

PRAYER REQUESTS:

OUR CONCERNS:

Bishop Moore-KoiKoi, DS Freymoyer & EPA Staff
Laity and Clergy of the UMC
Unity & love in the church universal & the UMC
Wisdom & safety for government officials globally
President Joe Biden and VP Kamala Harris
For accuracy and trust in confirming the votes and a peaceful transfer of power
President-elect Donald Trump and VP-elect JD Vance
Peace in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine & Russia
For peace & wisdom in areas of conflict
Veterans and Service Members
Civilians, leaders, and soldiers in war torn regions
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 & disease
Stewardship of our environment & climate
Refugees & huddled masses yearning to be free
Security and immigration reform
People who are hungry and unhoused
Prisoners, Prison Leadership & Judges
Reform for Education Funding, Criminal Justice, and Foster Care Systems
Teachers, Students, Families & Campus ministries
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
Udobo School in Durban, South Africa
NarSarah Village and Clinic, Sierra Leone
Eileen Williams – muscles
Bradley McGowan – ALS
Jean & Ben Neideigh – healing
Noah Boughter, Sophie and family
Heather Lindsey
Denny Armstrong – kidney failure
Carol Dronke – healing

Those with cancer: Cyndi Campbell, Dean Grove, Mark Reitzel, Duane Lehman, Ruthie, Martin Campbell, Ben Neideigh, Harmony Chiccarine, Tina Miller, Dorcas Kamanda (in remission), Jim Royer, Adam Malik, Joan (Nancy's sister-in-law), Isaias Maldonado (Ramonita's Uncle), Missy Landis; Gail (friend of Sandy), Geneva (sister of Larry Landis), Marc Barley (Diane's cousin), Lexi Compton (tumor on spine), Heather Williams

Paul (Jake's nephew) – healing for heart & kidneys
Dottie Sheaffer – healing
Andrea (friend of Lisa) – neck & back pain
Hank Kloiber – healing after heart attack
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy & cancer
Pat Oglesby (Laura Gehman's sister) –health
Pat Drebot (Jake's sister) – declining health
Rosemary (Marilyn Jones' sister) – health
Tom & Sheila settling on a house in December
Dolly Bankert – healing after knee surgery
Diana Valentine – healing after hand surgery
Terry Kofroth – healing for back & cataract surgery
Melanie Jusino – for peace and guidance
Ralph & BobbiAnn Stone and their family
Mary Shenk – Alzheimer's
Alfredo Vega, Jr – safety while on active duty
Kaylee Colón – depression & anxiety
Kayla (Tyler's sister)
Jake Ruhl – healing after shoulder surgery
Craig Hathaway – AFib issue
Anne (David Loechner's mom) – healing after a fall
Meleny Fisher (friend of Daryl) –terminal cancer
Holly (Julie H's sister) – healing after stroke
Lorraine Smith – healing from low hemoglobin
Nat (friend of Wikers) – healing
Family of Tim's Aunt Reba who passed away
Twins & Sister settling back with parents

OUR PRAISES:

Jake Ruhl – healing after shoulder surgery
Marilyn Jones – healing after shoulder surgery
God's loving presence in the midst of struggles
Those who have seen healings from prayer
Reconnecting with family
Please submit prayer needs, praises, & updates by note or email to the office: faithumc@hotmail.com



Welcome

*Faith United Methodist Church
1290 Fruitville Pike, Lititz, PA 17543
717-560-0321 or faithumc@hotmail.com
www.FaithUMC.us & also on Facebook*

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

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 2024 years ago she brought the only begotten Son, Jesus, into the world. You are welcome in this sacred space 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

Jody & Anthony Wiker

“Comfort, Comfort, All My People” Robert Mann; “Taladh Chriosta” arr. by David Johnson;
“Gesu Bambino” by Pietro Yon arr. by Last Resorts Music;
“Il est ne, Le Divin Enfant” arr. By Last Resorts Music; “A La Nanita Nana” arr. by Last Resorts Music.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jason

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God’s People

For you who are filled to the brim with happiness, **Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.**
For you who are mourning the loss of family and friends, **Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.**
For you who feel like you are tripping about in darkness, **Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.**
For you who rest in gratitude and contentment, **Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.**
For you who feel the ache of loneliness, **Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.**
For you who are surrounded by unlikely yet beautiful companionship,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.
Come, let us worship the birth of our Savior! **Come, let us worship God who came to dwell among us!**
Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH #234 v. 1 & 2

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES & CHRIST CANDLE

Allen & Carol Kennedy

Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).
Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. “His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this” (Isaiah 9:7).
We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God’s salvation wherever we go. *(Light ALL candles)*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Buni Harbison

This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

*HYMN

Joy to the World

UMH #246 v. 1, 2, 4

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Jason

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:1-5

Buni Harbison

This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH #230 v. 1, 2, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:6-14

Buni Harbison

This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

*HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory

UMH #220 v. 1 & 2

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Pastor Jason

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

Buni Harbison

This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

*HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

UMH #251

COMMUNION

UMH #12-13

All are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive God’s forgiveness and grace through Communion

CONFESSIO

God of Light, we confess that we have gone astray and have left Your light. We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune. We follow the dim lights that call us to be more religious by following rules. We follow the fading light of personal salvation. Forgive us for not seeking the true Light of Your love for all the world. Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus, who commanded us to love one another. Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion, and justice, in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed. In the name of Jesus the Messiah, we pray. Amen.

(Written by Rev. Mindi and posted at <http://rev-o-lution.org/>)

OUR OFFERINGS OF PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

Pastor Jason

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mary Did You Know

UMH #13-14 & #895

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER

UMH #13-14 & #895

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UMH #15

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH #224

*HYMN

Love Came Down at Christmas

UMH #242

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH #238

HOMILY

Joy

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Pastor Jason

*HYMN

Silent Night

UMH #239

PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

* You are invited to stand in body or in Spirit

Guest Musicians: Jody & Anthony Wiker

AV Tech: Dennis Meck, Sr

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski

Ministers: The People of God

OFFICE COMMUNICATION: Hours vary. Carol Kennedy, Office Admin, checks messages in the office on weekdays. Pastor Jason is with family from Noon Friday until Sunday & may not respond to non-emergencies then.

UDOBO PRE-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS OFFERING: We support the Udobo Pre-School in Durban, South Africa at Christmas. Visit <http://UdoboSchool.com> to learn more. Your gift will help finance meals, educational supplies and teaching staff. Checks can be made out to *Faith UMC* with “Udobo School” in the memo or donate online to that fund at www.faithumc.us. **All gifts in the special Faith UMC Christmas offering envelopes, unmarked gifts on Christmas Eve, or anything marked for Udobo School will go directly to the school.**

FAITH UMC JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Seeking maturing Christian candidates. Details visit www.FaithUMC.US

OFFICE MANAGER / ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT for approx. 20 hours per week in-office to provide administrative support for Pastor, Finance Committee, and church ministries. This includes managing communications, developing weekly worship materials and digital newsletters, and supporting financial accounting with the Treasurer. Strong tech and communication skills necessary.

PIANIST to help lead worship on Sunday Morning at 10:30AM as well as a one-hour midweek rehearsal. Stipend is \$100/week. Able to play at a blended service with contemporary and traditional elements.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9 AM meets in the 1st classroom in the Ed. Wing. *Starts again on January 5.*

JUNIOR CHURCH for 3-year-olds - 4th grade during the 10:30AM Worship Service. Please sign your child in before the service & get a numbered badge. Children are dismissed to Jr. Church after the Children’s Message. After worship, pick up kids in the Education Wing, 3rd classroom on the right.

YOUTH GROUP ON SUNDAYS, 5-7 PM at Faith UMC for 5th-12th graders. Each week there is dinner, games & a lesson. All students are invited to join us. Sign up to be the 2nd adult and/or provide a meal in the hall or by contacting Pastor Jason. **No meeting Dec 29. *We will go to Gretna Glen Camp on Sun, Jan. 19 (3:30-7pm).***

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. We are blessed to be a part of the Faith UMC family!!

BIBLE2SCHOOL is meeting at Faith UMC **on Tues. for 3rd Grade & Weds. for 4th and 2nd Grade** students from Reidenbaugh Elem. **Volunteers needed as Small Group Leaders. *No more Sessions until January 7 & 8.***

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 10 AM in Faith UMC Fellowship Hall.

SUB SALE: We have \$7 certificates from S. Clyde Weaver for delicious made-to-order subs w/over 7+ varieties on sub rolls, bread or wraps. Support our ministries & get a discount! See Carol. **These make great stocking stuffers.**

THE CHURCH & SOCIETY TEAM engages in improving our community by standing up against injustice. *There will not be a December meeting.* **Next meeting: January 16 at 5:00 PM (3rd Thursdays). Join us by Zoom only at:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82735304374?pwd=eDBSZHRCZVphSnh2TENDZ0xrdG0vQT09>. To learn more, contact Renee Norman. The **Criminal Justice & Bail Reform Team**, meets online at Noon every other Wed. (*Jan 8 & 22*): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483314676?pwd=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVlXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>. Reimagine Justice Lancaster meets online at Noon on Tuesdays of the opposite weeks (*Jan 14*) at: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82819147194?pwd=BF8E8JopVvfExanCW0QPjJ7p9DcbDq.1>

THANK YOU for your faithful giving toward our ministries through your time, talents, prayers, presence and financial gifts! We celebrate all that God has accomplished through you this year. We are grateful for new friends who have joined the church, the many guests welcomed during dozens of events, the ongoing discipleship through Bible Study and faithful ministry, and all the fun we have had together! **We can’t wait to see what God does in 2025!**

As of December 20, giving and fundraisers for our general ministries has raised \$173,540, with \$173,760 in expenses Your generous support puts us on track to achieve a balanced budget in 2024. Thank you! We still need about \$4,100 per week in giving toward the general ministry and our mortgage debt reduction in order to finish the year with a balanced budget.

Gifts can be directed to **General Ministry and/or the Debt Reduction / Building Fund**. Mark preferences in the memo line & envelope. You can set up recurring gifts through your own bank or at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z37Q/home>. There is a link at FaithUMC.us or via the **QR Code**. You can also **mail** or **place an offering in the plate**. Special gifts from IRAs, stocks, etc. can also be received.



GRIEFSHARE helps people process the loss of loved ones and to find support from peers. This is open to the church and community. *We will be starting a new round of classes after the New Year.*

PUZZLE PALOOZA! DO YOU LOVE JIGSAW PUZZLES? Join us at Faith UMC on **Saturday, January 25, 2025 from 10:00am to 11:30am (check-in at 9:30am).** Get your team of 2-4 together and **let’s race to complete a 500-piece puzzle. The winning team gets a prize** along with bragging rights! ALL teams get to keep their puzzles after the event. **The cost is \$40 per team, due at time of registration. Information and registration is available at www.FaithUMC.US under Events.** *To join with another team please contact Gwen or the office.*

FAITH FRIENDSHIP MINISTRIES is a faith-based group home in Mountville, PA that houses adults with various disabilities. They could use craft supplies for their activity department. See Mission Team for info.

THREADS OF FAITH: If you like to knit, sew, crochet or quilt, you are invited to Threads of Faith from 10am - Noon the first Saturday of each month for a time of fellowship and crafting! Bring your sewing machines and supplies and work on your projects or start a new one! **Next meeting January 4.**

MEDICINE BOTTLE COLLECTION: We send *small* prescription pill bottles to clinics in poor countries. *Please remove all labels and sticky residue.* A basket is under the table as you enter the Sanctuary.

COMMUNITY AID will donate \$.13 to Faith UMC for every pound of clothing, shoes, electronic, toys, & household goods (excluding furniture) donated at 31 Rohrerstown Road Mon–Sat, 9AM–6PM. *Tell staff to credit Non-profit partner #10221 - Faith UMC before they unload.* Write or tape partner number on bags/boxes.

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.***

COMMUNITY MEAL: People in need may pick up a **Grab ‘n Go Meal at Zion Lutheran Church** in East Petersburg every Monday. **Faith UMC provides sixty Grab ‘n Go Meals quarterly.** Our dates for 2025 are: Feb. 3, Apr. 7, Jul 7, and Oct 27. *Contact Carol Kennedy if you are interested in participating in this ministry.*

IMPACT! MISSIONS is a Christian Housing Ministry that helps create warm, safe, and dry homes to be sold to lower-income families and does repairs on homes for existing homeowners in financial distress. They need volunteers to restore these homes. **Contact Leon Bame for more info at 717-344-9924 or leonshe137@gmail.com.**

ONGOING EVENTS:

Sundays

Adult Sunday School, 9:00 AM *No session Dec 29*
Worship, 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live
Junior Church during 10:30 AM worship
Youth Group at Faith, 5-7 PM (Gretna Glen on Jan. 19) *No session Dec 29*
Communion offered during worship service, followed by refreshments
Nar-Anon, 7:15-8:45 PM at Faith UMC
Bible2School in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM (*starts again in Jan.*)
Bible2School in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (*starts again in Jan.*)
Worship Team Practice, 6:45 PM (*no practice Dec 25 & Jan 1*)
Wing and a Prayer AA Meeting in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM
Bible Study led by Pastor Jason, 10:00 AM *No session Dec 27*
Servant Saturday & Threads of Faith

1st Sundays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays

Wednesdays

Thursdays

Fridays

1st Saturdays

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, Jan 2 SPRC meeting, 6:00 PM
Saturday, Jan 4 Threads of Faith, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Fellowship Hall in use, 3:00 – 7:00 PM
Sunday, Jan 5 Worship Service at Faith UMC w/ communion & reception of new members, 10:30 AM
Fellowship and refreshments after the service – get to know our new members!
Wednesday, Jan 8 Ladies’ Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:30 AM, RSVP to Sandy Patschke
Thursday, Jan 9 Finance meeting, 6:00 PM
Thursday, Jan 16 Men’s Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:30 AM, RSVP to Allen Kennedy
Church & Society meeting via Zoom, 5:00 PM
Thursday, Jan 23 Church Council meeting, 6:00 PM
Saturday, Jan 25 **Puzzle Palooza, 10:00-11:30 AM (check in at 9:30 AM)**

Our worship participants next Sunday, December 29

PASTOR: Jason Perkowski
WORSHIP MUSIC: Jody & Anthony Wiker and the Faith Singers
A/V TECH: Dennis Meck, Sr.
GREETERS: Sandy & Tim Patschke
USHERS: Tim Patschke & Allen Kennedy
LITURGIST: Terry Kofroth
CHILDREN’S TIME: Amy Boughter
JUNIOR CHURCH: Lisa Baker & Julie Perkowski
NO YOUTH GROUP



THE POINSETTIAS AT THE ALTAR ARE

PRESENTED BY:

Bob & Diane Black
Bob & Diane Black
Dick & Peg Burley
Dick & Peg Burley
Allen & Carol Kennedy
Marilyn Onest
Tim & Sandy Patschke
Tim & Sandy Patschke
Linda Swank

IN MEMORY OF:

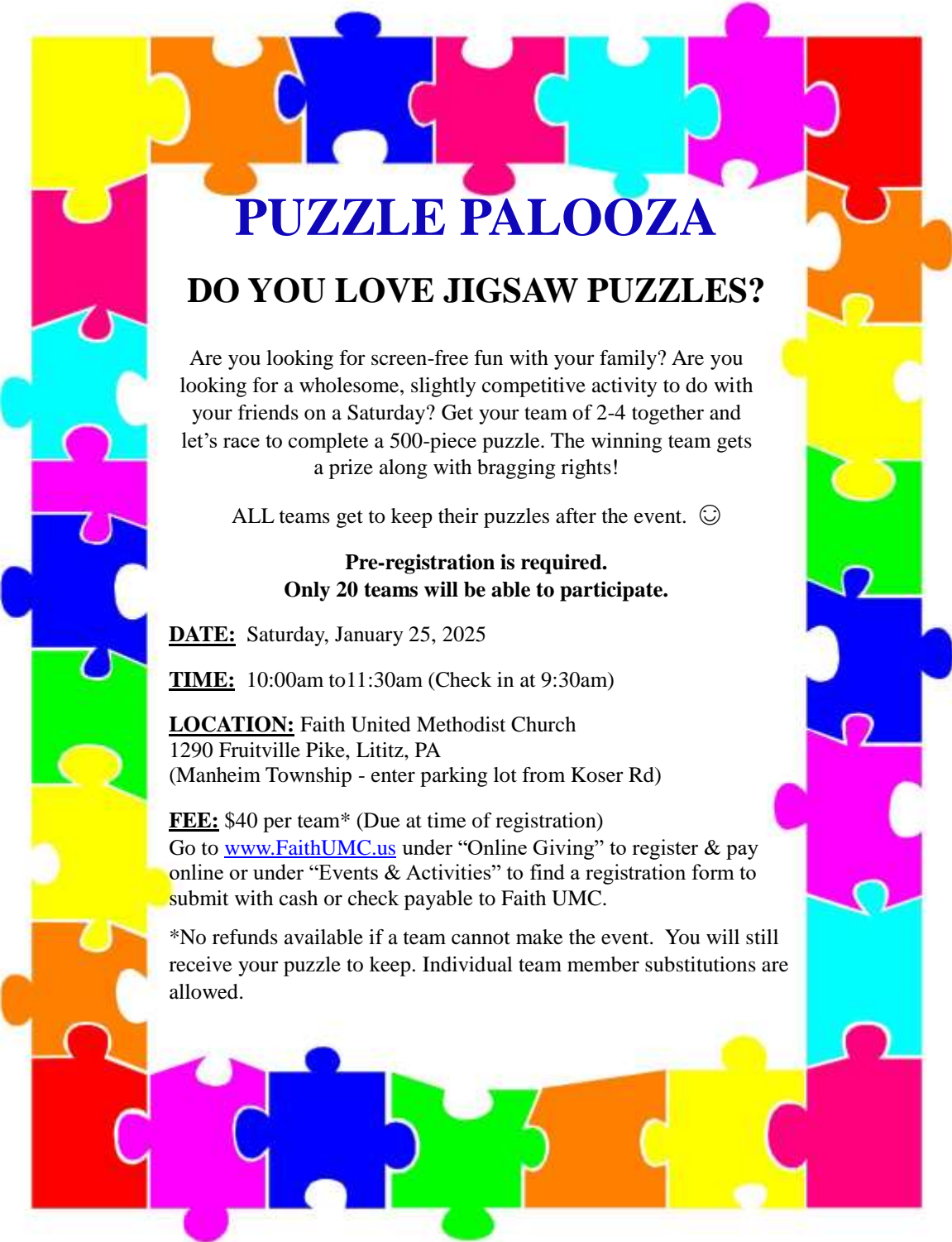
John Newcomer
Rainbow grandchild (Poppy)
Chrissie & Grant Hixon
Edna & Richard S Burley
Carol Bryner
Gene Onest
Allen & Lorraine Patschke
Ruth Stillwagner
Robert Swank

PRESENTED BY:

Terry Kofroth
Diana Valentine
Diana Valentine

IN HONOR OF:

Matthew, Carrie, Julia, & Alex
Bob & Phyllis Miller
Andrew, Emile, & Freya Muth



PUZZLE PALOOZA

DO YOU LOVE JIGSAW PUZZLES?

Are you looking for screen-free fun with your family? Are you looking for a wholesome, slightly competitive activity to do with your friends on a Saturday? Get your team of 2-4 together and let’s race to complete a 500-piece puzzle. The winning team gets a prize along with bragging rights!

ALL teams get to keep their puzzles after the event. 😊

Pre-registration is required.
Only 20 teams will be able to participate.

DATE: Saturday, January 25, 2025

TIME: 10:00am to 11:30am (Check in at 9:30am)

LOCATION: Faith United Methodist Church
1290 Fruitville Pike, Lititz, PA
(Manheim Township - enter parking lot from Koser Rd)

FEE: \$40 per team* (Due at time of registration)
Go to www.FaithUMC.us under “Online Giving” to register & pay online or under “Events & Activities” to find a registration form to submit with cash or check payable to Faith UMC.

*No refunds available if a team cannot make the event. You will still receive your puzzle to keep. Individual team member substitutions are allowed.