

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE on Dec. 24th 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.

OREGON COMMUNITY UMC ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 8 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

NEW MEMBERS: Please contact Pastor Jason if you would like more info on becoming a member.

YOUTH GROUP ON SUNDAYS, 5-7PM for 5th-12th graders at Faith UMC. There is dinner, games & a lesson. **Please contact Pastor Jason if you are willing to provide a meal. 3rd Sundays are @Gretna Glen EXCEPT DECEMBER.** YOUTH WILL GO TO GRETNA GLEN on Sun., Jan. 18, meeting at Faith UMC at 3:30PM and return by 7PM. **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>

EVENING BIBLE STUDY WITH KATHY “Meet Yourself in the Psalms” 6PM-7:30PM on Tuesdays at Faith UMC. We will read through Psalms and explore how to pray more holistically.

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

THREADS OF FAITH is for those who like to knit, sew, crochet or quilt. Join us from 10am - Noon at Faith UMC the first Saturday of each month inc. **Come January 3 at 9AM.**

CHURCH CLEANING/WORKDAYS: 2nd Saturdays Next: Dec. 13 from 9-11AM

CHURCH COUNCIL: 3rd Thursdays of ODD numbered months Next: *Stay tuned for new date*

THE CHURCH & SOCIETY TEAM stands up against injustice. Next meeting: Dec. 18 at 5PM (3rd Thurs) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82735304374?pwd=eDBSZHRCZVphSnh2TENDZ0xrdG0vQT09>. The **Criminal Justice & Bail Reform Team** meets at Noon every other Wed. Next meeting: Jan. 7: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483314676?pwd=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>.

SALEM’S LITTLE FREE PANTRY: You can donate at Faith UMC. Anyone in need can come anytime to get groceries from this outdoor pantry located on the porch at Salem Lutheran, 26 Owl Hill Rd, Lititz.

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 Jan. 12.** Contact Carol to help.

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.**

Welcome to Oregon Community United Methodist Church



Address: 1214 Creek Road, Lititz, PA 17543

Church Phone: (717) 656-7198

Website: OregonCommunityUMC.us

Facebook: Oregon Community UMC

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski

jbperkowski@gmail.com or (717) 333-9238

Mission of Oregon Community United Methodist Church:
**“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation
of our community and the world.”**

SUNDAY WORSHIP in Sanctuary at 9:00 AM at Oregon Community UMC
BROADCAST ONLINE at 10:30 AM from Faith UMC on Facebook
& church websites under *Online Worship*.

OFFICE HOURS: Pastor Jason is generally available Sundays and Mon-Thurs from about 10-5pm—but has various meetings throughout the week. Call to make an appointment. He spends time with family from Friday through Sunday morning. *If there is an emergency, please leave a detailed message.*



Oregon Community United Methodist Church

December 14, 2025 at 9:00 AM – 3rd Sunday of Advent

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!

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Jason

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: JOY Dot Lange & Joetta Henry

In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God’s salvation.
We choose to believe that the day is coming when “the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Isaiah 35:10).
We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

Light the first three candles (including the pink one) of the Advent wreath

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Pastor Jason & God’s People

Beloved, we gather to rejoice in God who does wondrous things, who promises that someday all manner of things shall be well. **We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**
We worship with joy now, confident that God will not stop until all creation is at peace.
We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.
We lift up our voices in song and story, in prayer and praise, as we remember and rejoice in all that God has done and will do among us. **We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**
Come! Let us worship God with joy as we work with God toward the day when all of creation lives in everlasting joy. **Come! Let us rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

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

***HYMN** Toda la Tierra UMH #210 v.1-3 in English

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10 Ralph Stone
This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

***HYMN** Rejoice, the Lord is King UMH #715

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 146:5-10 Ralph Stone
This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

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

***HYMN** I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me TFWS #2151

SCRIPTURE LESSON James 5:7-10 Ralph Stone
This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 11:2-11 Ralph Stone
This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God!

SERMON Signs and Truths Pastor Jason

***HYMN** O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing UMW #57 v. 1-5

***BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH** Pastor Jason

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

Pianist: Jody Wiker **Pastor:** The Rev. Jason Perkowski **Ministers:** The People of God
Liturgists: December 7 Mike Shifflet; 14 Ralph Stone; 21 Bob Jolly; 28 Dot Lange
Advent Candles: Dec. 7 Mike Shifflet; 14 Dot Lange & Joetta Henry; 21 Ralph Stone & Jody Wiker
BIRTHDAYS: December 7 Paula Shifflet; 19 Sharon Garner; 27 Annabelle Fritsch; 30 Ralph Stone

PRAYER REQUESTS: Denny Mateer healing from surgery; Dean & Val Cooper, health; those who are grieving; anxiety and stress; unity & love; Jackie Black; Shifflet’s neighbor Bob; Katie at CHOP; Nat (friend of Wikers), cancer; Joanne (Jackie’s sister), scleroderma; Bobbi Ann Stone, healing; Vince Habel, heart & kidney; Shirley Baker & Cheryl Cooper, healing; & all battling cancer and disease. **PRAISES:** God’s faithful love and grace; those healing from illnesses. **PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD:** Those affected by violence and hate; food & housing insecurity; mental health; senior citizens; addictions; deportation and immigration policies; the unemployed; Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi; DS Freymoyer & EPAUMC Staff; Laity and Clergy; wisdom for elected leaders; President Trump and VP Vance; people suffering from environmental disasters; NarSarah Clinic in Sierra Leone; Udobo School in Durban, South Africa; Christ Home for Children; Blackfeet UM Parish; the people of Israel, Palestine, the Middle East, Ukraine & Russia; veterans & military service members; police & medical personnel; the sick & caregivers; peace; abused persons & abusers; incarcerated persons and prison staff; schools; foster families; etc.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERINGS WILL BE SPLIT BETWEEN 1) THE UDOBO PRE-SCHOOL: in Durban, South Africa at Christmas for food, educational supplies, & teaching staff. Visit <http://UdoboSchool.com> for details. **2) BLACKFEET UMC PARISH** in Montana, supporting ministries and training programs to support the Blackfeet Nation. **3) THE CHRIST HOME FOR CHILDREN** in Paradise, PA that provides a home for children and teens in crisis. Checks can be made out to *Oregon Community UMC* with “**Christmas Eve Offering**” in the memo. **Gifts will be shared between all 3 ministries.** All gifts in the Christmas offering envelopes, placed in the Teddy Bear, and unmarked gifts in the Christmas Eve offering plate will go directly to these ministries.

I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (TFWS #2151 / African American Spiritual)

1. I’m so glad, Jesus lifted me, I’m so glad, Jesus lifted me, I’m so glad, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.
2. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.
- 3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.