



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-6858

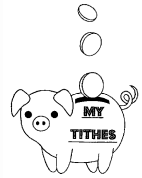
www.irwinfirstumc.org

irwinfirstumc@comcast.net

Like us on Facebook

Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry



**December 18, 2016**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent - Love**

**WORSHIP HOST: 8:15-Barb Worthington 10:45-Tracy Hawley**

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**Memory Verse for December**

**Philippians 4:13**

**“I can do all things thru Christ who strengthens me”**

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**GATHERING & WELCOME**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**L:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**P:** And also with you.

**L:** Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

**MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY**

**THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**

**THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

**“What Child Is This?” – Cathedral Bells**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP No.862 Psalm 150**

**\*HYMN No. 220 “Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

**ADVENT READING**

**WREATH LIGHTERS:**

**8:15 – The Johnston Family**

**10:45 – Eric, Becky & Hanna Platt**

**ADVENT SONG**

**Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes,**

**I’ll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes. (repeat)**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENTS**

**No. 2233 “This Is Where Children Belong”**

*(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be go to help a family in need. Please see the announcement details.)*

**ANTHEM 8:15 “Just Like You (Joseph’s Song)” - Terry Yarlett**

**10:45 “Emmanuel” – Chancel Choir**

**WORD OF GOD**

**Isaiah 7:10-16**

**PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**8:15 - “Voluntary on an Old English Carol”**

**10:45 - “Just Like You (Joseph’s Song)”- Terry Yarlett**

**\*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY**

**(tune: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)**

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,**

**Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.**

**Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,**

**As we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

**\*HYMN No. 230 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

**PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN**

**SERMON SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25**

**SERMON “Love”**

**\*HYMN No. 240 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*MUSIC OF PARTING “The Snow Lay on the Ground”**

*The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.*

*The altar rail is always open.*

**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

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*We express our Christian sympathy to the families and friends of:*

*John D. Forte who passed away on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>*

*Philip D. Hawk who passed away on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>*

*May God comfort and strengthen these families.*

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**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK**

**Saturday Worship – 15 Sunday 8:15 – 56 10:45 – 95**

**SERVING YOU TODAY**

**GREETERS:** 8:15 –

10:45 – Gayleen Fisher & Phyllis Brickel

**USHERS TEAMS:** 8:15 – Men’s Group 10:45 – Tom Lehner

**SOUND TEAM:** 8:15 – Fritz Runser

10:45 – Josh Burger & Penny Brant

**NURSERY:** Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today during the 10:45 service. Our attendants today will be Donna Weber & Dawn Capecci.

**ADVENT REFRESHMENTS AFTER SERVICES BY:**

8:15 – Barb Worthington  
10:45 – Donna Weber, Dawn Capecci & Dot Depp

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**2017 CALENDARS:** There are 2017 Calendars on the table in the Narthex. Ott's Funeral Home had them printed with our church worship services and contact information on. Please take one home with you.

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**THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH**

**The Church office will close at noon this week.**

**Pastor Bruce – 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday**

724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at [preacherptl@gmail.com](mailto:preacherptl@gmail.com)

*Please feel free to contact Pastor Bruce if you are in need of a pastoral visit.*

**Today, Sunday, December 18**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

8:00 Prayer Time  
8:15 Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 Worship  
12:00 – 2:00 Parsonage Open House  
12:15 SonShiners  
12:15 Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal

**Monday, December 19**

7:00 Dartball – All Stars

**Tuesday, December 20**

6:15 TOPS  
7:30 NA

**Wednesday, December 21**

7:00 Blue Christmas Service

**Thursday, December 22**

6:15 C Bells  
7:15 Choir

**Saturday, December 24**

5:30 PM Children's Christmas Service  
7:30 PM Candlelight Service  
11:00 PM Candlelight Service

**Next Sunday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**

10:00 Combined Worship Service  
No Sunday School Classes

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**ALL 2016 CONTRIBUTIONS** must be in to the office by December 31, 2016 to be credited on your 2016 Annual Giving Statement. Contributions received after December 31, 2016 will be posted to your 2017 Annual Giving Statement.

**Also,** receipts for items that you have bought for the church and wish to be reimbursed for or have credit for on your annual giving statement must be turned in by January 8, 2017. After January 8<sup>th</sup> the 2016 financial records will be closed and all credits will go toward the 2017.

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**STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT:** Each year, the Staff Parish Relations Committee collects contributions from our congregation toward Christmas bonuses for our dedicated Church Staff. Please join the SPRC in showing our appreciation for their work by contributing using the envelopes marked "Staff Christmas." Envelopes will be available through Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

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**CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS:** Pastor Bruce has requested that the Children's Collection this week will be given as a love offering to a local family in need.

***Salvation Army's Red Kettle Fund***

12/11 - \$110.25

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**ANGEL TREE:** All donations, gift cards & gifts, are due back today, Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Angel tree gifts should be wrapped with the angel tag attached. Thank you for helping. If you have not returned your gifts or gift cards, or if you have any questions, please contact Missy Davis (724-863-9758).

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**CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN’S PLAY:** There will be a rehearsal on today, December 18th after the second service for the 5:30 Christmas Eve Service. Please see Lisa O’Reilly outside of the Sunday School classes if you still need to pick up your costume. Costumes do not need to be worn for the rehearsal. Thank you so much to everyone for your continued support year after year! Lisa O’Reilly

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**CHRISTMAS SERVICES:** There is an insert in your bulletin today with a schedule for our Christmas season worship services. Please take it home, mark the dates and times on your calendar, and then share the insert with your family and friends.

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**CHRISTMAS CARD BOARDS:** Pastor Bruce has placed two easels in the Narthex for Christmas Cards. Please feel free to place a greeting card on the boards for everyone at church to enjoy. Don’t forget to check the board often to see the greetings from your church family and friends!

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**LONGEST NIGHT/ BLUE CHRISTMAS  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
DECEMBER 21, 2016**



A Longest Night/Blue Christmas Worship Service will be held in our sanctuary on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM. This is the longest night of the year. Following this date, daylight seems to be returning for more and more of each day. In the long, dark winter nights, memories of past experiences and the pain of present experiences and situations can become overwhelming. On this night, we remember those for whom the holidays are not joyful; they are lonely, in mourning, feeling alienated and cast apart from family celebrations; they are experiencing depression and sadness and yet are often compelled to "put on a happy face" for others, denying their true feelings. People who are not having a very merry Christmas and friends who support them are invited to come and sit with one another in a liturgy that speaks of the love of God for the grieving.

In this service, we invite you to listen. We invite you to pray. We invite you to sing. We invite you to meditate upon the pain and anguish you may bring – and we invite you to offer your pain to the Christ child. And we trust that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone.

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**CHURCH CLEANING DAY-SAVE THE DATE  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 9:00 AM

Each volunteer will be assigned a project area to work on your own or in small groups. Please bring your bucket and rags! All help will be used and appreciated! We have a large old church and all areas need cleaned out and scrubbed down.

If you have questions, please contact Becky Rudy 724-493-3734

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**YOUTH MINISTER JOB OPENING:** Are you a motivated, grace-filled Christian looking for part-time work? Join our team at Irwin First United Methodist Church! This position is roughly 20 hours/week and includes planning/coordinating/promoting activities with our youth and their friends to increase their faith. Activities include weekly youth group meetings, periodic youth events (fellowship, service projects, retreats), and some assistance with high school Sunday School. Personal commitment to Christ; working with youth using creativity, understanding, & kindness; Biblical worldview; and strong organizational/communication/team-building skills are necessary. Music/guitar skills, preaching capabilities, and computer/multi-media skills are a plus. Future potential growth into additional areas of ministry are available if mutually agreeable! Please send resume & cover letter to:

Irwin First United Methodist Church, 310 Oak Street, Irwin, Pa 15642. Or email:  
[fumc.debbie.offmgr@comcast.net](mailto:fumc.debbie.offmgr@comcast.net)

Any questions, please call the church office at 724-863-6858

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## ONGOING PROGRAMS

**STYLUS PENS:** The stylus pens are still available for purchase (\$2). Please see Dianne Runser or the salesperson in the narthex.

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**TAKE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY** - Discover what your gifts are in order to best serve God. Please answer the questions, sign the book, and return it to Pastor Bruce or the church office. The booklets are on the table in the Narthex.

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**“RIGHT NOW MEDIA” BIBLE STUDIES:** Free Bible studies to further your knowledge of God’s word. To participate in any of these studies, you need to email the church office at [fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net](mailto:fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net) with your request. The office will place your email address on the list of participants and give you instructions on how to log onto the account.

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**EMAIL REMINDERS:** If you would like to receive email reminders of church events, please email the church office ([irwinfirstumc@comcast.net](mailto:irwinfirstumc@comcast.net)) to get your email on the list. Please DO NOT hand write or call the office with the email address, as errors may occur. We want to make sure that we have the correct email.

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### STARTING IN JANUARY

For more information on the following programs, contact Pastor Bruce at 724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at [preacherptl@gmail.com](mailto:preacherptl@gmail.com)

**HEALING SERVICE** – the last Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. This is a simple service that has prayer, sharing, devotions, anointing with oil, laying on of hands, and communion. Just drop what you are doing and come as you are.

**DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY SUPPORT GROUP:** Meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Pastor Bruce has a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and real life experience with these diseases. He will facilitate. All meetings are confidential.

**BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR BRUCE:** A Bible study will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 PM.

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