

PRAYER REQUESTS:

OUR CONCERNS:

Wisdom & safety for government officials globally
President Joe Biden and VP Kamala Harris
Veterans and Service Members
Civilians, leaders, and soldiers in war torn regions
For peace & wisdom in areas of conflict
Police officers and their families
Folks harmed in interactions with police
All first responders & medical staff
For an end to violence in all forms
Victims & families involved in violent crime,
sexual abuse, racism, and harassment
Abusers and their families
Healing & peace for divisions caused by race,
class, gender, sexuality, politics & fears
All affected by natural disasters
Stewardship of our environment & climate
Eradication of deadly diseases—incl. COVID-19
Refugees & huddled masses yearning to be free
Security and immigration reform
People who are hungry and unhoused
Prisoners, Prison Leadership & Judges
Cash Bail and Prison Reform
Schools, education and foster care reform
Members of AA, NA, & AlAnon and their families
All struggling with addictions, finances, etc.
Those suffering from mental health illnesses
All those caring for sick loved ones
Those grieving the loss of loved ones
Bishop Schol, DS Freymoyer & EPAUMC Staff
Laity and Clergy of the UMC
The UMC and General Conference Delegates, new
Bishops, God's will regarding human sexuality
& evangelism to new disciples of Jesus
Rev. Dorcas, her eyes & ministries in Sierra Leone
Udobo School in Durban, South Africa
Campus Ministries
Dottie Sheaffer – healing for back & eyes
Eileen Williams – muscles
Bradley McGowan – ALS
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy
Rosemary (Marilyn Jones' sister) – healing
Michelle Rathvon Mitterer – healing from strokes
Chuck Flory – ALS
Alan Price – Buni's father's health
Annette McClarigan – health, sons & family
Jean Neideigh – healing (MS)
Gene Onest – health issues

Those with cancer: Cyndi Campbell, Dean Grove,
Mark Reitzel, Kerry Link and her father-in-law,
Joe, John Rathvon, Duane Lehman, Lori, Barb
Royer, Linda Mutzel, John Serio, Sophia, Ruthie,
Martin Campbell, Ben Neideigh, Harmony
Chiccarine, et al

Angela, Maria and Becky – to be healthy & thrive
Izabel, Oaklee, Carson, Matthew & their parents
Terry Kofroth – healing
Daryl Hawthorne – healing and upcoming surgery
Kuzmenko family – health and transitions
Ukrainian people and their nation
Don Campbell – health
Bernice Wilkison – health
Margie Urban – health
Noah Boughter and family
Bryan Nelson
Heather Lindsey
Theo Wenger – healing for kidneys
Jake Ruhl – hip pain
Jo Ann Steinmetz – healing
Megan and Josh—Jackie Black's grandkids
Mark Norman –recovery from shoulder surgery
Shirley Gehr – healing
Roberta Stone – healing and balance
Donald Stone – healing
Nicole Wise
Denise Herr (Steph Edward's mom) - healing
Holly Lee – healing
The Jackson Family
Jay Byerly – healing
Glessner Family on loss of infant son
Jenita Beth Perkowski – testing and healing
Kay Newcomer – healing & peace
Robyn Meckley – healing
Sandy Patschke – healing after eye surgery
Fred Kohler – heart attack and bypass surgery
Shelda Costello – Healing after a fall
Deb Blanshine - Vertigo
All those healing from COVID and other viruses

OUR PRAISES:

Bible2School Program for 2nd-4th graders
God's presence through illness, struggle & loss
The birth of Jesus the Savior

*Please submit prayer requests (& updates) by note
or email to the office: faithumc@hotmail.com*

CHRISTMAS EVE

GOD OF THE DARK & THE LIGHT WORSHIP SERIES

ISAIAH 9:2-7
PSALM 96
TITUS 2:11-14
LUKE 2:1-20



Welcome

*Faith United Methodist Church
1290 Fruitville Pike, Lititz, PA 17543
717-560-0321*

www.FaithUMC.us & also on Facebook

The Rev. Jason Perkowski jbperkowski@gmail.com Phone: 717-333-9238

Faith United Methodist Church



December 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM – Christmas Eve

WELCOME: We gather together to worship God: The Father, The Son, & the Holy Spirit. We celebrate that The Holy Spirit came upon the Virgin Mary, the Word of God became flesh within her, & on this night some 2022 years ago she brought the only begotten Son, Jesus, into the world. You are welcome in this space to celebrate this miracle no matter who you are; from where you have come; what experiences, struggles or gifts you bring; or the questions, doubts & beliefs you carry. Together, we seek to honor & understand the gift of the Christ Child! We are so glad you are here!

Please sign in using the red Pew Pads. Prayer Request Cards from the pads can be placed in the basket on the altar. If worshipping online, please 'sign in' and add prayer requests by commenting on the video.

PRELUDE	<i>O Holy Night</i>	
GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Pastor Jason
A TIME FOR CENTERING & PRAYER		Pastor Jason
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: CHRIST CANDLE		The Lunn Family
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Pastor Jason & God's People
	Glory to God in the highest! And hope to every discouraged heart.	
	Glory to God in the highest! And peace to every conflicted soul.	
	Glory to God in the highest! And joy to every downcast spirit.	
	Glory to God in the highest! And love to everyone.	
	Let us sing praises to our God. Let us offer this light against the darkness.	
*HYMN	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	UMH #234 v. 1 & 2
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Isaiah 9:2-7 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Terry Kofroth
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Adore</i>	Faith Singers
CHILDREN'S TIME		Pastor Jason
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Psalm 96 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Terry Kofroth
THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE		Pastor Jason
OUR OFFERINGS OF PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS		
Offertory	<i>Noel, We Sing Noel</i>	
*Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH #95
*Offertory Prayer		
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Luke 2:1-5 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Terry Kofroth
*HYMN	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	UMH #230 v. 1, 2, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON	Luke 2:6-14 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Terry Kofroth
*HYMN	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	UMH #220 v. 1 & 2
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Luke 2:15-20 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Terry Kofroth
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Ave Maria by Schubert</i>	Shannon Edwards & Stephanie Stills
HOMILY	<i>Unto Us a Child Is Born</i>	Pastor Jason
*HYMN	<i>Joy to the World</i>	UMH #246 v. 1, 3, 4
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Titus 2:11-14 <i>This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!</i>	Pastor Jason
COMMUNION (inc. Lord's Prayer UMH #895)		UMH #12-15
*HYMNS & CANDLELIGHTING	<i>Christmas Candlelight Medley: The First Noel, Away in a Manger, What Child Is This, & Silent Night</i>	
BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH		
* <i>You are invited to stand</i>		

Director of Worship: Shannon Edwards **AV Tech:** Dennis Meck, Sr.

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski **Ministers:** The People of God

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE ALSO BROADCAST on Facebook & our website.

OFFICE COMMUNICATION: Hours vary. Contact the Office via 717-560-0321 or faithumc@hotmail.com, (messages checked weekdays). Contact Pastor Jason via 717-333-9238 or jbperkowski@gmail.com. He is with family from Friday at Noon thru Saturday and may not respond to non-emergencies then.

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Please note that there will be no regular office hours December 25th through January 1st. Pastor Jason and Carol will be in the office as their schedules permit. Messages left on the office phone, 717-560-0321, will be checked periodically. In case of an emergency contact Pastor Jason at 717-333-9238.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: As has been our tradition, we will be donating our entire Christmas Eve offering to the **UDOBO PRE-SCHOOL** in Durban, South Africa to benefit the children in honor of the birth of Christ. God has been so good to us and we can afford to be generous to the littlest and least in the world. This is a chance to give these children the best start in life so that they can grow to be Godly, healthy and productive members of their community. Visit <http://UdoboSchool.com/> for more information. Your gift will help provide food, educational supplies and teaching staff. **All gifts in the special Christmas envelopes or loose gifts will go to the Udobo School.** So, if you want gifts to go specifically to the General Budget or the Building Fund, please mark it clearly on your envelope or on the check's memo line. There is a regular Dec 25th envelope that you can use for your regular offering, as well. **Make out checks to "Faith UMC."**

CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE at Faith UMC at 10:30am on Dec. 25th (or 9am at Oregon Community UMC if that better suits your schedule). Join us for a simple hymn sing and celebration of the birth of Christ.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CHRISTMAS GIFTS for the staff at Faith UMC. We are overwhelmed at your generosity and blessed to serve with you in ministry to our community. Thank you for these gifts as well as your love and your prayers.

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE: Faith UMC continues to do incredible ministry—with Bible Studies and small groups for all ages, GriefShare for those in mourning, Bible2School for students from Reidenbaugh Elementary, outreach events like Breakfast with Santa and Trunk-or-Treat, support for those struggling financially, pastoral care, shepherding and visitations, etc. We are also seeing several new folks becoming active members. This work does require financial support. Please prayerfully consider if you can make a special end of year gift to help us meet our goals. You can place a gift in the offering plate, mail a check, or donate online at FaithUMC.US under “Online Giving.”

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS: If you are over 72 and have tax deferred retirement accounts, you could have a portion of your required minimum distribution given as a charitable gift to the church (or other organizations) to avoid paying taxes on those funds. This may benefit you as you finish out 2022 and plan for you tax returns. If you have questions, about different sources of giving to the church, feel free to contact Pastor Jason.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES DURING ADVENT: Prayerfully consider if you would like to help with any of these projects. *We do not expect you to donate to each one.* Please participate as your heart and capacity leads you.

- **UN-DECORATE FOR ADVENT!!** A challenge for extraordinary generosity - a recipe for Christian action. Items needed by LUMINA are printed on an "ornament" on our *Undecorate Tree*. Remove the ornament and donate those items to LUMINA. The tree and collection box are in the entryway. What a wonderful opportunity to help our neighbors in Lancaster City by decorating our little corner of the world with a dash of generosity and a splash of kindness. Items should be returned to church by Christmas Eve.
- **UDOBO PRE-SCHOOL:** We support the Udobo School in Durban, South Africa at Christmas. Visit <http://UdoboSchool.com> for details. Your gift will help provide food, educational supplies and teaching staff. If you are interested in helping you can write a check made out to *Faith UMC* with “Udobo School” in the memo or donate online to that fund at www.faithumc.us.
- **CHRIST HOME FOR KIDS & BLACKFEET UMC PARISH:** Oregon Community UMC will be sending a financial contribution to these two ministries as they do each Christmas. If you are interested in helping you can send a check made out to *Oregon Community UMC* with the specific ministry marked in the memo line. You can mail it to Oregon Community, 1214 Creek Rd., Lititz, PA 17543.

PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE: Perhaps you or someone you know would appreciate the comfort of a prayer shawl or quilt. **Please help yourself to a prayer shawl** from the rack in the hall and sign the attached sheet.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:00 AM: Everyone is welcome to join this Bible Study led by Michelle Bame on Sunday mornings. *We will meet in the 1st classroom in the Education Wing.* **Resumes Jan 8.**

JUNIOR CHURCH for kids 3 years old - 4th grade **during the 10:30AM Worship Service. Please sign your child in before the Worship Service. Each child and parent will be assigned a badge** with a matching number. Kids will begin the service in the sanctuary and be dismissed to Junior Church after the Children’s Time Message. **After worship, parents must sign children out at their classroom in the Education Wing.** **Resumes Jan 8.**

YOUTH GROUP, SUNDAYS, 5-7 PM at Faith UMC for 5th-12th graders. Sign up in the hall to be the 2nd adult and/or to provide a meal. Each week there are dinner, games and a lesson. **Youth will go to Gretna Glen Camp from 3:30-7:00 PM on the 3rd Sunday of each month—except December.** Church van will leave from / return to Faith UMC. For more info contact Pastor Jason (717-333-9238). **Resumes Jan 8.**

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet at Faith UMC from 7:30-9:00 PM every other Monday for students in 6th-12th grade. We will have classes, retreats, field trips, etc. led by Pastor Andrea from Long Memorial and Pastor Jason. (Next meetings: Jan. 2 & 16)

GRIEFSHARE GROUP: Pastor Jason and Tina Miller lead a GriefShare Group to help people find support and process the loss of loved ones. To learn more, please contact Pastor Jason ASAP. This group meets every other Monday from 5-6 PM in the Fellowship Hall at Faith UMC (Jan. 2 & 16).

CHATting VIA ZOOM MONDAYS AT 6:30 PM: *No meeting on Dec 26.* Everyone is invited to join us. at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86190453518?pwd=cEVDeDljeThaaWVIYjIOWmZjTm5oUT09>.

BIBLE STUDY on WEDNESDAYS at 6:30 PM with Mike at Oregon Community UMC. **Resumes Jan 11.**

MORNING BIBLE STUDY – FRIDAYS AT 10AM in Fellowship Hall: We explore the scriptures for this week’s sermon. You can prepare at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>. **Resumes Jan 6.**

POWER INTERFAITH LANCASTER COUNTY is working on justice issues in our community—including fair funding for public schools, prison and bail reform, positive police & community interactions, a healthier environment, economic justice, etc. **Pastor Jason has been working with POWER Interfaith for over 6 years and would like to see our church officially engage in this work as well as considering starting a local UMC Church and Society Team.** Contact Pastor Jason to learn more or visit <https://powerinterfaith.org>

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE FAITH UMC WORSHIP TEAM for practices on Wednesdays at 6:30PM. We still need singers and instrumentalists to be a part of leading worship each week.

MEMBERSHIP: If you are interested in learning more about the UMC and our local churches, and are considering becoming a member, we invite you to contact Pastor Jason for info to join in a new membership class to begin soon.

FREE LENDING LIBRARY of books, puzzles, & DVDs for all ages to borrow is in the 2nd classroom in the Education Wing. There is no sign-in/out procedure. See Buni or Marilyn for info. Donations welcome.

SERVANT SATURDAY: In coordination with our Downtown Ministry program, Faith UMC is encouraging a Servant Saturday for all our worshippers on the 1st Saturday of each month. Our next Servant Saturday is **January 7**. We are asking everyone to make an effort to show God’s love to the world around you. We would like everyone to find a way to give of their time, talents and treasures locally or across the world. Involve everyone in your family to find ways to share the love and giving of Jesus Christ—on this day and each day of the year.

DOWNTOWN MINISTRY: We have ministry of providing meals & personal care items for people who are unhoused in Lancaster City on the 1st Saturday of every month. **January 7 we will meet at 2pm and cook a hot meal** at Faith UMC, and then **go downtown to deliver it**. If you’d like to help, please contact Diana Valentine at 717-283-6099. We need people to help cook, prepare donations, deliver food, pray, etc.

COMMUNITY MEAL: People in need may pick up a Grab ‘n Go Meal at Zion Lutheran Church in East Petersburg every Monday. Several churches in the area support this ministry. **Faith UMC provides fifty Grab ‘n Go Meals quarterly**. If you would like to be involved in this ministry, please contact Carol Kennedy. **The next time we serve a meal will be January 9, 2023.**

IN NEED OF HELP: Contact Pastor Jason, dial **2-1-1** or visit www.211.org to reach the **United Way Call Center for social services**. The **Crisis Intervention Lifeline is (717) 394-2631 or dial 9-8-8.**

LITITZ MEALS ON WHEELS is in need of drivers to deliver pre-cooked meals to clients in the Lititz/Warwick area. Use your own vehicle to deliver from Lititz Church of the Brethren, 300 W. Orange Street, Lititz. *They currently need regular drivers and substitutes on Mondays and Wednesdays.* Other delivery days are also available Monday thru Friday beginning at 10:15 AM to one of four pre-determined routes. You can volunteer one day a week, or several times a month, or as your schedule permits. For more information, contact: Laurie Hess 717-519-9906 or email: Lahess@rocketmail.com.

WORSHIP LEADERS for this Sunday, December 25 are:

WORSHIP MUSIC: Shannon Edwards, Worship Director and the Faith Singers

AUDIO/VISUAL TECH: Dennis Meck, Sr.

GREETERS: Alan Strait & Sydney Dohring

USHERS: Alan Strait & Sydney Dohring

LITURGIST: Linda Lunn

CHILDREN’S TIME: Amy Boughter

JUNIOR CHURCH: Cancelled – Enjoy the service!

YOUTH GROUP: Cancelled – Enjoy time with family!

WORSHIP LEADERS for next Sunday, January 1 are:

WORSHIP MUSIC: Shannon Edwards, Worship Director and the Faith Singers

AUDIO/VISUAL TECH: Dennis Meck, Sr.

GREETERS: Alan Strait & Sydney Dohring

USHERS: Carol & Allen Kennedy

LITURGIST: Buni Harbison

CHILDREN’S TIME: Pastor Jason

JUNIOR CHURCH: Cancelled – Enjoy the service!

YOUTH GROUP: Cancelled – Enjoy time with family!

ONGOING EVENTS:

Sundays

Adult Sunday School, 9:00 AM **No session Dec 25 or Jan 1.**

Worship, 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live

Junior Church during 10:30 AM worship **No session Dec 25 or Jan 1.**

Youth Group at Faith, 5-7 PM. **No session Dec 25 or Jan 1.**

1st Sundays

Communion is offered during worship service, 10:30AM

Mondays

GriefShare Group - Every other Monday from 5:00-6:00 PM at Faith UMC

Chatting Club via Zoom, 6:30 PM **No session Dec 26.**

Confirmation Class - Every other Monday from 7:30-9:00 PM at Faith UMC

Bible2School, 9:45 to 11:30 AM for Reidenbaugh students in Fellowship Hall

Bible2School, 11:20 AM-1:20 PM for Reidenbaugh students in Fellowship Hall

Worship Team Practice, 6:30 PM **No session Dec 28.**

Bible Study at Oregon Community UMC, 6:30-7:30 PM **Resumes Jan 11**

Wing and a Prayer AA Meeting in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM

Thursdays

Fridays

Bible Study led by Pastor Jason, 10:00 AM **No session Dec 30.**

1st & 3rd Saturdays

Faith UMC works with IMPACT! Missions – Contact Leon Bame to help.

1st Saturdays

Servant Saturday & Downtown Food Ministry, 2PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Dec 25

Christmas Service at Oregon Community (9:00 AM) and at Faith (10:30 AM)

Monday, Dec 26

NO Chatting Club via Zoom, 7:00 PM

Friday, Dec 30

NO Bible Study led by Pastor Jason at 10:00 AM – **resumes on Jan 6**

Monday, Jan 2

GriefShare Group - Every other Monday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM

Chatting Club via Zoom, 7:00 PM

Confirmation Class - Every other Monday from 7:30-9:00 PM at Faith UMC

Wednesday, Jan 5

Ladies’ Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:00 AM – RSVP to Sandy Patschke

Saturday, Jan 7

Servant Saturday/Deliver food & personal items to unhoused

folks downtown, 2 PM

Monday, Jan 9

Faith UMC provides Bag-n-Go Lunch at Zion Lutheran Church, 11 AM

(Prep at 9:30 AM)

Thursday, Jan 19

Senior Men’s Lunch at Two Cousins in Brownstown, 11:30 AM – RSVP to

Mike Bitner

THE POINSETTIAS AT THE ALTAR ARE

PRESENTED BY:

Daryl Hawthorne

Allen & Carol Kennedy

Allen & Carol Kennedy

Terry Kofroth

Ronald & Linda Lunn

Gene & Marilyn Onest

Tim & Sandy Patschke

Tim & Sandy Patschke

Diana Valentine

IN MEMORY OF:

George Hawthorne

Jay & Jessie Kennedy

Herbert & Vera Bergman

Barry Kofroth

Their Parents

Allen & Lorraine Patschke

Gene & Ruth Stillwagner

Jackie Valentine

IN HONOR OF:

Her Parents

Matthew, Carrie, Julia, & Alex

Family