



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

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Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Zaq Phillips – Youth Minister

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

January 4, 2015

Epiphany Sunday / Holy Communion

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 "We Three Kings"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Look around, God's light shines in the darkness.

P: The darkness fades like the waning night.

L: Look about you, God's glory is all around.

P: Our hearts sing with joy.

L: Look up, Christ's star has risen in the sky.

P: We will follow the light of the world.

***UNISON PRAYER**

Glorious God, grant us the courage to follow Christ's natal star, wherever your light would lead us; grant us the wisdom to follow the kings of old, as they left the safety of their homes to find the infant Jesus; grant us the purity of heart, to forsake the glitter of things that do not endure, and embrace the brightness of your glory. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 219**

"What Child Is This"

Children come forward during the last verse.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

(Our Children's Collection this morning will be given to "Bethany House." Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM 8:15 - "There's a Song in the Air"

10:45 - "A Little Light Was Born" Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY 8:15 - "Star in the East"
 10:45 - “Who Would Imagine a King?”

***DOXOLOGY** “Christmas Doxology”
 “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**

God, our heavenly Father, you have blessed us with earthly delights. Let our life as a church community become like a watered garden. Make us radiant over the goodness of your gifts! May all who enter our midst flourish with new life. Help us to share with our neighbors generously from your bounty. We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 254 “We Three Kings”
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) Matthew 2:1-12
SERMON

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION II

THE INVITATION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 251 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”**

***BENEDICTION**

***MUSIC OF PARTING “Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”**

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

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, January 4

Epiphany Sunday/Communion

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship
12:00 Un-hanging of the Greens
Combined Youth group at Greensburg UMC

Wednesday, January 7

7:00 Women's Book Study
7:00 Yoga

Saturday, January 10

9:30 Food Bank
– Help needed
6:00 Alternative Worship

Thursday, January 8

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

Next Sunday, January 11

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship
2:00 FISH & CHIPS
4:00 Temple Bells
4:45 SonShiners

Monday, January 5

7:00 Dartball - H

Tuesday, January 6

5:30 Gym in use
6:15 TOPS
7:00 Outreach
7:30 NA

Friday, January 9

9:00 Food Bank Truck
– Help needed
Gym Closed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS: This week our children's collection will be given to Bethany House, in the impoverished community of Northview Heights in North Pittsburgh. This is one of the organizations supported by the Greensburg District. Their mission is to prepare children, youth, and adults of that community, academically, socially, economically, and spiritually for lifelong learning, achievement, health and prosperity. They work to provide quality supplemental education to children in preschool to the age of 18. Their focus is on those whose means do not allow for extra educational endeavors. <http://www.bhaweb.org/>

“Westmoreland Churches Committee for Emergency Aid.”:

12/7 - \$278.50 12/14 - \$183.25 12/21 - \$225.53 12/28 - \$207.00

EPIPHANY SUNDAY – CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Today is Epiphany Sunday. If you brought a candle please and put your name on the bottom of it. We will light the candles during the service. After the service, come up, take a different candle home with you, and throughout the year, pray for the family or individual whose name is on the bottom of that candle.

UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS: After the second service today, the Witness committee would like everyone who can to stay and help un-decorate our church. For more details please contact Dianne Runser.

ALL 2014 CONTRIBUTIONS must be in to the office by Wednesday, December 31, 2014 to be credited on your 2014 Annual Giving Statement. Contributions received after December 31, 2014 will be posted to your 2015 Annual Giving Statement.

Also, any receipts for items that you may 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 11, 2015. After January 11th the 2014 financial records will be closed and all credits will go toward the 2015.

THE NURSERY is looking for volunteers for 2015. Each week we need two attendents in the nursery during the 10:45 worship service. They are normally only scheduled three or four times a year so that no one is missing the worship service every week. There are positions available for both adults and teens. (The state of Pennsylvania and the United Methodist Church do require that anyone working with children have their Act 33 & Act 34 clearances on file in the office. The forms are available in the church office and our church will pay the fees involved in obtaining the clearances.)



Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Service
Sunday, January 18, 2015, 4 p.m.

Monroeville United Methodist Church
219 Center Road
Monroeville, PA 15146

Keynote Speaker: Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton
Resident Bishop, Western Pennsylvania Conference

There will be various musical groups from the Greensburg & Pittsburgh districts performing.

This is an outreach service hosted by the Greensburg and Pittsburgh Districts.

Light refreshments will be served immediately following the service.
