

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

OREGON COMMUNITY UMC ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 8 AM meets in the OCUMC Fellowship Hall

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 22 & 29. *We will go to Gretna Glen Camp on Sun, Jan. 19 (3:30-7pm).***

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.***

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. *Classes restart after the New Year.***

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=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVXQwUk5LR2VFOT09>. Reimagine Justice Lancaster meets online at Noon on Tuesdays of the opposite weeks (*Dec 17*) at: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82819147194?pwd=BF8E8JopVvfExanCW0QPjJ7p9DcbDq.1>

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 10 AM in Faith UMC Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jason

OREGON COMMUNITY UMC COAT DRIVE: OCUMC is collecting new or used winter coats to be donated to those in need (especially those who are unhoused) through local shelters and police departments. If you have a coat to donate, please drop it off at Faith or Oregon Community UMC **by Sunday, December 15.**

MEDICINE BOTTLE COLLECTION: We send *small* prescription pill bottles to clinics in poor countries. ***Please remove all labels and sticky residue.*** A basket is on the table in the lobby at OCUMC—or at Faith UMC.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE on Dec. 24th at 5pm at Oregon Community UMC (or Faith UMC at 7pm if that suits your schedule better). Families will worship together in this service of carols and a retelling of the Christmas story. We will also share in Communion.

CHRISTMAS BENEVOLENT GIVING: This year Oregon Community UMC will once again support two ministries 1) **BLACKFEET UMC PARISH** is a ministry that Oregon Community has been supporting for years. They are a joint parish in Montana that does ministry on the Native American reservation. For more info you can explore: <https://umcmisson.org/advance-project/910092/>. 2) **CHRIST HOME FOR CHILDREN in Paradise, PA.** They support children in need in a group home setting who have been removed from their homes due to crises, neglect, or abuse. For more info: <https://www.christshome.org/childrens-services/>

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. Save the date!** Watch for more information and registration forms.

Welcome to Oregon Community United Methodist Church



Address: 1214 Creek Road, Lititz, PA 17543

Church Phone: (717) 656-7198

Website: OregonCommunityUMC.us

Facebook: Oregon Community UMC

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski

jbperkowski@gmail.com or (717) 333-9238

Mission of Oregon Community United Methodist Church:
**“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation
of our community and the world.”**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP in Sanctuary at 9:00 AM at Oregon Community UMC
BROADCAST ONLINE at 10:30 AM from Faith UMC on Facebook
& church websites under *Online Worship*.**

OFFICE HOURS: Pastor Jason is generally available Mon-Thurs from about 9-3pm. He is spending time with family from Friday at Noon through Saturday. If there is an emergency, please leave a detailed message.



WELCOME: We gather together to worship this Advent Season, remembering the coming of Jesus as the Christ in the stable at Bethlehem. We also prepare for the advent of the second coming where Jesus will return to restore all of creation to holiness. May the Spirit of God inspire & fill us as we take this journey together. As we retell the stories of God’s faithful love throughout time, may our hearts rejoice! 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. We are so glad you are here!

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jason

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God’s People

Children of God, our world is full of the fruit of humanity’s greed, apathy, and neglect for the love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. **What, then, should we do?**
Our world is also full of the fruit of God’s love that wells up all around us, sustaining us, saving us, reviving us to live as the people of God. **What, then, should we do?**
God encircles us on every side, Love divine present with us in creation, in community, and in the anticipated arrival of the infant Emmanuel. What then, children of God, should you do?
We will live in joyful presence with God and neighbor, turning away from sin and toward a life with God and one another marked by joy, justice, and mercy. Amen.
Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY
No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God’s coming kin-dom, we must not forget that God’s salvation has come and is coming. “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God’s salvation is already present among us.
Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God’s love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.
We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God’s salvation together. *(Light the first two purple candles and then the pink candle for Joy)*

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #196

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Mike Shifflet

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Jason

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

UMH #895

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6

Mike Shifflet

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

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

*HYMN

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH #204

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

Mike Shifflet

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

*HYMN

Where Charity and Love Prevail

UMH #549

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:7-18

Mike Shifflet

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

SERMON

Advent: Presence

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Pastor Jason

*HYMN

When the Poor Ones (Cuando El Pobre)

UMH #434 v. 1-2

* You are invited to stand in body or in Spirit

Pianist:

Jody Wiker

Pastor:

The Rev. Jason Perkowski

Ministers:

The People of God

Liturgists:

December 1 Bob Jolly; 8 Dot Lange; 15 Mike Shifflet; 22 Ralph Stone; 29 Pastor Jason

BIRTHDAYS: December 7: Paula Shifflet; 19: Sharon Garner; 27: Annabelle Fritsch; 30: Ralph Stone

PRAYER REQUESTS: Valerie Cooper, lost vision in eye; Nat (friend of Wikers), healing; Joanne (Jackie’s sister), scleroderma and other significant health issues; Stone & Fritsch family, healing; Erin’s father, healing from infection; Ally Lavery, foot surgery; Shifflet’s friend Valerie with cancer; Gary Sellard, chemotherapy; Bernadine’s friend Betty for healing; Andrew, freedom from addictions; Vince Habel, heart & kidney problems; Shirley Baker, Cheryl Cooper and Larry Cooper for healing; Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi; DS Freymoyer & EPAUMC Staff; Laity and Clergy; unity & love in the church; Patty’s ALS; Jane Hess, healing; Denny Armstrong, kidney failure; Frank & Charlene, health; Alfred Byrd, lungs; All those battling cancer; Kathy Muth, cellulitis; Jack Muth, brain cancer; Chuck Flory, ALS; Judy Brivchik, eyesight; **PRAISES:** God’s faithful love ministry for 150 years at Oregon Community UMC. **PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD:** Wisdom & safety for all government officials; President Joe Biden and VP Kamala Harris; For a peaceful transfer of power; President-elect Donald Trump and VP-elect JD Vance; School shootings and threats; NarSarah Clinic in Sierra Leone; Udobo School in Durban, South Africa; Christ Home for Children; Blackfeet UMC Parish; The people of Israel, Palestine, the Middle East, Ukraine & Russia; Veterans & military service members; police & medical personnel; the sick & caregivers; victims of violence & racism; peace, wisdom & reconciliation; abused persons & abusers; all affected by disasters; refugees & immigrants; the hungry, homeless; incarcerated; design of new prison and its programs; all struggling with addictions or mental illness; schools; campus ministries; foster families; seniors; those grieving; etc.

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.*

LONG MEMORIAL FRIDAY NIGHT FREE GROCERIES for those in need every week at 6pm.

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.

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 leonschel37@gmail.com.** **IMPACT MISSION LUNCH CREW** needs volunteers on Thurs. 10AM-Noon to help make bagged lunches for volunteers at Christ UMC. Contact Sue at sgrimm1028@gmail.com or 717-575-6414.

THREADS OF FAITH: If you like to knit, sew, crochet or quilt, we would like to invite you to Threads of Faith! Join us from 10am - Noon the first Saturday of each month! Work on your projects while we chat and share talents in the Fellowship Hall at Faith UMC! **Our next gathering will be Sat., January 4.**