

PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 17 THROUGH DECEMBER 24

Please contact Pastor Jon Buxton or the Church Office at 570-675-3616 if you are being hospitalized, having surgery, in need of pastoral care or prayer. Prayer requests can be included on the email prayer chain by contacting the church office at shavertownumc@susumc.org.

OUR PRAYER LIST: The United Methodist Church, Our Country, victims of violence; those persecuted for their faith; men & women in Law Enforcement; caregivers; those in difficult relationships; children & teens at risk; those incarcerated; those with hatred in their hearts; marriages in trouble, cancer and Covid 19 victims, families dealing with Alzheimer’s

JOYS: Treatment progress for Mark Kucewicz, Sue Holdredge moved to John Heinz

CONCERNS: Our homebound friends, People of Ukraine, Maggie, Lee & Katie, Kelly, Joe, Michelle Jackubowski, Vesta Fountain, The Family of Dianne Banta Shelley, The Merlino Family, The Shemo Family, The Cominsky Family, The Family of Joan Roskos, Bob & Nancy Osgood, Bryce, Riley Faith, Marilyn, Mark Kucewicz, The Shaffer Family, Sue Holdredge

Names remain on the list for 2 weeks unless notified otherwise. Thank You & may God bless!

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Maj. Shannon Dzury Dawson, US Air Force
LCDR John W. Gilligan, US Navy
Sgt. Scott Kocher
Lt. Col. Stephen C. Phillips
Todd Mark, US Army, South Korea
Col. P.J. Perrone Jr., Fort Belvoir, VA
Major Erika Reese, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA
1st Lt. Allen Carson, 109th US Army Reserves, Phila.
Rick Hodle III, US Army
CPL Michael Biesecker, US Marine Corps Reserves

Sgt. Amy Polachek, US Marines, Quantico, VA
Rick Hodle, Jr., US Navy
Sgt. Josh McCue, US Air Force
Specialist Charles Yavorski, FT. Bragg, NC
1st LT Gregory Navestad, Hill AFB, UT
Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves
2nd Lt. Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force
Sgt. Brandon Pall, Fort Hood, TX
Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan

Think of this Friend (with cards and prayers)
Helen Davis, 30 Willow Way, Dallas, Pa. 18612

Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Weeks of December 10/11: \$4,647
Faithfulness in Attendance December 10/11: In Person Worship 155 Online Worship 35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so glad to worship with you today!

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am through 3:00pm

DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD: Sandy Michalisin & Sue Holdredge
LITURGIST: Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Rich Oley (Sun)
USHERS/GREETERS: Donna & Sarah Church (Sat) Bob & Linda Wagner (Sun)
TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18: Kim Donlin

Sun. Dec. 18 Worship 9:30am –Children’s Christmas Musical
Breakfast in Bethlehem – After Worship in Social Hall
Carols by Candlelight 7pm

Mon. Dec. 19

Tues. Dec. 20 Men’s Ecumenical Breakfast 8am Apple Tree Terrace
Coffee & Conversation McDonald’s 10am
Men’s Bible Study –Zoom 6:30pm

Wed. Dec. 21 Prayer 9am on Zoom
AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm

Thu. Dec. 22 Blue Christmas Service 7pm

Fri. Dec. 23

Sat. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship – 7pm and 10pm

Welcome! We are happy you are joining us for worship today. Please fill out a connection card found in the pew and put it in the collection plate. We invite you to visit our welcome table in the Narthex for a gift and information on the many ministries our church has to offer. We hope you will join us again soon!

COMING UP DECEMBER 24 THROUGH DECEMBER 31

DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD: Sandy Michalisin & Sue Holdredge

LITURGIST: Barb Buxton 7pm - Bob Berkey 10pm (Sat) Nick Michalisin (Sun)

USHERS: Danny & Alice Peters / Donna & Sarah Church 7pm Frank & Marsh Paczewski 10pm

GREETERS: Wilson Family 7pm / Fred & Marilyn Wesley 10pm (Sat) TBD (Sun)

ACOLYTE: Landon H. & Makayla K. 7pm - Katerina & Adriana K. 10pm

TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26: Joe Kopalek

ALTAR FLOWERS: In Honor of Katerina & Adriana K. 16th Birthday

Sun. Dec. 25 Worship 9:30am

Mon. Dec. 26 Office Closed

Tues. Dec. 27 Men's Ecumenical Breakfast 8am Apple Tree Terrace
Coffee & Conversation McDonald's 10am
Worship Meeting 7:30pm

Wed. Dec. 28 Prayer 9am on Zoom
AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall

Thu. Dec. 29

Fri. Dec. 30

Sat. Dec. 31 Worship 5:30pm

Nursery (Sundays) and Activity Bags are Available for Children

SPECIAL HOLIDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

December 24 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service – 7:00pm and 10:00pm

December 25 – Casual Christmas Worship – 9:30am

December 31/January 1 – Wesley Covenant Service with Communion

MISSION AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT SHAVERTOWN UMC

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 18, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1. Looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year!

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM: We will be having breakfast after the Children's Christmas Musical on Dec. 18th in the Social Hall. All are invited to come down for a festive time of fun and fellowship!

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT - Rescheduled: Put yourself in the Christmas mood! Join us for our annual **"Carols By Candlelight Concert" on this Sunday December 18, 2022, at 7:00PM** with some festive carol singing, featuring our SUMC choirs, bells, praise band, organ & guests. Take time out from your Christmas shopping to enjoy a night of music celebrating the birth of the Christ Child. This concert is a holiday must! A free will offering will be taken to support our music program and a delicious cookie reception will follow.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PAJAMA PARTY – Date Change: All youth, grades 6-12, are invited to join us for a Christmas party on **January 8, 4-6:30pm** in the Social Hall. Please wear your favorite Christmas pajamas for a fun time of games, karaoke, decorate your own cupcake, and a movie with popcorn! We are also doing a secret Santa gift exchange, please see Brenda Kopalek if you need the name of who you are shopping for.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: The holidays can be a particularly painful time for many. Loss of a loved one, divorce, ill health, isolation: all these can make us feel alone in the midst of celebrative gatherings. We need space and time to acknowledge our sadness and know that we are not alone. For these reasons, Shavertown UMC will again be offering a special Blue Christmas service on **Thursday, Dec. 22 at 7pm**. Join us for a time of reflection and comfort and hope.

ANGEL TREE: We would like to thank everyone for your generous support of the Angel Tree project this year. Your generosity provided a Christmas for 15 children and 9 mothers from Misericordia. We were able to supply \$60 grocery gift cards for the mothers to serve a delicious Christmas dinner. Our church could not bless these families without you! So again, **THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!**

PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE: Pastor John and Barb would like to extend an invitation to an open house on Sunday, Jan. 1 from 10:30 am -12:30 pm immediately following worship.

Shavertown United Methodist Church

December 17 & 18, 2022

4th Sunday of Advent

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world!

(* indicates please stand if you are able)

PRELUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Arr. Bill Wolaver
Piano: Nancy Evans

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MEDITATION

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:10-11

*CALL TO WORSHIP/LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Sarah & Donna Church (Sat)
The Crahall Family (Sun)

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him.

Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts.

The wise men brought gifts to the baby Jesus, symbols of their adoration. As their worship of Jesus led them to give, so our belief in him calls us to share. The joy of knowing Jesus is like that; it causes us to reach out and offer ourselves and what we have to others.

On the first Sunday of Advent, we lit the candle of light and hope.

The second candle symbolized God’s presence and nearness in us.

The third Sunday, the candle reminded us that Jesus came to all people everywhere.

Now we light the fourth candle to remind ourselves that believing in Jesus means sharing with others. We share the love that God has shared with us in Jesus.

*OPENING HYMN

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

#211

Vs 1-3

*OPENING PRAYER

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Rich Oley (Sun)

God of manger and star, let us enter your story once again and find ourselves kneeling with the shepherds, singing with the angels, and worshiping with the Magi. Touch our hearts with wonder of birth and the depths of your love . Speak to us in word and song and lift us to the realms of glory. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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.

CALL TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

#94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Rich Oley (Sun)

Giver of life and love, receive these gifts as early Christmas gifts-gifts for all who will be touched and supported by the ministries of this church. Bless our offerings of treasure, time and talent, that we may be blessing of your presence, active in service to a world in need of your love and grace. Be with us, we pray. Amen.

WORD OF GOD

Matthew 1:18-25

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat)
Rich Oley

(Sun)

MESSAGE

“Joy Story”

Children’s Musical
SUMC Children & Youth

*HYMN OF GOING FORTH

“Joy to the World”

#246

Vs. 1 & 2

*BENEDICTION

**Immediately following worship, all are invited to our
Breakfast in Bethlehem in the Social Hall.**



December 17-18, 2022

SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

163 North Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, PA 18708

Telephone: 570-675-3616

E-mail address: shavertownumc@susumc.org

Web address: shavertownumc.com

Like us on Facebook: Shavertown United Methodist Church

Ministers: All who love and serve Jesus Christ

Pastor: Rev. Jon Buxton

Home Phone: 570-675-6412 Email: jbuxton@susumc.org

Director of Music – Nancy Evans

Bookkeeper – Rich Fufaro

Custodian – Brad Lothridge

Christian Education Director – Brenda Kopalek

Nursery Staff – Sandy Michalisin

Office Manager – Jeanne Kapral

Communications Coordinator – Amy Wall

Hospitality Opportunity Prepare Engage