

THE BRIDGE

DEC 24 | JAN 25 | FEB 25
CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

INTRODUCING THE DE BEER FAMILY

A warm welcome to our new pastoral family from South Africa

As Carlisle United Methodist Church opens its doors to Pastor Quinton De Beer and his family, we are excited to introduce you to them and share a glimpse of their journey, hopes, and interests. This heartfelt Q&A provides insight into their passion, values, and vision for ministry as they prepare to join our community.

Pastor Quinton brings a unique background in entrepreneurship and marketplace ministry, which sparked his calling to a life of faith and service. Through his experience leading programs that equip individuals with business and life skills, Quinton has seen how faith and work intertwine, transforming lives. His path in



ministry has been enriched by diverse community work, from supporting food security projects to offering discipleship training for those seeking sustainable livelihoods.

Joining him are his wife, Lizel, and their children, Caitlin, Kristen, and Kaylee,

each bringing their own excitement, talents, and traditions. Lizel is looking forward to exploring CUMC's Serve and Connect ministries, and she finds joy in serving and connecting with others behind the scenes. Their daughters, too, have already embraced the idea

of finding community here and look forward to activities that include everything from meeting new friends to experiencing an American winter and Christmas!

As we get ready to welcome them into our CUMC family, we invite you to join us in embracing the De Beer family. They are thrilled to meet each of you, to share in fellowship, and to build connections that will make Carlisle feel like home. We hope you will take the opportunity to learn more about each of them through their responses to questions we asked each family member recently.

~ MICHELLE A. WILLIAMS
Leadership Council Chair

CHECK OUT THE DE BEER FAMILY INTERVIEW ON PAGE 4

CARLISLE UMC'S KINDNESS CAMPAIGN

In early September, Pastor Jake asked, "Could we have a Kindness Campaign for five weeks in October and November?" He provided guidance, and our Serve Leaders and Directors of Kids and Student Ministry brainstormed ideas and organized the campaign.

Throughout October and into the first Sunday of November, CUMC launched a hugely successful Kindness Campaign which ran parallel to the Presidential Election Campaign and focused our congregation on

a major teaching of Jesus: that we should treat others as we want to be treated. This is commonly known as The Golden Rule and holds the power to bring people together rather than divide them.

The campaign was to encourage people to be intentional about treating one another with kindness, even those with whom we disagree. A vote for kindness is a step toward overcoming the polarization in our country through civility and respect. We see

division and polarization in our country, communities and even inside the walls of our own churches. It is easy to wonder if we will ever go beyond agreeing to disagree, yet Jesus shows us a better way.

Kindness signs were purchased and displayed in our yards, our neighbors' yards, to the west in Pittsburgh and as far south as Jacksonville, North Carolina in someone's yard that visited CUMC during the campaign. We wore *(continued on page 10)*



**Kids
MINISTRY**

CHURCH AUNTS & UNCLES

In every church I have attended I have always been blessed to find a loving church family. When I was 10 years old we changed churches. The first day we were there an older couple came over and introduced themselves to my family and said to call them Aunt Myrt and Uncle Lou. From that moment on I gained some extra family members. Aunt Myrt was always there for a hug and would ask me about my life. Uncle Lou always has a peppermint and a joke or funny story to tell. Aunt Myrt and Uncle Lou were always there to offer advice no matter what I was going through. They never forgot my birthday or Christmas when I was a kid. When I was growing up they would always have me come along side of them to show me how to do things at church and to help where I could. My Aunt Myrt and Uncle Lou never taught my Sunday School class or helped with my youth group but they were always role models of living like Jesus for me. They were living out their

faith by their words and their actions. I was in college when I heard another person with whom I grew up with at the church refer to them as Aunt and Uncle and I realized I wasn't the only one. They were investing in all the young people of the church by simply being who they were. They were loving a whole church the way Jesus loved.

In my hardest moments in life my Uncle Lou has always been there for me with a card, an encouraging hug, a joke and of course a peppermint. I was lucky enough to get to spend some time with him in October on a visit to New York. He turned 97 this year and he is still telling me funny stories. And when I left he gave me a handful of peppermints. You do not have to teach Kids Worship or help in Preteen to invest in the kids of our church. It just takes a few minutes to chat in the Gathering and a peppermint never hurts.

~ Christina McDermott

DECEMBER

- 1 - Christmas Kick-Off, 3-5:30pm
No Preteen
- 8 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 15 - Preteen Christmas Party,
5-7pm
- 22 - Kids Worship Pancakes &
Pajamas; No Preteen
- 29 - No Preteen

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JANUARY

- 5 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 11 - CUMC got talent, 4pm
- 12 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 19 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 26 - Preteen, 5-7pm

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FEBRUARY

- 2 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 8 - Preteen Nerf Battle, 1-4pm
- 9 - No Preteen
- 16 - No Preteen
- 23 - Preteen, 5-7pm

**Preteen is for kids in
3rd-5th grades**



LOOKING AHEAD...

Looking ahead to the winter in Preteen we will be having a Christmas Celebration on December 15. We will play some games, have some snacks and celebrate the birth of Jesus. On February 2, we will celebrate Valentine's Day in Preteen and will talk about God's unconditional love. On February 8, we will have a nerf battle from 1-4pm. Also save the dates of April 4th-6th. We are having a Preteen retreat. Look for more details to come in the New Year.

We have some fun family events planned for the winter. On December 1st we will be having our Christmas Kick-off- Comfort and Joy from 3pm-5:30pm. From 3-4:30pm we will have fun activity stations for families in the gym as we learn about the comfort and joy of the Nativity Story. Dec 1 at 4:30pm everyone is invited to join us for a multi-genera-

tional interactive Christmas experience in the Worship Center as we continue to talk about Comfort and Joy of the season. We will conclude with lighting our Christmas Tree. At 5pm join us for a light supper in the Gathering. On January 11th at 4pm CUMC is having a talent show. If you play an instrument, dance, sing, do karate etc and want to show off your talent, please let Christina know. In Kids Worship on December 22nd we will be having our annual Pancakes and Pajamas. Kids can come in their PJs to Kids Worship at 9:45 and 11:15am. We will have pancakes with a toppings bar. Gary, Kevin and friends will also be there to do a puppet show for us.

**Save the date for Vacation Bible
School 2025 June 8th-13th**

If you would be interested in helping in Kids Ministry, please talk to Christina.



FALL RETREAT AT TEEN QUEST RANCH



The first weekend in November, Student Ministry packed our bags and headed to Teen Quest Ranch in Somerset, PA, with 23 students and 9 adults for a memorable fall retreat. It was a weekend filled with community building, shared meals, and so many laughs that we're still recovering. More importantly, it was an opportunity to grow closer to one another and to deepen our faith, reflecting on the story of Zacchaeus and what it means to belong in a community rooted in Christ.

Throughout the weekend, we explored how Jesus's love for Zacchaeus went beyond judgment or labels. This story reminded us that everyone has a longing to belong, and ultimately, true belonging is found in the community of Christ. We took time to recognize the power of acceptance and love in a Christian community.

But, of course, we did more than just chapel! There was a whole lineup of activities that brought out the best in everyone. We competed in a thrilling Gaga ball tournament and walked away with the championship title! We also got our adrenaline going with paintball, horseback riding, and laser tag. And yes, there were plenty of milkshakes to fuel us along the way. Whether we were spinning on the merry-go-round, singing our hearts out, or laughing around the table, these moments strengthened a bond that will carry us forward.

Beyond the games and the milkshakes, the retreat gave us the chance to truly see each other—students and adults alike—as members of a Christ-centered

family. We can't wait to carry this sense of belonging and connection back into our daily lives and share it with others. Thank you to everyone who made this weekend possible: parents, students and most importantly the adult leaders who gave up the weekend. (Jeff Harpel, Michelle Kearns, Dave Sale, Sara Billman, Erin Darr, Nick Bergstresser, Faith Sale and Tina Morrison)



DE BEER FAMILY INTERVIEW

PASTOR QUINTON

Q: What inspired you to pursue ministry, and what has been most rewarding in your journey so far?

A: It was on a Tuesday night in downtown CBD where I was leading a small group looking at the narrative of Zacchaeus in Luke 19. As I read the words of V5 "When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." Jesus spoke to me! Quinton come down, it's time to get off the sidelines and join me, I want to meet with you. That was the start of an incredible journey as an Amateur follower of Jesus.

My Ministry Journey has been filled with many God moments! As I have reflected on them, I recognise that at the heart of each encounter is humility, relationships and service. In South Africa we have a Zulu (Nguni Language) saying "Umntu ngumuntu ngabantu" which means a person is a person through other people. The Christian journey is about walking together.

Q: How do you like to connect with and support families, youth, and others in the church?

A: I believe in fostering relationships and subscribe to a collaborative leadership style. People are important to me, opportunities where we can share life together need to be at the heart of community and church life, Men's Fellowship has always been a ministry close to my heart, gathering each week and learning from

life as a husband and father. Small groups where we can learn and grow deeper in our faith and sometimes just be heard will always be a gift. I am a dad to teenagers, please pray for me, as I learn, unlearn and relearn. Through the eyes of my daughters, I have become aware how the Youth and next generation are thirsting for an authentic expression of the Christian Faith, not just an association with the religion of their parents but a personal relationship with Jesus. Our role as the Church is to encourage our Youth to freely express their faith and walk alongside them.

Q: What core values or guiding principles shape your ministry and daily life?

It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbour, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously—take God seriously." I am guided by living out my faith through service, recognising the injustices and social ills that diminish (Our/My) capacity to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

I am a contemplative at heart and seek to live life in daily conversation with God, before and after each engagement with others, noticing glimpses of Grace offered to me through conversations.

Living out our Methodist Rule of Life "Do Good, Do no Harm and Stay in Love with God" is important to me and is a wonderful guard rail to live by.

Q: What are some hobbies

or activities you enjoy when you're not working?

A: I enjoy playing Golf (25 Handicap), although I don't play as often as I would like to. Golf is a sport that teaches patience and humility! I enjoy being a sports fan, I love Rugby and our national team the Springboks, I can't wait to attend as many sporting events as I can with our CUMC family.

Anyone keen to educate me about NFL & Baseball? I will reciprocate and explain Rugby!

When time allows, I enjoy Trail Riding on my Mountain Bike and the outdoors with my family. Lighting a fire for a Braai (Barbecue) will always be part of who I am, I enjoy having friends over for meals and sharing banter and laughter, with some good music in the background (My family don't believe I have the best taste in music). I am committed to keep the fire going even in the snow!

I am handy in the kitchen and can make a very tasty curry! The perfect comfort food! On the sweeter side I bake the best salted caramel cake that goes down a treat with the family.

LIZEL

Q: What has been most exciting and challenging as you prepare for this new adventure in the US?

A: Most exciting for me is the prospect of meeting everyone at CUMC, creating friendships and sharing life together. I am in awe of how God has opened doors and led us as a family to a won-

derful congregation like CUMC. We have enjoyed worshipping online with you and I am looking forward to the day that we are physically there in the Sanctuary. Having to say farewell to family and friends and having to pack and sort personal belongings has been emotional.

Q: How do you like to get involved in church life, and what has been most meaningful in previous church communities?

A: My involvement in church life has always been one of serving. I like to be in the background and help where needed the most. As a mom and wife we have served together at soup kitchens, community clean ups and worshipped in small groups. When it comes to ministries within CUMC, Serve and Connect would be the ministries I would like to explore.

Q: What are you looking forward to discovering or experiencing in Carlisle?

A: I am a nature lover and am really looking forward to taking walks in the neighbourhood and going for hikes nearby. I would love to explore the city and architecture and of course learn all about the history of Carlisle. Having our first white Christmas is something that we are very excited (continued on page 9)

CUMC LIGHTHOUSE TEAM



The CUMC Lighthouse team participated in Mt Holly Fall festival on Saturday September 21st. We were there to be with families and represent CUMC. We had a gratitude game which gave families an opportunity to discuss grat-

itude and were given a game to take home. We made finger puppets, we advertised for the trunk or treat and Girl Scouts painted many faces. It was a lovely day to connect with families. We had many conversations about the church and our ministries. A few people approach us wanted to discuss having a relationship with Jesus. Mt Holly is a United Methodist desert which means all the previous UMC churches in town disaffiliated. The Lighthouse team provides connection to individuals who have come from a disaffiliated church. We were there to share our Welcome statement: ALL Means All, No Exceptions. Many par-

ents were seen reading the banners with our welcome statement while they waited for their child's face to be painted or they were making a puppet. When asked if they had any questions their most common response was "No that is really Cool" The day was about loving our community. The next community event will be during Carlisle Ice Fest January 31, February 1 and 2. We plan to have an ice sculpture and booth. If you are interested in volunteering at our booth please connect with Andrea Katz.

~ Andrea Katz

BELIEVERS IN ACTION



On November 12, 2024, Believers in Action (BiA) hosted a presentation of the new documentary, "Underground Railroad: South Central Pennsylvania," which was cosponsored by Keystones Oral Histories and the Carlisle Quaker Meeting. The documentary, produced by Bryan Wade, CEO and founder of Keystones Oral Histories, and Ruby Media, is the third in a fifteen-part series designed to shed light on the overlooked contributions of marginalized communities throughout history. It can also be viewed on WITF and other PBS member stations. The film, narrated by local histori-

ans, professors, and students, was well received by an audience of over 125 people from CUMC and the Carlisle Community. It tells the little known but powerful story of citizens from Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, and York counties who at great personal risk provided safe houses or were abolitionists, conductors, and stationmasters supporting the Underground Railroad. These individuals guided freedom-seekers who crossed the Mason Dixon line and were on free soil, but were not necessarily free from risk of capture, as they continued their journey to freedom often ending in Canada. Joel Martin, of Norwalk, CT, a musician, and composer, who composed the documentary's soundtrack, made a guest appearance and gave a brief piano concert which set the mood for the evening and enthralled everyone with his internationally recognized talent. Individuals from the Carlisle Quaker Meeting, CUMC's tech and facility management teams, together with Christina Benson and Kerm Leitner and other members of BiA, helped make the event a success.



LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch meets for lunch, laughter and fellowship the third Friday of the month at 11:30. The restaurants visited are handicapped accessible and have adequate off-street parking. Reserve a spot (or 2) by calling Jane Lerch in advance so seating can be arranged. Friends are welcome. In December we will not have Lunch Bunch. On January 17, they will meet at Walnut Bottom Diner and on February 21 at Miseno II. Watch the Midweek newsletter and the bulletin for more info.



CELEBRATING OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

We have so much to be thankful for at CUMC as 2024 comes to a close, including the amazing results of our third and final capital campaign to finish paying off the construction loan for our incredible campus. As you read this brief article, take a moment to thank God for all He is doing with this congregation.

The end of October marked the completion of our first year of this three-year campaign. A total of 168 households pledged \$2,351,372, and thus far an additional 69 households have made gifts to the campaign, for a total participation of 237 families and individuals. Our campaign consultant set a goal for us to receive 40-45% of pledges by the end of

2024. Thanks to your generosity, we already hit that goal by the end of October, and by year-end we anticipate receiving over 50% of pledges, which is simply remarkable! Over and above the pledged amounts, we have also received \$48,320 of additional gifts, and anticipate that figure will be close to \$100,000 by year end.

Our remaining construction loan balance as of the end of October was \$1,747,550. As you can see by comparing the pledged total plus additional gifts received thus far, we are well on our way towards paying off this loan in its entirety by the end of this Forward Campaign in October 2026!

For perspective, we spent a total of \$15 million for our

Spring Garden Campus. Here we are just 8 short years later having already paid off 89% of that total, plus interest on our loan. God is so good, and the faithfulness and generosity of this CUMC congregation is unequaled.

Also, please know that it's never too late to join in this Forward Campaign. We have two years yet to go, so if you wish to join us in this amazing journey, please contact Pastor Jake or one of us. Our goal has always been to leave CUMC debt-free for those generations who will follow us in loving God and sharing His love with our community. Let's finish the job together!

~ Sue & Jeff Barnes
Forward Campaign Chairs



PACK THE PARSONAGE

Since July, a team of ladies, led by Sue Barnes and Debbie Washinger, have been preparing the parsonage for the De Beer Family. Volunteers helped to move donated furniture, Doc Loudon has been sanding and painting for the finishing touches, and Jason Weeber, our facilities manager, made any needed repairs.

Over the last couple of months through several CUMC members that have lost family members we were

blessed with donations of furniture and other items to pack

the parsonage. During late October and November, we all had a chance to shower the De Beer family with a warm and gracious welcome to CUMC. Through an online Amazon Gift List and monetary donations anyone that wanted to contribute a gift to the new family could participate. The items on the list quickly disappeared and boxes began arriving at the church office. Volunteers opened the gift boxes and placed them in the parsonage for the De Beer family arrival, so they could begin enjoying their new home. Mon-

etary donations purchased mattresses and initial grocery stocking.

The De Beer family will arrive in the U.S. on December 4th after many hours of travel. The parsonage is a beautiful home filled with love from all of us. The De Beer family is incredibly grateful for the many contributions and the hands that made it happen. THANK YOU to all those who prayed, donated, and prepared the parsonage for their arrival.

~ Kathy Charette



VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

The CUMC Volunteers in Action Team or VIM was in Roper, North Carolina Oct 13 - Oct 19th. This team of eleven consisted of seasoned VIM members who have been on many mission trips and one new member. It was equally men and women who ranged in age of 35 to 74. The team was also diverse in their skills levels, the team contained many talented home repair experts who were able to teach the others. I have very few home repair skills but was able to do jobs because they fit my skill set. I also did a few things I hadn't done before like glaze windows. One great thing about VIM trips is getting to know the team mates. Even though I had known everyone on the trip, I got to know them better and truly learned that they were working to serve Jesus. Glazing windows takes time so my work partner Debbie Washinger and I were able to chat while we worked. A truly enjoyable experience for me. We served one homeowner for the whole week. We were able to take time to connect with him. One day he

asked me how we came to his house. I explained that the organization we volunteer through had assigned us to him and his home. The team we worked with is Carolina Rebuilding Ministry which matched our skills with the need of the homeowner. The homeowner said "I am glad you were sent to me." The team replaced 9 windows and did the siding trim around them. We painted and rescreened two porches. A big plumbing job! What I learned about this team is that they were truly there to serve. The plumbing job got bigger every day and some days it got bigger every couple hours. The two main workers took each setback in stride and immediately went to work on how to fix each new problem. It was a messy, stinky job. They could have easily walked away and no one would have faulted them. But they didn't, they kept working. I am very thankful and in awe of them; they showed me, the team, and the homeowner that they truly cared about him. Two nights the plumbers

went back after dinner to check on a job so the home owner could have water overnight. The team showed me that they cared for each other too. The team stayed at Plymouth United Methodist Church which was very spacious. We had meals together there and many team members played cards and games in the evening. We had daily devotions led by Roger Woods. This trip he connected a song to the lesson. A favorite of mine was Do Something by Matthew West. One verse is:

We are the salt of the earth

We are a city on a hill

We're never gonna change the world by standing still

Please consider joining VIM the next time we have a mission trip. All skill levels are needed. VIM truly is an opportunity to live out our love for Jesus who first loved us.

~ **Andrea Katz**

SAMARITAN FELLOWSHIP

Samaritan Fellowship is a nonprofit, ecumenical organization that has operated in the Carlisle area since 1958. The mission is to provide financial assistance to people in dire financial need who reside in the areas of Carlisle, South Middleton, and Middlesex townships. In many instances, Samaritan Fellowship is their last resort. Every Saturday without fail, single parents, individuals and families meet face to face with community volunteers at CUMC to determine their needs and the help that can be provided. CUMC is a Samaritan Fellowship partner, and provides the space

every Saturday. Many CUMC members are volunteers. Not one Saturday providing services has been missed in the past 65 years. Usually around 15-20 cases are reviewed each Saturday by 10-15 volunteers. Most of those in need have been referred by a local non-profit agency. The majority of the needs are either housing, utilities, or transportation. Upon signing in, the application process validates the need and, when necessary, phone calls are made to landlords and utilities to discuss the financial obligation. Money is not given to the client, rather sent directly to the business. Some of

the local organizations Samaritan Fellowship works closely with and refer to are: Community CARES, Maranatha, Salvation Army, Todd Baird Lindsey Devlin Foundation, His Hands Ministry and Project Share.

Last year, 679 people applied for assistance and the majority received financial help. Samaritan Fellowship paid nearly \$230,000 to keep people from being evicted from their homes, from utilities being turned off, and to keep cars running so moms and dads could get to work. It's always heart wrenching talking to a young
(continued on page 8)



CARLISLE UMC'S GOT TALENT

CUMC has so many talents for caring, serving, expressing kindness. There's another talent we need to share and celebrate. We meet at three different times on Sunday in three worship services. The Talent Show on January 11 is a chance to meet and have fun with those from the other worship services, and even from online who can't be with us in person on Sunday mornings. It may be a chance to meet with our new Associate Pastor, Quinton De

Beer and the family. And it may be a chance to meet some of our new next-door neighbors at Harbour Village. SO, here's the pitch: We're inviting any talented persons who want to break into Show Business to join those eight acts who are already onboard. AND, we're looking for those more comfortable behind the scenes - stagehands, Tech Team members, and Gofers to pamper and guide the performers. After the show, we'll nosh on snacks,

and possibly have a King Cake to commemorate an Epiphany tradition. Too dark? Our hope is that we'll be able to do this in about 90 minutes and have time to nosh and natter. Sunset is at 5 PM, with about 30 minutes of twilight. And there will be a nearly full moon that night.

~ Charles Reynolds

(Samaritan...continued from page 7)
single mom with a few young kids on the verge of being evicted. However, it's heartwarming when we can talk to the landlord and work with them to make sure they can stay in their home to get over the financial crisis. When clients are not able to be helped financially, they are referred to other resources in the community.

Samaritan Fellowship does not receive government money but relies on a few small grants and the generosity of individuals and churches in our community. CUMC is one of the biggest church supporters.

If you would like more information on Samaritan Fellowship or how you can help to make a tangible difference in people's lives, you can talk to me or a number of the other CUMC members that help on Saturdays - Roger Woods, Wayne Henderson, Cheryl Hale, Dave Hatch, Bill Doll, Chip and Susie Deringer, Kevin Lyttle and Carol and Doug Stuart. Thanks for CUMC's ongoing support.

~ Art Kunst

Samaritan Fellowship Steward



MEN'S BREAKFAST

One of the primary benefits of a fellowship of Christian men is the sense of community and belonging that it offers. Men are wired for connection and community, and a brotherhood of Christian men provides a safe and supportive space for men to be vulnerable, share their struggles, and receive spiritual guidance and support from other men who share similar beliefs and values.

In this community, men can learn from one another, grow together, and hold each other accountable. A brotherhood of Christian men is a place where men can sharpen their minds, strengthen their faith, and grow in their spiritual walk.

Join this group of Men 20+ at Moonlight Diner for breakfast, prayer, and fellowship. This group will meet on the third Saturday of each month, 7-9am. Contact Sam Butler for more info at 717.440.0113.

*(Interview...cont'd from page 4)
about! And pie! I must have pie! It is something we always see in the movies! Hopefully you can recommend a good eatery where we could try some!*

Q: What hobbies and interests do you enjoy that help you connect and recharge?

A: I am a bookworm and can get lost in a good book quite easily with a cup of tea in hand! Listening to an inspirational Podcast and enjoying a good movie or series on Netflix and Prime. Taking a walk and just spending time in nature energise me. I am an animal lover and all things Equestrian.

Q: What has your family enjoyed doing together, especially during this waiting period before the move to Carlisle?

A: On the 2nd of October we celebrated our 20th Wedding Anniversary with a short break away in the countryside with the family. We hosted family and friends from Oxford in the UK and enjoyed catching up and sharing in each other's news. In the waiting we have dreamt, Googled, You-Tubed all things CUMC, Carlisle, PA and the USA!

CAITLIN

Q: What are some of your favourite activities or hobbies?

A: I like to go to the gym to workout, enjoy restaurants and good food with friends. Watching series,

movies and listening to music is also a favourite activity for me.

Q: What are you looking forward to about moving to the U.S. and starting a new chapter in Carlisle?

A: I am excited to meet new people and make new friends! Exploring a new country and getting involved in helping other people. Experiencing a snowy Christmas is going to be very different for us!

Q: What are some ways you've enjoyed getting involved in church or community activities before?

A: Helping out in the soup kitchen and feeding the homeless. In the winter we go out with my dad onto the streets to share soup and bread in the evenings. I also help out and care for the kids from Sunday school during school holidays and holiday club programs.

KRISTEN

Q: What are some of your favourite activities or hobbies?

A: I enjoy going for walks, playing video games, watching movies. Riding my bicycle on the trails is going to be lots of fun in the summer.

Q: What are you looking forward to about moving to the U.S. and starting a new chapter in Carlisle?

A: I am really looking forward to trying new food like Crumble Cookie,

Chick-Fil-A and Taco Bell
Q: What are some ways you've enjoyed getting involved in church or community activities before?

A: I have helped clean the community, served food in the soup kitchens and flipped pancakes at the church market day.

KAYLEE

Q: What are some of your favourite activities or hobbies?

A: I enjoy going to the gym to work out because staying healthy is important to me! I like beauty and make up and follow different styles and tips on Instagram. Sharing meals with friends and family are also something I enjoy and I look forward to new restaurants.

Q: What are you looking forward to about moving to the U.S. and starting a new chapter in Carlisle?

A: I want to meet and make new friends. I have tried to search on the internet to learn about Carlisle and what there is to do, but the best way will be to be shown by all of you! I am keen to try the chocolates, sweets and treats that we don't get in South Africa.

Q: What are some ways you've enjoyed getting involved in church or community activities before?

A: We have gone out with my dad at night to give soup and bread to the homeless, picked up litter and gone to Sunday School at the Church.

JOIN A TEAM/ GROUP IN 2025

CONNECTing occurs by joining a congregational care team, serving a church ministry team, starting a Connect group, building a more just community, and building relationships outside your bubble/comfort zone. Join a Connect team by contacting Andrea Katz, Welcoming Coordinator.

SERVing fulfills Christ's mandate to love one another, help those in need, and make new disciples. We believe our faith must be accompanied by our actions. Working together, we can make an impact and truly build bridges in our community sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Join a Serve team, contact Pastor Quinton to find a cause to be passionate about.

GROWing as a disciple of Jesus, is a life-long, ever-evolving process for people of all ages. Our GROW ministry helps us to experience Jesus through all seasons of our life. Join a GROW group or attend a GROW offering, contact Pastor Quinton to start or continue your personal journey.



(Kindness...continued from page 1)
 Kindness T-shirts, bracelets, pins, and badges throughout the campaign. Each week a guest speaker for a Serve Ministry spoke during our worship services of how the ministry spread kindness and love to others. Pastor Jake's sermons on Kindness, Seeing Others as God Sees Them, Humility, Compassion and Love focused us on Living Like Jesus. Jesus said, "In everything, do unto others, as you would have them do unto you" and "Love one another, just as I have loved you." Our Serve Leaders led opportunities each Sunday after our worship services and throughout the week to spread kindness in our communities. Over one hundred volunteers stepped up to help make these serve opportunities possible throughout the campaign.

It is a known fact that one act of kindness can change a life and is rewarding for both the giver and receiver. What can be better than that? Here are some comments from those that participated:

- The blessing of taking the time to be intentionally available for specific moments of mission and ministry.

- The joy of working with and getting to know others better from CUMC as we worked together.
- I appreciated how the timing of the campaign aligned with the election season. It provided a refreshing shift in focus, emphasizing positivity and the power of kindness to make a difference in our world.
- We have a neighbor who is extremely adamant about his political candidates and has always displayed many yard signs. We are the "other side." In the past this has caused some friction. We placed our kindness campaign sign opposite his yard signs. He is a good Christian man. After the election he made a point to say our sign really made him think about his actions.
- One of our Sunbeams said, "It made me happy packing the blessing bags and writing a letter to the new pastor. I think it made them happy too."
- Each of the ten First Responder organizations we served welcomed the meals the kitchen staff prepared, and our team delivered.
- A Little Lights teacher said, "CUMC always takes care of us." Here is how CUMC spread kindness during the Kindness Campaign.

~ Kerm Leitner

OCTOBER

- 6 - Kindness Seashells made
- Domestic Violence Tubes made
- 7 - Muffins delivered to LeTort Teachers/Staff
- Cookies delivered to Little Lights and HeadStart Teachers
- 8 - UMCOR Cleanup buckets donated to Mission Central
- 11 - United Way Day of Caring
- 13 - Blessing Bags made
- VIM Team left for NC
- Safe Harbour donations
- 14 - Prepared and served lunch to Little Lights Teachers, Board Members, and Shining Lights
- 15 - Blessing Bags handed out
- Prepared and served meal at My Brother's Table
- 16 - Prepared and delivered meal to First Responders
- 19 - Bagged groceries at Project SHARE
- 20 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- Safe Harbour donations
- Kindness cards made
- Letort Teachers/Staff adopted
- 25 - Cupcakes delivered to LeTort Teachers/Staff
- 26 - Spice packet project Pop-Up at Trunk or Treat
- 27 - Safe Harbour donations
- Spice packet Pop-Up
- Prepared and delivered meal to Community CARES
- 28 - Cupcakes delivered to Little Lights and HeadStart Teachers/Staff
- 30 - Safe Harbour donations delivered

NOVEMBER

- 2 - Children's Lake Clean up
- 3 - Project SHARE donations
- Little Lights/Headstart Kindness Craft made
- 4 - UMCOR cleanup buckets donated to Mission Central
- 10 - Project SHARE donations
- 16 - Prepared and served a meal at My Brother's Table
- 17 - Project SHARE donations
- 21 - Project SHARE Thanksgiving dinners delivered

**97 KINDNESS SIGNS SOLD
AND DISPLAYED**



CUMC WELCOMES CARLISLE AREA NEIGHBORS & NEWCOMERS CLUB

Our search for a new meeting location began several months ago when our growing membership exceeded the capacity of our meeting room. With a checklist of needs, we began our extensive search of meeting places in the Carlisle area.

We needed a space to accommodate our members for our monthly meetings where we feature a program speaker. Our "wish list" consisted of a private room with comfortable seating in an accessible facility with a convenient location, ample parking and use of digital technology as needed for our program presenters. In addition, we needed a facility to hold our annual Soup Luncheon and Fashion Show in February.

We knew our search was over when we toured the Carlisle United Methodist Church. The Chapel was the ideal setting for our meetings and the Gathering/Cafe was perfect for our

Soup Luncheon. Not only did CUMC meet all of our needs, the added benefit of set up and tear down for our meetings was included. We were impressed by the warm welcome from the CUMC staff and attention to every detail for our club gatherings.

The Carlisle Area Neighbors & Newcomers Club would like to extend the same warm welcome to the CUMC community. We are a social club open to all Carlisle Area Women, both newcomers and long time residents. We help women make new friends and become better acquainted with the community.

We hold monthly meetings with an informative speaker on various topics of interest. In addition, we have activity groups in which you may participate ranging from book discussions, bridge, bunco, canasta, crafting, mah-jong, mexican train and out to lunch bunch to name a few. Our civic/com-

munity outreach committee actively supports 3-4 local community projects per year through donations and volunteerism.

As a member, you can do as much or as little as you choose. You do not have to be a newcomer to the area. We have members who have lived in the area for their entire life. We extend a warm welcome to join us at one of our meetings held on the third Tuesday of most months at 1:00pm at the Carlisle United Methodist Church. For more information on our meeting dates and speakers, visit the General Meeting Schedule on our website: www.carlisleareanewcomers.org We would love to meet you. Come out and see what you are missing!

*~ Ruth Ann Wenrich, President
Carlisle Area Neighbors & Newcomers Club - A Social Club for all
Carlisle Area Women*

FRUITBELT FARMWORKERS MINISTRY



Three CUMC members and a retired high school Spanish teacher traveled to the Gardners area Sunday, Sept. 22, to visit more than 3 dozen farmworkers. The men had come from Mexico for seasonal work in the orchards gracing the hills of northern Adams County. The CUMC team opened the visit with prayer and gratitude for the beautiful autumn weather and the bountiful yield of fruit from the workers' labors.

This was followed with scripture, with the retired teacher relaying the passages to the men in Spanish. CUMC provided the workers with new blankets, an abundance of fried chicken and a wide assortment of sweat-shirts, flannel shirts and sweatpants. One pair of sneakers and one pair of work boots were quickly scooped up. The workers made specific
(continued on Page 12)

THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM - ADVENT

This Christmas we will put ourselves in the shoes of Mary, Joseph and the other people along the Road to Bethlehem. Looking with fresh eyes at history, archeology and the very human stories of the people who were there, we will discover that the Road to Bethlehem is a journey that still brings hope, love, and peace today.

Devotional: Plan to read along with daily devotions to accompany the sermon series.

Based on the classic book, "The Journey," by Adam Hamilton.

Dec 1 - Mary of Nazareth

Scripture - Luke 1: 26-38

Theme - Willingness

Dec 8 - Joseph of Bethlehem

Scripture - Matthew 1: 18-24

Theme - Mercy

Dec 15 - Elizabeth in Judea

Scripture - Luke 1: 39-56

Theme - Encouragement

Dec 22 - Nazareth to Bethlehem

Scripture - Luke 2: 1-7

Theme - Perseverance

Dec 24 - At the Manger

Scripture - Luke 2: 9-20

Theme - God With Us

CHRISTMAS 2024

Dec. 22, 5pm Silent Night Worship.

Quiet service of grace and healing. In person in the Chapel and online. Child-care provided.

Christmas Eve - At the Manger

Invite a friend to join you for a powerful experience of the meaning of Christmas.

Candlelight Christmas Eve

4:30pm - Family Singing by our kid's choirs, an extended kid's chat, traditional carols, and lots of energy!

7pm - Contemporary Music led by our worship band of traditional carols and new Christmas favorites.

9pm - Traditional music by our combined choir, carols, and traditional liturgy.



At Christmas we received the greatest gift of all when Jesus was born over two thousand years ago. Today in keeping with the free, unexpected gift, many of us choose to bless others because we have been blessed. This season you can give an Alterna-

tive gift in memory of or in honor of someone that will touch lives here in Carlisle and beyond. Give a gift that makes a difference!

- \$2 - dozen eggs for Project SHARE
- \$3 - a meal with Salvation Army
- \$5 - a book for LeTort Elem.
- \$5 - nourish a SPY kid
- \$10 - Outreach with Mission Central
- \$10 - a family moving from homelessness to home with laundry detergent
- \$10 - education needs
- \$10 - supplies for homes hit by disasters with VIM
- \$15 - Little Lights Daycare teacher gift with Shining Lights

- \$20 - coats/gloves/hats for Fruitbelt Farmworkers
- \$20 - assist a person in crisis with Samaritan Fellowship
- \$25 - food/gas gift cards for those in crisis with Emergency Assistance
- \$25 - 1 basket for kids/moms with Domestic Violence Service

(Farmworkers...cont'd from page 11) requests for more hooded sweatshirts in small and large sizes, and work boots ranging in size from 7 to 11.

The appreciation and gratitude for the food and clothing was evident by the smiles on the workers' faces and the many thanks to the CUMC team.

Three more CUMC visits followed in October before the men returned to Mexico in early November. The requested hooded sweatshirts were a big hit with them, as were knitted hats, work gloves, ball caps and some work boots donated by church members.

These visitors have temporary work vi-

sas. Their manual labor is essential in keeping America's food supply flowing and area orchards in business.

Let us not forget the contributions made by this Mexican workforce. These men make this long journey to the northeastern United States to find meaningful work that is scarce in their homeland. They make this decision to seek employment here despite the sacrifice of an extended absence from their homes and families.

May God be with them on their travels, and we pray for their safe return in the spring of 2025.

~ Fred Burgess

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:00am - Traditional

Worship in the Worship Center with traditional hymns and traditional UMC liturgy.

9:45am - Contemporary

Worship in the Worship Center led by our Praise Band using contemporary music.

11:15am - Relaxed Traditional

Worship in the Worship Center with a variety of traditional hymns, songs from "The Faith We Sing."

*8am & 9:45am services are live streamed to carlislepaumc.org/worshipexperience



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