

***HYMN No. 254**

“We Three Kings”

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding guide us to Thy perfect light.

5. Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, alleluia sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

***BENEDICTION**

***MUSIC OF PARTING”**

“Rejoice!”

First United Methodist Church

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Like us on Facebook

Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)

Dianne Runser - Music Ministries

Ronald Slavin - Youth Ministries

Laura Willby - Contemporary Music Coordinator

January 2, 2022

Epiphany Sunday

Memory Verse - John 14:1

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You believe in God; believe also in me.”

The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.

***Please stand if you are able.**

ASSISTING WITH TODAY’S SERVICE
Worship Host - Robbyn Slavin
Music Leader - 10:45 a.m. - David Lyons

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK AT FUMC
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. - 35 10:45 a.m. - 54
Facebook, YouTube, Zoom - 18

GATHERING & WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”
Cathedral Bells

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 147:12-20

L: Extol the Lord, Jerusalem; praise your God, Zion.

P: **He strengthens the bars of your gates and blesses your people within you.**

L: He grants peace to your borders and satisfies you with the finest of wheat.

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***CALL TO WORSHIP (cont.)**

Psalm 147:12-20

- P:** He sends his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.
L: He spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes.
P: He hurls down his hail like pebbles. Who can withstand his icy blast?
L: He sends his word and melts them; he stirs up his breezes, and the waters flow.
P: He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws and decrees to Israel.
L: He has done this for no other nation; they do not know his laws.
ALL: Praise the Lord.

***HYMN No. 245**

“The First Noel”

1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. - Refrain
3. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. - Refrain

WORD OF GOD

Ephesians 1:3-10

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERING

***OFFERTORY**

A Christmas Remembrance”

***DOXOLOGY No. 87, v. 4**

These gifts we now bring, these presents, these tokens,
These words can convey it, the joy of this day!

***DOXOLOGY No. 87, v. 4 (cont.)**

When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
This song we now offer in honor and praise!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

***HYMN**

“A Hymn for New Year” - (Tune: “Auld Lang Syne”)

1. O God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,
Our Shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home!
Under the shadow of Thy throne still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
2. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.
O God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,
Be Thou my Guide while life shall last, and our eternal Home.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Christmas Communion Song” - Chancel Choir

JOYS AND CONCERNS

For our joys we say: **“Praise the Lord”**

For our concerns we say: **“Lord hear our prayers”**

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**

***GOSPEL READING**

John 1:1-14

L: The Word of God for the children of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“So It Begins”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SACRAMENT

All are welcome to the table of our Lord

A Progressive Nativity Experience Epiphany Sunday



Prior to this week, the Wise Men or Magi had left King Herod and were on their way to Bethlehem in search for baby Jesus. The shepherds had returned to their fields telling everyone about the baby Jesus.

Today as we read in *Matthew 2: 9b-11*- "*And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*"

This week is "Epiphany" or when the Wise Men knelt, worshiped and offered gifts to Jesus. Today, our Progressive Nativity brings everyone together, Mary, Joseph, the Christ Child, Shepherds, the Angel and the Wise men.

Mary, Joseph and the Christ Child were in a house. (*Matthew 2:11*) Since time has lapsed before the Magi have arrived in Bethlehem, notice we have a Christ Child sitting on Mary's lap.

The Magi brought expensive gifts and worshiped Jesus for who he was. Bible scholars have seen symbols in these gifts. Gold was a gift for royalty, frankincense was a gift of deity and myrrh was a spice used to anoint a body for burial.

Hopefully, collectively, we have received the true Gift of Christmas, that of the Love of Jesus Christ. May God bless every one!

Thank you Nativity Team and all who have supported this ministry

The Third Annual Progressive Nativity Experience- 2021 - This Progressive Nativity Experience is God's inspiration and in honor of our dear friends and Sunday School teachers, Bettie and Glenn Heydt. We hope you enjoyed the Progressive Nativity this year and were able to come away with a deeper and spiritual understanding of the reason for the Christmas Season. It is truly to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Christ Child, Immanuel (which means God with us)! There are many volunteers who are needed to assist with the Nativity beginning the Sunday before Advent until the Sunday after Epiphany. And we have a "Nativity Team" that meets throughout the year. We welcome anyone who is interested in helping, reach out to a team member for more information. Your dedication of prayer and praise enables this Ministry to be possible! We thank you each for your giving of your valuable time and talents!

Merry, blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!
Your Nativity Team

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WENDELL'S VISION - We are still waiting to receive your request(s) for that project/task you need or want to check off your "things to do list". We will not be starting any new projects/tasks now until after the new year, but that shouldn't stop you from filling out that request form you got or need to get from our ministry station in the "June Coons Ministry Outreach Center" (the old assembly room). We are praying for you in anticipation of that request. Let's work together to fulfill your wishes. No request is too small; however, some may not be possible for various reasons. But unless you ask, we'll never know. All requests are vetted using the same criteria for fairness. The only thing we ask is that you are a regular attendee of the Saturday or Sunday services of Irwin First. Check out the church website for the latest photos of Before & After recently posted.

All of the volunteers hope you have a Joyous Christmas and a Grand New Year. May the Reason for the Season continue to Bless this Ministry!!!

Coordinators, Patty & Jack Osterman

PRAYER QUILTS AND PRAYER SHAWLS - Stitch in Faith & Hands to Work, Hearts to God Ministries continue to offer dedicated quilts, baby blankets, prayer shawls, lap afghans and afghans to those in need of one. However, we need your help in distributing them. Don't forget to please notify one of the Pastors if prayers are needed. Any questions, notify Mary Reed or Cindi Painter.



GIVE BLOOD, IT'S A LIFE SAVER - The January 18th blood drive has been rescheduled to Wednesday, January 26 from 12:30-6:00 p.m. Please consider participating in this life saving ministry.

BLESSING BOX - We stock our Blessing Box with toiletry items for those who are in need of them in our community. The need at this time is very great and we hope you can help. If you have donations of new items such as tooth paste and tooth brushes, shampoo and conditioner, bath soap, deodorant or any personal hygiene items, please bring them to the church when you come for Saturday or Sunday services. Please be sure that all items are new and in their original packaging. If you have any questions about the Blessing Box, please contact Pastor Bruce or Ron. Additional Blessings Boxes are located in Irwin at the First Assembly of God Church on Oak Street (canned goods) and at the Cheesecake Café on Main Street (books.)

SHOUT OUT TO . . . Jack and Pat Osterman and the Wendell's Vision ministry for the beautiful cabinet that they built for our church paraments (altar cloths). It such a wonderful storage upgrade!

Thank again so much Jack and Pat.
Barb Worthington



ALTAR FLOWERS - Due to Covid, the flower store who supplies our altar flowers is closed until further notice. Therefore, there will be no fresh flowers on the altar until they give us the go ahead. If you were scheduled to have flowers on the altar in the month of January, they will be postponed to a later date. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you, but we thank you for your understanding.

NATIVITY GROUP AND QUILTERS - The Nativity Group will continue to meet each Tuesday morning (and Saturdays if needed) until the week after Epiphany. Quilting will resume in January on the first and third Tuesdays. Nativity will meet every second and fourth Tuesdays. Any questions, please notify Mary Reed or Cindi Painter. We welcome anyone who would like to join us "you are a stranger but once"! We really do have fun!



CONGRATULATIONS! - We would like to send love and congratulations to **Elaine and Bill Mays** who will be celebrating their 70th anniversary on Wednesday, January 5. May the Lord bless you now and always. If you would like to send Bill and Elaine a card, their address is: 12309 Adams Dr, N Huntingdon, PA 15642.

Congrats and love also goes out to **Lou Berta** who will be celebrating his 89th birthday on Tuesday, January 4. May the Lord shower you with many blessings.

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS - Pastor Bruce will begin his next Bible study on Wednesday, January 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the "June Coons Ministry Outreach Center". This Bible study is entitled "Ten Parable of Jesus" and workbooks are required and will be available at the cost of \$6.00. If you are interested in attending, just be there on Wednesday, January 5. We look forward to seeing you!

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES - All contribution booklets have been mailed out. If you did not receive yours, please contact the Finance Office at 724-864-6858. Meanwhile there are extra booklets in the "June Coons Room" on the NOW Committee Station. This booklet along with a "Key Code Card" will give members a better sense of privacy and security, as well as a more organized process. You will receive booklets quarterly. Holidays will show on the quarter in which the holiday falls. A "Key Code Card" example is below and will remain in the bulletin weekly through the entire month of December. We will also include a paper copy of the "Key Code Card" in the bulletin during the month of January. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Financial Secretary at 724-863-6858.

CONTRIBUTION CODE KEY

Use the following codes when contributing or write a specific mission you would like to support.

200 General Fund	514 \$2 Fund	701 Utilities	500 Conn Appt	80 Memorial	215 Love Offering	361 Food Bank
45 PDF	226 Communion	232 Thanks-giving	324 Brown Bag Comm Dinner	217 Easter	211 Palm Sunday	212 Maundy Thursday
213 Good Friday	216 Lent	87 Wendell's	40 Youth	13 VBS		Boiler Repair
Café	Write In					

DAILY BREAD and THE UPPER ROOM - December, January and February's Daily Bread and Upper Room are available in the "June Coon's Assembly Room". The "Daily Bread" is free and the "Upper Room" is available for the low cost of \$.75. Please place your \$.75 in the envelope provided and place it in the offering plate. Both are located in the literature rack by the windows. If you haven't had the opportunity to use these prayer devotionals before, now is the perfect time.

CAMP FUNDRAISER

We will continue with the 14" Hoagies, 12" Pizzas and Pepperoni Rolls as a fundraiser for camperships. See enclosed form. We will still be using Post Avenue Fundraising for these food items. Price is \$ 8.00. Checks should be made payable to First UM Church on pickup day. Pickup dates at the church will be the first Sunday of February, March, April and May. Forms need to be turned into the church on Sunday, January 23, 2022. Your support of this fundraiser is appreciated!

Our church contributes 30% of total camp costs for campers who are members of Irwin First United Methodist Church or who are attending our church. Camp books should be available in January. Watch for further information.

Remember our **CLEAN CLOSETS FOR CAMPERS** project. There are blue bins outside our church. They accept clothing, belts, purses, curtains, etc. Mission Partners will pick up our items and send the church a check used for camperships. Thank you for your help! If you have questions, contact Debbie Weaver 724-863-4236.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CAMP FUNDRAISER

Question: Contact Debbie Weaver - (724) 863-4236
Post Avenue Fundraising - (800) 394-8137

NAME:							
PHONE:				TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:			
14" HOAGIES - \$8.00							
Italian w/ Onions	Italian No Onions	Tradi-tional w/ Onions	Tradi-tional No Onions	Ham/ Swiss w/ Onions	Ham/ Swiss No Onion	Pizza	Turkey No Onions
12" PIZZA - \$8.00				FRESH, NOT FROZEN, READY TO BAKE			
PEPPERONI PIZZA		PLAIN PIZZA		WHITE PIZZA			
PEPPERONI ROLLS - \$8.00 FOR 2 PACK							
2 PACK SPICY PEPPERONI ROLLS				2 PACK REGULAR PEPPERONI ROLLS			

THIS WEEK AT IRWIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Feel free to contact Pastor Bruce at any time if you are in need of pastoral care.

His contact information is as follows: 724-747-6098 (call or text) -
preacherptl@gmail.com

Sunday, January 2 - Epiphany Sunday – Communion

8:15 a.m. - In-Church and Drive-in Church (Radio 87.9 FM)

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:45 a.m. - In-Church and Drive-in Church - Radio 87.9 FM, Facebook, YouTube and Zoom (Meeting ID#: 633 303 454 Password: 104289)

Monday, January 3 - Office Closed

6:30 p.m. - Cub Scouts

Tuesday, January 4

9:00 a.m. - Nativity Group

6:00 p.m. - Basketball

7:00 p.m. - Outreach Meeting

7:30 p.m. - NA

Wednesday, January 5

9:30 a.m. - Salvation Army

10:00 a.m. - Zoom Prayer Group Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID#: 311 4389 930, Password: 3U22u3

10:00 a.m. - Quality Control Meeting

1:00 p.m. - Bible Study

5:00 p.m. - Youth Group

6:00 p.m. - Bible Study

7:00 p.m. - AA

Thursday, January 6

6:00 p.m. - Girl Scouts

6:00 p.m. - Basketball

6:15 p.m. - C Bells

6:30 p.m. - NA

7:15 p.m. - Choir

Friday, January 7

6:15 p.m. - Girl Scouts

Saturday, January 8

6:00 p.m. - Contemporary Service

Sunday, January 9 - Wesleyan Covenant Service - Both Services

8:15 a.m. - Worship Service

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:45 a.m. - Worship Service

12:00 p.m. - Unhanging of the Greens begins and continues all week.

HOSPITAL CALLS AND VISITS—If you or someone you know is in the hospital or would like a visit from Pastor Bruce, please call the office or you may call/message Pastor Bruce directly at 724-747-6098. *Remember, Pastor Bruce cannot provide care to our congregation if he does not know there is a need.*



IN PERSONAL CARE AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES

Wanda H. - Walden View; Dorothy B. - Asbury Heights, Mt. Lebanon; Mary Greene & James R., Sr. - St. Anne's Home, Greensburg; Doris C. - Golden Heights, Harrison City; Altozoe S. - Hempfield Manor.

CONTINUOUS PRAYER

Linda K., Larry R., Jule K., Mark L., Brent L., Kurt W. & Family, Cheryl and John M., Tim and Diane N., Rick H., Marlin A. and Nancy P., Joe S., Joe L., Virginia, Jennifer N., Curt E., Valerie M., Patty H., Jeff M., Donna H., John B., Dean and Dorothy, Chris E., Rose N., Sara C., Fred and Barb S., Mischa and Suzanne S., Diane B., John G., Noah C., Craig C., Red, Dawn, Amy P., Chuck K., Pat M., Jane I., Ashley, Stu S., Shawn S., Christa L., Rhonda, Beverly and Tom D., Laura, Stephanie S., Dave W., Bill and Elaine M., Kim V., Dorothy A., Paul and Iva Lou B., Jackie S., Lesley K., Debbie N., Cliff R., Penny and Jerry M., Ron M., Father John Moineau, Shirley B., Brandon G., Kathy H. and

Missionaries: Bob & Natalie F. and Family (India), John and Diane K. (Mexico) and Connie Wieck.

THIS MONTH'S PRAYER LIST

We will change the prayer list the first Sunday of each month. Please contact the church office with names for the list.

Sheila L., our world, First Responders and Military, our Country and Leaders, job situations and those traveling.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Brandon D., Colby S., Angelo W., Nicholas P., David J., Amanda M., James G., Emery M., Makayla L., Mark Russak, Sara D., Jeremy L., Carl B., Dylan A., Thomas C. and Edward J. III.

***I call on you, my God, for you will answer me;
turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.
Psalm 17:6***