

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

150th ANNIVERSARY OF OREGON COMMUNITY UMC: This is the 150th anniversary of worship taking place at the Oregon Community Church. We are planning for some special celebrations throughout this year. If you have ideas or want to be a part of planning for these events, please contact Pastor Jason or Christie Jolly.

YOUTH GROUP ON SUNDAYS, 5-7 PM at Faith UMC for 5th-12th graders. Each week there are dinner, games & a lesson. Sign up to be the 2nd adult and/or to provide a meal. For more info or to help, please contact Pastor Jason. **The next Gretna Glen trip is Feb 18 (3:30-7 PM).**

GRIEFSHARE GROUP to help people find support and process the loss of loved ones meets every other Monday from 5-6 PM at Faith UMC. **Next Meetings: February 19 and March 4.**

CHATTING on Mondays at 6:30 PM: This member-led, discussion group meets online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86190453518?pwd=cEVDDeDljeThaaWVIYjQWmZjTm5oUT09.>

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at Oregon Community UMC, 6:30PM. Not February 21

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 10AM in Faith UMC Fellowship Hall.

THE CHURCH & SOCIETY TEAM engages in improving our community by standing up against injustice. **Next meeting: March 21 at 5:30 PM (3rd Thursdays).** *These sessions are by Zoom only at:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82735304374?pwd=eDBSZHRCZVphSnh2TENDZ0xrdG0vQT09.> To learn more, contact Renee Norman. **Roadmap For Justice: POWER Interfaith Convention** in Harrisburg on **Monday, Feb 19 from 11:30AM-4PM.** *The link takes you to online registration.* To be a part of the team working on **Criminal Justice & Bail Reform**, join the us online at Noon every Wednesday:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483314676?pwd=K2ZtZGQ0LzBOelVlVXQwUk5LR2VFQT09>

TOOLS FOR MINISTRY: Feb. 24 from 8AM-Noon at Salem UMC, 140 N Penn St, Manheim, PA 17545.

Registration and workshop descriptions are at: <https://member.gnjumc.org/default.aspx?page=3354&event=1345>
Mark your calendar now! There are workshops for leaders who serve as Trustees, on Finance, Church Council, SPRC, etc. There is also training on ministry for Seniors and Youth, how to get grants and low-cost technology, creative outreach, etc. **Register ASAP! It is only \$5 and you get two workshops and light refreshments.**

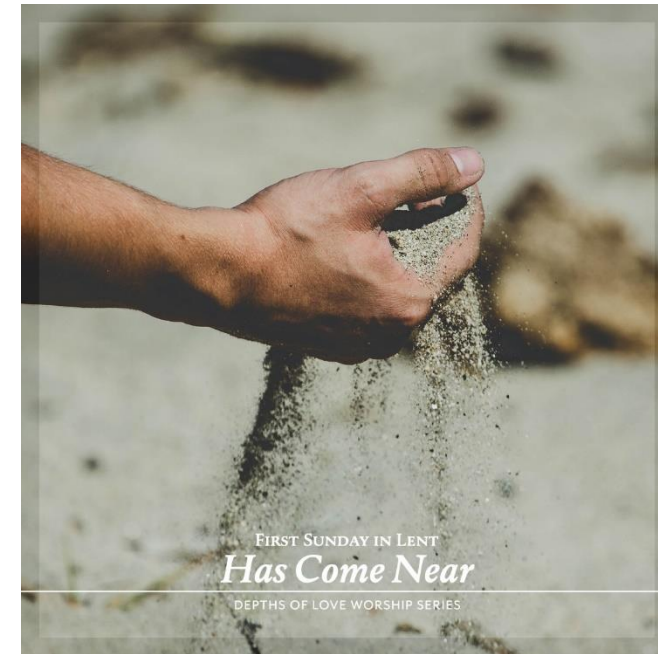
MERCY CHEF'S JOHN CAULEY + PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT at Mt Zion: Narvon on Fri, March 1, 6:30pm. Mercy Chefs is a faith based non-profit disaster and humanitarian relief organization providing professionally prepared, restaurant quality meals to victims, volunteers and first responders in natural disasters and emergencies. We will be having an at will offering which will benefit Mercy Chefs to further their worldwide humanitarian effort. Worship Music will be provided by John 3:16 (the Mt. Zion Worship Team) and Ava Hartman who is a young guitar player and vocalist. Mt Zion is located at 753 Mt Zion road in Narvon Pa 17555

LITITZ DAY OF PRAYER: Fri., March 1, 2024 at 7PM with music at 6:30 pm. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 200 W Orange St, Lititz. Featured Speaker: William Zee, attorney. A free-will offering will be taken in support of Warwick Release Time Program. Special Music by: Lititz Moravian Trombone Choir & St James Folk Group.

SPAGHETTI DINNER TONIGHT, FEBRUARY 18, 5-7 PM: Dinner will be spaghetti (gluten-free available) with meat sauce, a salad, bread, & a sweet treat. There is also a meatless sauce option available. Pay what you want. Donations may be made on our website, www.FaithUMC.us under "Online Giving," or you can make a donation when you pick up your meal. All donations support the ministries of the church.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORMS are in lobby. To beautify the sanctuary and have bulbs to plant in your own yard after Easter, return the order form and payment to Joetta ASAP.

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](https://www.facebook.com/OregonCommunityUMC)

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 9-3pm. 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

February 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM – 1st Sunday in Lent

WELCOME: For forty days, Jesus wandered the wilderness in prayer and fasting in preparation for his ministry. We gather this morning as part of our journey to follow Jesus more closely and to prepare ourselves for remembering his death and resurrection at Easter. We are so glad that you have joined us on the path. 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. Together, we listen to hear God speak to us anew as individuals and as community.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jason

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jason & God's People

Lenten travelers, when you feel the security of God's love, affirmation of God's call, and covered in God's grace... **God comes near.**

When you feel deserted and alone, starving and parched for a caring hand or an encouraging word, troubled and uncertain as the ground under you shifts like sand... **God comes near.**

When you feel emboldened to act, inspired to speak, energized to live as bearers of the good news that the Kingdom of God is here... **God comes near.**

In all seasons of our lives, God comes near to us and does not forsake us. **We gather to come near to God whose ever-present love remains near no matter where our journey takes us. Amen.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2023

*HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

UMH #269

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 9:8-17

Mike Shifflet

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Jason

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 25:1-10

Mike Shifflet

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

Pastor Jason

UMH #95

*Offertory Prayer

*HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH #396

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mike Shifflet

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

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

UMH #895

*HYMN

When Jesus Came to Jordan

UMH #252

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:9-15

Mike Shifflet

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

SERMON

Has Come Near

Pastor Jason

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Pastor Jason

*HYMN

Take Time to Be Holy

UMH #395

* You are invited to stand in body or in Spirit

Pianist: Jody Wiker Pastor: The Rev. Jason Perkowski Ministers: The People of God

Liturgists: February 4 Ralph Stone; 11 Bob Jolly; 18 Mike Shifflet; 25 Ralph Stone

BIRTHDAYS: February 11 Roberta Stone; 15 Bernadine Spoo; 20 Mike Shifflet; 23 Shirley Baker

PRAYER REQUESTS: Rev. Sally Ott - upcoming spinal surgery; Dot Lange, replacement of ICD; Tracy and Eddie Dean (Pastor Jason's cousins) for healing from foot surgery and broken leg; Perkowski Family and 3 foster boys; Shifflet's neighbors, health; Garner Family, health; Mark Fahnestock, cancer; Frank & Charlene, health; Alfred Byrd, lungs; Joanne, scleroderma; Larry Cooper, continued healing and relief from back surgery, pain and an infection; Gene Denlinger, healing after surgery; Dustin Oakes, esophagus; Bob Perkowski, upcoming neck/back surgery; Renia Perkowski, healing after spinal stimulator surgery; Cynthia Kelly's mother, broken hip & dementia; all those in mourning; Vince Habel, healing; Shirley Baker, healing; Cheryl Cooper healing from surgery & MS; Bruce, hamstring; Fritsch & Stone family; Rev. Dorcas, healing from cancer and travels to Sierra Leone; Cynthia from NJ, battling cancer; Shirley Gehr; Kevin's kidneys (Joetta's grandson); Brent Rollins, healing after spinal surgery; Denny Armstrong, healing after colon surgery; Josh & Megan (Jackie's grandkids); Foster families; Kathy Muth, cellulitis; Jack Muth, brain cancer; Chuck Flory, ALS; Bob Rinier; Judy Brivchik, eyesight; all those with cancer; Campus Ministries; Bishop John Schol, Conference Staff, DS Jenny Freymoyer, Pastors and Laity.

PRAISES: God's presence and healings. **PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD:** The people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine & Russia; Wisdom & safety for government officials globally; President Joe Biden and VP Kamala Harris; Healthy and gentle campaigns and election process; Prayers for all political candidates - safety & wisdom; Victims of gun violence; The UMC & disaffiliations; Veterans & Service members; police & medical personnel; the sick & caregivers; victims of violence & racism; peace, wisdom & reconciliation; abused persons & abusers; all affected by disasters; refugees & immigrants; the hungry, homeless & incarcerated; students, teachers & staff; libraries & staff; those struggling with addictions or mental illness; seniors; those grieving; our ministries & community.



OFFERINGS: Thank you to everyone that supports our ministries. **Please consider if you are able to make a gift.** You can set up recurring donations through your own financial institution or at www.OregonCommunityUMC.US or via the QR Code. You can direct gifts to the **General Ministry, Building Funds,** or **UMCOR relief efforts (via <https://umcmmission.org>.)** We are able to receive gifts from **Required Minimum Distributions** from tax deferred **Retirement Accounts** (of those over 73 years of age), **Stocks, Bonds, Investments, Foundations, IRAs, etc.**

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.**

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. *Volunteers needed.*

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY AND EGG HUNT at Faith UMC! We are celebrating Spring and the good news that Christ has risen! Come and join us on **Sat., March 16th from 8:00 to 10:30 AM with Egg Hunts at 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30 AM.** We will be serving a hot breakfast to enjoy in our dining room or for take-out, with pancakes, sausage and various toppings. Gluten free option available! **Cost is by donation.** The Easter Bunny will be available for photos. **Please donate plastic eggs and stickers or candy to fill them. NO small toys.** *Volunteers to help are welcomed.* Contact the Faith UMC Office at 717-560-0321 or faithumc@hotmail.com

Thursday, Mar 28 Maundy Thursday Service at Salem UMC: Rothsville, 7:00 PM

Friday, Mar 29 Good Friday Service at Long Memorial UMC: Neffsville, Noon

Good Friday Service at Faith UMC, 7:00 PM

Sunday, Mar 31 Easter Sunrise Service at Oregon Community, 6:30 AM + Easter Services

PASTOR JASON ON HALF-TIME PATERNITY LEAVE UNTIL EASTER: He will continue to preach, lead the Youth Ministry & Grief Share, teach Bible2School & Friday Bible Study, and provide pastoral care. **If committees want Pastor Jason to attend meetings, contact him in advance. For pastoral needs, call, email or text with a detailed message. He will primarily be available when the boys are in school.** Sundays are focused on worship service and youth ministry. **9am-3pm Monday-Thursdays are the best time to reach him.**