## Seniors

**GRANT COUNTY SENIORS** 



Nicky Essex

from me. Christmas is next week, and I am completely off my stride. I hope you have been better prepared. Merry Christmas to all, and here's to the best New Year ever!

On Dec. 11, Everett and Ron were at the desk, and we were graciously served our meal by our Redeemer Lutheran friends: Bonnie and Francis Kocis, Jeanette Kile and Betty Holznagel. Bonnie and Francis started the day by delivering meals to John Day and Canyon City, while David, Rodney and Travis from Step Forward ran the Mt. Vernon route. Altogether they delivered 39 regular and 40 frozen meals. Thank you, all, for your faithfulness.

Betty led us in the flag salute. The drawings produced a free meal to Jerry McClellan and a Len's Drug certificate to Ken Henry. Surprise: two more wreaths were given to Drew Harmer and Chris Labhart. Francis said grace for our meal, and we enjoyed tuna casserole with sunshine carrots and pickled beets. Anne Lewis stood in for Lisa and Veanne; it is fun to see her here more often. We had 25 diners.

Welcome to Jerry McClellan and Kerry Foster. Y'all come back now, hear?

Dec. 14, Everett was back at the desk. I sat in, then Jeanette jumped in — we seem to have lost some of our help. Cornerstone Bible Church was here to serve. Pastor Levi Manitsas, his wife and daughter were here as well as Donna Mulder, Vickie Raaf, Linda Sprouffski and Donna Johnson. Donna Mulder opened our time with the flag salute.

Then we had drawings. Deda Porter won the Valley View meal, and Billie Bullard won the Chester's Thriftway certificate. Surprise again, Donna Mulder and Nancy Elliott each took home one of the wreaths. More will be given away on Dec. 21. Pastor Levi did his coffee service and, after a funny story, prayed for our meal. We love our servers and never want to lose them. It helps to thank them when you can.

We enjoyed turkey-stuffed meatloaf with gravy, green beans, dinner rolls and my absolute favorite soup, beef barley, so hearty. Thanks, Shay. More please. We served 55 diners.

There are some special angels I would like to acknowledge, since I have some space. We love our teachers, and we even note volunteers and parents who help in the classroom. We notice the folks in the office who are called on to fill in for all kinds of special needs. There are so many who impact our children's lives. Today, it is the bus drivers I want to thank — especially "Miss Betty." Our precious cargo is treated as if they are hers. My granddaughter told me, "She gets us to school safe every day." Thank you all!

John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."



For our Dec. 12 meal, we feasted on delicious ham, scalloped potatoes, carrots, dinner rolls and chocolate mousse for dessert. This meal was graciously sponsored by sisters Judy Cavender of Portland and Jan Ensign of Long Creek in loving memory of their father, Jack Cavender. Mr. Jack was an active and generous member of the Monument community. We miss him very much. Thank you so much, ladies, for your generosity. We also thank our great cooks for their hard work in cooking for us.

Our greeters were Bodean Andersen, Jimmy Cole and Debbie Reed. Bodean led us in the flag salute, made the announcements and prayed the blessing over our meal. Jimmy and Debbie collected and counted the money. We had 47 guests and five takeouts, for a total of 52 meals served. The winners of the free meal tickets were Max Breeding and Sharon Falls. We had three nice ladies from Spray join us, Ellie Mann, Judy Alford and Melba Cecil.

We had a very sad event occur: Makayla Mitchell, a 23-year-old young mother of a baby and wife to Kevin passed away. She was in the hospital for over 5 weeks, waiting to be placed on the list for a heart transplant. We mourn with her family and pray for the Lord's healing and comfort in the midst of great sorrow. Her funeral services will be held in the spring. Notices will be given

when that time draws near.

The senior center storage building is ready to accept rummage sale items. Please donate only good and usable items. Gently used clothing will also be acceptable. Please bring these items only during Tuesday meal times. Please do not drop off when there is no one at the senior center to receive them. Thank you all for your cooperation and donations.

A reminder to all you bingo lovers out there: There will be bingo night for the last Saturday of the month on Dec. 30. Bingo starts at 6 p.m., breaks for potluck dinner around 7 p.m. and then concludes with the other half of bingo time.

Christmas is really, really close now. I am freaking out, a little bit in my head by myself mostly. Ha. At least, this year, we were able to get our cards. I just need to make my newsletter, address them, stuff the envelopes, stamp them and send them off. Sounds so easy, right? Hmm, right.

As the year 2017 draws to a close, I try to remember all the blessings that the Lord has done for our family, which is a whole lot of things! I thank the Lord for his daily provision, our health, the food on our table and the roof over our heads. I also thank the Lord for my wonderful hubby and my children. I am most thankful for my Lord Jesus for whom we celebrate this Christmas season. Hope ya'll have a blessed Christmas!

Luke 1:31 "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JE-SUS."



I want to thank Frances for all the Christmas decorating she did for Christmas on the Prairie in the hall. It is still decorated and really looks nice. And we still have some leftovers from the "rummage sale" on the stage to give away. So help yourself. After next week, it will be gone. Another give away is lots and lots of wordfill-in puzzle books. So if you like those, come and get 'em.

The Grant County Senior Advisory Council had its meeting here, so I asked Chris Labhart to lead the flag salute. The winner of the free meal at Valley View was Jean Kline. The nice thing about that door prize is that you get to take a guest. What a deal.

Jack Retherford asked the blessing on our meal of pork chops in mushroom sauce, macaroni and cheese, green beans and corn with bacon, peaches or pears, rolls and chocolate lush for dessert. There were 61 names on the registration book.

We had lovely dinner music too, courtesy of David Secord. Janine and I played before dinner. Dec. 20, we will have all Christmas tunes of one sort another, so be sure to come and listen.

Also, we need you to bring a pie, cake or other dessert to share so the cooks don't have to think about fixing a dessert along with all the Christmas dinner items. If someone is going to fix dinner, I'm more than willing to bring a dessert.

And there will be no meal on Dec. 27. The cooks will take that week off. Lorna and Krystin brought Otho Laurance, Richard Findlay, Dorothy Braendline and Lois Hill from the Blue Mountain Care Center.

I want to mention the table centerpieces, too. We have Marjean and Tom to thank for those. And have you noticed that there is a table number on them someplace? How cute.

Due to Harold's resignation, we need a new president. Ginger Kendall has agreed to fill that position, and we will have a short business meeting on Dec. 20 to officially vote on her nomination. Our annual business meeting will be in January 2018 to take care of other vacancies.

Another event that will take place in January is a bingo night sponsored by the Prairie City PTC. There are posters at the desk to help you remember.

Took my computer monitor to the "doctor," but he wasn't able to help it. Said he'd never seen that particular "ailment" before. That figures. Any physical ailment I've ever had is something that is out of the ordinary, so why should my household equipment be any different? Anybody got a spare monitor they would care to donate? I did get some needlepoint yarn that works. Not as good, but beggars can't be too choosy, huh? At least I have something to do with my hands now.

The food for thought: When your house is the messiest is when you will have company. Just remember, people are more important than an un-messy house.

Matthew 2:9,11 "After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. – On coming to the house, they saw the Child, ... and they bowed down and worshiped Him ..."

## **Church Services In Grant County**

