

December 2015: Bethlehem Chamber

Letter from the President:

**Scott Babashak, CFP, QPFC, AIF
GF Pension Corporation**

It's here. The season we've been planning for all year. Last year, the decorations for Christmas weren't even down yet, and we started meeting to discuss this year's holiday plans. It's not just the Bethlehem Chamber that starts working on Christmas early: Artsquest, the DBA, Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites, the Moravian Churches, the Sands Event Center, Touchstone Theater, New Bethany Ministries, The Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant folks, the City of Bethlehem's Public Works Department (specifically the Electrical Department), and others. We all contribute to create an atmosphere filled with lights, music, and laughter to celebrate not only Christmas - but our heritage, as well - in Bethlehem PA; Christmas City USA.

These are the Bethlehem Chamber's initiatives for this year's holiday:

- Starting on November 27, The Christmas City Trolley has been transporting shoppers from the Christmas City Village locations in the Historic Moravian Shopping District to Christkindlmarkt on the Steel Stacks Campus from Friday to Sundays. This is a FREE service, thanks to the good folks at the Bethlehem Parking Authority, The Hotel Bethlehem and ArtsQuest.
- The Christmas City Tree Lighting Ceremony is behind us, but The Community Advent Breakfast will be on Saturday, December 5 at 8:30 a.m. at Moravian Village.
- The fundraising through the Christmas City Seal allows the City of Bethlehem to buy the trees that decorate the town throughout the season.
- The Christmas City Trellis displays the personalized ornaments that were purchased to help fund the new artificial trees that are pre-strung with LED lights and will be phased in gradually.

If you have any questions about any of these events or projects, please contact Lynn Cunningham at 610-739-1510 or lynnc@lehighvalleychamber.org.

In addition, the DBA invites you to come to Main Street and check out the wares in the Christmas City Village. There will be charming wooden huts filled with arts, crafts, retail and edible goods. Also, don't forget about the Live Advent Calendar that occurs in the December days preceding Christmas. There is a special treat for everyone who gathers outside of the Goundie House at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Tim Brooks at 610-739-1775 or timb@lehighvalleychamber.org.