

Preparations

O Come, Let us Adore Him



"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. **Luke 21: 25-26**

10:00 am Worship Service- Sunday, December 1, 2024

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.

Reader Two: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God’s kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

SONGS *“O Come O Come Emmanuel ” “All Who Are Thirsty”*

SIGNS OF PEACE

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/OUR LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus ”* *UMH #196*

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Luke 21:25-26* Christine Cochick

HOMILY Glimpses of the Kingdom: Pay Attention

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*The invitation
Prayer of confession
The great Thanksgiving*

MAKING MINISTRY HAPPEN

GIVING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS *“Emmanuel”*

WE OFFER PRAISE *“Come See the Great Light”*

BENEDICTION/RESPONSE—A CLOSING PRAYER



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:

Kelly Fine's stepfather, J Glen Vandermark (Pastor Deb's son), Chris Fine, Stacey Miller (Linda Kimmel's Niece) Linda Eckenrode

LONG TERM ILLNESS:

Dick & Esther Ocker, Michael Alexander (Bellishes son), Betty Witmer, Liz Lehman, Todd Eckenrode, Teresa Bellish, Harry Schulz, John McAllen (Asonia Wolf's son), Alesha Holsinger (Linda Kimmel's friend), Barb Elting, Gaylea Kelly, Loretta Calaman, 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: Jady 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: Thorwald Home: Pauline Hollenbaugh COG: Jane Sunday

**Susquehanna Conference of the UMC
Circle of Prayer Churches December 1-7**

Whitneyville UMC, Whitneyville
Llyswen Altoona UMC, Altoona
Faith Chapel White Deer UMC, White Deer
Mt Pisgah Trinity UMC, York
Caldwell UMC, Lock Haven
Tompkinsville UMC, Scott Township
Trinity Walnut Bottom UMC, Walnut Bottom
Faith Chapel UMC, Howard
Clarkstown UMC, Muncy
Fairview McConnellsburg UMC, Harrisonville

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

December

- ◆ Sundays- Choir practice
- ◆ 1st –rm 101 following church service
- ◆ 8th– following church service in rm 101
- ◆ 15th– 9:30 in sanctuary & following church service in the sanctuary
- ◆ 22nd– In Sanctuary following church service
- ◆ Wednesdays – Women’s Bible study “Experiencing Christmas” at 9am– Barb Simpson’s home
- ◆ - Zumba at 6pm in church gym
- ◆ - Praise Band practice 7pm
- ◆ Thursdays– Little Lights 10am to 11am
- ◆ 1st—Church Decorating following church service
- ◆ 3rd—Advent Bible study 7pm in rm 101
- ◆ **7th– HAYRIDE TO BETHLEHEM**
- ◆ 9th—Leadership Council Meeting at 6:30 in rm 101
- ◆ 10th—Advent Bible study at 7pm in rm 101
- ◆ 16th—Community Engagement Team mtg 4:30pm in rm 101
- ◆ 17th—Advent Bible study 7pm in rm 101
- ◆ 24th to Jan. 2nd - Christmas– Church office closed

We will also need cookies, cookies and more cookies!

Homemade cookies are great but store bought are fine too! Please place 2-3 cookies each in

a Ziploc bag. The cookies may be dropped off in the church kitchen beginning **Sunday, December 1st until Thursday, December 5th. PLEASE NO NUTS OR**



Advent



Decorating

Today!!!! Sunday, Dec. 1st following church service we will be preparing the sanctuary for Christmas. We are inviting anyone who is interested and available to help. Pizza will be provided for lunch prior to decorating.



December Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

20 Mike & Patricia Ohler

26 Fred & Ruth Hair

BIRTHDAYS

2 Tim Walsh

18 Kelly Fine

5 Rick Gines

18 Sue Walsh

6 Carol Lawton

19 Jax Dagen

6 Margaret Scroggin

21 Ava Earhart

13 Ann Carney

25 Richard Smith

13 Richard Ocker

30 Cinda Whistler

16 Debbie Shipley

31 Mona Huston

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.

Alternative Christmas Gifts Have Returned

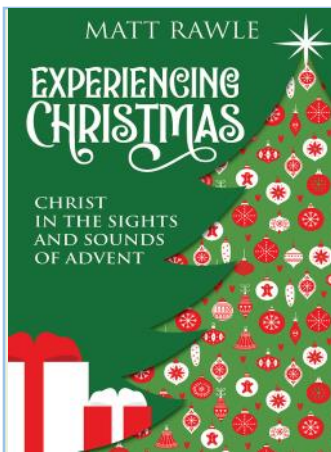
For those of you already working on Christmas lists, keep in mind that we have **Alternative Christmas Gift** options available again this year!

Alternative Christmas Gifts are perfect for people who you want to give to, but who don't really need or want any more **"stuff"...** let your friends and family know you are thinking of them by donating to causes that give hope and life to people who really need it.

Starting **12/1/2024 and throughout Advent**, you can order ornaments representing donations to organizations including: Gideon's Gift for Jesus, Heifer International, UMCOR, Community CARES, and many more!

This year, ordering will be available in our Gathering Space before and after the 10:00am service.

You may also call the church office Monday-Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm to order, and pick up can be arranged, if necessary.



Discover how everything changed when God was born.

Join us on Tuesday nights starting Nov. 19th to Dec. 16th 7pm in room 101.

Everything seems different at the end of the year. We put lights on our houses to dispel the growing darkness, Christmas music floods local radio stations, apple cider and cranberry sauce are again on the menu, and wrapping paper and tape are always ready. Things just look, smell, and taste differently during the Advent and Christmas season, and these differences

are a sign to us that God is about to do something radical and different. Christmas is when God surrounded the divine with senses of his own. That first noel was when God had eyes to see suffering, ears to hear our cries, and hands to hold those in need, and all of these senses were bundled in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

"This will be a sign to you," the angel told the shepherds, and they traveled to Bethlehem and found a child. What signs do you see during the Advent and Christmas season that point you to the divine?

Each Week it takes many hands to
prepare for worship.

Thank you

to our Worship team who are serving this
Month and to those scheduled to serve this
week!



GENEROSITY

"true giving, is to those who can never repay you."

	DECEMBER	
ROLE	1	8
Acolyte	Zac Peters	Holden Clouse-Beddia
organist/pianist	Linda Kimmel	Linda Kimmel
Praise Band:		
	Dave Billman	Dave Billman
	Elizabeth Peters	Elizabeth Peters
	Travis Clouse	Travis Clouse
	Seth Lawton	Seth Lawton
	Jaden Peet	Jaden Peet
Tech Team	Joe O'Donnell	Tim Walsh
Ushers:		
Gathering/Downstairs	Andy Groshans	Glenn Kimmel
Pastor/Sanctuary	Linda Eckenrode	Jim Stevens
Greeters:		
Hospitality Greeter	Mary Groshans	Linda Kimmel
Bulletin	Barbara Preston	Ed & Evie Hair
Lector	Christine Cohick	Seth Lawton
Communion:		
bread maker		
servicing		
	Marian Smyser, Becky Smith	



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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