

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**FAITH UMC JOB OPPORTUNITIES:** Seeking maturing Christian candidates. Details visit [www.FaithUMC.US](http://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—restarts on January 5 after a break during the holidays.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade & Weds. for 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** students from Reidenbaugh Elem. **Volunteers needed as Small Group Leaders. *No more Sessions until January 7 & 8.***

**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 (3<sup>rd</sup> 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=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>. 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>

**FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 10 AM in Faith UMC Fellowship Hall. *No Bible Study Dec. 27.***

**OREGON COMMUNITY UMC COAT DRIVE:** Thank you to everyone who donated coats to those in need.

**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. 24<sup>th</sup> 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://umcmision.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. Information and registration is available at [www.FaithUMC.US](http://www.FaithUMC.US) under Events.** *To join with another team please contact Gwen or the office.*

## Welcome to Oregon Community United Methodist Church



**Address:** 1214 Creek Road, Lititz, PA 17543  
**Church Phone:** (717) 656-7198  
**Website:** [OregonCommunityUMC.us](http://OregonCommunityUMC.us)  
**Facebook:** Oregon Community UMC

**Pastor:** The Rev. Jason Perkowski  
[jbperkowski@gmail.com](mailto: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.



December 22, 2024 at 9:00 AM – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**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, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here! **We wait as people of God’s promise.**  
The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary’s womb call to us today.  
**We listen as people of God’s promise.**  
Mary’s “yes” and Elizabeth’s faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God’s good news into the world. **We follow as people of God’s promise.**  
This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, & the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today—God is with us!  
**God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**  
*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024*

**\*HYMN** My Soul Gives Glory to My God **UMH #198**

**LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE**  
When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, “But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day” (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, “But you, O Faith UMC, from you shall come forth for me...” What? What might God be calling forth from us?  
**God invites us to receive the promise of God’s salvation and the sustenance of God’s mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God’s invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.**  
We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God’s promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God’s love for all creation. *(Light four candles)*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Micah 5:2-5a Ralph Stone  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**CHILDREN’S TIME** Pastor Jason  
**\*HYMN** O Little Town of Bethlehem **UMH #230**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Psalm 80 Ralph Stone  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**OUR OFFERINGS: OF PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS**  
**\*DOXOLOGY** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow **UMH #95**

**\*HYMN** O Day of God Draw Nigh **UMH #730**

**THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER** **UMH #895**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Hebrews 10:5-10 Ralph Stone  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**\*HYMN** Once in Royal David's City **UMH #250**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 1:39-55 Ralph Stone  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**SERMON** Advent: Promise Pastor Jason

**BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH** Pastor Jason

**\*HYMN** Joy to the World **UMH #246**

**\* 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:** Cheryl & the family of Larry Cooper on his passing; 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 that is now in remission; Gary Sellard, chemotherapy; Bernadine’s friend Betty for healing; Andrew, freedom from addictions; Vince Habel, heart & kidney problems; Shirley Baker, and Cheryl 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](http://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](mailto: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.**