

Church & Community

Luminary sale this weekend

The Back Mountain Catholic Youth Council invites the residents of the Back Mountain Community to join together on Christmas Eve in a "Lighting of the Luminaries" and a Prayer for World Peace.

The tradition of lighting luminaries in front of homes and along driveways goes back 2,000 years ago, when shepherds marked the way to the manger of the Christ Child with small bonfires.

Youth council members are selling luminary packets (includes 12 votive candles, 12 small bags, a packet of sand & a world prayer for peace) on the two weekends before Christmas. Packets cost \$6 each or are two for \$10. The youth council members will sell after all Masses at the following Churches:

Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas, Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake, St. Frances X. Cabrini Church, Carverton and St. Therese's Church, Shavertown.

CHURCH NOTES

Dallas United Methodist

4 Parsonage Street, Dallas
Dec. 21, Christmas Cantata with participating churches, Trinity Presbyterian and Albright United Methodist, Wilkes-Barre, 4 p.m.

Idetown Methodist

Idetown Rd., Lehman
The Idetown Congregation will be joining with their sister congregation Lehman UMC at Lehman from December 2003 through March 2004 for Worship services and Christian Education on Sunday's - the Idetown Church is not closed, only joining with Lehman for these months as we journey on as the church of Jesus Christ and please note the times for worship and Sunday school under Lehman Methodist below.

Lehman United Methodist

1011 Mt. View Drive, Lehman
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays, Youth group at 7:30

Shavertown United Methodist

163 North Pioneer Ave. Shavertown
Dec. 14, Children's Christmas program, 5 p.m.
Dec. 21, Youth Group caroling and lunch, 12 noon.
Dec. 24, Christmas Eve services at 7 and 10 p.m.
Prayer time Wednesdays, 7-7:15 p.m.

St. Luke's Reformation Lutheran

Tunkhannock Rd., Noxen
Sunday School is 9:30 a.m.

and Church Service at 11 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran

RR 4 Box 627A (off of 118), Dallas
Saturday Evening Service at 5:30 weekly.

Dec. 14, All Choir Program at 10 a.m. Holiday reception following.

Dec. 26-28 Jr. /Sr. High Winter Camp. Registration forms at the church office.

St. Therese's

64 Davis Street, Shavertown
Back Mountain Youth Council accepting new members for junior high grades 6-8 and high school grades 9-12. For more info. call Denise at 696-1144.

Turkey Bingo Party and Raffle winners are:

Barbara Alfano, William Alles, Stephen Bell, Susan and Charles Boyek, Chester Daniels, Mona Dymond, Chris Gillis, Walter Maciejczyk, Andrew Miroslaw, George and Brunhilda Saxon, Grace Sherin, Michael Supczenski, Joe Szczechowicz.

Trinity Presbyterian

105 Irem Rd., Dallas
Special Saturday evening worship weekly at 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 14, Deacon's pack boxes for needy families.

Trucksville United Methodist

40 Knob Hill Rd., Trucksville
Sunday Services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School classes for all ages are held at the Educational Facility on Sundays, 9:45-10:45.
Dec. 24, Family Christmas Eve service, 4 p.m.
Dec. 24, Traditional Christmas Eve Service, Chancel Choir



Catholic Youth Council Junior High members

The newly commissioned Junior High Council members are:
From left, first row: Mrs. Denise Murphy, Adult Advisor, Mrs. Diane Buckman, Adult Advisor, Drew Clouse, Douglas Harpersberger, Maureen Albrecht, Adult Advisor, Mark Albrecht, Adult Advisor.

Second row: Kristle Lloyd, Gianna DeGraba, Rachel Buckman, Susan Closue, Adult Advisor.

Third row: Preston Balavage, Joseph Balavage, Colleen Leahigh, Rev. Joseph Rafferty, Jackie Buckman, Devin Albrecht. Absent from photo: Emily Banas, Julia Clements, Blair Costantino, Nicholas Pilch, Erin Belles, Amber Frania, Janelle Marshallick, Michael Masalski, Kyle Piazza, Jennifer Sobek, Abbey Zurad, Katie Banas, C.J. Peterlin, and Noah Zurad.



Senior High Council members:

From left, first row: Denise Murphy, Adult Advisor, Krissy Stanks, Matthew Buckman, Jason Grabowski, Christopher Taylor, Nikki Gelso, Steve Wallo, Adult Advisor.

Second row: Eddie Stanks, Jack Leahigh, Katelyn Buckman, Eileen Reinert, Brittany Grabowski, Douglas Pomfret, Nikki Appel.

Third row: Kaitlyn Makara, Matthew Knepp, Marilyn Stanks, Adult Advisor, Rev. Joseph Rafferty, Kelly Murphy, Andrew O'Hara.

Absent from photo: Kathleen Paley, Ariel Zurad, Mary Balavage, Aniela Coveleski, Rachel Decker, Sean Reinert, and Ryan Beberus.

Catholic Youth Council has new members

On Sunday, November 16, 47 members of the Back Mountain Catholic Youth Council were commissioned in their role as peer ministers. The ceremony took place during the 11:15 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake. Rev. Joseph P. Rafferty celebrated the Mass.

The youth council includes representatives from the four area Catholic churches: Gate of Heaven, Our Lady of Victory, St. Frances X. Cabrini and St. Therese's. The senior high council includes youth in 9th through 12th grades. The junior high council includes youth in 6th through 8th grades.

The mission of the council is to encourage, nurture and affirm the faith formation of Back Mountain Catholic Youth. The council seeks to do this by planning and providing unified social, service and faith formation opportunities in an environment conducive to friendship, respect and acceptance.

Christmas Cantata at Dallas UMC

Dallas United Methodist Church will host a Christmas Cantata December 21 at 4 p.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church and Albright United Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre, will participate in the event.

The group will perform "That's Christmas," written and arranged by Joe E. Parks.

Winter Camp at St. Paul's

St. Paul's Junior and Senior High youth can take part in a three-day winter camp from December 26 to 28.

The weekend will feature skiing, worship, campfires, arts and crafts, food and more. For more information, contact the church office at 675-3859.

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Shavertown United Methodist Church

Phone-A-Prayer 675-4666

Every Saturday 5:30 PM Chapel Worship

Every Sunday 9:00 AM Family Oriented Worship
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship

Children's Musical "Miracle at Midnight"

Sunday, December 14, 5:00 PM

December 24

6:30 PM Music of the Season	9:30 PM Music of the Season
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship	10:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship
Candlelight and Communion	Candlelight and Communion
Children's Message	God's Handful Youth Choir
Cherub Choir and Children of Light Choir	Chancel Choir
Chancel Choir	Handbell Choir
Dramatic Message "Mary Speaks"	Dramatic Message "Mary Speaks"

Come to Worship Christ, The New Born King!

Pioneer Ave. at Center St., Shavertown
675-3616 • www.unitedmethodist.org

St. Therese's Church

Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown
696-1144

"Season of Christmas"

Worship Schedule

Feast of the Birth of Our Lord Wednesday, December 24th 4:30pm- Church & Hall 6:30pm- Children's Choir Church	Feast of the Holy Family Sunday, December 28th 7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am
Thursday, December 25th Midnight Mass- Church 9:00am and 11:00am	Solemnity of Mary- Jan. 1st Wednesday: 4:30pm Vigil Mass Thursday: 9:00am & 11:00am

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THE CHURCH OF THE GATE OF HEAVEN

Dallas, PA

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24th
3:30 PM - Children's Choir & Youth Folk Ensemble Carols
4:00 PM - Family Mass, with live broadcast in the gym;
5:30 PM and 10:30 PM - with Candlelight Carols at 10:00 PM

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th
9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Mary, Mother of God
New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31st:
5:00 PM
New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1st,
9:00 AM & 11:30 AM

HIGH POINT CHURCH

1919 Mountain Road, Larksville, PA
570.779.7668

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Candlelight Service & Christmas Eve Drama

6:30 PM & 8:00 PM

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