

PRAYER REQUESTS:

OUR CONCERNS:

Wisdom & safety for government officials globally
President Joe Biden and VP Kamala Harris
Healthy and gentle campaigns and election process
Veterans and Service Members
Civilians, leaders, and soldiers in war torn regions
Peace in Israel, Palestine, and the Ukraine
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 & 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
Education Funding, 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
Laitly and Clergy of the UMC
The UMC, Conference Delegates and Bishops as
we find our way forward in the Holy Spirit
Udobo School in Durban, South Africa
Campus Ministries
Dottie Sheaffer – healing for back & eyes
Eileen Williams – muscles
Bradley McGowan – ALS
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy & healing
Rosemary (Marilyn Jones' sister) – healing
Chuck Flory – ALS
Annette McClarigan – health, sons & family
Jean Neideigh – healing (MS)
Angela, Maria and Becky – to be healthy & thrive
Children – to know they are not alone in struggles
Noah Boughter, Sophie and family
Heather Lindsey
Theo Wenger – healing for kidneys

Those with cancer: Cyndi Campbell, Dean Grove,
Mark Reitzel, Kerry Link, Duane Lehman, Lori,
Sophia Serio, Ruthie, Martin Campbell, Ben
Neideigh, Harmony Chiccarine, Grandma
Edwards, Nat, Tina Miller, Carl Derr, Dorcas
Kamanda, Cynthia (from NJ), Jim Royer, Adam
Malik – brain cancer, Carol Bryner (Allen K's
sister) – pancreatic cancer, Joan (Nancy's sister-
in-law) – breast cancer, Benedicta Fair
(Romanita's Aunt)

Jake Ruhl – hip and shoulder pain
Shirley Gehr – healing
The Jackson Family
Robyn Meckley – healing
Linda Weber - healing
Terry & Margie Urban & family – housing & health
Michael Herr (Steph Edward's dad) – medical tests
Rachel Link – for a healthy pregnancy
Dave Fisher – car accident
Oksana Kuzmenko – healing from broken ankle
Sandy Patschke – healing after a fall & back
Principal Rilatt, his family and his recovery
Terry Kofroth – healing after back surgery
Rev. Dorcas – eyes, cancer surgery, & Sierra Leone
Gail's cancer & passing of her husband Bob–friends
of Sandy
Ruthie & Gary – friends of Amy
Regina Jenkins – stroke
Brenda, Dave and Mike Loechner – health
Those impacted by the recent murder-suicide

OUR PRAISES:

Love and support of Faith UMC Family
God's faithful love that is new every morning
God's presence through illness, struggle & loss
Incredible healing of Robert T Perkowski
New folks joining us for worship and ministries
Beauty of nature & sunshine
Time with friends & family
The Promise of Heaven
That no matter what is going on in the world, we
know that God is in control ultimately!
That God walks with us; even in the shadow of death
That all prayers are answered according to God's will
& timing

*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



December 3, 2023 at 10:30 AM – 1st Sunday of Advent

WELCOME: We come together to worship the loving God who has chosen to be revealed as the Father Creator, the Son who lived among us, and the Holy Spirit who ministers powerfully within us. 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 – and pray you find what you came looking for!

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.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Bame & Pastor Jason

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God's People

We gather again at the end of the year to wait for the Christ child anew.

We wait in the shocking hope of the coming of the Messiah.

We wait, and we remember the astounding things God has done to save God's people.

We wait in the shocking hope of the coming of the Messiah.

We wait, and we pay attention for signs of God's justice and mercy turning the world upside down.

We wait in the shocking hope of the coming of the Messiah.

We wait, and in our waiting, we learn to live as people of God's promise.

Let us worship in the shocking hope of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2023

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

Tim & Sandy Patschke

*HYMN

People, Look East

UMH #202

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

Drew Hassara

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Amy Boughter

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Drew Hassara

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

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #196 & MSFPWC #388

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Drew Hassara

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

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

Drew Hassara

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

SERMON

Our Shocking Hope

Pastor Jason

COMMUNION

UMH #12-13

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

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

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH #13-14 & #895

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UMH #15

*HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH #211

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Pastor Jason

*HYMN

When We All Get to Heaven

UMH #701

** You are invited to stand in body or in Spirit*

Pianist: Dolly Bankert **AV Tech:** Dennis Meck, Sr & Keagan Meck

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.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS: If you are interested in learning more about the UMC and our local churches, and are considering becoming a member, contact Pastor Jason to **join the new membership class after the New Year.**

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:00 AM led by Michelle Bame meets in the 1st classroom in the Education Wing.

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. Sign up to be the 2nd adult and/or to provide a meal. Each week there are dinner, games and a lesson. For more info contact Pastor Jason (717-333-9238). **No Gretna Glen trips until January 21 (3:30-7PM).**

GRIEFSHARE GROUP to help people find support and process the loss of loved ones meets every other Monday from 5-6 PM at Faith UMC. **Next Meetings: December 4 & 18.**

CHATTING VIA ZOOM on Mondays at 6:30 PM: This member-led, discussion group meets online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86190453518?pwd=cEVDeDljeThaaWVlYjIjQWmZjTm5oUT09>.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at Oregon Community UMC, 6:30PM.

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

THE CHURCH & SOCIETY TEAM engages in improving our community by standing up against injustice. **Next meeting: Jan 17 at 5:30 PM (3rd Thursdays).** To learn more, contact Renee Norman. To be a part of the team working on **Bail Reform & Representation for persons accused of crimes**, join the Zoom Session at Noon every Wednesday: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483314676?pwd=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOeIVlVXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>

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.**

SUB SALE: We have certificates from S. Clyde Weaver for \$7.00. Pick up delicious made-to-order sandwiches available on a sub roll, bread or wrap at any of their locations. **They are so convenient when you need a quick meal during this busy holiday season and make great stocking stuffers.** See Carol.

ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND COOKIE EXTRAVAGANZA on Saturday December 9th from 8:00 to 10:30 AM. Breakfast will include pancakes and sausages with various toppings. Gluten free option available! Santa will be there to greet all the kids and pose for photos. Breakfast is by donation. While you're here, choose your own cookies from our huge selection of holiday favorites and maybe try something new! Servers will be there to guide you through the selections and help fill your container. Cost per container is \$16.50.

FAITH UMC T-SHIRTS FOR SALE: The shirts are a cotton blend with the Faith logo over the left chest. They do not have pockets nor individual names. They range in price from \$18 to \$22. Sign up in hallway with how many you want and in what sizes you want. Call or text Diana Valentine with questions at 717-283-6099.

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.

- **TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER:** We will be collecting cleaning products of all types for the families living at the TLC in Downtown Lancaster. Look for the basket next to the tree in the hall.
- **MISSION TREE:** Please decorate the tree across from the office with scarves, hats, and gloves for refugees supported by Church World Services. For many of these people, it is their first experience with a winter like ours and they are in need of winter gear.
- **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 & 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 Faith UMC Christmas offering envelopes, those marked for Udobo School, as well as all unmarked gifts in the Christmas Eve offering plate will go directly to the school.
- **CHRIST HOME FOR KIDS & BLACKFEET UMC PARISH:** If you are interested in making a donation 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 or put it in the offering plate Christmas Eve.

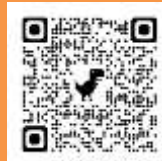
25 PRAYS OF CHRISTMAS: Join us for 25 days of prayers. There is one prayer a day starting Dec 1. The prayer list is available on our website, by using [this link](#) or picking up a paper copy in the hall.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE – Thursday, December 21 at 7:00 PM at Long Memorial UMC. For many of us, Christmas is a bittersweet time of year. It is a time for remembering both persons and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but are now changed or gone. This is the time of year with the longest nights, so around this time we offer a quiet, meditative worship service that allows time and space for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts to celebrate anew the coming of Christ. You are invited to join us for a time of special music, scripture, stories, silent reflection, healing prayer, and communion.

CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING SERVICE at Faith UMC at 10:30am on Dec. 24th (or 9am at Oregon Community UMC if that better suits your schedule). **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE at Faith UMC at 7pm on Dec. 24th.** This is a joint service with members of Oregon Community UMC. Families will worship together in this service of carols and a retelling of the Christmas story. We will also share in Communion.

SEND A CHRISTMAS CARD TO HOMEBOUND PEOPLE: There are small bags pinned on the bulletin board. Each has a set of address labels for Faith’s homebound people. Please take one and send them a Christmas card.

OFFERINGS: We appreciate your faithful giving toward our ministries and celebrate all that God has accomplished this year! **Attendance is on the rise** for worship as well as Bible Studies and activities. **As we head into 2024 it looks to be a year of new opportunities and growth.** However, there are some **end of year expenses coming up and only one more Fundraiser (Breakfast with Santa and the Cookie Sale).** So, we are going to **have to pull together to end the year with a balanced budget.** We have made huge progress, but please prayerfully consider your giving through December. **We need \$4,000 per week to meet our Annual Ministry Budget and \$3,900 per month toward Debt Reduction to pay our mortgage on the Education Wing.**



PLEDGE CARDS: *Please return your 2024 Pledge Cards now. We are creating the 2024 budget and need your “Best Guess” as to what you will be able to contribute next year so that we can balance expenses with giving.*

Gifts can be directed to **General Ministry and the Debt Reduction / Building Fund.** Mark preferences in the memo line & envelope. You can set up recurring gifts through your own financial institution 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. We are also able to receive gifts from various sources: Required Minimum Distributions from tax deferred Retirement Accounts (of those over 73 years of age), Stocks, Bonds, Investments, Foundations, IRAs or a bequest to the church in your will.

LONG MEMORIAL FREE GROCERIES for those in need every week through their Friday Night Food Ministry at 6pm. You can drive up and receive groceries to help support you through the week. *Volunteers needed.*

LUMINA KIDS NIGHT needs volunteers for Monday evenings on January 8, 22, & 29. They need 3-4 adults to play with the kids and provide a light supper for 15 students. To volunteer or get more info, contact Pastor Jason, Diana Valentine or Correen Russo 717-808-8633.

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 – 6 pm. **Tell staff to credit Non-profit partner # 10221 - Faith UMC.** Write or tape partner number on bags/boxes.

MEDICINE BOTTLE COLLECTION: Please remove labels & residue. A basket is under the table in the hall.

ONGOING EVENTS:

Sundays

Adult Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship, 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live
Junior Church during 10:30 AM worship
Youth Group at Faith, 5-7 PM (3:30-7PM to Gretna Glen on Jan. 21)
Communion offered during worship service, followed by refreshments
GriefShare Group - Every other Monday, 5:00-6:00 PM at Faith UMC
Chatting Club via Zoom, 6:30 PM

1st Sundays

Mondays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays

Thursdays

Fridays

1st & 3rd Saturdays

1st Saturdays

Bible2School in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Nar-Anon - Every other Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 PM at Faith UMC
Bible2School in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Worship Team Practice, 6:30 PM
Bible Study at Oregon Community UMC, 6:30PM
Wing and a Prayer AA Meeting in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM
Bible Study led by Pastor Jason, 10:00 AM
Faith UMC works with IMPACT! Missions – Contact Leon Bame to help
Servant Saturday

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, Dec 4

GriefShare Group - Every other Monday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM
Chatting Club via Zoom, 6:30 PM
Ladies Lunch at Oregon Dairy, RSVP to Sandy Patschke
Christmas Cookie Drop-off, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM or make other arrangements
SPRC meeting, 6:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec 6

Thursday, Dec 7

Breakfast with Santa set up, 11:45 AM – volunteers needed
Breakfast with Santa & Christmas Cookie Sale at Faith UMC, 8:00 to 10:30 AM
Senior Men’s Lunch at Lititz Family Cupboard, 11:30 AM – RSVP to John Rice
Longest Night Service at Long Memorial UMC, 7:00 PM
Worship Service at Faith UMC, 10:30 AM (also on Facebook & our website)
Joint Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with communion at Faith UMC, 7:00 PM

WORSHIP LEADERS for next Sunday, Dec 10 are:

GREETERS/ USHERS: Jake Ruhl & Allen Kennedy
LITURGIST: Bob Rodgers
CHILDREN’S TIME: Michelle Bame
JUNIOR CHURCH: Gwen Newell & Julie Perkowski
YOUTH GROUP: Pastor Jason & Michelle Bame
CANDLE LIGHTING – The Edwards Family