

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHARGE CONFERENCE: Mon., Dec. 11 at 5:30pm by Zoom or at OCUMC. We need you there for this critical meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9296205677?pwd=VE91dE5EMGs3QmFsNzI1blhHNjhSdz09>

ZONING BOARD APPROVAL: We were granted unanimous approval by the board for the zoning variances regarding adding a restroom at OCUMC. Our next step is to then schedule the project to move forward with our contractor and utility companies. We are hoping to break ground in January.

YOUTH GROUP, SUNDAYS, 5-7 PM at Faith UMC for 5th-12th graders. Sign up in the hall to be the 2nd adult and/or to provide a meal. Each week there are dinner, games and a lesson. **No Meeting Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.**

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet at Faith UMC from 7:30-9:00 PM every other Monday for students in 6th-12th grade. This is led by Pastor Andrea from Long Memorial & Pastor Jason. **Next Mtg: Dec. 19 & Jan. 2.**

GRIEFSHARE GROUP: Pastor Jason and Tina Miller lead a GriefShare Group to help people find support and process the loss of loved ones. To learn more, please contact Pastor Jason ASAP. This group meets every other Monday from 5-6 PM in the Fellowship Hall at Faith UMC. **Next Meeting: Dec. 19 and Jan. 2.**

CHATting VIA ZOOM MONDAYS AT 6:30 PM: Everyone is invited to join us. at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86190453518?pwd=cEVDeDljeThaaWVIYjlQWmZjTm5oUT09>

BIBLE2SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS: If you are interested in working with Pastor Jason and other volunteers to teach the Bible2School students from Reidenbaugh Elementary School on Tue and Wed please contact Pastor.

BIBLE STUDY on WEDNESDAYS at 6:30 PM with Mike at Oregon Community UMC. **Next Meeting: Jan 11.**

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY AT 10AM at FAITH UMC: We explore the scriptures for this week's sermon. You can prepare at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>. **No session Dec 23 or 30**

LIGHT OF THE WORLD with Rev. Jim Garner. This book study written by Amy-Jill Levine will help participants prepare their hearts for Christmas. She is a New Testament Professor who is Jewish, and writes from this particular historical and Biblical context. **Please order the book in advance** at Cokesbury.com or Amazon in paperback or a digital copy. This will be a Zoom Study on Thursday evenings at 7 PM (Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22). <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85939667466?pwd=bHkreUNyNTZGVWNicmUwUnNzazhXQT09>

CHRIST HOME FOR KIDS & BLACKFEET UMC PARISH: Each year we collect gifts through Christmas (inc. the Christmas Eve offering) to support these two ministries. You can send a check made out to *Oregon Community UMC* with the ministry marked in the memo and we will send one donation to support their work.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: This musical service will be **shared on Sun, Dec. 18** at Faith UMC (9AM) & Long Memorial UMC (11AM). **There will NOT be a service at Oregon Community UMC that day.**

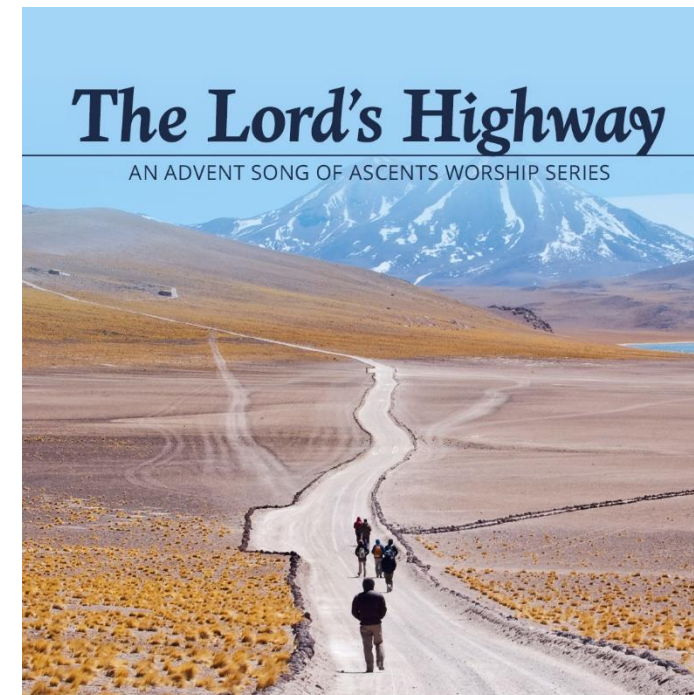
LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM at Long Memorial UMC. “The light shines in the darkness” ~ John 1:5. For many of us, Christmas is a bittersweet time of year. It is a time for remembering both persons and events that have been a part of our lives in the past but are now changed or gone. This is the time of year with the longest nights, so around this time, we offer a quiet, meditative worship service that allows time and space for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts to celebrate anew the coming of Christ. You are invited to join us for a time of special music, scripture, stories, silent reflection, healing prayer, and communion. Pastors Andrea and Jason will share in guiding this service and you are invited.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE at Faith UMC at 7pm on Dec. 24th (or 5pm at Oregon Community UMC if that better suits your schedule). Families will worship together in this service of carols and a retelling of the Christmas story. We will also share in Communion.

CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE at Faith UMC at 10:30am on Dec. 25th (or 9am at Oregon Community UMC if that better suits your schedule). Join us for a simple hymn sing and celebration of the birth of Christ.

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 THE SANCTUARY at 9:00 AM at Oregon Community UMC
& BROADCAST at 10:30 AM from Faith UMC on Facebook & church websites.**

OFFICE HOURS: Pastor Jason is generally available Mon-Thurs from about 10-5pm. He is spending time with family from Friday at Noon through Saturday. If there is an emergency, please leave a detailed message.

Oregon Community United Methodist Church

December 11, 2022 at 10:30 AM – 3rd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME: We gather in this Advent Season to remember the Alpha & Omega—God who has always been and always will be. The Creator, Son and Holy Spirit have worked together throughout time to create, bless, and redeem the universe. We prepare ourselves for the second coming of Jesus to gather His people home. You are welcome 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 – and pray you find what you came looking for!

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME FOR CENTERING & PRAYER

Pastor Jason

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

Mike & Paula Shifflet

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God's People

Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

The glory of God shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

Sing aloud, waste places of Jerusalem! Sing to the God who gives courage and strength.

Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

You who are unsure of what you believe, or whether you believe at all: listen!

You who are weighed down by thoughts of failure, or feelings of grief: listen!

You whose hearts are heavy, whose problems seem insurmountable: listen!

Soon God's salvation will come; God's deliverance will be revealed.

For a woman shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel: God with us

Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/10/advent-prayer-maranatha-come-lord-jesus.html>

*HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

UMH #715

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

Christie Jolly

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

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH #895

*HYMN

Emmanuel

UMH #204

SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 5:7-10

Christie Jolly

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

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

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

*Offertory Prayer

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:46-55

Christie Jolly

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

*HYMN

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

UMH #218 v. 1, 3, 4

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 11:2-11

Christie Jolly

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

SERMON

The Lord's Highway

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

*HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH #57 v. 1-4

* You are invited to stand

OCUMC Pianist: Jody Wiker

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski **Ministers:** The People of God

Liturgists: Dec. 4 Dot Lange; 11 Christie Jolly; 18 Mike Shifflet; 25 Ralph Stone

BIRTHDAYS: Dec. 7 Paula Shifflet; 19 Sharon Garner; 27 Annabelle Fritsch; 30 Ralph Stone;

PRAYER REQUESTS: Family of Pat and Bob Dietz on their passing; MaryAnn Unangst, healing from stroke; Beth Perkowski, testing & healing; Harmony Chiccarine & family, Leukemia; Fred Kohler, healing of bypass surgery; Josh (Jackie's grandson); Shirley Gehr – healing after a fall; Bible2School Program for 2nd-4th graders; Roberta Stone; Donald Stone; Nicole Wise; Lee Manifold (Marcia's father), health; Doris Cooper, health; Joetta's sister; Kuzmenko family; Maria, Angela and all foster children; Kathy Muth, cellulitis; Jack Muth, brain cancer; Chuck Flory, ALS; Garner family; Bob Rinier; Joanne Steinmetz (Jackie's sister), health; Judy Brivchik, eyesight; Dot's oldest son Jerry, Myeloma; Roseanne, cancer; Sandy Baird's father, Dick; those with cancer; Fred Hess; Campus Ministries; Bishop John Schol, Conference Staff, DS Jenny Freymoyer, Pastors and Laity. **PRAISES:** God's presence and healings. **PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD:** Victims of gun violence; The UMC & disaffiliations; Ukraine; Veterans & Service members; police & medical personnel; the sick and their caregivers; victims of violence & racism; peace, wisdom & reconciliation; abused persons & abusers; all affected by disasters; refugees & immigrants; the hungry & homeless; prisoners; students, teachers & administration; libraries and staff; those struggling with addictions or mental illness; seniors; those grieving loved ones; our ministries; our community; elected, appointed and community based leaders; & COVID.

IN NEED OF HELP: Contact Pastor Jason, or 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 call 9-8-8.

OFFERINGS: You can direct gifts to the **General Ministry, Building, or Benevolence Funds.** You can mail a check to **OCUMC** or via our website. The General Budget is behind. Consider if you can help. **UKRAINIAN HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT** can be sent via: <https://umcmmission.org> or thru OCUMC marked "For Ukraine"

THE LANCASTER AARP CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT FAITH UMC on Fri., Dec. 16 at 2:00 PM. They will perform sacred and secular holiday music. This concert is open to the public with admissions being a free-will offering. Please call ahead to reserve a seat (717-560-0321). Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

IMPACT! MISSIONS restore homes to be sold to low-income families & does repairs for those in need. To volunteer on 1st & 3rd Saturdays, contact Leon at 717-344-9924 / leonshe37@gmail.com.

SERVANT SATURDAY DOWNTOWN MINISTRY on 1st Sat. of the month at 2pm. Meet at Faith UMC to cook / deliver meals & personal items for people who are unhoused. To help, call Diana at 717-435-8577.

POWER INTERFAITH LANCASTER COUNTY is working on justice issues in our community—inc. public schools, prison & bail reform, police & community interactions, etc. Visit <https://powerinterfaith.org> to learn more.

TOWN HALL ON PRISON DESIGN: The Peace & Justice Committee of **Community Mennonite Church (328 W Orange St, Lancaster, PA 17603)** invites the public to an informative forum **5-6:30PM on Wed., Dec. 14**, called **Don't Overbuild: A Townhall on Right-Sizing the New Jail**. Experts will discuss best practices in bail and other criminal justice procedures that could assure that the new Lancaster County jail is fiscally responsible and no bigger than necessary. Presenters will include Michelle Batt of *Lancaster Bail Fund*, the Rev. Jason Perkowski of *POWER Interfaith*, and The Rev. Kent Kroehler of *Have a Heart*. Attendees will be able to ask the panelists questions. The townhall is timely because a draft needs assessment will be presented on **Dec. 15 at the prison board meeting** at the Lancaster County Government Building, 150 N Queen St, Lancaster, PA 17603 at **9:15AM**.