

## **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  
Jake Ruhl – hip and shoulder pain  
Ruthie & Gary with Dementia – friends of Amy  
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

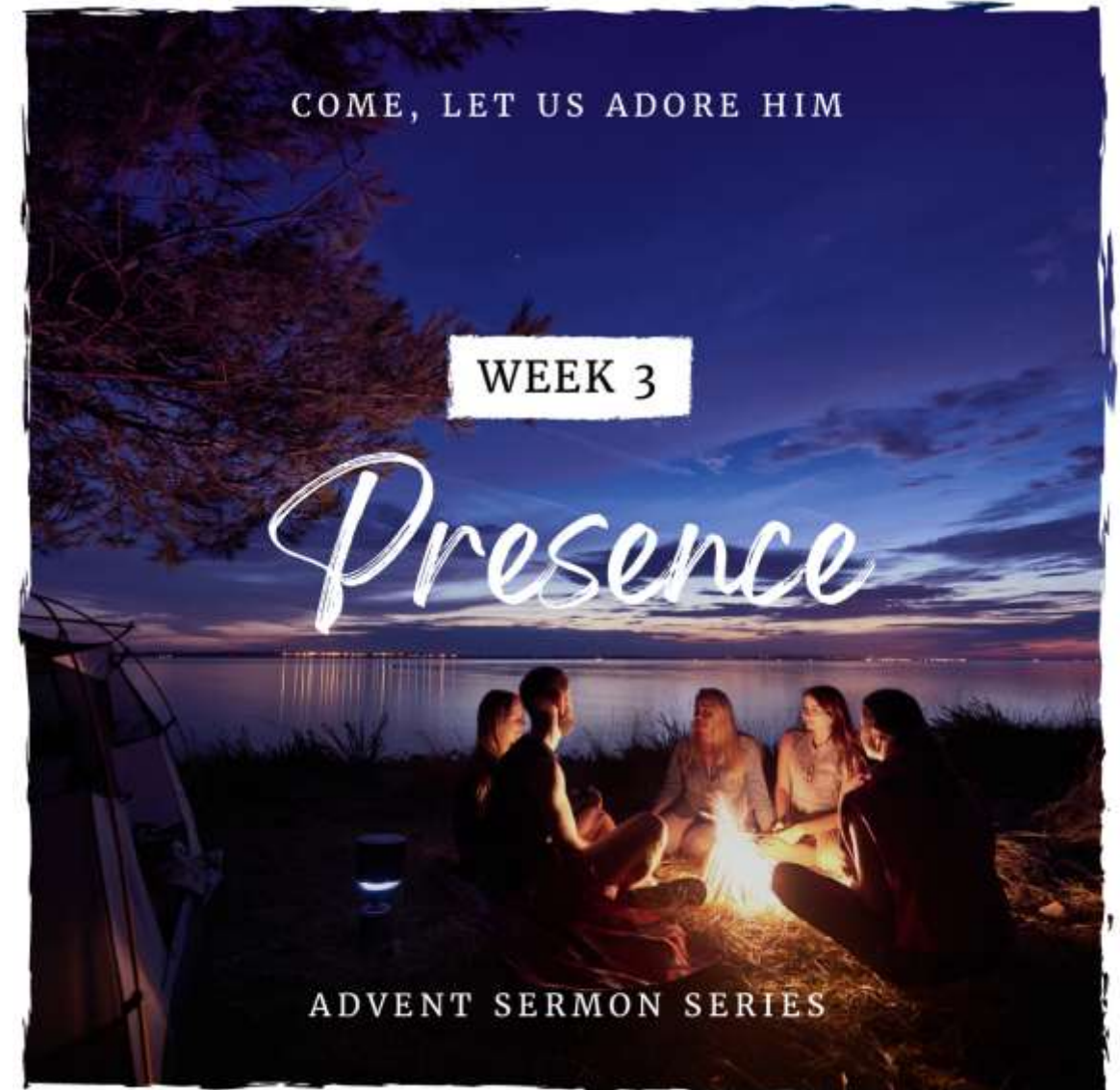
Paul (Jake's nephew) – healing for heart & kidneys  
Dottie Sheaffer – healing  
Andrea – neck & back pain  
Nancy – healing  
Hank Kloiber – healing after heart attack  
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy & cancer  
Pat Oglesby (Laura Gehman's sister) –health  
Pat Drebot (Jake's sister) – declining health  
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  
TJ & Lily – perseverance, patience, & cooperation  
Marilyn Jones – healing after shoulder surgery  
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) – final stages of terminal cancer  
Amanda's Dad & children in the family – health  
Family of Hector Rosado on his passing (Ramonita's uncle)

Holly (Julie H's sister) – healing after minor stroke  
Lorraine Smith – healing from low hemoglobin  
Nat (friend of Wikers) - healing

### **OUR PRAISES:**

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](mailto:faithumc@hotmail.com)*



## *Welcome*

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717-560-0321 or [faithumc@hotmail.com](mailto:faithumc@hotmail.com)  
[www.FaithUMC.us](http://www.FaithUMC.us) & also on Facebook*

*The Rev. Jason Perkowski   [jbperkowski@gmail.com](mailto:jbperkowski@gmail.com)   Phone: 717-333-9238*

December 15, 2024 at 10:30 AM – 3<sup>rd</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!

*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** **Buni Harbison & 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*

**ANTHEM** *Patience, People* *by John Foley, S.J.*

**LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY** **Jim & Buni Harbison**  
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** **Lisa Baker**  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**CHILDREN’S TIME** **Pastor Jason**  
**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Isaiah 12:2-6** **Lisa Baker**  
*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** *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* **UMH #204**  
**THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER** **UMH #895**  
**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Philippians 4:4-7** **Lisa Baker**  
*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** **Lisa Baker**  
*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**

**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.

**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.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9 AM** meets in the 1<sup>st</sup> classroom in the Ed. 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. 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).**

**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.**

**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.**

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

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** at Faith UMC at 7pm (or 5pm at Oregon Community UMC 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.

**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 (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=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVlXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>. 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>

**UDOBO PRE-SCHOOL:** Throughout Advent you can donate your “change for change.” There is a donation jar on the altar where you can donating your spare change (or other gifts) for the Udobo Pre-School in Durban, South Africa. Our Christmas Eve Offering also goes to the school. 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](http://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. **This is the Mission Team’s focus this Christmas and we pray for a generous offering.**

**THANK YOU for your faithfulness** to our ministries through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. **As of November 30, giving and fundraisers for our general ministries has raised \$162,240, with \$162,440 in expenses Thank you for your generous support!** 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](http://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.



**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.

**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](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.**

**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](mailto:leonshe137@gmail.com).**

**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<sup>rd</sup> Sundays to Gretna Glen Camp instead - Jan 19*)  
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  
Wing and a Prayer AA Meeting in the Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM  
Bible Study led by Pastor Jason, 10:00 AM  
Servant Saturday & Threads of Faith

**1<sup>st</sup> Sundays**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays**

**Tuesdays**

**Wednesdays**

**Wednesdays**

**Thursdays**

**Fridays**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Sunday, Dec 15**

**Thursday, Dec 19**

**Tuesday, Dec 24**

Pastor/Staff appreciation luncheon after worship  
Men’s Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:30 AM - RSVP to Mike Bitner  
Christmas Eve Candlelight service at Oregon Community UMC, 5:00 PM  
Christmas Eve Candlelight service at Faith UMC, 7:00 PM  
Refreshments following the service  
Puzzle Palooza, 10:00-11:30 AM

**Saturday, Jan 25**

**WORSHIP LEADERS for next Sunday, Dec 22:**

GREETERS: Janet & Beverly Charles  
USHERS: Carol & Allen Kennedy  
CANDLE LIGHTING: Daryl Hawthorne & Terry Kofroth  
LITURGIST: Tim Patschke  
CHILDREN’S TIME: Pastor Jason  
JUNIOR CHURCH: Gwen Newell & Colette Borden  
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