



## **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Zaq Phillips – Youth Minister

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

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**November 30, 2014**

**First Sunday in Advent**

**Baptism & Consecration Sunday**

### **GATHERING & WELCOME**

#### **\*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 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Isaiah pleads for God to open the heavens and come down.

**P:** The mountains quake at God’s presence.

**L:** God embraces those who do right and seek justice,

**P:** those who walk in godly ways.

**L:** Like clay in the hands of the potter,

**P:** we are the work of God’s creative hand.

**L:** We are all God’s people.

**P:** God is slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

#### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

**God, your promise of hope comes to us, wrapped in anticipation and expectation. Though the sun may be darkened, though the moon may cease to give forth its light, though the stars may fall from heaven, we will continue to thank you that a new day is dawning – a day when we will see the Son of Man coming with power and glory. As we await that day with great hope, may we use our spiritual gifts to your glory. Reveal to us our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be strengthened and blameless in your sight. You are faithful, Lord; may it be so for us who have gathered in your name. Amen**

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**BAPTISMAL COVENANT II (page 39)**

#### **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers,**

our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

**BAPTISM SONG      “Welcome the Child”**

**ADVENT READING**

**ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.**

**ADVENT SONG**

Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes,  
I'll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes.  
(repeat)

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 203      “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**  
*Children come forward during the last verse.*

**CHILDREN’S MOMENTS**

*(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be used for our Foodbank program. Please see the announcement for more details.)*

**ANTHEM 10:45 – “The Comings of the Lord”**

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

**OFFERTORY      “Reflection on an Ancient Plainsong”**

**\*DOXOLOGY No. 114 “Many Gifts, One Spirit” (refrain)**

Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.  
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise  
one Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word  
known in many ways, hallowing our days.  
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

Our Heavenly Father, we worship you. You are the God who does awesome deeds that we did not expect! You have come down from on high, sending your precious Son Jesus to make your presence tangible. You work wonders for those who wait for you. Thank you for sending your Spirit to work in our life. Give us patience as we wait for the revealing of your glorious kingdom. May the gifts and offerings we present today serve your purposes as we await your coming in glory. Come soon, Lord Jesus! Amen.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYER HYMN No. 196 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

*The Altar is open during the hymn.*

**PASTORAL 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    (NRSV)      Isaiah 64:1-9**

**SERMON**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION II

### THE INVITATION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**SACRAMENT** – All are welcome. Please follow the directions of the ushers.

*(As you come for Communion, please bring your pledge card forward  
and lay it beneath the railing.)*

**\*HYMN OF PARTING No. 242 “Love Came Down at Christmas”**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*MUSIC OF PARTING “Lift Up Your Heads”**

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

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## THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

**Today, Sunday, November 30**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent/Communion**  
**Baptism/Consecration Sunday**

8:00 Prayer Time  
8:15 Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
9:30 Children’s Christmas Eve Play Meeting  
10:45 Worship  
12:00 Kiwanis Room in use  
2:00 FISH & CHIPS  
4:00 T Bells  
4:45 SonShiners

**Monday, December 1**

**Office closed**  
No Dartball

**Tuesday, December 2**

**Office closed**  
6:15 TOPS  
7:30 NA

**Wednesday, December 3**

**Office closes at 1:00 PM**  
7:00 Women’s Book Study  
7:00 Yoga

**Thursday, December 4**

**Office closes at 1:00 PM**

6:15 C Bells  
7:00 Nurture  
7:00 Disciple  
7:15 Choir

**Friday, December 5**

**Office closes at Noon**

Irwin Cookie Tour  
Gym in use

**Saturday, December 6**

10:00 Cathedral & Temple Bell Rehearsal  
6:00 Alternative Worship

**Next Sunday, December 7**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Communion**

8:00 Prayer Time  
8:15 Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 Worship  
12:00 Member Care Committee  
2:00 Fellowship Night  
4:45 SonShiners  
6:00 Combined Youth Group

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**CHILDREN’S COLLECTIONS:** The Children’s Collection today will be given to our Foodbank. Over 100 families in our area have attended our Foodbank in recent months. Most of the food items come from the Westmoreland County Food Bank. Our Foodbank coordinators use the money donated from our church to purchase additional non-perishable items to be given to those in need.

Foodbank: 11/22 \$200.00

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**Christmas Eve Children's Play at the 5:30 Service:** There will be a brief meeting today during the Sunday School hour in the small room off of the larger room where the children sing for Sunday School. Please attend if you wish to help out or if you would like to sign your child up for a part. We will look over the script and set a date and time for a rehearsal as well as listen to some of the music that will be part of the service. Thank you!

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**POINSETTIA ORDERS** are due today. Please fill out your order form and return it, with payment, to the office. The poinsettias are \$7.25 and will be available for you to take home after the 11:00 PM Christmas Eve service.

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**RADA Cutlery Orders are in!** If you've placed an order, you can pick up your bag in the church office after either service. The Finance Committee thanks you for supporting this fundraiser! A profit of \$378.72 was made!

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**ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTERS:** Today is the first week of Advent. Volunteers are still needed to light the candles in our advent wreath at each service. There is a sign-up sheet at the entrance to the sanctuary to volunteer.

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### **Upholding the Church in 2015 – WITNESS**

What is needed today is a battalion of believers who follow Christ and stand for Him and His truth! "Continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them." (2 Timothy 3:14) Have you ever told others about what Christ has done for you? We all have a story to tell along life's journeys, and there are many anxious to hear! Do you have parents, family members or friends who are not followers of Christ...who are unsure where they'll spend eternity? Be a witness to them! Pray for an opportunity to talk to them, then expect God to open the door for that conversation! Pray that you will be that light in a dark world – a witness to anyone that you meet!

Today is our final week of our Stewardship Campaign. It is Consecration Sunday, a call to biblical conviction, a challenge to determine: What percentage of my income do I want to "give back" to God in 2015? Ask God for the courage to take that step in faith! Pray in the weeks ahead that you

will never feel ownership, only stewardship of the money that God continually entrusts to you! May you continue to uphold this church, this community and this world that you live in with your Prayers, your Presence, your Gifts, your Service and your Witness that in all things God will say..."Well done good and faithful servant."

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### **Coming soon...Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - Gifts from the Talents Sale!**

On Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> you were encouraged to take "seed money" from the altar and to use your talents/gifts to increase its value with a goal of returning it to the church. We will be having a sale outside the pastor's office on December 14<sup>th</sup> where you can sell or purchase some homemade gifts or ideas that you've created. (You may want to do some Christmas shopping that day!) Members of the Finance Committee will be available to help with this sale following both services. Pray about how you and your family can participate this day by using the talents that God has given you!

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# every day is **thanks** giving

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**THE 2014 ADVENT BOOKLETS** are still available in the decorated box in the narthex. Please take *one per household*. The daily selections begin on November 30 and continue through Christmas. May you find blessing within its pages.

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**ANGEL TREE:** The Outreach committee is sponsoring our Angel tree and food bags. Please take an Angel from the tree and sign up on our food list to bring in something to help these families for Christmas dinner. The Angels have suggestions for items to buy with a limit of \$25.00 for toys. ***The angels & gifts need to be returned no later than Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, wrapped with the Angel taped to the outside. The food items need to be returned by Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. Please put refrigerated items put in Coffee Room fridge.***

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**DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP NIGHT - GINGERBREAD HOUSES!** Come build a Gingerbread House on Sunday, December 7th, at 2:00 pm downstairs in the gym! Bring your own goodies to decorate with, and a bag to share. ***You'll need to sign up on the clipboard (or call the office) to make sure there will be gingerbread pieces for you to build your house with. You will also need to bring a board or tray to build your house on.*** We will not be sharing a meal this time, but there will be a few snacks to share. Everyone had such a great time last year, please come and join the fun! All are welcome!

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**THE HAPPY METHODIST GROUP** will hold their Christmas lunch on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at Lakeview Lounge in Greensburg.

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**BASKETS:** Baskets remaining from the Bazaar are reduced and have been moved to the Adult Sunday School room (outside Pastor David's office) for a self-service sale. Envelops are provided for payment which may be placed in the office door mail slot. Proceeds will be divided between the Rick Simms Mission Work Trip, Outreach, and Mission share. **Why not do "double good" and purchase an item for the Love Gifts for the Foodbank families, Operation Reindeer, or Angel Tree by supporting those charities with your gift and the funds from the baskets?** Thank you for helping us help others!

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