

'Till We Meet Again!

Week of December 11 & 12, 2021

weekend worship

Worship on Saturday, December 11 at 5:00 PM will be held at St. Peter's. Worship on Sunday, December 12 at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM will be held at Light of Christ, with Sunday School at 9:15 AM. Facemasks are required!

WORSHIP MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Presiding Minister: Pastor Suzanne

December 11:

Assisting Minister: Gina Brockway

December 12:

8:00 AM

Assisting Minister: Rosalie Adducie

Communion Assistant: TBD

Lector: Nancy Kostas
Usher 1: George Baltz
Usher 2: Mike Horwath
Acolyte: Josh Gulotta

10:30 AM

Assisting Minister: Pastor Mike **Communion Assistant:** Jimmy Bleier

Lector: Matthew Bleier Usher: 1 Rich Romig Usher 2: Richard Uttard Acolyte: Douglas Bleier



JOIN OUR SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP!

Our Saturday worship at St. Peter's (5 PM) is now open for all congregants! Our new

livestream equipment allows us to worship both with our siblings online and our siblings in the pews. We'd love to see you there!

ADVENT DAILY PRAYER

Starting **November 29th** we will be hosting a morning prayers service at St. Peter's. This service will be held **Monday-Fridays** during the 4 weeks of Advent starting at **9 am**. The service will last about 20 minutes and will be available in person as well as livestreamed. If you have any questions, please contact Brynn or Josh

ST. PETER'S CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The St. Peter's congregational meeting will be on **December 12th**. Copies of the Proposed Budget will be available after the next two church services for your review. They will also be available at the church office leading up to the event. Call the St. Peter's office at 610-867-0519 if you have any questions.

PANTRY SUNDAY

The next Pantry Sunday will take place at **LoC** on **December 12**. These are the special needs for Calvary Temple: tuna, rice, jelly (plastic jars), canned chicken, canned stew, pancake syrup and pretzels. **Thank you** for helping to alleviate hunger.

Dec. 12 - Christmas Card Signing/Gift Wrapping Day

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at LoC after **the 10:30 am** worship to sign Christmas cards for residents of local retirement homes. A light luncheon/beverages will be provided. Bring

your own cards or sign cards that we will have available that day. We will also be wrapping gifts that have been provided by a Thrivent Action Team for the residents of ManorCare/Old Orchard Let's enjoy a time of fellowship as we help spread Christmas cheer to lots of local folks.

COAT AND JACKET COLLECTION

New and gently used **Men's and Women's jackets and coats** are being collected to distribute to Northampton County Inmates. Sometimes someone enters the prison system in the warmer months without the proper clothing for the later colder months. Please assist the Social Justice Committee in this outreach.

During November, coats and jackets may be brought to **St. Peter's** on Sunday's when you attend worship. **In December**, coats and jackets may be brought to **Light of Christ** when you attend worship there. Items will be collected **until December 12**. Only coats and jackets at this time please.

Any questions, please contact Cindy Kemp, cindyk303@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PARTY

Come join us **December 18**th for the Sunday School holiday party! Kids of all ages (and their families) are invited to build gingerbread houses from 5:30-6:30 and enjoy a lasagna dinner from 6:30-7:00. Children in grades 7-12 will then participate in an overnight lock-in! We will work on our candle making project, watch a Christmas movie, and join together in a midnight worship service. Sunday School teachers from past and present will join in on the fun! **Please RSVP by December 12**th so we can bring enough lasagna!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you for picking up all the tags. Please remember to bring the mittens, hat and \$3 to LoC in a Ziploc bag by next Sunday, Dec. 19

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR LOCAL RETIREMENT HOMES

Please drop off additional Christmas cards <u>already signed by Dec. 19th</u> to LoC and use the drop box on the porch. Even though we are having a card signing activity on Sunday, Dec. 12th, we will still need additional cards. We plan to deliver close to 1800 cards to 14 nursing homes during the week after Dec. 19. We hope to also have your help to sign cards on Sunday, Dec. 12. A wonderful luncheon is being prepared after worship and, in addition to signing cards, we have 155 gifts to wrap for a nursing home. Please bring scissors if you plan to wrap - tape and Christmas wrap will be provided. Thanks in advance for your help on Dec. 12.



NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP MINISTERS

The worship ministers for December 18th and 19th are listed here. Contact Josh Gulotta if you have any questions: **December 18th**: Assisting Minister: Elizabeth Elterich. **December 19th, 8 AM**: Assisting Minister: Matthew Bleier-Lector: Rosalie Adducie; Greeter: Jean Perry; Ushers: Joan Erb and Nancy Kostas; Acolyte: Douglas Bleier. **December 12th, 10:30 AM**: Communion Assistant: Josh Gulotta; Lector: Karen Schoch; Ushers: Cliff Bengston and Brynn Anderson; Acolyte: Josh Gulotta.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Our Christmas Eve services are around the corner! There will be 3 separate services that night. There will be a 3 pm service at Light of Christ with prelude music beginning at 2:30 pm, a 6 pm service at St. Peter's, and a 8 pm service at St. John's Windish. The 6pm service at St. Peter's will be livestreamed. Please con-

tact the church office if you have any questions.

BOOK CLUB

Join us for our next book club reading discussion. It will be on January 2nd after the 10:30 worship service at St. John's Windish The book we chose to read is The Pull of The Stars by Emma Donoghue. It's the story of a nurse in Ireland struggling with war and disease during the first world war. Light amidst the darkness and hope against all odds threads throughout the story.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Mark your calendars! Once again, we would like to start of the new year by showing our generous thanks to all the first responders who work hard in our community year-round.

To that end, we will host a First Responders Appreciation Breakfast & Luncheon on Saturday, January 15, 2022 (with a snow date of the following Saturday, January 22) at St. John's Windish. Since our event spans breakfast and lunch, we need lots of volunteers and food. You can volunteer for the breakfast shift or for the lunch shift, or stay the whole day! We ask that breakfast shift volunteers arrive at St. John's by 7:00 a.m. and remain until 11:00 **a.m**. For the **lunch shift**, we ask that volunteers arrive at St. John's by 11:00 a.m. and remain until clean up is complete around 3:00 p.m. If you would like to help with this awesome event, please let Gina Brockway know (ginbrockway86@gmail.com or call or text 610-703-8249).

We also need volunteers to donate food (breakfast & lunch foods plus desserts) and paper products.

We hope you can help us show our thanks & appreciation to our community's First Responders!

IN THE



Christmas Ingathering - Thank you to members of the UPG and St John's Windish for contributing 62 bottles of shampoo to the Christmas Ingathering, almost twice our commitment. You have brightened someone's Christmas with your generosity. Louise Fielding and Joan Erb delivered the shampoo on December 1st and volunteered to assist in the distribution.

Dress a Girl Around the World - Mary Mann, who led this project, and many other volunteers sewed 72 absolutely beautiful dresses for preschool girls in places of need. Thank you for being a blessing to these children. The dresses are ready to be shipped to the collection site in lowa. This amazing project of outreach was made possible with funds from Thrivent. Pictures from the packing event are on page 5 of the newsletter.

Bethlehem No Home For Hate: The "Bethlehem No Home for Hate" campaign, has just been launched by the Mayor's office, the Bethlehem Community Advisory Board, and the local NAACP. In a time of increasing polarization and intolerance, we want to encourage our constituent organizations to stand together in expressing our solidarity as beloved children of God. A copy of the petition will be available to sign Sundays at worship.

Bethlehem Emergency Shelter: The Bethlehem Emergency Shelter opened it's doors on Monday, November 15 for the start of the 2021-2022 Sheltering Season. The UPG and St John's have partnered with Star of Bethlehem to pre-

pare and serve meals and to provide volunteers to register guests and monitor the showers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. There are many other opportunities to serve such as providing desserts or breakfast items or even to apply for a Thrivent Action team to help purchase food items if you cannot be present at the shelter to help out. Please prayerfully consider becoming a member of this outreach team that provides a warm meal and shelter in addition to caring fellowship for our brothers and sisters...and we have fun doing it! You can sign up using the following link https://signup.com/go/RMoFYeL or contact Michel Lloyd at 484-695-3921 or michellloyd@gmail.com. Peace and blessings!

Donated Christmas Tree: Are you in need of a Christmas Tree this season? A member of the community is looking to donate an artificial tree to a family in need. It is about 6 ft tall and comes with lights and ornaments. Call your church office if you are interested.

Utility Assistance this Winter: Do you need help with utility bills this winter? There are government programs which can help. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program pro-vides \$200-\$1000 to utilities companies as credit on the customers bill. There is also the Emergency Rental Assistance Program which can help those who struggled to pay for their utilities due to the pandemic. If you want more information, contact the County Public Assistance Office weekdays at 866-857-7095 or go to dhs.pa.gov.

Enter the Bible: Luther Seminary has created a resource called "Enter the Bible" to help people understand scripture better. It breaks down each

book in the Bible and gives an overview of its background and context. It is free to use and can be found at https://enterthebible.org/free-account-registration/.

WEEKLY MAILINGS

If you have returned to in-person Worship and are no longer in need of the weekly mailing packet, please contact the church office.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Mike:

Phone: 832-561-0697

Email: mikebutton1952@gmail.com

Pastor Suzanne:

Phone: 610-217-1375 Email: strump@ptd.net

COUNCIL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION: Light of Christ:

- <u>Tom Seifert</u>—president 610-442-2750
- •Sandra Butch—vice president 610-865-6204
- •Bonnie Harper—secretary 610-691-6647
- •Nancy Kostas 610-865-7953
- •Donna Mackaravitz 610-762-4213
- •Buzz Heidecker 610-866-3808
- •Jon Terry 484-633-4448
- •Ron Dalla Piazza 610-691-2694
- •Lou Dravecz 610-258-7679
- •Mike Truchan 610-882-1129
- •Tina Piscatello 610-865-0401

St. John's Windish:

- Sharon Lintner president 610-703-7904
- •Gina Brockway vice president 610-691-3732
- •Migdalia DeJesus 610-570-1237
- •Kathy Remaly 610-807-0126
- •Ron Leposa secretary 610-865-3523
- •Maria Skrilec treasurer 610-849-2519
- •Linda Toltesi 610-751-7915

St. Peter's:

- •Rich Hawk president 610-838-2759
- •Donna Musselman secretary 610-791-1820

- •Matt Bleier 610-865-2057
- •Steve Granlund 610-391-1638
- •Susan DeAngelis 610-838-8156
- •Harmony Gubich 610-974-9487
- <u>Tracy Heberling</u> 484-601-2414

- •David Kolman
- •<u>James Ritchie</u> 610-533-0342
- •Kenda Riley
- •Tom Sarver
- •Michel Lloyd 484-695-3921

Pictures from Dress a Girl Packing Day





THIS WEEK IN THE UPG: DECEMBER 11— DECEMBER 19

Saturday December 11

9:00 AM Financial Resources Subgroup

5:00 PM Worship at St. Peter's with Live Stream

Sunday December 12

Worship available on YouTube and the UPG website (upgbethlehem.org)

8:00 AM Worship at Light of Christ

9:15 AM Sunday School at Light of Christ

10:30 AM Worship at Light of Christ

11:30 PM Card Signing at Light of Christ after the 10:30 service

11:30 PM St. Peter's Congregational Meeting at LOC

1:00 PM Decorating St. Peter's for Christmas

Monday December 13

9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

7:00 PM Dart Baseball (LOC at New Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday December 14

9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

9:00 AM Staff Meeting at St. Peter's

7:00 PM GWOH/SAM Meeting at Light of Christ

Wednesday December 15

7:00 AM Fellowship Ministry

9:00 AM Christian Service

9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

7:00 PM Worship and Music Committee Meeting at Light of Christ

Thursday December 16

9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

Friday December 17

9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

Saturday December 18

5:00 PM Worship at St. Peter's with Live Stream

5:30 PM Sunday School Christmas Party

Sunday December 19

Worship available on YouTube and the UPG website (upgbethlehem.org)

8:00 AM Worship at Light of Christ

9:15 AM Sunday School at Light of Christ

10:30 AM Worship at Light of Christ

1:00 PM Sunday Evening Fellowship Christmas Party