



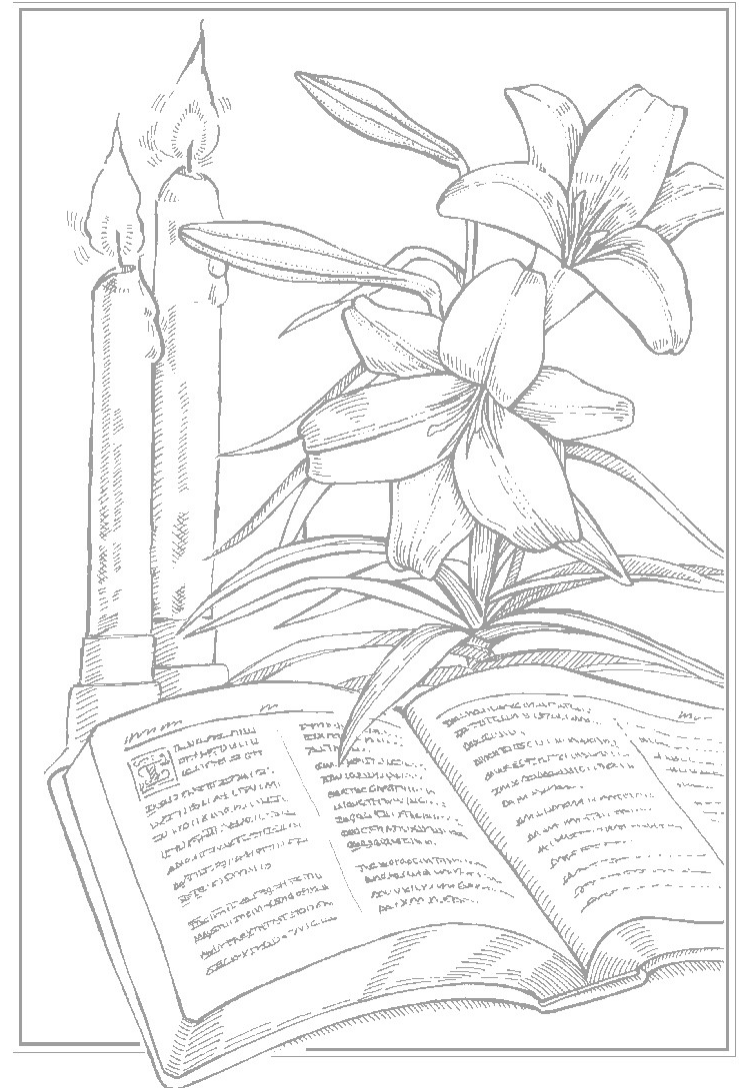
OUR STAFF:

INTERIM PASTOR:
Elder Rosamond Presby
PASTORAL CARE:
Rev. Dr. John Schmidt
MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Brad Hull
CUSTODIAN:
Joe Sponaugle
TREASURER:
George Hope
FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
Carolyn Frischkorn
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
Christine Constantine

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm

Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church
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FAITH IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
First Sunday of Advent

"A welcoming community serving God and Neighbor"

Worship at 11:00 a.m.

December 3, 2023

Reidell's husband. Pray for his daughter Kristine and her family Ron, Devon, & Dillion Linville.

Diane Katana: Dealing with a mysterious illness since September.

Melvin Longenecker: Leg amputated below the knee.

Brenda Henninger: In Physical Therapy. Continued prayers for healing.

Larry Hahn: Dementia.

Blessings and prayers for our church members who are currently undergoing physical therapy and/or are awaiting an operation/procedure.

Ongoing Prayers for:

Gerard Horn, Robert Crawshaw, Don Parkhurst, Keith Lebo,
Sarah Finkle, Wendell Jordan, Monica DeFriese,
John & Joan Bowerman, Gene Gangwish, Fred Muncert, Carol Becker,
Sharon Bikle, Jim Milbrand, Cindy Lloyd, James Kilgus, Jim Fair,
& Azure Graham.



NOTES:

calls to us, "Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come." We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to God's work all around us. [Mark 13:35]

One: We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God's activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord is near! Prepare the way of the Lord!

All: The Lord is holy, pure, and righteous.

One: God calls us to truth, mercy, and kindness.

All: God calls us to justice and to peace.

One: The Lord is near! Prepare the way of the Lord!

**All: Let us enter God's presence with humility.
Let us worship God.**

*HYMN # 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance: Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. Friends, hear and believe the good news:

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn #143, verse 4

**All creation, join in praising God the
Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal
Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please rise, remain in your pew, and greet one another by waving to each other.)

WE RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING –

Isaiah 64: 1-9 Old Testament, pg. # 694
(Pew Bibles are located under your seats.)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM – “A Tiny Child will Come” D. Besig
Chancel Choir Brad Hull, Pianist

SECOND READING –

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 New Testament, pg. # 166

medical facilities. Creative activities like coloring books help them to reduce stress and cope during their visits to hospitals, clinics and emergency departments. Being in the hospital is hard. Providing coloring materials helps the patients, their families and the medical staff, too. They request **COLORING BOOKS ONLY**. NO coloring books featuring holidays or religion and no activity books. You may include adult coloring books for the teenagers. Let’s join Caitlin’s Smiles in doing what they say..... “We like to call what we do ‘Sending Smiles.’ A basket is available in the gathering area for your donations. If you would prefer to provide monetary support for coloring books, please make your check payable to the Church and Caitlin’s Smiles noted in the memo line. Please bring your donations to the Church **no later than Sunday, December 31**. Thank you for your support of this mission.

An itemized report of the Mission Committee’s third quarter report will be included in the December newsletter. Please be sure to check out the results of your giving for Paxton Ministries, Krislund Camp, and the CD NutriPacks Program. Your donations were greatly appreciated as have been verified by the letters we have received and have been posted on the Mission Committee bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your generosity and support of each of these missions!

PRAYERS OF JOY & CONCERNS AT FAITH IMMANUEL CHURCH

Joy:

Pat Lebo: Son, Don, married his longtime girlfriend, Ruth.

Kim Rice: Recovery from knee replacement going well.

Alex Caplan: Blessings on his 30th Birthday, 11/19!

Anita Klabo: Great Aunt Libby turned 101 years old!

Concern:

Family & Friends of Tammy Luckenbill: Passed away. Former member of Faith.

Family & Friends of Chas Harrison: Passed away 11-12-2023. Leaves behind a wife and young daughter.

Lee Hartwick: Broken arm. In rehab to regain strength. Prayers for healing.

Bob Finkle: Recovering from surgery.

Norm Hessel: Continued prayers after surgery.

Family & Friends of Ken Smithblower: Passed away 11-11-2023. Joanne Finkle’s brother.

Family & Friends of Richard Reidell: Passed away Friday Nov. 24. Pat

SPECIAL MUSIC for the Christmas Season: As we move through December and the season of Advent, many preparations are underway for the fast-approaching Christmas celebrations. We are seeking musicians of all shapes, sizes and ages to add their talents for Christmas Eve, either pre-service or during the service. A simple musical offering of 2 to 3 minutes would be wonderful. Do you feel called to explore this possibility? Or perhaps you could reach out to a friend or family member that is musically inclined? Please contact Brad at bradleyjhull@gmail.com by **December 11**. Additionally, should you be interested in joining the vocal choir to sing at our Christmas Eve service, rehearsals are Mondays at 3:30. Please come and join us.

MANDALA WORKSHOP: Ring in the New Year with a New Experience: Add Art Workshop to Calendar Now

Join Rev. Kelly Wiant and art educator John Davis on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Nevada Room to create a sacred space mandala. Please invite neighbors, friends and families to attend with you.

Participants can either create an original mandala or color a design that is provided. The workshop is for all artistic skill levels and ages. Art supplies are provided.

The Sanskrit word mandala is literally a circle. It is an ancient art form of geometric patterns. A mandala is a tool for spiritual guidance and aids in meditation and mental focus. A rosette in a stained glassed window is an example of a mandala.

Registration is due Jan. 19. A minimum \$5 donation will be accepted. The workshop will be offered by Zoom to members of the church who are out-of-town or homebound. If a weather-related cancellation is necessary, the workshop will be rescheduled for Jan. 30.

Transportation can be arranged to those in the congregation who do not drive at night or need a little additional assistance.

The workshop is offered through the nurture committee with promotional assistance provided by the outreach committee.

A MESSAGE FROM MISSION: Caitlin's Smiles has contacted us to help them send smiles to hospitalized kids ages 2 to 17 this holiday season. They are dedicated to making the days better for kids in

THIRD READING -

Mark 13: 24-37 New Testament, pg. # 50

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Advent Journey: Pack Hope" Elder Rosamond Presby

*HYMN # 360

Christ Is Coming!

WE PRESENT OURSELVES TO GOD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed - *Ecumenical*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL MEDITATION

arr. W. Wold

"Savior of the Nations Come"

Brad Hull, Pianist

*DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, #606)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

God of extravagant love, fill our spirits with your love and place upon our hearts your call to serve all in the name of Christ. We ask that you dedicate our gifts and our lives to faithful service and ministry. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray. . .

. . . joining our voices with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

(The people sing, using the same tune as Hymn 143)

Holy, Holy, Lord most holy,
God of power and God of might,
Heaven and earth reveal your glory.
Hail, hosanna, Lord of Light!
Blessed be the coming Savior.
Hail, hosanna, Lord of Light!

You are holy, O God of majesty. . .

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

community. We have been made aware of needs that some of their members have. We are working with them to help meet these needs. We are finding resources for them in various capacity including diapers and cold weather clothing for adults and children. If you have items you feel they might be able to use please contact Michelle Beck.

CCA COOKIE WALK: We're excited to bring back the Colonial Crest Holiday Cookie Walk Fundraiser! This event is open to the public! Please share and invite others. ***Cookie donations needed, read on for details. When: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 Time: 6pm-8pm Where: Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 1801 Colonial Rd, Harrisburg, PA How the cookie walk works: Pay \$7 (cash only, no credit cards) for your cookie container at the door, then you fill up your container as you walk around the various cookie tables filled with various homemade cookies in the church lobby! Cookies are first come first serve! We have run out of cookies in past years so make sure you get there early. This holiday season, 100% of the proceeds will go to the Harrisburg charity, Downtown Daily Bread. Calling all Bakers! ***We're looking for bakers to donate cookies! The event is not possible without cookie donations. If you are able to donate cookies for the walk, please contact Courtney Smith courtney.smith2@wilkes.edu with the amount of cookies in dozens that you can bake/donate. Thank you to all those who've helped in the past and can help this year too!

CCA CAROLING: CCA (The Colonial Crest Association) would like to invite you to Luminaries & Caroling at the Pond Saturday, Dec. 16th 2023 starting at 5 PM. Light refreshments will be available and a fire to keep you warm!

RIDE SHARE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: Would you like to attend our beautiful Christmas Eve candlelight service but do not wish to or are unable to drive at night? The Music and Worship committee is attempting to match up drivers with riders to allow everyone who wishes to attend the 7:00 service to do so.

Are you able to transport one (or more) person to and from the service? Do you wish to have a ride to and from the service?

Please contact Christine in the church office (717 545-4631) with your information. There also will be a sign-up sheet in the gathering area for drivers and riders. Please be sure to include your name, address, and a best contact number. Thank you.

BOOK CLUB: The FIPC Book Club will not be meeting in December. Meetings will resume in January.

ANGEL TREE: A "GIVING TREE" to benefit the Delta Community will be placed in the Gathering Area beginning on Sunday, November 26. On the tree are cards that have the names of children living in single parent families at Delta Community. Each card will indicate the name and sex of a child, and the item on their wish list for Christmas. Gifts can be wrapped or unwrapped. **Please remember to attach the child's information with your gift and return it by Friday, December 15.** Questions, contact Randy Knapp or the church office at 717-545-4631.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you would like to donate any used toys in good repair, they may be included as well. The families we are serving literally have nothing. They are single parents with kids coming from desperate circumstances like shelters to this transitional housing program. For many of them, this is their first real home.

LIVE-STREAMING: The FIPC live-streaming team is seeking volunteers to do the changing of PowerPoint slides for our worship services. (The slides are prepared by the office - volunteers have only to change slides at the appropriate time!) Please speak with Norm Diefenderfer if you wish to volunteer. Many thanks.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NURTURE COMMITTEE: This year the Nurture Committee with the assistance of several members of Faith Immanuel have created an Advent Devotional Booklet. We hope as you read the devotion each day it helps to prepare you for Jesus' birth. Our hope is that it will help to deepen your faith during this Advent season. The booklets will be available in the gathering area starting Sunday, November 19th. A copy of the booklet will also be sent to our homebound members.

The Nurture Committee would also like to challenge you during the upcoming year. The challenge is to read the entire Bible with us. The daily reading guide will also be available on November 19th. Beginning January 1st, we will start reading and on December 31st we will have read the entire Bible together. If you have never read the whole Bible, now is your chance. If you have read it, now is your chance to do it again.

The Nurture Committee will be helping our fellow Christians who attend the Agape' Nepali church who are currently part of our church

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND
THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS CHRIST'S OWN

*HYMN # 772 Live Into Hope

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn # 601 "Amen"

*POSTLUDE "Prepare the Way, O Zion"
Swedish Melody / W. Cassler Brad Hull, Organist

*Indicates where those who are able may stand.

WORSHIP NOTE

This year's Advent candle lighting litanies are adapted from materials written by Dr. Lisa Hancock and published on the United Methodist Church's Discipleship Ministries website.

REMINDER: Please silence mobile phones.

PRAYER REQUESTS may be emailed to the church office by Friday to be included for Sunday's service. Email to: fipcoffice@lifeinfaith.org

SANITIZED HEARING DEVICES AND LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from ushers. Shawls are also available to borrow from ushers.

DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE for restrooms, including a handicapped restroom, and worship service Family Quiet Room is posted in the Gathering Area. Please, ask ushers for assistance.

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVESTREAMED. You may appear on camera. Services are recorded on YouTube.

TODAY IN WORSHIP - 11:00 am

Ushers: Mickey Hoffman & Sally Humbert
Lay Reader: Mike Legg

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Dec 6 Pat Bivens
Dec 8 Wendy Coad
Virginia Geiger
Dec 9 Jeanne Wilders
Dec 10 Marjorie Barner



*Today's Chancel Flowers are placed by Marge Barner:
"In Loving Memory of Donald Barner."*

THIS WEEK AT FAITH IMMANUEL
DECEMBER 3RD THRU DECEMBER 9TH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

9:30am **Adult Sunday School:** Nevada Room
11:00am **Worship:** Sanctuary
12:00am **Nominating Committee:** Sanctuary

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

3:30pm **Choir Rehearsal Canceled**
5:30pm **Handbell Rehearsal:** Music Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

1:00pm **Game Time:** In a Special Location. Ask Jackie.
2:30pm **Nurture Committee:** Zarfoss Library
6:00pm **Congregational Life Committee:** Zarfoss Library

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

1:30pm **Ladies Christmas Tea:** Shaffer Hall
6:30am **Girl Scouts 14017:** Shaffer Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

7:00pm **Mission Committee Meeting Canceled**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AFTER SERVICE: The Nominating Committee will be meeting after church, in the sanctuary.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: A summary of work completed by the transition team and presented to Session will be highlighted as the Minute for Mission at our worship service on Dec. 10.

REMINDER: If you are participating in the cookie exchange, you need to have 8 bags with 6 cookies each. Please put your name and the type of cookie on the outside of each bag. If you would like to come and eat lunch, but not participate in the exchange, you are welcome to sign up and leave the cookie spot blank. This will be the last Sunday to sign up.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, December 17, 2023, following worship for the purpose of reviewing the Budget for 2024. Budget information will be available December 10.

CAROLING: Everyone is invited to go Christmas caroling on Tuesday, December 12, 2023. We will meet at the church at 6:00 PM and car pool to a nearby neighborhood. Goodie bags with information about our Christmas services will be given to homes we visit. Upon returning to church we will warm up with hot chocolate and cookies.

POINSETTIA: Don't forget to order Poinsettia by December 5th.

LADIES CHRISTMAS TEA: Wednesday, December 6 at 1:30 pm. Ladies, you are cordially invited to attend the Christmas Tea for an afternoon of relaxation and delicious tea fare. Our guest speaker, Harriet Magee, will be taking us back to "Victorian Times."

HANGING OF THE GREENS: It's that time again - time to transform our sanctuary and gathering area into beautiful Advent spaces as we await the birth of our Lord. Beginning immediately after church on Sunday, November 26th and continuing through Saturday, December 2nd, individuals and groups of folks will be decorating trees, hanging wreaths and garlands, fluffing bows, and making sure all lights are in working order. We need your help! Even if you no longer wish to climb a ladder, there are plenty of tasks that can be accomplished sitting down or standing for brief periods of time. Please consider volunteering for this activity. Tasks can be accomplished on your own schedule. There are people who have been doing this for years who would be more than willing to show newcomers how and what can be done. Team up with friends! Sign-up sheets are in the gathering area, along with photos and explanations of tasks. Thank you for volunteering.