

## **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

### **OUR CONCERNS:**

Passage of wise county, state and federal budgets  
and those impacted by the loss of funding  
Bishop Moore-KoiKoi, DS Freymoyer & EPA  
Staff as they travel in South Korea  
Laity and Clergy of the UMC  
Unity & love in the church universal & the UMC  
Healing & peace for divisions over race, class,  
gender, sexuality, politics & fears  
Wisdom & safety for government officials globally  
President Donald Trump and VP JD Vance  
Peace in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia and the  
Middle East  
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  
All those affected by violence and hate  
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 & Attorneys  
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, mental  
health illnesses, anxiety and stress  
All those caring for sick loved ones  
Those grieving the loss of loved ones  
Members currently in jail or returning home  
Udobo School in Durban, South Africa  
NarSarah Village and Clinic, Sierra Leone  
Mary Shenk for Alzheimer's  
Alfredo Vega, Jr – safety while on active duty  
Sandy Patschke – health  
Diana Allia – heart condition  
Melodie Dearolf for healing of back and leg pain  
Sebastian for start of rehab

Those with cancer: Cyndi Campbell, Dean Grove,  
Mark Reitzel, Duane Lehman, Ruthie, Martin  
Campbell, Dorcas Kamanda (in remission),  
Adam Malik, Joan (Nancy's sister-in-law), Isaias  
Maldonado (Ramonita's Uncle), Missy Landis;  
Marc Barley (Diane's cousin), Heather Williams,  
Nat (friend of Wikers), Kole; Pat Oglesby (Laura  
G's sister); Eileen Landis, Janet (friend of Lisa);  
Bob Black – lung cancer  
Mary Ann Unangst for healing and strength  
Peace for those dealing with anxiety and stress  
Pastor Ian Solodky for knee injury  
Joy Lane, sister of Wayne Dearolf for mass detected  
Eileen Williams – muscles  
Linda Philbin – motor neuropathy & cancer  
Rosemary (Marilyn Jones' sister) healing  
Terry Kofroth for upcoming test for continued pain  
Daryl Hawthorne – knee pain and other health issues  
Cheri Henry needs heart surgery; health issues; Chris  
for knee problems (friends of Melodie)  
Mary Hurdle - healing & transitions (friend of  
Blacks)  
Kathy Brandy Berry hand & shoulder pain  
Dottie Sheaffer – dementia  
Craig & Nancy Hathaway  
Peggy Burley regaining strength  
Ray Carpenter – recovery from heart surgeries and  
broken femur  
Ruthie Johnson for Health  
Beth (Amy's friend) – recovery from back surgery  
Garnett K. for health & balance issues  
Garnett's daughter Kimberly Ann Wenger  
Priscilla Rice – waiting on test results  
Kathy, friend of Natalie, who had a stroke  
The family of Amy Johnson-Nelson on her passing,  
including her husband Erik (Lisa Baker's brother)  
Janet Charles healing from a fall  
Shelda Costella for broken femur

### **OUR PRAISES:**

Bryan Nelson, Peter Nicholson, and Gayle Saunders  
joining the church last Sunday  
The promise of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus our Christ  
All who are healing from various surgeries  
All those joining us in worship  
Friends and family gatherings during the holidays

*Please submit prayer needs, praises, & updates by  
note or email to the office: [faithumc@hotmail.com](mailto:faithumc@hotmail.com)*

## **SIGNS AND FAITHFULNESS**



## ***Welcome***

***Faith United Methodist Church  
1290 Fruitville Pike, Lititz, PA 17543  
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***

# Faith United Methodist Church



December 21, 2025 at 10:30AM – 4th Sunday of Advent: Love

**WELCOME:** In this season of Advent we look heavenward for the second coming when Jesus will restore and revive all of creation and we will see God in full glory! May the Holy Spirit transform us in this time of expectation and fill each of us with joy as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus and his return. You are welcome to engage with us and our loving God 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** **Michelle Bame**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: LOVE**  
Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary’s womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy; God’s love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.  
**With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world’s judgment.**  
We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.  
*Light all four candles of the Advent wreath*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** **Pastor Jason & God’s People**  
Beloved, God calls to us—like Joseph—through angels and messengers, inviting us to listen for the Spirit’s guidance in the midst of half-truths and distractions. **We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.** Sometimes, angels surprise us (as they did Mary) with good news too fantastical to believe and yet too real—realer than real—to ignore. **We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.** For generations, God has sent signs of God’s coming kingdom in unexpected places—the birth of a child, the wisdom of the lowly, the faithfulness of a carpenter. **We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.** Come! Let us worship God who calls out to us, inviting us to faithfulness as we watch, wait, and work for the day when the whole world knows the abundant love and grace of Emmanuel, God-with-us.  
**Come! Let us worship as we listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits. Amen!**  
*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025*

**\*HYMN** **UMH #220**  
*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Tim Patschke**  
**Isaiah 7:10-16**  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

**CHILDREN’S TIME** **Pastor Jason**

**\*HYMN** **UMH #230**  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Tim Patschke**  
**Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19**  
*This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!*

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

**\*HYMN** **UMH #215**  
*To a Maid Engaged to Joseph*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Romans 1:1-7** **Tim Patschke**

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

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

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Matthew 1:18-25** **Tim Patschke**

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

**SERMON** **Signs and Faithfulness** **Pastor Jason**

**\*HYMN** **TFWS #2173**  
*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

**\*BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH** **Pastor Jason**

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

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**Pianist:** Jessica Maldonado **AV Tech:** Dennis Meck, Sr.  
**Pastor:** The Rev. Jason Perkowski **Ministers:** The People of God

**OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS:** Paula Fultz, our Office Administrator, will be in the office and responding to messages **Mon-Thur, 10AM–3PM**. Pastor Jason will be on duty Sundays and Monday-Thursday (10AM–5PM). His Sabbath is Friday until Sunday morning. *Please call ahead to ensure that we are available and not in a meeting.*

**NURSERY** (1 year old - 3 years old) & **JUNIOR CHURCH** (4-years-old - 4th grade) are offered during the 10:30AM Worship Service. Please sign your child in before the service & get a numbered badge. *The Nursery is available at the start of the worship service. Children who are 4 years old-4<sup>th</sup> grade should stay in the service until after the “Children’s Time”.* After worship, you will sign your children out in their classrooms in the Education Wing—except on 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays children will be brought to the Sanctuary as Communion begins.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Please contact Pastor Jason if you would like more info on becoming a member of Faith UMC

**YOUTH GROUP ON SUNDAYS, 5-7PM** for 5th-12th graders. Each week there is dinner, games & a lesson. All students are invited. *Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway if you are willing to provide a meal. 3rd Sundays are @Gretna Glen EXCEPT DECEMBER. No Meeting on Dec. 21 or 28—Happy Holidays.*

**OUR GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP** meets **every Monday at 5PM** for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and could use support and tools for dealing with all of the emotions and struggles that come from grief. **We are currently focusing on “Surviving the Holidays” through Dec. 22 and will then take off Dec. 29 and restart Jan. 5.** Contact Pastor Jason for more info and go here to register: <http://bit.ly/3MeeZax>

**TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY WITH KATHY “Meet Yourself in the Psalms” 6-7:30PM.** This is a Bible Study reading through some of the Psalms to explore how to pray more holistically. Meet in Adult Classroom.

**PASTOR’S MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 10AM on WEDNESDAYS in the Faith UMC Adult Classroom.** *We are on break Dec. 24 & 31 due to the holidays.*

**COLEMAN CHAPEL'S CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE on Dec. 21 at 1980 Furnace Hills Pike, Lititz, PA 17543 at 7pm.** Families will worship together in this service of carols and a retelling of the Christmas story. Reservations are required. Contact the church at (717) 626-6933 for more information.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE on Dec. 24 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. There will be refreshments in the fellowship hall after the service.

**SALEM’S LITTLE FREE PANTRY:** Place donations in the box at Faith UMC. Anyone in need can come at any time to get groceries on the porch at Salem Lutheran, 26 Owl Hill Rd, Lititz.



**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful donations!! Extra ‘Thanks’ to all who have returned your ‘Estimate of Giving Cards’. Each one returned, gives us a better idea of how much income to expect when covering anticipated expenses. **Church Council has approved the draft 2026 General Fund Budget** with anticipated ±\$184,110 in income and ±189,212.56 in expenses which would be a **deficit of \$5,102.56**. We will update next year’s budget as we receive 2026 Conference expenses and Estimate of Giving Cards.

Our goal is to finish 2025 with at least the same reserves that we began the year. **We continue to need an average of \$4,200/week in giving towards our General Fund and mortgage** to meet that goal. Donations can be directed to General Ministry and/or the Debt Reduction/Building Fund (mortgage). You can also set up automatic gifts through your own bank, mail checks directly to the church, or at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z37Q/home> via a link at FaithUMC.us or via the QR Code.



**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 to that fund via [www.faithumc.us](http://www.faithumc.us) under Online Giving→Udobo School. 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.

**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.**

**THE CHURCH & SOCIETY TEAM** engages in improving our community by standing up against injustice. *Next meeting: January 15 at 5PM (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays).* Contact Renee Norman for more info. **Join us by Zoom at:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82735304374?pwd=eDBSZHRCZVphSnh2TENDZ0xrdG0vQT09>. **THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE & BAIL REFORM TEAM** meets at Noon every other Wed. *Next meeting: Jan 7. Join by Zoom at:* <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483314676?pwd=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>.

**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.

**GRAB ‘N GO COMMUNITY MEAL** for those in need at Zion Lutheran Church in East Petersburg every Monday. Faith UMC provides sixty meals quarterly. **Our next date is January 12.** Contact Carol Kennedy to help. **We are looking for a volunteer or a pair of volunteers to take the lead on this ministry. Please let Carol or Pastor Jason know if you are willing to help prepare and deliver these meals to Zion Lutheran quarterly.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sunday, Dec. 21	<b>NO Youth Group (3rd Sundays are @Gretna Glen)(No Youth on Dec. 28)</b> <b>Coleman Chapel’s Christmas Candlelight Service, 7PM (see details below)</b>
Monday, Dec. 22	<b>Worship Team Practice, 6:45PM (Moved to Mondays during the holidays)</b>
Wednesday, Dec. 24	<b>No Bible Study</b> <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight service at Oregon Community UMC, 5:00 PM</b> <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight service at Faith UMC, 7:00 PM</b> Refreshments following the service
Sunday, Dec. 28	<b>NO Adult Sunday School on Dec. 28 or Jan 4</b> <b>NO Youth Group (3rd Sundays are @Gretna Glen)</b>
Monday, Dec. 29	<b>Worship Team Practice, 6:45PM (Moved to Mondays during the holidays)</b>
Wednesday, Dec. 31	<b>No Bible Study</b>
Saturday, Jan. 3	Threads of Faith 10AM
Sunday, Jan. 4	<b>No Adult Sunday School—ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES AS NORMAL</b>
Friday, Jan. 15	Fellowship Hall and Classroom in Use 2-10PM for District Clergy Dinner
Saturday, Jan. 24	Puzzle Palooza, 10-11:30AM
Sunday, Feb. 8	Chili Dinner (eat in / take out)

**ONGOING EVENTS:**

<b>Sundays</b>	Adult Sunday School, 9AM ( <b>No meetings on Dec. 28 or Jan 4</b> ) Worship, 10:30AM in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live Junior Church during 10:30AM worship Youth Group at Faith, 5-7PM ( <b>No Youth on Dec. 21 &amp; 28</b> ) Communion offered during worship service, followed by refreshments Nar-Anon, 7:15-8:45PM at Faith UMC
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sundays</b>	<b>Grief Share, 5PM</b> in Adult Classroom, ( <b>except Dec 29</b> )
<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays</b>	Bible2School, 10:20AM-Noon ( <b>on break until January 6</b> )
<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Bible Study on Prayers and Psalms with Kathy, 6PM</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Pastor’s Bible Study, 10AM</b> at Faith UMC ( <b>on break Dec. 24 &amp;31</b> )
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Bible2School, 10:20AM-1:20PM ( <b>on break until January 7</b> )
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Worship Team Practice, 6:45PM ( <b>except Dec 24 &amp; 31 - moved to Mon. Dec 22 &amp; 29</b> )
<b>Wednesdays</b>	POWER Criminal Justice Reform Team by Zoom, Noon ( <b>except Dec 24</b> )
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Women’s Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:30AM
<b>Every Other Wednesday</b>	Wing and a Prayer AA Meeting in the Fellowship Hall, 10AM
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays</b>	Girl Scouts once a month, 5PM-6:30PM
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), 6PM (except Jan 1)</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Finance Team, 6PM</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays</b>	Men’s Lunch at Oregon Dairy, 11:30AM
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays</b>	<b>Church and Society Team (CST) by Zoom, 5PM</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays</b>	<b>Trustees (on even months) (except Dec 25)// Church Council (on odd months), 6PM</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays</b>	Threads of Faith, 10AM
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays</b>	District Meeting of AI-Anon Leaders, 10-Noon
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays</b>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. (odd months)</b>	

**WORSHIP LEADERS for Christmas Eve at 7PM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Michelle Bame  
GREETERS: Jim & Buni Harbison, Lisa Baker, Marilyn Jones  
USHERS: Jim & Buni Harbison and Allen & Carol Kennedy  
LITURGIST: Lisa Baker  
CHILDREN’S TIME: Pastor Jason  
JUNIOR CHURCH: No Junior Church  
NURSERY: No Nursery

**WORSHIP LEADERS for December 28**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Michelle Bame  
GREETERS: John & Priscilla Rice  
USHERS: John & Priscilla Rice  
LITURGIST: Buni Harbison  
CHILDREN’S TIME: Michelle Bame  
JUNIOR CHURCH: Lisa Baker & Carol Kennedy  
NURSERY: Marilyn Jones  
YOUTH GROUP: **No Youth Group**