



“I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

**Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.**

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

**I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.**

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

**And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”**

Wesley's Covenant Renewal Service on January 5th, 2025

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Dave Billman

Song Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

UMH#606

Congregational Prayer

Seth Lawton

O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own. As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Litany of Thanksgiving

Pastor Deb

Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies. O God, our Covenant Friend, you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.

We praise your holy name, O God.

You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.

We praise your holy name, O God.

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church.

We praise your holy name, O God.

You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.

We praise your holy name, O God.

You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace.

We praise your holy name, O God.

PROCLAMATION

Song "Lord I Need You" "I Trust Jesus"

Scripture Lesson – 2 Chronicles 34:29-33

Seth Lawton

Homily – A New Beginning

Pastor Deb

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator. He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever.

On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the Source and Perfecter of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord's table. Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God. Let us make this covenant of God our own.

WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE

Invitation

Pastor John Zimmerman

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.

Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent; Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing. Confirm this by a holy covenant. To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant; in searching your hearts whether you have already freely given your life to Christ. Consider what your sins are. Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you, after having carefully considered them, are willing to choose them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength, so you can keep your promise. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

Covenant Prayer

Pastor Deb

O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant, to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him. O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father. Glory be to you, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit, who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.

O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.

You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.

Holy Communion

 Invitation

 Confession

 The Great Thanksgiving

Making Ministry Happen

Pastor Deb

Giving Ourselves and Our Gifts

 “Step By Step”

SENDING FORTH

Song

 “The Wonderful Cross”

Benediction & Response – “A Closing Prayer”

**Susquehanna Conference of the UMC
Circle of Prayer Churches for the week of January 5 - 11**

 Lenoxville UMC, Nicholson

 Madera UMC, Madera

 Waller UMC, Benton

 Ward UMC, Canton

 Centre UMC, Osceola Mills

 Grace Muir UMC, Muir

 Pleasant Grove York Haven UMC, York Haven

 Fairdale Community UMC, Montrose

 Pine Summit UMC, Millville

 Flemington UMC, Flemington



Prayer requests cards are now in each pew. Prayer requests can be placed in the offering plate or in the black offering box in the back of the sanctuary.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Donna Hockensmith, Loretta Calaman, Mike Ohler, Chris Fine, Betty Witmer, Mike Ohler, Betsy Herron (Mary Jo Churlick's sister), Kelly Fine's step-father, J Glen Vandermark (Pastor Deb's son)

LONG TERM ILLNESS:

Dick & Esther Ocker, Michael Alexander (Bellish's son), Liz Lehman, Todd Eckenrode, Teresa Bellish, Harry Schulz, John McAllen (Asonia Wolf's son), Alesha Holsinger (Linda Kimmel's friend), Barb Elting, Gaylea Kelly, John Edwards (Andy & Mary Groshans), Asonia Wolf, Vera Egolf, Jackie Weary, Ed Hair, Stewart Lamma, Anne Stanford, Charles Sherman, Josiah Claire (Becky Smith), The Matrese Family, Steven Hair, Freddy Rodriguez (Deb Kraft).

OUR WORLD MISSIONS:

Mountains of Hope, Furcy, Haiti; Gideons.

THOSE DEPLOYED IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Samantha Orner (Air Force), Jadyn Barrett (Navy), Alex Myers (Army), Gerad Calaman (Air Force), Dylan Kupp (Navy), Justyn Padua, Brandon Padua, Dustin Jeardoe (Marine), Erin Driver (Army), John Durnin II (Marine).

NURSING HOMES:

Let's remember our shut-in MUMC family this year by sending them notes, letters or visiting them. Addresses are provided below.

Thorwald Home: 442 Walnut Bottom Rd, Carlisle, PA 17013

Pauline Hollenbaugh

Church Of God Home: 801 N Hanover St, Carlisle, PA 17013

Jane Sunday

Sarah Todd Memorial Home: 1000 W. South St., Carlisle, PA 17013

Betty Witmer

Allen's Cove: 25 Cove Rd., Dunacannon, PA 17020

Liz Rusnik



Anniversary and Birthday Celebrations

January

- 1 Zachary Peters
- 1 Ed Valentine
- 5 Barb Simpson
- 12 Evie Hair
- 13 Nathaniel Stevens
- 14 Malene Chilson
- 15 John Cable
- 15 Sherry Healey
- 16 Shari Bellish
- 16 Bety McCorkel
- 17 Becky Smith
- 18 Clint Healey
- 18 Pam Lebo
- 19 Todd Eckenrode
- 20 Elijah Jumper
- 23 Donna Wade
- 25 Delilah Matrese
- 26 * Richard & Ruth Smith
- 29 Glenn Kimmel
- 29 Jane Sunday



For Serving in our Worship Service

	JANUARY	
ROLE	5	12
Acolyte	Holden Clouse-Beddia	Ella Lawton
organist/pianist	Linda Kimmel	Linda Kimmel
Praise Band:		
	Dave Billman	
	Seth Lawton	Seth Lawton
	Elizabeth Peters	Elizabeth Peters
	Jaden Peet	Jaden Peet
	Travis Clouse	Travis Clouse
Tech Team	Todd Eckenrode	Joe O'Donnell
Greeters:		
Hospitality Greeter	Linda Kimmel	Mary Groshans
Bulletin	Marian Smyser Gwynn Sorrentino	Fred & Ruth Hair
Ushers:		
Gathering/Downstairs	Glenn Kimmel	Andy Groshans
Pastor/Sanctuary	Rick Orner	Jim Stevens
Lector	Seth Lawton	George Bellish
Communion:		
bread maker	Linda Eckenrode	
serving	Pr. John	
	Shari Bellish	
	George Bellish	

Come join the **BREW CREW...**

feeling lonely with those long winter days....

want to share a cup of coffee with some friends....

need some cheering up...

want to play games....

reminisce.....

Join us every Tuesday starting January 7th 9am-11am at Middlesex United Methodist Church in our Gathering Area for a time of fellowship. Loneliness is a challenge for many of our seniors especially during the winter months.

Looking forward to sharing some java with you.



CHAIR YOGA FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Will begin again on **January 7th 2025.**

Join us every **Tuesday** right after the "Brew Crew" group at **11:30 am in Room 101.**

If you have wanted to try yoga but had reservations about getting down on the floor to do the movements and motions, you might be excited to learn about chair yoga. Chair Yoga, as it's name implies, involves breathing, stretches, twists and balance exercises done while seated in a chair. It is a gentle activity that allows people with mobility issues or disabilities that make it challenging to take part in traditional yoga. Sign up on your connection card or just come. Suggested donation of \$5



BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Tuesday evenings at 7pm
starting January 28th.

Discover what it means to **Belong** to and be **Blessed** by God!

What Does It Mean to Be Chosen? This study parallels each episode, connecting readers to the Bible in a brand-new way. It includes:

- A deeper look at Isaiah 43 and its fulfillment in Jesus and the lives of His followers (including us!)
- Script excerpts, quotes, and illustrations from the show
- Guiding questions for groups or individuals

Being chosen by Jesus has beautiful and far-reaching implications—although it says even more about the Chooser than the chooses. We are loved because He is love. We are saved because He is merciful. We belong to the family of God because Jesus invites us, making the Bible and all its promises as true for us today as it was for God's chosen people.

What does it actually mean to be Chosen? To answer that question, we're going Old school—Testament that is—which leads us back to the New. Which always leads us directly to Jesus.

If you are interested in Participating in this very rewarding study, please sign up on the connection card or contact the church office.

Welcome Fall by Joining a Life Group!
Life Groups at MUMC help us grow
in our faith and grow closer to one another.
You're invited to plug in with the one of our groups:

Sunday School meets at 9:00am in Room 101

Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:00am in a local home and connects relevant news topics to our faith and the Bible today.

Tuesday Night Bible Study meets at 7:00pm in Room 101

Spread the Love Prayer Shawl Club is a group of knitters, crocheters, and crafters who meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm in room B05 to make prayer shawls, blankets, and more for people in the community.



Middlesex United Methodist Church

*Our Vision: Alive in Christ in the Community
so that the Community is Alive in Christ.*

Serving Christ for over 150 years!

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Bulletin sponsorship

Do you have someone you want to honor/memory of or a special occasion?
We still have a few open spots for the remainder of the year. If you would like
to sponsor a bulletin week contact the church office for available weeks.

**Bulletins are sponsored this week in Honor/Memory of
i.e. your loved one or celebration
by your name or family name**