

Faith & Oregon Community United Methodist Churches



December 24, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Christmas Eve

WELCOME FRIENDS: 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 2020 some 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!

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jason

Please 'sign in' by liking or commenting on the video or sending an email to JBPerkowski@gmail.com. Let us know who watched the video with you and send in any prayer requests that we can lift up.

A TIME FOR CENTERING & PRAYER

Acolyte: Jack Rhodes

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Pastor Jason, Julie & Maria

READING FROM ISAIAH 9:2-7

Light the four candles

God, you have shined your light upon your people, the light of peace, justice, and righteousness.

God, we listen to the story of Mary and Joseph, shepherds and angels, and join in celebrating the arrival of Jesus Christ into the world.

We, God's people, welcome the arrival of the Christ child, Son of God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

On this Christmas Eve, we light this Christ candle acknowledging light has come into the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Light the Christ candle

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

UMH #239 1, 3, 4

We invite you to light a candle in your own home!

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:1-18

Lila Rhodes

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

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

UMH #895

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Holy Night

Anthony & Jody Wiker

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Jason

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH #234 v. 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 96

Cassidy Hendrix

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

HYMN

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

UMH #218 v. 1, 3, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:1-5

Lila Rhodes

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

HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH #230 v. 1, 3, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:6-7

Pastor Jason

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

HYMN

What Child Is This

UMH #219 v. 1

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mary Did You Know

Phil Buchanan

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

Cassidy Hendrix

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

HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory

UMH #220 v. 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:15-21

Pastor Jason

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

HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH #224 v. 2 & 3

OFFERING

Supports the Udobo Pre-School, Christ Home & Blackfeet Parish

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lullaby for Jesus

Thomas Chapman

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-12

Lila Rhodes

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

HYMN

Away in a Manger

UMH #217

SERMON

*The Indescribable Incarnation:
God Born in a Manger and Reigns on an Eternal Throne*

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION

Pastor Jason

HYMN

Joy to the World

UMH #246 v. 1, 2, 4

OCUMC Pianist: Jody Wiker & Cellist, Guitar and Vocals: Anthony Wiker

Faith Worship Team Director: Phil Buchanan;

Faith Instrumentalists: Liz Hornberger & Dolly Bankert Haar

Audio / Visual Technology: Bryan Nelson

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski

Ministers: The People of God

Explore OregonCommunityUMC.US & FaithUMC.US for more info about our churches.

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE BROADCAST at FM 89.9 each Sunday at 10:30AM as well as on Facebook Live through the churches' and Pastor's Facebook pages & church websites.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PASTOR JASON & CAROL OFFICE HOURS: We are sometimes telecommuting. Contact us directly.
Pastor Jason: (717)333-9238 / jbperkowski@gmail.com. **Office:** (717)560-0321 / faithumc@hotmail.com

COMMUNION: We will offer a no-contact Communion Service in the Faith UMC parking lot **at 1pm on every First Sunday at 1pm**. January 3, we will likely broadcast from inside the welcome center—so please park on that end of the building. You will need to *bring your own bread and juice* which will be collectively blessed by Pastor Jason during the service. You will also need to stay in your vehicles with windows closed to keep one another safe. **We will broadcast the service on FM 89.9.**

SUPPORT FAITH UMC WHILE YOU SHOP: For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. This link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2403028> will take you directly to smile.amazon.com in support of **Manheim Township Faith United Methodist Church** so you won't have to search for us. It's the easiest way to find and support Faith UMC.

JR CHURCH AT 9:30 AM EACH SUNDAY: Kids up to 4th Grade may join us *via Zoom* with Julie Hassara. We are emailing activity pages *and the password*. If interested, email faithumc@hotmail.com.

YOUTH GROUP AT 5 PM EACH SUNDAY: You can attend in person or by Zoom. The link & password are sent by text message. **On 3rd Sundays (inc. Jan 17) youth go to Gretna Glen Camp** leaving Faith UMC at 1:30PM & back by 5PM. Wear a mask and dress warmly. **NO MEETING 12/27 or 1/03.**

CHATting CLUB: MONDAYS AT 7 PM BY ZOOM. We discuss a new topic each week in an open, honest conversational forum. Join us: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86190453518>. **This Week's Topic:** No Session on December 28. **Check out [ChattingAtTheGeneralSutter.US](https://www.chattingatthegeneralsutter.us) for more info.**

BIBLE STUDY led by Amy Boughter on Wednesdays at 6 PM in the Welcome Center at Faith. Masks & distancing are required. All are invited! **NO MEETING ON DECEMBER 30**

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY BY ZOOM AT 10 AM: We discuss the scriptures from the **Common Lectionary**. Join us: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83172825482> **NO MEETING 12/25 or 1/01.**

OFFERING TITHES & GIFTS TO THE LORD: You can direct gifts to the churches in four areas: **General Ministry, Debt Reduction/Building Fund, the Benevolence Funds** or the **Community Care Ministry** (which is sent to three local food ministries). Mark your preference clearly in the memo. **You can mail a check** to Faith UMC, 1290 Fruitville Pike, Lititz PA 17543 or Oregon Community UMC, 1214 Creek Rd, Lititz, PA 17543 or **donate digitally through the churches' websites**. *Please submit pledge cards and budget requests now. There will be a Faith UMC Church Council meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, Dec 30th at 6:30 pm to approve the budget. 2021 offering envelopes are available.*

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS: We are collecting donations to support three ministries this Christmas:
FOR CHRIST HOME FOR KIDS & BLACKFEET UMC PARISH: You can send a donation marked accordingly to Oregon Community UMC. For the **UDOBO SCHOOL in Durban South Africa** you may send that to Faith UMC or donate online at our website. Each Christmas our churches have support these ministries and their work helping people in need. Thank you in advance for your generosity. *Checks should be made out to the church and we will forward one check to the organization.*

DOWNTOWN FOOD MINISTRY: We are developing a new ministry of providing food as well as blankets, scarves, gloves, etc. for people who are homeless. We are doing this on Saturday afternoons before our communion services. **January 2 we will meet at 2pm and cook a hot meal at Faith UMC**, and then go downtown to **deliver it by 4pm**. If you'd like to help, please contact Diana Valentine at 435-8577.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

OUR CONCERNS:

The UMC and delegates to 2021 General Conference as we seek God's will regarding human sexuality & our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ
President Donald Trump & VP Michael Pence
President Elect Joe Biden and VP Elect Kamala Harris
The election and peaceful transitions
All government & military officials and their staff from the US & other nations: wisdom & safety
Veterans and Service Members
Civilians, leaders, and soldiers in war torn regions
Victims of "religious," white supremacist and racist violence
For peace & wisdom in areas of conflict
Police officers and their families
Individuals & families harmed in interactions with police
First responders, emergency personnel, and medical staff
For an end to violence—including gun violence, domestic violence, terrorism, & weapons of mass destruction
Victims & families involved in violent crime, sexual abuse and harassment
Abusers and their families
Healing & peace for divisions caused by race, class, gender, sexuality, politics & fears
All affected by natural disasters
Refugees & huddled masses yearning to be free
People who are hungry and homeless
Security and immigration reform
Prisoners & Prison Leadership
Schools & Education Reform
Members of AA, NA, & AlAnon
Those struggling with addictions, finances, etc.
Those suffering from depression & mental health issues
All those caring for sick loved ones
Those grieving the loss of loved ones
Wisdom around natural resources and the environment
Eradication of deadly diseases—including COVID-19
Bishop Johnson, the EPAUMC Staff, and District Superintendent BK Chung and appointments
Coleman Memorial Chapel & Rev. Beverly Andrews
Rev. Dorcas, her UMC ministries in Sierra Leone, and her husband Daniel's health
Udobo School in Durban, South Africa
Campus Ministry: Ed Weber at Millersville; Rev. David Piltz & Rev. Diana Esposito at Drexel & West Chester; Rev. Dr. Mel Sensenig & Rev. Ibrahim Bangura at Albright; & Lebanon Valley
Becky, Angela and Maria Rodriguez – custody
Becky Rodriguez – kidney failure & dialysis
Phil Buchanan – strength & healing in legs/back
Harry & Ella Buchanan – strength & healing
Norm Whiteley (Ella's brother) – health
Charlotte Garfield
Dottie Sheaffer – healing for back

Eileen Williams – healing after a fall & for muscles
Shelda's granddaughter Bella's health
Bradley McGowan – ALS
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy & strength
Donna Parmer – ongoing medical conditions
Those with cancer: Brian Rhodes, Cyndi Campbell, Dean Grove, Mark Reitzel, Pat Shenk, Kerry Link, Joe, John Rathvon, Glen (friend of Harbisons) & Amy Boughter
Rosemary (Marilyn Jones' sister) – healing
Noah Boughter – wisdom, safety and recovery
Annette McClarigan & family
Carl Jones – strength & healing and health of siblings
Heather Lindsey
Michelle Rathvon Mitterer – healing from strokes
Chuck Flory – ALS
Darlene Brown – Abdominal surgery
John – Cardiac Issues
Laurie – Recovery from surgery
Lorraine Jones - arthritis
Kathleen Shifflet – rheumatoid arthritis
Neighbors of Shifflets
Bob Jolly's parents
Katie & Dustin Oakes in Japan
Clarita – kidney issues
All Impacted by COVID-19 – incl. Quinn, Leon Bame's mother, Laurel Meck, Harry (Smith's son-in-law), Ruthie, Beth Perkowski
Parents & Healthy Marriages
Mike Loechner – heart problems
Wagaman/Schroeder family after a house fire
Sebastian—recovery
Jason Hurst— grandson of Judy Hurst
Dean and Family—wildfires and other needs
Sandy Patschke – healing after back surgery
Sherry Guard
Buni Harbison's father – ongoing need for healing
Margie Urban's infection & heart surgery recovery
Jackie Black – continued healing
Don Klos – ongoing healing and strengthening
Erek Perkowski and his son Shaughn – custody
Ray – recovering from strokes
Family & friends of Tom Bryner who passed away
Family & friends of Elwyn Jones who passed away
Smith's nephew Mark with leukemia
Terry Kofroth – healing after car accident
Janet – nodules in lungs
Wendy Schroeder— healing after a fall
Don Campbell – healing

OUR PRAISES:

Liz Hornberger Earned Bachelor's Degree
God's presence through illness and struggle
COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments
Connecting with family and friends for the holidays