

# JUMC happenings

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JONESTOWN UMC |  
NOVEMBER 2022



## LIVING A LIFE FILLED WITH THANKFULNESS

The theme for Psalm 92 is: **Be thankful and faithful every day!** Psalm 92verses 1 & 2 *"It is good to say, 'Thank you' to the Lord, to sing praises to the God who is above all gods. Every morning tell Him, 'Thank you for your kindness, and every evening rejoice in His faithfulness.'"*

During Thanksgiving season, we focus on our blessings and express our gratitude to God for them. But thanks should be on our lips daily. We can never say Thank You enough to parents, friends, leaders, etc., and especially to God. As Thanksgiving becomes an integral part of our life, our attitude towards life changes, we become more positive, gracious, loving, and humble. We might even sing these words!

Verse 1..

In the morning, in the morning,  
I give you my praise!  
In the morning, in the morning,  
I give you my thanks for Thy great  
salvation so rich and so free!

Verse 2... (at noon...)

At noon time, at noon time,  
I give you my praise!.....

And in the evening Verse 3...

In the evening, in the evening,  
I give you my praise!....

Psalm 107: 1: *"Say 'Thank you' to the Lord for being so good, for always being so loving and so kind."*

## MISSION PARTNER **Lebanon Rescue Mission**

The Mission Statement of Lebanon Rescue Mission is to: Provide Christ centered sanctuary to those in need with shelter, nourishment, clothing, education and healthcare. Disciple and train those in the program in evangelistic outreach. Promote purity and unity of the body of Christ through cooperative evangelism. To accomplish this mission, the LRM offers: Men's Shelter/Discipleship ministry; Agape Family Shelter; Lebanon Free Clinic; Agape Christmas; Back Dock Ministries; and the Mobile Senior Pantry

## Church Events

- Nov 4, 10am LCCM meal; 6pm Ladies Night Out
- Nov 6 All Saints Sunday/ Communion
- Nov 7, 6:30pm Trustees
- Nov 8, 1pm Friends Together
- Nov 11, 6PM Food Box Assembly
- Nov 12, 8am Men's Breakfast & Study; 1PM Food Box Distribution
- Nov. 13, Veteran's Day Service
- Nov. 14, 6:30 Church Council
- Nov 15, 2:30pm Hill Farm
- Nov. 17, 9-noon, 1-4pm, Woodcutting Gretna Glen;
- Nov. 19, 9-noon, 1-4pm, Woodcutting Gretna Glen
- Nov 20 Harvest Home
- Nov 20 Church Decorating
- Nov 25, 6pm Christmas Tree Lighting
- Nov 27 First Sunday of Advent, Advent Fair, 5:30pm



# Pastor's Pen

These have been changing and uncertain times for individuals, families, communities, and – since the church is integrated in each of them – the church has as felt and faces uncertainty as well. We may be tempted to think that things have simply been on a 2000 year down-hill slide leaving us far from Christ. In reality, millions of people have come to Jesus. The faith has spread across the planet. It would not be an easy journey. Jesus, Paul, and the early church taught and challenged the church that disciples – then and now – would face challenges with religious leaders, political opposition, even tensions within families and friendships. At the same time, they all called the followers of Jesus to a faithfulness to a living faith and dynamic relationship with God, a faith that would engage them in the ongoing and unfolding will of God in the midst of the world with a holy, a different kind of spirit and heart from the rest of the world – they would be shaped by, empowered by, transformed and possessed by the very Spirit of God Himself. The believers should be careful to follow the path of Jesus to offer salvation to the world and at the same time to not be caught up in and controlled by the spirit of the world rather than the Spirit of God. Paul's words to Timothy have been a light shining on a path through the darkness for me over these years. He had some powerful instructions to guide his young friend through times that, in spite of the gap in years, look quite familiar to the Listen to some of the instructions from Paul's second letter to Timothy... (chapters 2 and 3)

- Be strong in the grace in Jesus...
- Join in suffering, enduring, like a soldier of Jesus...
- Remember Jesus Christ...
- If we died with Him, we will also live with Him
- If we endure, we will reign with Him
- Warn about quarreling about words; it is of no value—it only ruins those who listen in...

Pastor Alan J. Smith



- God's solid foundation stands firm—"The Lord knows who are his... everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn from wickedness..."
- Don't engage in foolish and stupid arguments, they produce quarrels, and...
- ...The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome, but kind, able to teach, not resentful.
- Gently instruct your opponents with the hope they will come to know the truth and escape the devil who has held them captive.
- There will be terrible times in the last days when people will be...
  - Lovers of themselves/money
  - Boastful and proud
  - Abusive
  - Disobedient to parents
  - Ungrateful... Unholy...
  - Unforgiving... Slandering...
  - Without self-control...
  - Lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God
  - Always learning—but not the truth

[YES these words were written near 2,000 years ago!!] These are just some of the things Paul told Timothy, but regardless of what was going on in the world around him, Paul urged him as strongly as possible—"But you, *but you*—keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist (one who spreads the good news of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ)... and fulfil your ministry."

To be honest, I don't know where the road travels over the next year and years for the institutional church anymore than Paul and Timothy did of the unfolding church in the 1st Century. What I DO know is that our call, like Paul and Timothy's, must remain true to both the life of Jesus personally as well as true to the calling to help others come to saving faith in Jesus, to become citizens of His kingdom, and to reflect to the world the very heart and character of the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ.

~Pastor Al



# Advent Study: *The Heart of Christmas*

*Advent and Christmas Theme for worship at  
Jonestown UMC starting November 27th.*

We know what Christmas is really all about. At the same time... each year the culture focuses on gifts under the tree, meals around the table, family spending time together and hopes of winter weather, (if it would only stay on the grass and not the streets or sidewalks). Somehow, in our dreams, we try to blend a mid-eastern stable with a north-pole wonderland, a white Christmas with star-filled sky and the birth of Jesus. In our mixture of traditions, these all have their place in our memories making this a special time of year. Beyond the scenes that are painted on our imaginations, there is something else that is at the heart of the Christmas season. The Bible tells us that the

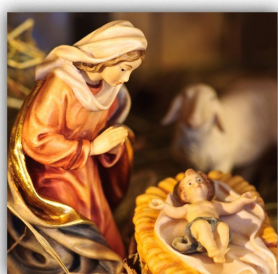


real reason to celebrate is the saving grace offered to us through the birth, life and death of God's son, Jesus. "The Heart of Christmas" is the theme of a five-session advent series centered on the story of Christ's birth we hope will keep us focused on the most wonderful gift given by God Himself. We'll journey from the prophetic promise of His coming to His miraculous arrival, celebrating the advent themes of hope, peace, joy and love to help us as a congregation, individuals and families prepare for Christmas by getting to the heart of the holiday.

## Small Group Study for Advent

*"The People of the Nativity" is a 4-part study on:* 1. *The Genealogy of Jesus;* 2. *Joseph;* 3. *Mary;* and 4. *The Shepherds*

Groups that already meet in homes or at the church - or perhaps a group of friends formed just to share a spiritual journey through the Advent season - are invited to share a look at Christmas through the history of the lineage of Jesus, as well as some of the key people we encounter in the Birth of Christ. Pastor Al will supply a group leader with the four leader guides for the studies. He will also lead additional studies on Thursday evenings at 6PM at the church. Contact Pastor Al if you are interested in leading or participating.



## Advent Fair – Nov. 27

5:30PM – a light dinner and fellowship... Bring some favorite cookies to share if you can.

Following the dinner, we will share a devotional, sing a few carols, and then make a craft and share some ideas for your home Advent journey to Christmas. Different Christmas crafts will be available such as the wooden ornament above to be decorated to your liking. Please sign up in the narthex or call/e-mail to the office to let us know of your plans to attend.



Thanks for contacting those we don't see in church to let them know we miss them. Calls or cards mean a lot, especially to those who are home bound. Annie Grant and Ellie Artz continue in nursing homes, and would love to hear from you. Their addresses are listed on a sheet on the JOY table in the narthex, along with the addresses of our college students. All would appreciate knowing you are thinking of them! Don't forget the Care Booklets in the circular rack available for you to take. In our upstairs freezer we have some soups to take out to anyone who would enjoy some. We have broccoli/cheese, and hamburger vegetable, chicken noodle, and macaroni casserole. Feel free to take some. See Pam Gray or any care team member if you have questions or know of a care concern.

### **Friends Together Tuesday, Nov 8, 1pm**

This ladies group will meet at 1PM at the church and carpool to the coffee shoppe, Baked Sweet, in Frystown. There is no

membership and anyone can come whenever they can. We do some projects and have supportive fun times together.

In December, on Wednesday the 14th, we will be going to the Wetlands for a ladies **Christmas Luncheon** at 12pm. Mark your calendars. A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex.

CALLING ALL LADIES OR MEN to help bake items to sell at the Christmas tree lighting on November 25th in our church parking lot. Friends Together is planning on doing a bake sale to raise a donation for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) disaster response. Small plates or individually wrapped items would be best. See or contact Judy Mowry if you have any questions. Items should be at the church earlier in the day on November 25th or before.



## **STAMPS FOR PRISON**

We will again collect stamps for the Lebanon County prison. 500 stamps are needed for prisoners to send Christmas cards to their families and friends. Please put stamps in the mailbox in the narthex any Sunday in November.



JOY distributing for the months of Nov. and Dec., on the **1st and 3rd Thursday from 5:00 to 6:30 pm and the next day (Friday), 12:30-2 and also the 5th Thurs/Friday in December**

due to the holidays. Thank you for your generosity in donating to JOY. Our families are very appreciative. Some needs: canned pasta, beets, mandarin oranges, chunky soup, yams, applesauce, juices, peas, carrots. Mail monetary donations to JOY Food Pantry, P.O. Box 121, Jonestown, PA 17038. They will be giving Thanksgiving foods for the holidays. If anyone has a turkey or chicken to donate, they can be taken to the garage door at JOY on Tuesday morning from 10-Noon. About 300lbs of food was given in October!

### **LCCM NOON MEAL Fridays, 10:00am**

JUMC volunteers are responsible for preparing the free noon meal every first Friday of each month. This is possible through volunteers from our congregation, adults in the winter, fall, and spring, and with help from our Youth Ministry over the summer. Currently we make and serve about 100 lunches to those in need noon-1pm. If you are interested in helping, contact Howard Lee (717-228-7249) or Bob Hillegas (717-865-7478)



### **Friday, Nov 4, 6pm**

The Ladies Night Out Group will meet again on the first Friday in the room in the basement. Karen Bene is out leader. Bring a craft or project to work on (or want some help with), or a game, or simply come to visit for fun, fellowship, and pizza. We are stronger together and need to support each other. If you have ideas about some other small groups, please let Pam Gray know (717.865.3997).

**Sunday, November 6, 2:00am**



## ANGEL TREE

The Christmas tree in the narthex will be decorated with angels by **Sunday, November 27**. Each angel lists a gift needed for a boy or girl. Please consider taking an angel and buying the needed gift. Return the wrapped gift and place it under the tree by **Sunday, December 18**. If you would rather not buy a gift for the angel tree, instead please put money in the offering marked "angel tree."

When all the angels are taken from the tree, we hope to redecorate the tree with socks, hats, and gloves. Contributions will be given to Lebanon Co. Christian Ministries.



1 Penny Fahler  
7 Ralph Major  
7 Judy Reichl  
8 Amanda Showers  
9 Eleanor Artz (90th)  
9 Lawson Rudy  
14 Jody Yeagley  
16 Pam Hillegas  
19 Kevin Fahler  
19 Emily Shertzer  
21 Colin Crouse  
22 Makenna Lam-  
brecht  
26 Devon Reichl  
28 Charles Kohr  
30 Deb Unger

*Happy Anniversary!*



1 Frank & Tish Baird  
7 Elmer & Phyllis Krall  
9 Charles and Marilyn  
Kohr  
14 Kerry & Brenda  
McQuate  
20 Rick & Teri Light  
29 Carvel & Laura Keiser  
30 Mike & Christine  
Spangler

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

THANK YOU!! For your support of the ministry and mission of the Jonestown United Methodist Church. It is because of your faithful support we are able to come to the aid of people in our own community as well as across the world in missions as well as support the ongoing ministry of our own local Church.

For September, 4 Sundays budgeted \$3,553.00 per week. \$14,242.00 needed. Receipts for September including Sunday offerings, E-Giving and interest \$12,063.00. Actual expenses were \$11,008.56 with special offering for the shoebox postage of \$1146.00



## WOODCUTTING

**Thurs., Nov 18,  
9-noon and or 1-4  
Sat, Nov 20,  
9-noon and or 1-4**

Gretna Glen and Retreat Center has asked our church to help cutting, splitting, and stacking firewood. Breakfast and lunch are available on Saturday. Please contact David Gray (717-865-3997) or cell (717-418-3480) to verify this event or concerning any questions. Please bring your safety equipment.

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday, November 13

Read the October newsletter on our website, [www.jonestownumc.org](http://www.jonestownumc.org). It looks better in color! If you have a message or ministry to share for the newsletter, please send it to: [secretary@jonestownumc.org](mailto:secretary@jonestownumc.org)

## NOVEMBER CARE TEAM

*Week of November 6*

Ingrid Steiner 717-585-4001

*Week of November 13*

Karen Bene 717-673-2833

*Week of November 20*

Pam Gray 717-865-3997

*Week of November 27*

Nancy Rautzhan 717-865-3061





## **HARVEST HOME** **Sunday, November 20**

You may bring canned food items until November 20th to be used to fill baskets for Thanksgiving dinners for families in need. Please place your food contributions on the windowsills in the sanctuary. If you would like to contribute a turkey or money to purchase a turkey, please see Pastor Al or Norma Artz (717-865-3447).



**Sunday**  
**November**  
**20,**  
**1:00pm**

## *Poinsettias*

**We will again decorate our sanctuary with red and white poinsettias. Orders must be given by Sunday December 4th. The cost will be \$7. each. Please use the envelopes on the windowsills to place your order.**



We will begin our Advent / Christmas season this year on **Friday, November 25, 6pm** with the town's Christmas tree lighting and community gathering. Our church will be a welcome center for people to stop in and warm up with hot chocolate or use the bathrooms. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the "Friends Together" will also be selling cookies to raise funds for disaster relief under way through United Methodist Committee on Relief. We will need volunteers to help with this event.

## **ADVENT FAIR**

On **Sunday, November 27, 5:30pm** we will gather with our church families and families of the community in the fellowship hall to make Advent crafts (one per family). Bring some of your favorite Christmas cookies to share during this event. A light dinner will be provided. Please sign up for this event in the Narthex so we will have an idea of how many people will be attending and to prepare for.



## **SHOEBOX UPDATE**

90 shoeboxes will go out the week of November 13. Thanks to everyone who supplied items, helped prepare the boxes, and provided the finances for the shipping costs for each box.

## OUR PRAYER CHAIN

Friends and members of our church may activate the prayer chain by calling the pastor or one of the team leaders indicated by a star (\*).

Team 1: \*Lewis & Eleanor Artz  
(717-865-3447)

John & Nancy Rhen (717-865-4317)  
Teri Light (717-813-8347)  
Gary Miele (717-383-2941)

Team 2: \*Larry Major (717-865-3442)  
Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer (717-865-5675)  
Rick & Wendy Kline (865-4363)

Team 3: \*Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)  
Judy Mowry (717-279-0809)  
Kay Horner (717-865-5538)  
George/Nancy Rautzhan (717-865-3061)  
Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)  
Larry Major (717-865-3442)  
Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

**VERY IMPORTANT!**

Start by calling one of the following people:  
Pastor Alan Smith (717-865-4369; 215-527-7388); Lewis Artz (717-865-3447);  
Larry Major (717-865-3442);  
Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

## MEN'S BREAKFAST/ STUDY

**November 12, 8am**

This is an opportunity to get together, encourage one another, and grow in our faith as men of God. Please let the Pastor know (215-527-7388) of your intention to attend, so he can know how to plan for set-up and food.



## SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

Tables are set up with coffee/hot water/ juice and a snack" (individually wrapped) in the fellowship hall between Worship and Sunday School so you can chat with one another and meet new friends. If you would like to participate by serving, preparing, or coordinating, please contact Pastor Al (215-527-7388).

## REMEMBERING



## CHRISTMAS



**The pastors of the Northern Lebanon UMC Cluster invite you to gather for a special time of Worship followed by a Luncheon. We'll be celebrating Christmas, with you in mind!**

**Trinity UM Church/Lickdale - 98 Fisher Ave. | Wed. Dec. 7th | 11:30am-1:30pm**

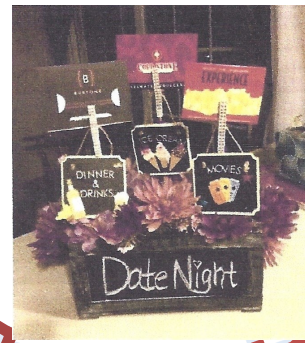
**Contact The Pastor if you need a ride!**

# Area Ministry Opportunities

## Support Seminar for Caregivers

Wednesday, November 16 at 7PM  
@ Zion's Lutheran

*Are you helping to care for an aging loved one?* Feeling overwhelmed, weary, or just don't know the best way to help? We invite you to an evening of education, encouragement, resource sharing, and community-building with others who are on similar journeys. The program will be facilitated by Pastor Jillian Riddle, Chaplain at Spang Crest Retirement Community. All are welcome. Zion is at 103 E. Market St. Jonestown. Enter by the side door, near the



## Theme Basket Raffle-Auction

Sunday, November 6, 2022

Proceeds will support the 2023 Back to School Blessings event which provides local families with clothing, shoes, backpacks, and school supplies to return to school in the fall.

The doors will open at NOON to purchase tickets and examine the baskets available with the Raffle-Auction Beginning at 2PM. If you cannot attend on Sunday, you may come Saturday November 5th between 9AM and Noon (You will be contacted if you win).

THE EVENT WILL BE HELD AT:  
Zion's Lutheran.



## St. John's UCC HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, November 12, 2022

8AM— 12NOON

Breakfast... Baked Goods... Candy... Plants... Crafts...  
Rice Pudding & Soups (to go) Handmade Craft Vendors  
Free Soup for Veterans

## Thessalonian Thankfulness Therapy

### (Chapter 5)

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ..

*We can rehearse our pains, our failures, our sorrows, our disappointments—*

**OR....**



# November, 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Praise Team 7	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Noon meal LCCM 10am Ladies Night Out 6 Pastor's Sabbath	<b>5</b> 9-Noon-Theme Basket Pre-view @ Zion's
 <b>6</b> COMMUNION ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Worship 8:45, 11 Sunday School 10 Theme Baskets at Zion's—Noon	<b>7</b> Kick/Punch 6 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00 Trustees 6:30	<b>8</b> Friends Together 1:00	<b>9</b> Praise Team 7	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Food box Assembly 6PM  VETERANS DAY	<b>12</b> Men's Break- fast & Study 8am  Food Box distribu- tion - 1PM
<b>13</b> VETERAN'S DAY SERVICE Worship 8:45, 11 Sunday School 10	<b>14</b> Kick/Punch 6 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00 Chrch Council 6:30	<b>15</b> Hill Farm 2:30	<b>16</b> Praise Team 7 Support for Care- givers @ Zion's 7	<b>17</b> Wood Cutting 9- noon, 1-4pm	<b>18</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>19</b> Wood Cutting 9-noon, 1-4pm
<b>20</b> HARVEST HOME Worship 8:45, 11 Sun Schl 10 Church Decorating 1:00	<b>21</b> Kick/Punch 6:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Praise Team 7	<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b> Pastor's Sabbath Jonestown Christ- mas Tree Lighting 6:00pm	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Worship 8:45, 11 Sunday School 10 Advent Fair 5:30	<b>28</b> Kick/Punch 6:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Praise Team 7			