

## United Church of Christ of Trappe

## December 2022 Newsletter



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**Worship Schedule**

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Blended Service 9:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday of Mo. Children's Sermon 9:00 AM

**CHRISTMAS BABY**

Have you given much thought to the concept of a baby's being the mode in which the very presence of God would be manifested in this world? Think about it: a baby – a helpless, powerless, weak, vulnerable, defenseless baby.

I love babies; I always have. I am glad that I was born into a family with lots of children who wanted to have lots of children. There was never a lack of babies in our family, babies that needed to be held and cuddled and rocked to sleep. Holidays were always special because of babies. The conversations centered around them were always the same: "Look how much he/she has grown!" "Is he/she walking yet?" "He's going to be as big as his father!"

The Savior of this world was once a baby – a helpless, powerless, weak, vulnerable, defenseless baby; a baby who fed at the breast of his dear mother; a baby who needed to be cuddled and rocked to sleep; a baby whose diaper needed to be changed; a baby who got sick, who cried, who cooed, who made other people like me smile when they looked into his beautiful eyes. This was our Jesus.

I guess it is good for us to remember at times what all the celebration is about. What we are celebrating is the birth of a baby – not a king, not a mighty warrior, not a ruler or a person of great wealth and power, but a baby, a baby who would grow up like any other child, a baby who would become the Savior of the world. Once again the birth of the baby, Jesus!

Merry Christmas,  
Pastor Pat

**December Scripture Readings**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Dec. 4	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
Dec. 11	Isaiah 35:1-10	Psalm 146:5-10	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
Dec. 18	Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25
Dec. 25	Isaiah 52:7-10	Psalm 98	Hebrews 1:1-4	John 1:1-14
Jan. 1	Isaiah 63:7-9	Psalm 148	Hebrews 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23

## A Word About Worship

What is Advent?

Advent Season is a very special time of year that sometimes gets lost in the bright lights of the Christmas season it precedes. The word *advent* comes from the Latin term *adventus* meaning "arrival" or "coming," Originally, however, it was not the coming of the Christ Child that was anticipated, but the Second Coming of Christ.

Sometimes, these days in the secular world, Advent season has mostly become a time of joy-filled, anticipation of Christmas: A time to prolong the season. In the Christian world, it should also be a time of annual preparation for the second coming of Christ.

The Advent season invites us to step away from what can be a frenzied time of decorating, parties, cooking, and shopping to consider how we commemorate the birth of Jesus, one of the holiest times in Christian faith. It is also a time to re-commit and re-evaluate how our lives reflect the readiness of Christ's next arrival.

The parament color of the Advent Season is blue or purple: The color that is also used during the Lenten Season. These colors represent penance, sacrifice and preparation.

Advent is a time for faith communities and families to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds what the true meaning of Jesus' birth. Christians can use this time to quiet the deafening noise of the worldly commercialized Christmas and take time to listen for the quiet voice of the baby Jesus. While preparing for everything else, we can prepare ourselves for His next coming by rededicating ourselves for His service.



December 2	Becky Duncan
December 4	Joshua Leneweaver
December 6	Melanie Prudom
	Carol Clarke
December 9	Chase Salerno



December 10	Kendall Davidson
December 14	Joshua Gray
December 16	Sarah Brand
December 22	Walt Daller IV
December 28	Amy Conrad

## **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST**

Meet the women of St. Luke's at Spring Ford Diner on the second Thursday of the month, December 8th this month, see you there I hope. Find out what is happening in the neighborhood.

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## **CHURCH LIFE IS AT IT AGAIN!!**

### **WHITE ELEPHANT BREAKFAST**

Get those unwanted gifts out of the closet or basement and wrap them up for the Women's White Elephant Breakfast on Saturday, January 14th at O'Grady's restaurant in Phoenixville, at 10:00am. See you there and you can wear your bells!!!.

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### **ATTENTION MEN**

The men of St. Luke's meet the 4th Wednesday of each month for breakfast at 9:00am at Grace's Café, please note the change of places as Cafe 29 has closed its doors.

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### **MISSION NEWS**

#### **ANGEL TAGS**

• Reminder: **Salvation Army Angel tag gifts are due no later than Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please place the unwrapped gift(s) for your child in a gift bag. Staple the gift tag to the bag so they do not get separated. The Missions Team, our contact Major Jeny Shurtleff, her team and the local needy families appreciate your generosity.



### **NOISY OFFERING - GAS CANS FOR GHANA**

Also due to your continued generosity, the Missions Team is happy to report the gas funds for the Ghana mini-van have surpassed \$1000. Woo hoo!

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### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FUND**

During the month of December we will be accepting donations for the final UCC offering of the year. **The Christmas Fund** has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees for over 100 years by providing emergency grants, small annuity supplements, health insurance premiums and holiday "thank you" gift checks to lower-income retirees. As much as we all might feel life has slowly gotten back to normal, some active pastoral leaders face challenges and loss of income as congregations struggle with budget shortfalls. Please show your continued gratitude for both active and retired UCC clergy who need support by giving charitably to the Christmas Fund this year. Use your special envelope and/or make a designation note on the bottom of your check.

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### **THANKSGIVING AT THE DAILY BREAD**

We are happy to report that St. Luke's donated a total of 15 turkeys and at least 2 wooden box loads of other food donations to **The Daily Bread** in advance of Thanksgiving. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



# December Sunday Leader Schedule



**Church Access Volunteers** - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Nancy Claycomb** to schedule and review tasks. If you wish to be an usher/greeter please see **Brenda Kurtz** or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

## **9:00 Blended Service**

	<b><u>Lay Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Children's Time</u></b>	<b><u>Nursery</u></b>	<b><u>Ushers</u></b>
Dec. 4	Kathy Narrigan			
Dec. 11	Tom Lloyd			
Dec. 18	Jim Narrigan			
Dec. 23	Corie Bowers			
Dec. 25	Sue Linkenhoker			
Jan. 1	Bev Spaid			

## **Sunday Leader Scheduling Note**

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

**Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for the January Newsletter is December 22nd and mailing is December 27th.**

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## **PRAYER LIST**

**People in need of prayers:** The Dallar Family, Linda Miller, Wanamaker Family, Nick Iacorinno, Amy Miller, Boyer Family, Richardson Family.

**People with on-going conditions and prayer needs:** Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Casey S., Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, The Kimmich Family, Jack Murphy, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, The Evans Family, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser.

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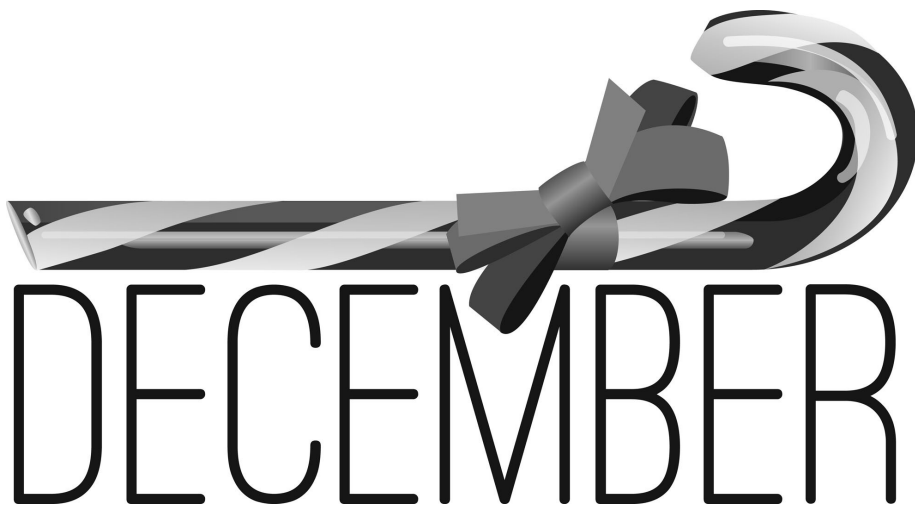
## **DO YOU LIKE TO SHOP?**

St. Luke's UCC is now registered for [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and type in "St. Luke's United Church of Christ Trappe" for all your future Amazon orders and St. Luke's will receive .5% of the proceeds. Have fun shopping and THANK YOU!




**Amazon Smile Update!** Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "St. Luke's United Church of Christ of Trappe" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

### **How it works:**

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone.
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features.
3. Select "St. Luke's United Church of Christ of Trappe" as your charity.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app.

# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  7:30 GANON	2	3
4 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/Rev. Morris & Zoom	5	6 10:00 Bible Study	7 7:00 Endowment 7:30 Orchestra	8 9:00 Women's Breakfast 7:00 Finance 7:30 GANON	9 8:00 Audubon Symphony Orch. Concert	10 6:00 Boy Scout Sleep Over
11 9:00 Service in Sanctuary, with Rev. Morris and on Zoom & Children's Sermon	12 7:00 Missions 7:00 Church Life	13 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	14	15  7:30 GANON	16	17
18 9:00 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And on Zoom	19 7:30 Property	20 10:00 Bible Study	21	22 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 GANON NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23	24 7:00pm  CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
25 9:00 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris  Christmas Day Service	26	27 10:00 Bible Study  NEWSLETTER MAILING	28 9:00 Men's Breakfast	29  7:30 GANON	30	31  New Year's Eve

ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE  
200 WEST MAIN STREET  
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007

## December Newsletter

**Dated Material-  
Deliver Promptly**

*"...they will call him  
Immanuel"  
— which means,  
"God with us."*



*Matthew 1:23*

### **St. Luke's Mission Statement**

**Centered in God,  
guided by His Word,  
we share Christ's love with all.**