

December 2022

# The Nimmonsburg Witness

*Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church*

*918 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905*

*Rev. Harold Wheat, Pastor      Nimmonsburgumc.weebly.com*

**Sunday Worship at 9:30 am followed by Fellowship Time at 10:30 am**

## Advent Season



One of the things that can happen when we show up to fulfill our covenant promises is that our relational partners are not on the same time frame we expected. We end up waiting. Things feel stuck, and the hope we had for the future seems distant. Advent is the celebration of what can happen as we pay attention and keep being present to the waiting.

Obviously, the first thing one notices in an extended period of waiting is the lack of action. The hoped for result is not forthcoming. Our feelings rise from disappointed expectations, and it is easy to analyze, judge, or find justification to be released from our promises. We want something to move.

This Advent, we will be honoring that desire for *something* to move while hearing the invitation to stay anchored to our covenant promises. The path will lead us to focus on personal holiness, collective worship, interpersonal kindness, and systemic justice. It may be that as we wait for the celebration of Christ's birth and for his transformational return, we will be gifted with glimpses of divine movement along the way.

*Pastor Harold Wheat*



Please join us for:

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at 4:00 pm on December 24th with scripture, hymns and some very special music.

**Christmas Day Worship Service** at 9:30 am on December 25th as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the greatest gift of all!

## United Women in Faith



# Annual Christmas Tea

**Sunday, December 18th at 2:00 pm**  
Entertainment provided by Russ Lockwood

This annual event is simply fun and fellowship to get everyone into the holiday spirit. Tables will be decorated by our hostesses and elegant desserts will be served with coffee, tea or punch. **All women are invited to attend!** Please sign up by December 11th in the entryway. *No charge to attend, except that we ask you to bring an item for CHOW.*



## Would you like to be an Usher/Greeter?

Nimmonsburg UMC is in need of people who would like to be ushers and/or greeters on Sunday mornings before worship. All you need is a “smile” which you all have! We want to make visitors feel welcome when they walk into our Church.

Please sign up in the entryway, or talk with Dick Oakley or Paul Derr.



## Announcing our newly-assigned Bishop

**Northeastern Jurisdiction elects Burgos-Núñez in a first:** History was made in the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference when the Rev. Héctor A. Burgos-Núñez, the Superintendent of the Central District in the Greater New Jersey Conference, was elected as Bishop in The United Methodist Church's Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference. With his election, he became the first Hispanic/Latino bishop elected in the jurisdiction. Bishop Burgos' appointment is effective January 1, 2023.



## Sunday School Thankful Tree



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Sunday School "Thankful Tree". In case you missed the blessings of NUMC kids and congregation, here they are!

*People who love me*

*Home*

*Friends*

*Our Beautiful Home*

*God's Beautiful Creations*

*Seniors*

*Beautiful Weather*

*Food*

*Panda on my Shoulder*

*My Church Family*

*Children*

*Antlers Headbands*

*Music*

*Love*

*Baby Dolls*

*Cats*

*Teddys*

*Family*

*Health*

*God's Love*

*Mom and Dad*

*My Bed*

*Joy*

*The Sun*

*My House*

*Pineapple*

We hope you had a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.  
The Sunday School Team and Kids!

## Holiday Cards, Greeting Cards and Calendars



We are collecting new holiday cards, greeting cards and calendars for the Greater Binghamton Health Center. (New cards and calendars you receive in the mail are welcome.)

Please put items in the boxes on the shelf in front of the Church mailboxes by **December 11th**. Thank you for helping !

## Pastor/Staff Christmas Gifts

SPRC is collecting for a monetary Christmas gift for our Pastor and staff. Their dedicated work throughout the year is important to all of us in so many ways. If you would like to contribute, envelopes will be available in the Weekly Connection through December 18th, and on the shelf in the narthex.



Cash contributions only please. If you need to contribute by check, please see me or another SPRC member. Let's be sure to let our Pastor and staff know how much we appreciate all that they do!

Judy St. John, Chairperson, SPRC

## Christmas Poinsettias



**Time to order your Christmas Poinsettias!!** The cost is \$15 each (same as last year) and the deadline is **December 18th**. Order forms are available in the Church narthex, or you can call the office.

(Payment is due when you order.)

## Welcome Back Choir!



On Sunday, November 27th, we were excited to welcome back our Choir, and to welcome our new Choir Director, **Theresa Lee-Whiting!** They sang “*Every Valley*” by Patti Drennan, and it was beautiful.

Our Choir will be singing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm prior to singing on Sunday. Anyone who wants to sing is welcome.

## Why are Name Tags Important?

Here are some reasons why it is good to use name tags at church:

1. **Few people know everybody in the church.** Even in the smallest churches, it’s sometimes difficult to remember everybody’s name. As a church grows, it’s even more difficult. Nametags allow us to admit that struggle while providing a way to overcome it.
2. **Leaders need help with names.** Our leaders want to know everybody’s name in church, but are not normally gifted with that kind of memory. They would much prefer calling people by name as they minister to them – and nametags allow them to do so.
3. **Nametags invite conversation.** Knowing another person’s name breaks down one barrier to conversations that church folks ought to feel comfortable having. It’s simply easier to talk with others when you are on a first-name basis.
4. **Knowing names makes fellowship more personal.** While calling each other “*brother*” or “*sister*” sounds good (and is theologically on target), that nomenclature is often a cover up for “*I’m sorry I don’t know your name, and I’m embarrassed to ask.*” As long as conversations remain at the anonymous “*brother*” and “*sister*” level, fellowship will remain surface level.
5. **Nametags save embarrassment.** We’ve probably all called someone by the wrong name, only to realize it later (or perhaps even within the same conversation). If “*brother*” or “*sister*” is a gentle way of saying, “*I don’t know your name,*” using the wrong name is an undeniable way of doing so. That’s embarrassing for both parties.



**NOTE:** Don’t forget that some of you have name tags in your church mailboxes!



What is Santa’s favorite snack?  
What do you call a blind reindeer?  
Did you know that Santa knows karate?  
What’s a snowman’s favorite song?  
What cooking seasoning is the most festive?  
What is the difference between the Christmas  
alphabet and the ordinary alphabet?



Crisp Pringles  
No eye deer  
He has a black belt.  
“Freeze a Jolly Good Fellow”  
Christmas thyme  
The Christmas alphabet has “No-el”

Slow me down, Lord!  
 Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.  
 Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tension of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory.

Help me know the magical, restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking minute vacations of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, or read a few lines from a good book.

Slow me down Lord and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.



## Christmas Word Scramble

Can you unscramble these words to find the hidden word?

sehlig

lagne

nosw

teer

corasl



## Christmas Word Search

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

CHRISTMAS  
 HOLLY  
 ORNAMENT  
 MISTLETOE  
 GREEN  
 RED  
 SILVER  
 BELLS  
 JINGLE  
 HOHOHO  
 STAR  
 SANTA  
 HOLIDAY

STOCKING  
 JOY  
 MERRY  
 CARD  
 PRESENT  
 BOW  
 SNOWFLAKE  
 TREE  
 GINGERBREAD  
 WREATH  
 SNOWMAN  
 CANDLE



## Getting to Know our Congregation Members



**Dennis Lockhart**

In our busy lives, it's easy to take for granted the impact of technology and innovation that has come out of the Greater Binghamton/Southern Tier Region of New York. Over the last several decades, we have experienced an evolution in technology that has been driven by entrepreneurial management leadership and hardworking, dedicated employees. We have witnessed the family-oriented/employee-focused management approach of the Johnson family that made Endicott Johnson one of the largest shoe manufacturers in the world. Ed Link made Binghamton the birthplace for aerospace simulation and pilot training. Thomas Watson created IBM into the leader in computer technology ... an essential part of our daily lives. Currently, we have companies such as the Raymond Corporation, BAE System, Lockheed Martin, Universal Instruments and many other local businesses that have contribute to this evolution. The TechWorks! in Binghamton is a working museum that highlights innovation of the past, present, and future.

What's next? Well, if all goes to plan, our area's next technological contribution will involve Lithium-Ion battery manufacturing and the Southern Tier becoming the Center of Competence for battery technology.

In the October Nimmonsburg Witness, we told you about the career of one of our congregation members, Gene Abbey, and his contribution to Link Aviation and manned-spaceflight. This month, we would like to inform you of another member of our church who has had an exciting career in manufacturing automation... worldwide... and most recently coordinated the effort to bring the future of battery manufacturing to our area.

On Thursday November 17th our congregation member, **Dennis Lockhart**, was the speaker at the November Professional Development Meeting of the Binghamton Chapter of American Society for Quality (ASQ). The meeting was held at TechWorks! on Water Street in Binghamton. Dennis reviewed examples of manufacturing automation projects he has coordinated during his exciting career at Universal Instruments in Binghamton and his subsequent work as owner and primary consultant for CIMSEE Consulting, LLC, also of Binghamton. During his career, Dennis has coordinated over 130 worldwide projects as a Senior Systems Project Manager and Industrial Engineering Project Leader.

Did you know..... Dennis developed the largest Chinese television manufacturing plant in Chengdu, China with 183 automated manufacturing cells for the manufacture of printed circuit boards and semi-automated final assembly? Another project for the DSS TV satellite manufacturing facility in Juarez, Mexico yielded 10 fully-automated production lines... each 1,100 ft. long in a 1.3 million sq. ft. facility. It involved 127 tractor trailer loads of robotics, automation cells, materials handling



**Bob Lerner, ASQ Section Chair  
presenting  
Recognition Certificate**

*(continued on next page)*

equipment, test equipment, computers, and facility support equipment. And, these are just a handful of his projects!

Dennis has coordinated projects for important companies including Ford, Chrysler, General Motors, Bosch, Apple, IBM, AT&T, Genie, GE, Samsung, LG, Whirlpool, Motorola and many others.

The highlight of the ASQ presentation was an account of the 9 month-long project to relocate a 2.3 million sq. ft Lithium-Ion battery manufacturing facility from Concord, NC to the Huron Campus (former IBM site) in Endicott, NY. The move to establish the Iperium3 New York (iM3NY) Lithium-Ion battery plant also involved approximately 120 trailer loads of equipment, and required the complete renovation of the former IBM materials distribution center building. The massive, new, high-tech facility occupies a space equivalent to the size of 3 football fields.



**Peggy Sniezek, ASQ Member,  
Mayor Linda Jackson and  
Endicott Trustee Eileen**

We were proud to have Village of Endicott Mayor, Linda Jackson, present for the meeting .... along with our own, Phyllis Bartlett ...!!!

Dennis is one more example of the talented people who make up the congregation of the Nimmonsburg UMC. How about sharing YOUR story!!!!

*Jim Tregaskis*

## ALTAR FLOWERS



Often we enjoy presenting altar flower arrangements to remember birthdays, anniversaries, memorials or other events to share with our Church family on Sunday mornings. Sometimes people gather wild flowers, pick flowers from their own garden, or order from a store or florist to pick up and deliver to church themselves.

We are very pleased to announce that we have come to a new business arrangement with **Woodfern Florist** of Binghamton. Woodfern is well known in our area for beautiful and creative floral designs.

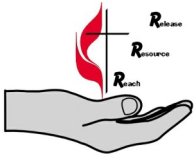
If you would like to order flowers through our Church Office with Woodfern, please call Marge and she will contact them for you. An arrangement will cost \$35 plus a delivery charge of \$15 for a total of \$50. If you would like to pick up the arrangement yourself, you can save the delivery charge. Each order will be placed on the Church's tax-exempt House Account (even if you pick up your flowers), so payment should be made to the Church.

If you prefer a plant, they are offering a Peace Lily for \$48.50 plus delivery cost.

Floral offerings are a wonderful tribute, and add to the beautiful décor of our Sanctuary. However they come to us, they are always special and appreciated.

## Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

918 Upper Front Street  
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(607) 724-5421



## Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

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