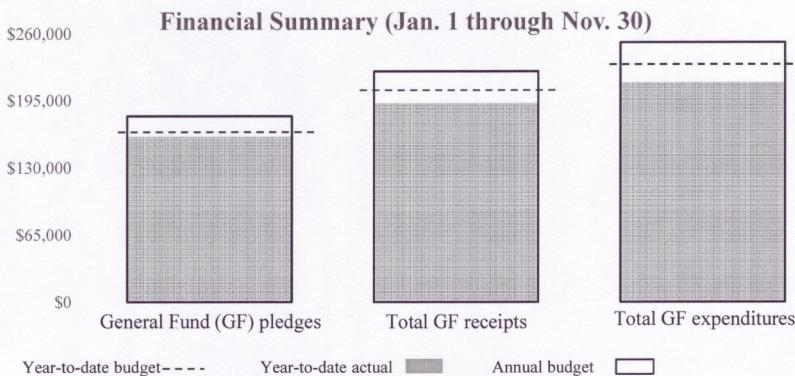


Gatherings



Stitch 'n Listen, January 16, 10:00a.m., UC

Lunch Bunch, January 21, 11:30a.m.



Upcoming Committee Meetings

1/15 Stewardship 5:30p.m.

1/15 Worship 6:15p.m.

1/19 Session 12:15p.m.



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Hunter is an Earth Care Congregation – Please Recycle

A digital copy of this newsletter is available on www.hunterlex.org.
Contact the office if you would like to change your
subscription to online-only.
l.davis@hunterlex.org—thanks! Lynn