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December Calendar (See insert)

## Missions, Ministry, and Money: The Giving Issue

### Money Musings

Let’s talk about money, and let us be honest...it’s complicated.

At our recent annual church conference (see the minutes later in this edition) our District Superintendent Foster was very frank. At the current rate of giving Shepherd of the Valley cannot afford an experienced full-time pastor. In addition, he said that due to retirements, there are openings in six fulltime churches that are paying 100% of their mission shares. There is some interest in sending me to one of these churches, and it will be difficult for him to make the case that I should stay at SOV if we do not pay at least 75% of our shares for 2019 and are not prepared to pay 100% in 2020. I have to tell you this is the first time I have ever heard a DS speak so frankly about pastoral appointments, but I think it speaks to how much he wants to be able to make the case that SOV should continue with an experienced fulltime pastor.

Having said this, I would like to offer a few thoughts. First of all, let us be clear. The only way to fix this by all of us committing to increase our giving. We cannot fill the gap through fundraisers. There isn’t enough time or manpower to do that. We can’t expect new people to come to SOV and help us pay our bills. As I have said before, that’s like inviting people to Thanksgiving dinner and ask them to bring the turkey! Other than cutting family ministry we live on an austerity budget and cutting family ministry could

### Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church Vision Statement

We are Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church, a multi-generational Christ community seeking to sing God’s spirit into the world by inviting all, serving all, loving all.

Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church  
604 Seven Mile Road, Hope, RI 0283  
Hope, RI 02831

Worship and Church School  
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00-12:00

Phone: 821-8217 • Fax: 826-7787 • E-mail: office@sovumc.org • Web site: sovumc.org

Rev. Katherine Mitchell

immediately send us into decline. Our family ministry program has been successful in building relationships amongst our parents and children and has raised up leaders deeply committed to our church.

Secondly, I fully realize that, after General Conference 2019, many of us, including myself, struggle with giving to Global Missions because of the Central Conferences refusal to support the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in the life of the United Methodist Church. At the same time, we have to acknowledge that there are people, especially women and children, who are alive today because of our mission shares. As I said it is so freaking complicated! All I can say is this; SOV has decided to remain United Methodist and wait for the outcomes of the 2020 New England Annual Conference and the 2020 General Conference. We live in hope that we will find a pathway to creating an inclusive denomination to which we want to belong. While we wait, we have an obligation to pay our mission share. In addition, if the members of Shepherd of the Valley ever felt the call to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church you would have to have paid 100% mission shares for one previous year and one year ahead of disaffiliation.

Lastly, I would like to offer a word of caution. All too often, when money becomes a source of stress in churches, tensions rise and relationships break down. Let us commit to one another to do our best to work together and to come at this problem from a place of love, generosity, and faith in God and each other. I truly believe we have what we need to be ok. We are in stewardship season, the time that each of us must discern what our financial commitment is to our church in the coming year. In our discernment we each need to ask ourselves, "What does my church mean to me and what I am I willing to sacrifice so that I can increase my giving and help my church family thrive?"

May you live fully and love wastefully,  
Pastor Katherine

## Why "The Giving Issue"?

*As of press time, we were in the middle of our annual stewardship campaign and approaching the Thanksgiving holiday. The Christmas season, with its emphasis on giving versus receiving, is all too close behind. In addition, as you've read in Pastor Katherine's "Money Musings," our church is facing a potential financial crisis. If we do not make a good faith effort to pay our 2019 mission shares (the portion of our church budget that goes to pay for local, New England, national, and international ministries), and develop a 2020 budget that includes 100% payment of our mission shares, we are facing the prospect of losing Pastor Katherine and being assigned a part time (and probably less-experienced) pastor. This will likely mean an associated loss of programmatic and pastoral services.*

*While an increase in giving is necessary if we are to stay who we are, we are also a church that gives constantly and generously. We should celebrate what we do in meeting the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those within our church as well as those in the local community.*

*In this edition, you will see our regular articles and features. In addition, you will see notes (in italics) on the giving our church does in so many ways. Be thankful for the gifts we give, and consider your own gifts as we move through this season of giving.*

Hannah Bell-Lombardo  
Editor

JANUARY  
CIRCUIT RIDER  
INFORMATION DUE  
DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
(Early due to the Christmas holiday)

## Financial Update

*This is the reality of our current financial situation, and highlights the need for all of us to increase our gifts in 2020 to the best of our financial ability.*

Through the first ten months of 2019, Shepherd of the Valley's financial results are slightly better than the budget, which reflects a deficit of \$25,000. Revenues for the church are \$145,000 versus a budget of \$144,000. Expenses through October 31, 2019 are \$161,000 compared to a budget of \$164,000. Thus, net income through eight months is a loss of \$16,000 versus a budgeted year to date loss of \$20,000.

Revenues are higher than expected due to better-than-anticipated general giving to the church, but offset by lower than budgeted net income from the Scituate Art Festival. Expenses are less than budget due to small favorable variances in a variety of expense categories. Note that our budget for the full year is a deficit of \$25,000. The favorable experience through October will help us close that gap. Any additional better-than-expected income will enable the church to pay more of its Missions Shares obligation to the New England Conference.

## Stewardship

*Our formal pledges of giving.*

By the end of November, we will have heard some moving testimonies about our giving to Shepherd of the Valley and what it does personally, locally, financially, and globally. Now comes the time for you to make your 2020 giving decision. We hope that you will prayerfully consider your commitment to our church and complete a pledge card for Consecration Sunday, on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Your formal pledge is important as it helps us build a solid budget.

You have seen by now how important an increased gift will be, but we welcome whatever you feel you can give. Your gifts of time, talents, and treasures are what makes Shepherd of the Valley the special place it is. Let's keep it that way!

## Upcoming Events

*Celebrating our giving!*

### **Consecration Sunday**

December 1<sup>st</sup> marks the culmination of our 2020 Stewardship Campaign. Over the course of November, we have heard personal, financial, and local/New England/global ministry testimonials. On this Sunday, we will have the opportunity to make our pledges to support our church and its ministries in 2020. After worship, share in a love feast with a catered lunch.

*We have several study opportunities—WISH, the Wednesday morning study group, and the Wednesday evening Wisdom Seekers—that provide a way for us to share our spiritual gifts in learning together.*

- **Women in Spiritual Harmony (WISH)**

WISH will continue its Advent study, *Home for Christmas: Tales of Hope and Second Chances* by Justin Coleman. The publisher's description is as follows:

Home for Christmas brings inspiring stories of hope and second chances into the Advent season. Author and pastor Justin Coleman matches real life stories of struggle and triumph to the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to show how the light of Christmas shines brightly even in hard times. Each chapter lifts up a scripture reflection alongside tales of men and women who reflect on the Advent themes with love and longing.

Throughout each of the four chapters... Coleman captures the stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. "

WISH meets Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 at the church. All women are welcome!

- **Wednesday Morning Study Group**

This group will continue with its "Living the Questions" study. This series, featuring thirty acclaimed scholars, theologians, and other experts, is designed to create an environment where participants interact with each other in exploring

Christianity. This group meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Hope Room. All are welcome to join at any time, regardless of your background or level of Biblical knowledge.

• **Wisdom Seekers Evening Study Group**

The evening study group meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Hope Room. Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul's footsteps throughout the Roman Empire. This study explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today.

*One of the ways we give to support our young families.*

**Family Fun Friday**

Family Fun Night will be Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:00 p.m. It will be Family Night In so come join us for dinner and fun afterwards!

Dinner is provided along with drinks and dessert. We will be watching a movie and there will be crafts available as well. Hope to see you there!

Lisa Marciniak

*Music is a gift.*

**Tuba Christmas Concert at SOV**

We will once again host the Tuba Christmas Concert at Shepherd of the Valley on Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There is no charge for this concert. Come and see what 40 plus tubas sound like. You will be very impressed. For those of you that want to come in at 5:00 p.m., bring a dish and enjoy a pot luck meal with the tuba players. Let show them some love for giving us this free concert.

*See how our children give to our church, and receive our gifts in support of their religious education.*

**Christmas Pageant**

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the children will be presenting a Christmas pageant. Share in the joy of this season with them! Please note that they will be practicing in the sanctuary during church on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> while the adults will be worshipping in Fellowship Hall

*Here's a way you can give to the church (and take care of some of your holiday baking at the same time!)*

**Cookie Walk**

Join us for a new church fundraiser, the Cookie Walk. After worship on December 15<sup>th</sup>, you will

take an empty box (price to be determined) and "walk" along tables with a number of different cookie offerings, filling your box with a delicious assortment for the holidays.



We also need bakers to provide cookies—no need for anything fancy. Simply bring your cookies nicely displayed on a tray or in a container to Fellowship Hall the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, call Barbara Walz.

*The UMW supports both local and non-local ministries. Come to this lunch to receive the gift of fellowship, and give to those in Project Outreach.*

**United Methodist Women (UMW)**

Our December Christmas Luncheon will be held at Black Oak Kitchen in Coventry on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend. Please see Barbara Walz to sign up. We also ask that you bring, socks, mittens, gloves, hats or scarves (for men, women, or children) to donate to Project Outreach.

*A gift of music from our choir.*

**Christmas Cantata**

The choir will be performing a Christmas Cantata during worship on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme will be meditations on peace, with anthems sure to inspire and comfort.

*Receive the blessings of the season in worship.*

**Christmas Worship Services**

- Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols – 7:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Midnight Service – 11:00 p.m.
- Christmas Morning "Come in Your PJs" Service – 9:30 a.m.

*Our regular meetings and events provide so many opportunities for sharing and giving.*

### **Regular Meetings and Events**

*Editor's Note: Our church has many meetings, classes, and fellowship opportunities that occur on a regular basis. Please check the list below for the schedules of programs or opportunities you might be interested in. If you have something you'd like included in this section, please email me at [bellomb@cox.net](mailto:bellomb@cox.net), call me at 944-9668, or leave a note in the Circuit Rider mailbox at church.*

*Hannah Bell-Lombardo*

- **Monday Morning Prayer Group:** We gather for prayer in the Hope Room at 10:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.
- **United Methodist Women (UMW):** See information in this section on our monthly meeting.
- **Knitting Ministry:** The Knitting Ministry meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 in the library. Our projects include prayer shawls, baptismal shawls, preemie and chemo hats, and sweaters for World Vision. Even if you can't attend the meetings, you can always knit at home. If you have questions, please call Sue Kizlinski at 401-527-8702.
- **Women in Spiritual Harmony (WISH):** WISH meets Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. See the article in this section for our current study.
- **Wednesday Wisdom Seekers Morning Study Group:** This group meets Wednesdays at 11:00 in the Hope Room. See the article in this section for this fall's study.
- **Wednesday Wisdom Seekers Evening Study Group:** This group meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Hope Room. See the article in "Upcoming Events" for the fall's study course.
- **Men's Fellowship Breakfasts:** This group meets at the Phenix Square Restaurant at 6:00 a.m. December's meetings will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. All men are welcome.
- **Signing Choir:** The Signing Choir practices at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays and perform the Lord's Prayer each Sunday plus another performance each month. All are welcome!

- **Family Sunday:** The first Sunday of each month is Family Sunday where our children serve as ushers, greeters, Communion stewards, and liturgists. If you have children who are taking part in the worship, please arrive by 9:00 a.m. so we can run through the bulletin and review our "jobs" for the day.

## **Music Notes**

*Our choir gives of their time and musical talents to enrich our worship experience.*



### **Christmas Cantata**

The annual Christmas season "cantata" will be offered on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> during worship. This year the theme for that service will be meditations on Peace. The anthems for that service are guaranteed to inspire and comfort.

### **Calling all Singers!**

Our choir is always looking for new singers. Don't worry if you can't read music—your gift is your voice and your willingness to join us. We rehearse after worship on Sundays. Please join us!  
Steve Haunschild

## **Electronic Funds Transfer**

*Making giving easy.*

As you make your pledge, please consider our electronic funds transfer (EFT) program. With your permission, we automatically deduct your gift to Shepherd of the Valley from your checking account on a weekly or monthly basis—your choice. You don't have to remember checks or cash, nor think about catching up if you've been away. It all happens automatically! Forms will be available for you to sign up with our stewardship drive.

If you currently use this program and are changing your gift, you will need to complete a new form. If not, you don't need to do anything. Your current gift will continue to be withdrawn as you requested.

## Help Wanted

*Looking for a way to give to our church? Here are some opportunities!*

### Angel Tree Deliverers

Our annual Christmas mission project is the Angel Tree Project, providing gifts to the children of those incarcerated in prison who would not otherwise receive anything as well as those with ties to SOV and in our local community. We need help delivering the gifts to the children. If you can help, please contact Jeanne Sutcliffe at 401 529 - 1218.

### Cookie Walk Bakers

We are trying a new fundraiser after worship on December 15<sup>th</sup>, a Cookie Walk. People buy a box and fill it with cookies. It won't work, however, unless we have cookies to put in the boxes. Please bake a batch of your favorite cookies (they don't have to be fancy), and bring them in on a plate or in a container for the walk. Any questions, please see Barbara Walz.

### Food Pantry

Do you like to shop? Clip coupons? If so, have we got the job for you! The Shepherd's Pantry, our food ministry, needs someone to take over as the shopper (or shoppers—more than one are welcome!) If you can help keep our food pantry stocked and ready for those who use this important ministry, please drop Pam or PK a note.

### Fellowship Hour Sign-Up

Hosting Fellowship Hour is a great time to promote fellowship in the church. You don't have to provide anything elaborate—just some goodies and coffee (and help/instructions are available for the coffee-making). Simply sign up on the list in Fellowship Hall.

### Ushers

Ushering is a great way to make our members and guests feel welcome. New signup sheets are available for your use—sign up for the Sundays you're available. No need for a weekly commitment.

## Office Notes

*So much of our giving is enabled by our administrative operations so efficiently run by Pam Etheridge, our church secretary.*

### Upcoming Event?

If you have an upcoming event or are hosting coffee hour and need supplies, please check what we have in the kitchen and storage area. If something is missing, let Pam know if we need to order something at least two weeks ahead of time.

### Sunday Bulletin Announcements

Just a reminder that your announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted to the office not later than the Tuesday before you'd like them to appear. Call the church office (821-8217), leave a note in the church office mailbox, or email [office@sovumc.org](mailto:office@sovumc.org). Thank you!

### Church Program Drop-offs

Are you dropping something off for Open Table, the food pantry, or another mission project or event? Please put a label on your items/boxes so we can ensure they end up in the proper place. If you put it in the clothing closet (next to the sanctuary), please leave Pam a note so she knows it's there.

### New Email?

Be sure to let us know any changes in your email address so we can be sure any electronic communications reach you. Let the church office know of any email, phone, or address changes by email ([office@sovumc.org](mailto:office@sovumc.org)) or leave a note on Pam's desk.

## Caring and Sharing

*Support of local ministries, including those in this section, is part of SOV's DNA. These are only a few of the ways we give to those in our community.*

### Angel Tree and Christmas Giving

The Angel Tree is starting earlier this year. Gifts are needed by December 15<sup>th</sup> so they can be set up for delivery in time for Christmas. We provide gifts to both children with ties to SOV and in our local community along with children in The Angel Tree Program for kids who have a parent in

prison. Choose a gift request from the Angel Tree in Fellowship Hall, and bring your gift to church. If you haven't chosen a gift request yet or have any questions please call or text Jeanne Sutcliffe at 401 529 -1218.

Please remember this program always needs people to deliver the gifts—it can be a wonderful way to meet some great families and spread the light of Christ on the darkest days of the year. The Wise Men did it on camels, no GPS, no problems.

### **Socks, Mittens, Hats, and Gloves Needed**

Theresa Squire will be collecting winter hats, mittens, socks, and gloves for Project Outreach, a ministry closely aligned with SOV.

### **Shepherd's Pantry**

Our food pantry continues needs all the basics, including boxes. We can use tuna, pasta, spaghetti sauce, cereal, fruit, soup, vegetables, and crackers. Since many of our clients have health issues, we can use healthier food options, including gluten-free and lower sodium/fat free items. Toilet paper is needed as well. Many thanks for your continued donations and cash gifts for the support to help our neighbors in need.

### **Shut-Ins**

The Nurture-Outreach Ministry Team has a new shut-in list posted on the bulletin board next to the kitchen. Please think of these important members of our community and send them a card, or better yet, stop by for a visit. If there's anyone you know who needs a visit, let one of the team members or the church office know and we'll add them to the list.

### **Fellowship Hour Thank You**

There is not a lot to say about how important fellowship hour after church is until you look around and see everyone visiting and connecting during this time. A special thank you goes out to all our Sunday Fellowship Hour hosts and hostesses who provide the goodies and make this time possible. All should step up to the plate and take a turn. Feel free to have a friend or family

member help you out—volunteers are needed and help showing how everything is done is available.

### **Facebook**

PK invites you to “friend” her on Facebook.

### **Save Your Pop-Tabs!**

We are continuing to collect your pop tabs—there's a box in the kitchen for them. These tabs go toward helping with food, supplies, and utilities for the Ronald McDonald House in Providence. The House provides a home-away-from-home for families of critically ill children. Without these donations, the House would not be able to provide for the families. Thank you for the tabs and if you have any questions about donations, please contact Sue Dyl.

### **Blood Pressure Measurement**

We are able to check blood pressures in the office. Check with Pastor Katherine.

## **Church Council Minutes October 28, 2019**

*The Church Council represents the leadership of our church, those who give of their time and talents to make our church's programs what they are.*

**Present:** Members of the Church Council present included Rob Bower, Chris Dalnas, Lisa Marciniak, Loxi Ellingwood, Teresa Squire, Meghan Davis, Donna Faria, Barbara Walz, Tom Senerchia, John Lombardo, Jay O'Connor, Sandy Knapp, and Shyla Mollo. Also present were Pastor Katherine Mitchell and congregation member Lois Brown.

Pastor Katherine opened the meeting at 7:05 with a prayer and devotion.

John reviewed our finances. Our budget reflects a \$25,000 loss. As of September 30, we were \$8500 ahead of our budget, about half due to increased giving and half due to lower expenses. While all of the expenses have not been received, it looks like the Art Festival will not meet its \$6000 net income goal (average of net income over the pasts

ten years), but will instead come in at around \$4000. \$3000 in net income was budgeted for the Holiday Fair, but due to the change in format, that has been scaled back to \$1000. If everything else comes in as planned, we will incur a \$21,500 loss for the year. We make this “come out right” by not paying our mission shares.

John noted that we pay 100% of the pastoral support portion (\$9600 for 2019); however, we have only paid \$8000 of our \$29,500 toward our support of worldwide missions, administrative costs, and aid to local missions and churches. This is a significant shortfall, especially for a church that has made every past effort to pay 100% of all mission shares. John noted that there is not much to be done with this year, but that we need to consider the sustainability of this type of loss in our 2020 budget and beyond.

Katherine noted that the bishop is not happy with our shortfall, and is having serious consideration of reducing us to a ¾ or ½ time pastor if we are unable to pay our shares. It would be problematic for us to lose programs. She also noted that we had two substantial gifts last year that helped; we have only received one this year. It is not known if we can expect the second.

After a discussion of options (including more community presence and outreach, being more hospitable, etc.), we agreed that an email to the congregation would go out over Rob’s name reviewing our situation and the need to pay our full mission shares. Rob will also speak in church, and John will present one of the stewardship mission moments in November.

On the Art Festival, Sandy reported that “if it could go wrong, it did” (freezer issues, volunteer illness, etc.) She also noted that someone else was offering BBQ and that we may need to examine our menu going forward. We also need to have better and earlier volunteer commitments. Sandy is suggesting a spring meeting to gauge interest and participation.

This led to a discussion of how we can make volunteering less intimidating, with clearer

expectations on both sides: coordinators communicating what’s needed and volunteers understanding what’s involved so they feel more comfortable volunteering.

We discussed the Appraisal Fair and Mystery Auction and how to make it a success. Jay noted that we had learned from last year and increased prices. It was suggested that the mystery auction be made a silent auction until the live auction starts, with suggested minimum bids on the auction items. We would use a system where bidders would use an assigned number versus their names and phone numbers.

In Nominations, Katherine asked for names of those not continuing and new committee members. We reviewed the nominations made to date; she noted that there are more changes to come.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Bell-Lombardo

## **Annual Church Conference Minutes: November 6, 2019**

*Our need to increase our giving was strongly communicated in this meeting, but it also highlighted the many other programs and ministries of our church.*

In attendance: Sandy Knapp, Tom Senerchia, Jerry Crosby, Nina Crosby, Theresa Squire, Dorothy Hottenstein, Beth Travers, Sue Dyl, John Lombardo, Karen Sibley, Meaghan Davis, Kimberly Davis, Linda Koehler, Mary Hunter, Barbara Walz, Marti Bower, Rob Bower, Donna Faria, William Flug, Frances Thuotte, Donna Gaumont, Melissa Maquette, Lisa Marciniak, Martha Ahern, Barbara Bicknell, Loxi Ellingwood, Linda Gay, Howard Gay, Hannah Bell-Lombardo, Rev. Katherine Mitchell, and Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. with Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster presiding.

1. Hannah Bell-Lombardo was unanimously elected secretary.
2. Minutes from the 2018 Church Conference were unanimously approved.
3. The audit was performed on 5/13/19, but the report was not available. This report will be communicated to the district office on receipt.
4. On completion, the Trustees' report will be communicated to the district office on receipt. The following questions were addressed:
  - a. No bequests from a will have been received.
  - b. The congregation has not used any capital/principle from investments/endowments for operating expenses.
  - c. The congregation has not realized any funds from the sale of a parsonage.
5. In Staff/Parish Relations, a salary of \$52,148, \$5,000 in professional reimbursement, and \$3,000 in housing allowance for the pastor were unanimously approved. By approving these, Shepherd of the Valley agrees to a full-time appointment for 2020.
6. John Lombardo provided an update on year-to-date finances (report available on request). Our 2019 budget was passed with a \$25,000 deficit. As of the end of September, the church is better than budget by \$10,000, approximately equally divided between increased giving and lower expenses. The revised projection is of a \$17,000 deficit, which will come out of mission shares. John also noted that we have generally met our mission shares commitment.

Rev. Dr. Foster noted that some churches are choosing not to pay mission shares, and that this is not acceptable. He also noted that the New England Conference is just under \$300,000 short on total mission shares. He suggested that mission shares be paid on a monthly basis, and that we show a good faith effort to pay ours if we want to remain a full-

time appointment. The appointment process will begin in December, and there are six churches that are in need of full-time appointments as of now.

Rob Bower noted that it would take fairly minimal giving per member to make up the 2019 shares; however this would need to continue into next year pledges.

John noted that we will approve the budget in early December. Once approved, the budget will be communicated to the district office.

7. While the Lay Leadership/Nominations report is not complete, we unanimously approved several positions: Jay O'Connor and Meaghan Davis as lay leaders, Sandy Knapp as church council chair, Theresa Squire as missions chair, and Sandy Knapp as lay member to the Annual Conference.
8. Tom Senerchia was affirmed as a certified lay minister, and Sandy Knapp as a certified lay servant. We hold the charge of Ellen Casey in extension ministry.
9. Katherine reviewed her clergy report.
10. The membership report (copy available on request) was submitted with one revision: Jeff Crovisier was added to the 2019 deaths. Remembrances of those who had passed were shared.

Meeting was adjourned by unanimous approval at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Bell-Lombardo

Please be mindful that some people are sensitive to perfumes, scented lotions, and sprays. In close quarters and especially during the winter, this sensitivity can become more acute. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in this matter.

Shepherd of the Valley  
United Methodist Church  
604 Seven Mile Road  
Hope, RI 02831

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
West Warwick, RI  
PERMIT 1

**DO NOT FORWARD—CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**TIME VALUE—DO NOT DELAY** **DECEMBER, 2019 CIRCUIT RIDER**



## **Christmas at Shepherd of the Valley**

- Tuba Christmas Concert – 12/7 – 7:00 p.m.
- Holiday Family Friday – 12/13 – 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday School Pageant – 12/15 – during worship
- UMW's Holiday Party – 12/16 – 12:00 p.m. (Black Oak Kitchen)
- Christmas Cantata – 12/22 – during worship
- Christmas Eve Services – 12/24 – 7:00 and 11:00 p.m.
- Christmas Day Worship (come in your PJ's) – 12/25 – 9:30 a.m.