

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 and recovery from fall
Diana Allia – heart condition
Melodie Dearolf for healing of back and leg pain
Sebastian for start of rehab
Mary Ann Unangst for healing and strength
Peace for those dealing with anxiety and stress

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
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)
Shelda Costello – healing from broken femur
The family of Dave Dinger on his passing
Jennifer Hood (Melodie's sister) healing from broken
hip.

OUR PRAISES:

Bryan Nelson, Peter Nicholson, and Gayle Saunders
joining the church
The promise of the 2nd 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*



Welcome

***Faith United Methodist Church
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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 24, 2025 at 7:00PM – Christmas Eve Service

WELCOME: 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 some 2025 years ago she brought the only begotten Son, Jesus, into the world. 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. Together, we seek to honor & understand the gift of the Christ Child! 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 worshiping online, please ‘sign in’ and add prayer requests by commenting on the video.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Bame

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God’s People

Beloved, on this day/night, we gather to enliven the story once again of God who came to dwell among us as a vulnerable baby. **We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits.**
We remember the stable, the animals, and the manger that witnessed the arrival of Emmanuel, God with us. **We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits.**
We recall the angels who announced the Messiah’s birth to the shepherds, those most unlikely witnesses of God’s glory. **We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits.**
In our remembering and enlivening, we gather today as people of God’s promise, witnesses to God’s glorious presence among us in the vulnerable, forgotten, and tucked away places of the world.
We gather to rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits, the day that has already come and will yet be.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2025

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH #234 v. 1 & 2

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES & CHRIST CANDLE

Lisa Baker & Family

Tonight/Today, we gather to remember with the prophet Isaiah: “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.” (Isaiah 9:6-7)
We gather to once again bask in the glory that visited a stable and a manger, shepherds watching their flocks, and a young couple cradling the newborn Messiah.
We light the Christ candle as a sign of the glory that came among us in unexpected places and to unexpected people, that we may be people who seek and follow the glory of the Christ child here and now.

Light All 4 Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lisa Baker

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

*HYMN

Joy to the World

UMH #246 v. 1, 2, 4

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Jason

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:1-5

Lisa Baker

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

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH #230 v. 1, 2, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:6-14

Lisa Baker

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

*HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory

UMH #220 v. 1 & 2

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Pastor Jason

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

Lisa Baker

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

*HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

UMH #251

COMMUNION

UMH #12-13

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

CONFESSION: Lord Jesus, this most holy of nights brings us Gladness, Grief, and Joy. Gladness, because you left the splendor of Heaven’s glory to come to a dark and cold world, to bring the light and warmth of your Kingdom to a world so in need of Your Love, Your Peace, Your Joy. Grief, because you came into the world, yet the world did not receive You. You came to Your own, and your own did not welcome you. And still today, people turn away from you. We turn away from you. Sin still scars your creation and the hearts of your own people. And Joy, because you offer perfect forgiveness and full cleansing to all who acknowledge their need of you. Cleanse our hearts tonight, Lord Jesus, so that I may welcome you as I long to, certain that I am also welcomed by You. Amen.
(Adapted from Rick Lindholtz, 2008, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/12/confession-for-christmas-eve.html>)

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER

UMH #15-16 & #895

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UMH #15

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH #224

*HYMN

Love Came Down at Christmas

UMH #242

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH #238

HOMILY

Signs and Glory

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Pastor Jason

*HYMN

Silent Night

UMH #239

Please dip the unlit candles toward the lit ones as you share the light and love with your neighbor!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER THE SERVICE

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

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-4th 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 1st 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. 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 not meeting on Dec. 29. We restart Jan. 5.** Contact Pastor Jason for more info and register at: <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. 31 due to the holidays.**

SALEM’S LITTLE FREE PANTRY: Place donations in the box at Faith UMC. The pantry is in need of spaghetti sauce. 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 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 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 (3rd 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 with prep Jan 11 after worship.** 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. 28

Monday, Dec. 29
Wednesday, Dec. 31
Saturday, Jan. 3
Sunday, Jan. 4
Sunday, Jan 11
Monday, Jan 12
Friday, Jan. 15
Saturday, Jan. 24
Sunday, Feb. 8

ONGOING EVENTS:
Sundays

1st Sundays
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Mondays
Tuesdays
Tuesdays
Wednesdays
Wednesdays
Wednesdays
Every Other Wednesday
1st Wednesdays
Thursdays
Thursdays
1st Thursdays
2nd Thursdays
3rd Thursdays
3rd Thursdays
4th Thursdays
1st Saturdays
2nd Sat. (odd months)

WORSHIP LEADERS for December 28

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

NO Adult Sunday School on Dec. 28 or Jan 4
NO Youth Group (**3rd Sundays are @Gretna Glen**)
Worship Team Practice, 6:45PM (Moved to Mondays during the holidays)
No Bible Study
Threads of Faith 10AM
No Adult Sunday School—ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES AS NORMAL
Grab N Go Meal Prep after worship
Grab N Go Meal at Zion
Fellowship Hall and Classroom in Use 2-10PM for District Clergy Dinner
Puzzle Palooza, 10-11:30AM
Chili Dinner (eat in / take out)

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