

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2024

“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”
Isaiah 1:18

UnlockingtheBible.org



The Rev. Peggy Wuertele
Interim Pastor

Robert Billig
President, Church Council

Zach Keenan
Vice President, Church Council

Secretary

Margy Muthard
Treasurer

Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki
Dir. Of Children, Youth,
and Family Ministries
And Financial Secretary

Jennifer Kishbaugh
Dir. Of Music

Claudette Nia
Office Administrator

January Dates to Remember

- Feast of Mary Mother of God - January 1
- New Year's Day—Jan 1
- Epiphany—January 6
- Christmas – Eastern Orthodox January 7
- Martin Luther King Day—Jan 15
- International Holocaust Remembrance Day—Jan 27

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3355 MacArthur Road Whitehall, PA 18052
610 435 0451
claudette@faithon145.org



WORSHIP WITH US!

**Communion—The first Tuesday of each month,
join us for a light lunch at noon
followed by communion at 1:00.**

We hope to encourage our members who are uncomfortable driving at night, to use this time for fellowship that was enjoyed at our Wednesday night Hotdogs and Hymns. All are welcome! Bring a friend.

**Altar Communion—The first Sunday of each month
celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!**

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 am

- ♦ **Sunday School classes available from Bible Babies to Adult Forum.**
- ♦ **Confirmation Classes for our youth in Seventh & Eighth grades.**
This is a two-year program
- ♦ **Adult Forum classes are held in the Gathering Place**
- ♦ **Services at 10:00 AM**

MAKE A *Joyful* NOISE

EPIPHANY



We have celebrated the birth of our lord Jesus, and seen the love and joy that his life will bring the world.

As we move to the next phase of the church year, we enter Epiphany which comes on the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th. It is believed that on this day, the three wise men, Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar presented Baby Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning “to reveal”; as it is when the baby Jesus was “revealed” to the world.

Epiphany represents three events in Jesus’ life.

The Visit of the Magi: Three kings visited the baby bringing gifts.

The Baptism of Jesus: The second event was at the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist at river Jordan. As soon as Jesus went out of the water, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him like a dove, and a voice from heaven said, *“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased” (Matthew 3: 13-17, NIV).*

The first miracle at the wedding of Cana: Jesus attended a wedding at Cana. Soon, the host ran out of wine. At the request of his mother Mary, Jesus turned water into wine (John 2:1-11). Through this event of epiphany, Jesus is revealed to the world as a miracle worker.

As the year 2024 begins and moves forward, may you feel the love and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ and share those blessings with others.

Social Ministry



Sunday, November 19 was designated as Social Ministry Sunday at Faith. The Sunday before Thanksgiving was a perfect time to give thanks for all we have been given from God and to consider how we can respond through offering our time and talents to serve the church and others. Pastor Peggy's sermon spoke to God's call for us to serve; as Jesus set the ultimate example of what it means to serve others.

Each member was given a leaf and was asked to complete the sentence: "I am thankful for..." As members came forward for communion, they put those leaves in a basket at the font to symbolize their gratitude.

Following the service, a good number of folks attended the Social Ministry Fair in the Gathering Place to learn about six of Faith's current and future ministries: Whitehall-Coplay Schools, Whitehall Hunger Initiative, Family Promise, Faith's Food Boxes, Christmas Giving Tree, and St. Stephen's Food Pantry. Folks who stopped at each table got their "passport" stamped and were entered into a drawing for one of two flower arrangements and a fruit basket!

Many thanks to the committee for organizing this day and for all who attended to learn more about how they can share their time and talents to do God's work through social ministry opportunities at Faith. If you were not able to attend and would like to get involved, please feel free to reach out to Cindy Rowan, Social Ministry Chair, crowan1213@aol.com and/or indicate your interest on your Time & Talent Sheet.

Thanks be to God!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Basket Social—Saturday March 2 and Sunday March 3, 2024

This is a fun and very big weekend at our church with LOTS of help needed. Margy Muthard and her daughter, Erika Miller, are co-chairs of this event.

Please email Margy if you will be able to help in any way, at margy@faithon145.org.

Although the weekend of the event is very busy, there are many ways to help and be involved ahead of time. Shopping, wrapping baskets, visiting and calling businesses for donations are just a few. If you have limited time and are not available the weekend of the event, any help prior to that weekend is appreciated as well.

Many hands are needed and you will make new friends at every turn. Thank you and God Bless you!

Inclement Weather

When you wake up on a Sunday morning and the weather is uncertain: snow, ice, etc., check out our website at www.faihton145.org or Channel 69 WFMZ–TV. If a decision is made to cancel our Worship Service, the notice will be posted by 6:00 AM

Miller/Keystone Blood Drives

Miller Keystone has had employee shortages just like many other industries.

Blood donation is a lifesaving gift and your help is needed.

To secure a reservation with Miller Keystone,
please call 610.820.0962.

IT'S OUR CODE

Please remember if you or a family member are in the hospital to give your church code "224" to the attendant. This will help us to continually be in touch. Thank you.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

MEMBERS,

FOR ALL YOU DO FOR US EVERY YEAR WE ARE SO GRATEFUL. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HELP WITH OUT FUNDRAISER MAKING IT OUR BIGGEST OF THE YEAR. HUGS AND LOVE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

DEEANA, PINK PUMPKINS

Dear Pastor Peggy and Faith,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to you and Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church for your generous donation to Family Promise of Lehigh Valley.

Your generosity no only provides immediate assistance to those in need, but also sends a powerful message of compassion and solidarity Your belief in our work and your commitment to making a difference inspires us to continue our efforts with renewed determination.

Thank you for you generosity and belief in our mission. Together, we can make a lasting impact and create a brighter future for those in need.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Roslyn Kuba, Executive Director Family Promise of Lehigh Valley

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of the board of the Whitehall Food Pantry, I want to thank you for your constant support of food and money to those less fortunate in our area. As stated in Matthew 7:7, "Ask and you shall receive..." and when we asked, you provided.

Your gifts continue to provide for many families and send the message that God's love is never ending.

I wish you God's blessings this holiday season!

Warm regards,

Judy Ehret for The Whitehall Food Pantry

DEAREST FRIENDS AT FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,

I HOPE YOU ALL HAD A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING. YOU ALL TRULY DESERVE GOD'S BEST.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BLESSING ME WITH A VERY TASTY TURKEY, EGGS, MILK, AND LOTS OF SIDES. I TRULY APPRECIATE THESE BLESSINGS GREATLY.

WITH JACK GONE TO HEAVEN LAST DEC 21, MY LIFE SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED. I MISS HIM SO VERY, VERY, VERY MUCH. HE LOVED GOD AND JESUS AND LIVED FOR THEM. I JUST FELL NUMB WITHOUT HIM. YOUR GREAT COMPASSIONATE MINISTRY MEANS SO MUCH TO FOLKS LIKE ME, AND I THANK GOD FOR YOU ALL – GOD'S SPECIAL EARTHLY ANGELS!!!

MAY GOD AND JESUS CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER YOU ALL AND BLESS YOU WITH THEIR VERY BEST BLESSINGS AND GRACES ALWAYS.

ALL MY LOVE AND GREAT GRATEFULNESS AND PRAYERS,

EMBER PARKER



The Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5-7 and Luke 6:17-49 is a collection of sayings spoken by Jesus that encapsulate his moral teachings. Matthew's version begins with what are called The Beatitudes—perhaps one of the most widely quoted sections of the gospels. Test your vocabulary! All eight words below are taken from Matthew 5. Using the clues provided, and the jumbled letters, write the word in the spaces provided. The first one is done for you.

1. Clue: to be made happy B L E S S E D L B S E D S E
2. Clue: severely harass _____ E P U C R T S E E
3. Clue: commits atrocities _____ V O R E I E D L
4. Clue: foretellers of events _____ P T S H P O R E
5. Clue: the quality of having virtue _____ E S S U E R G O N T H S I
6. Clue : old _____ C I T E N A N
7. Clue: Someone we love _____ E O N R B H G I
8. Clue: celestial _____ E A E L Y V H N

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40

One of the most comforting and reassuring verses in the Bible is not found in Psalm 23, but in Matthew 1. There we read: “‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means, ‘God is with us’” (v. 23). As we peer into the year that looms before us, it is a comfort to know that in the baby of the manger, whose birth we celebrated only a few days ago, is the Savior who is still with us. What’s more, he has promised never to leave us (see Matthew 28:20). God in the person of Jesus Christ is always with us whatever our condition, whatever our need.

Lutheran Bishop explains: He tells of standing behind an altar in a crypt of the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth in the Holy Land, the place where Mary heard that she was going to have a baby. He saw some Latin words carved into the altar, Verbum caro factum est, “The Word was made flesh.” But then he noticed that there was one other little word in Latin. That word hic, meaning “here.” Verbum caro HIC factum est. “The Word was made flesh here.” Probably whoever authorized that inscription meant for it to refer to that specific location, but the word hints at a larger truth. In reality, the Incarnation means God became flesh here on earth, for all of us. The Incarnation means that we can speak of the hicness of God, the nearness of God. Incarnation means that God walks with us on earth, and that if we are saved anywhere, it is right here on earth, right now in the here and now.

Worship Teams for January 2024

	Jan 7	Jan 14	Jan 21	Jan 28
Altar Guild	Diane Batza and Cindy Rowan	Rosemarie Haffner and Gloria Senchak	Barb Yurasits And Linda Johnston	Pat Masonheimer and Charlene Frack
Acolytes and Crucifers				
Lectors	Karen Blayle	Manny Stivers	Laura Blacker	Gail Herzog
Narthex Greeters	April Spaits And Charlene Frack	Dan Herzog	Chris Gartner	April Spaits
Assistant Minis- ters	Tom Colburn	Zach Keenan	Bob Billig Or Gail Herzog	Shel Ehret
Bulletin Sponsors		Nelson and Kathy Schaeffer	Chris Gartner	Charlene Frack
Flower Sponsors		Nelson and Kathy Schaeffer	Chris Gartner	Charlene Frack

JANUARY CALENDAR 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 8:00 PM (PH)	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 12:00 PM light lunch 1:00 PM Communion 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:45 Bell Choir 7:00 PM <u>Christian Ed</u> 7:30 Senior Choir		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 8:00 PM (PH)	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Worship and music 11:00 AM</u> AA 8:00 PM (PH)	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH) 7:00 PM <u>Church Council</u>	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM 8:00 PM AA (PH)	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) HR mtg 6:00 PM 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir	Cemetery meeting	
28	29	30	31			
Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 8:00 PM (PH)	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts			



Born in January

BARTHOLOMEW, GRANT	01/02	FLORES, BRAYLON	01/03
MOHREY, ISABELLA	01/03	TOCK, THOMAS	01/03
KING, BEVIN	01/04	KLOIBER, BRYNN	01/04
KOTSCH, MELISSA	01/04	MERHI, TRYSTAN	01/04
CARR, RACHAEL	01/05	HALLER JR, ERNEST	01/06
KOTSCH, BARBARA	01/06	ROHRBACH, MATTHEW	01/06
BUCHMILLER, SALLY	01/08	SCHROEDER, AMY	01/08
SOLDRIDGE, ERIN	01/09	GARTNER, JOANNE	01/10
SCHAEFFER, KATHRYN	01/10	KING, REILLY	01/12
RUTH, ALLYSON	01/12	JUCKNIK, CAROL	01/13
KERN, DALE	01/13	HOWER, LOIS	01/14
LANCE, LISA	01/14	MASONHEIMER, PATRICIA	01/14
PARSONS, ROBERT	01/14	WECHSLER, ALYSSIA	01/14
BASHORE, AMANDA	01/15	BRAGG, STEPHANIE	01/15
MACKARAVITZ, .KAITLIN	01/15	MARKULICS, FRANCESCA	01/16
YOO, LOGAN	01/17	KNECHEL, CHARLES	01/18
MOYER, ABBY	01/18		
GARTNER, CHRISTINE	01/19	SCHMIDT, NICOLE	01/20
EHRET, SHELDON	01/22	HECKMAN, BRITTANY	01/22
TROTTER, ALICIA	01/22	HILDEBRAND JR, WAYNE	01/23
ROTHROCK, LARRY	01/23	LUCAS, TIMOTHY	01/24
RYAN, KIMBERLY	01/25	BRANDT III, ROBERT	01/27
BECK, OLIVIA	01/30	GOGEL, ARLENE	01/30
BLACKER, PAMELA	01/31	KING, BRIAN	01/31

PEACE, LOVE, JOY, KINDNESS