

Coming Home...



"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Luke 2:49

10:00 am Worship Service- Sunday, December 29, 2024

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG "O come, O come Emmanuel"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, Jesus Christ is born!

God has come to make a home among us!

Yet the story is not over. After birth comes the ordinary and mundane growing, maturing, and discovering, even for the Christ Child.

In the ordinary and mundane, God has come to make a home among us.

And sometimes, in the midst of the everyday, something surprising happens, and we discover anew just what God is up to in our midst.

In the surprising and spectacular, God has come to make a home among us.

Children of God, let us worship the God who dwells with us in all things and all seasons.

We come to make our home with God who makes a home among us. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024.

MUSIC

SIGNS OF PEACE

PASTORAL PRAYER

COMING HOME

Pastor Deb Dailey

REMEMBERING OUR STORY

Isaiah 9:2-7

MUSIC

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:15-21

Jolie Rankin

MUSIC

LUKE 2:41-52

A CHRISTMAS STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in One God, Who is Creator, Maker of all we see and all we don't see.

Who is Ruler of the universe: Source of all Creation!

We believe in One God, who is Jesus Christ,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true human.

He is one with the Creator; And the One who was to come, promised Messiah;

Who came, the Word made flesh, and will come again; Our Messiah; Savior of all creation!

We believe in One God, who is Holy Spirit,

*Breath of God moving among us; **the very one who leads us home.***

Who is one with the Creator; one with Christ;

Our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of all Creation!

Adapted from original written by Lisa Frenz

GIVING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

"Emmanuel"

WE OFFER PRAISE

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

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:

Betty Witmer, Mike Ohler, Betsy Herron (Mary Jo Churlick's sister), Kelly Fine's stepfather, 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, 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:

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:

Thorwald Home: Pauline Hollenbaugh COG: Jane Sunday,
Sarah Todd: Betty Witmer

**Susquehanna Conference of the UMC
Circle of Prayer Churches December 29-January 4**

Wehnwood UMC, Altoona
Trinity County Line UMC, Dalmatia
French Asylum UMC, Towanda
Dale UMC, Woodland
Smith Hill UMC, Honesdale
Christ Yoe UMC, Yoe
Elimspport UMC, Allenwood
Howard UMC, Howard
St Lukes Shade Gap UMC, Shade Gap
Trinity Jersey Shore UMC, Jersey Shore



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!

	DECEMBER
ROLE	29
Acolyte	Zac Peters
organist/pianist	Linda Kimmel
Praise Band:	
	Dave Billman
	Elizabeth Peters
	Travis Clouse
	Seth Lawton
	Jaden Peet
Tech Team	Joe O'Donnell
Ushers:	
Gathering/ Downstairs	Glenn Kimmel
Pastor/Sanctuary	Ed Shipley
Greeters:	
Hospitality Greeter	Linda Kimmel
Bulletin	Deb Shipley
Lector	Linda Eckenrode



Anniversary and Birthday Celebrations

December

- 2 Tim Walsh
- 5 Rick Gines
- 6 Carol Lawton
- 6 Margaret Scroggin
- 12 * Dick & Esther Ocker
- 13 Ann Carney
- 13 Richard Ocker
- 16 Debbie Shipley
- 18 Kelly Fine
- 18 Sue Walsh
- 19 Jax Dagen
- 20 * Mike & Patricia Ohler
- 21 Ava Earhart
- 25 Richard Smith
- 26 * Fred & Ruth Hair
- 30 Cinda Whistler
- 31 Mona Huston

- * Anniversaries

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

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

My Gift to Jesus



Every good and
perfect gift is
from above...

Christmas Eve Offering



The real gifts
of Christmas
aren't under the

Every year during our Christmas Eve worship services, in addition to our regular offering, we dedicate a special Christmas Eve offering, ***My Gift to Jesus,***

that will be used entirely in ministry to our community.

This special offering is an opportunity to make a difference locally in ministries with our neighbors throughout the year. If you would like to give a special gift to Jesus, there will be dedicated red envelopes for you to use along with a designated line on your E-Giving. Please consider giving generously as you are able this Christmas.





Bulletins are sponsored this week in Honor of
my grandmother Helen Adam's 99th birthday
by Shari Bellish



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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