

# Shiloh Messenger



**December 2017**



## A Message from the Pastor's Heart

Greetings,

There are four long weeks between Christ the King Sunday and Christmas. Four very long weeks of Advent - it is time to wait. But, a time of waiting can be spent productively in prayer, fasting, studying, and meditation. We pray, study, and meditate on the meaning of Advent: the *second* coming of Christ.

We have been studying the parables of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew and have heard Jesus tell his disciples to be ready. We hear it in the parable of the bridesmaids in Matthew 25: 13, “Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The question becomes, what do we do while we wait? In Matthew 25: 34 – 36 Jesus answers saying, “Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’” Advent has a two – fold purpose: waiting and working. Disciples hold the two closely in their hearts, faithfully continuing the work Jesus began.

As we turn the calendar to the new Christian year, let us look forward to a new year of discipleship waiting and working until Christ’s second coming.

Pastor Dee

## **Shiloh U M Church**

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### ***Shiloh Vision Statement:***

*Having experienced firsthand the redeeming love of God, Shiloh United Methodist church feels compelled to share that love with others by making disciples of Jesus Christ through growth, outreach and ministry to our community and world.*

### **Worship Services:**

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

### **No Sunday School December 10th**

**Cancellation Policy:** In case of inclement weather church cancellations will be put on the local radio stations: WJEJ 1040 am, WCRH 90.5 fm, WHAG 1410 am.

### **Advent Bible Study:**

Advent Bible Study will begin Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 1:30 p.m.  
This is a 4-week study. **All are welcome to attend.**

## **The Season of Advent**

As we enter the advent season, let us prepare ourselves for the coming of Christmas. Open our hearts and minds and to know the reason for the season.

### **Shiloh Christmas Card Box**

A Christmas card box has been provided in the back of the sanctuary. Save money on postage by sending cards to church members through the Shiloh Christmas "Mailbox".

### **Note from our Christmas Card elves:**

Please put **last** names on envelopes.

### **Christmas for Holly Place**

Shiloh will be collecting items for Holly Place residents this year for Christmas. Some useful items they could use are Kleenex, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Mouthwash, Shampoo, Deodorants, Shaving Cream and Razors, Nail Polish, Note Cards, Lotions etc. A box will be placed in the church vestibule for these items. We will deliver them on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> when we go Christmas caroling.  
Thank you in advance for your contributions.

### **Adult Christmas Party**

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30 p.m.**

Keystone Restaurant

Waynesboro, PA

Please join us for dinner followed by a program and an evening of Christmas spirit.

Buffet Cost: \$16.04 – incl. beverage, tax and gratuity. Also menu available.

Sign up sheet on back table in Social Hall.

We come again to Christmas with all its color and joy, its magic and wonder, its spirit of goodwill and warmth. But how do we come to Christmas? What it means to us depends on what we bring to it, not gifts and outer display, but in the inner offerings of love and faith that abide in the heart.

### **Star Breakfast**

**Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00 a.m.**

Ages 2- 12

All children are invited to enjoy breakfast, crafts and hear the Christmas story.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Questions? – Contact Nevalene or Tammy

### **Christmas Cantata**

**Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Worship**

#### ***“Seasons of Rejoicing”***

Listen to the sounds of Christmas. Hear the Good News of Jesus’ birth. Celebrate the wonder of the season. Listen to the sounds of God’s love.

No matter what your situation at this time of year, joyful or sad – hopeful or glad – Christ’s birth brings hope, peace and light to everyone.

Truly this is the season of rejoicing – for God’s precious Gift of Salvation has set us free!

### **Christmas Caroling**

**Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 2:30 p.m.**

We will meet at the church to board the school bus at 2:30 p.m. for hours of caroling to our shut-ins. Afterwards we will enjoy a meal together back at the church.

If you would like to join us in song, have us stop by and sing to you, or contribute your favorite dish for the meal, please sign the sheets located on the back table in the Social Hall.

Please note that we strive to visit all our shut-ins and anyone who would like to have us sing if time allows.

We sing indoors and outdoors, so please dress appropriately. If inclement or very cold temperatures, we will meet on Sunday morning to determine whether or not to cancel the event. See Debbie Doyle or Curt Uzelac for more information.

### **Our Mitten Tree**

Again this year we will put up our Christmas tree for mittens, scarves, and hats for children that are in need of these items during the cold winter season.

While you are doing your Christmas shopping pick up some of these items for our Mitten Tree.

***Also, don’t forget to drop those extra coins in the Salvation Army Kettles during your shopping.***

### **2017 Operation Christmas Child**

What a privilege to be the hands that God chose to pack a simple Shoebox with gifts for a child He has already chosen to receive this special gift as a vessel to introduce that child to his son, Jesus Christ. And what a life altering gift this may be not only to that one child but possibly for their entire family. Thank you Shiloh – 174 children, many of whom have never received a gift will be blessed by the boxes you packed for our Operation Children Child project for 2017. On December 14<sup>th</sup> a small group from Shiloh will be traveling to Baltimore to volunteer for the afternoon at the Regional Collection Site and experience the next step in the journey of the shoeboxes. Volunteers are needed.

### **Let's Think of Christmas**

It is the time of Christmas  
So full of hope and peace,  
Let's think of things that mean so much,  
Of joys that never cease.

I think of Mary and Joseph  
Resting in the stable bare  
And of the blessed miracle  
That we know happened there.

I think about the shepherds  
Who heard the angels sing  
They were afraid till the angels said,  
"Fear not, good news we bring."  
I think about the wise men  
Who had journeyed from afar  
Bearing gifts to Jesus  
They were guided by the star.

I think of Christmas candles  
As they shed their glow so bright,  
Reminding that the light of God  
Came down to earth that night.

I think of all the carols  
Which are lovely, sweet, and gay...  
They tell the blessed story  
Of the Christ Child born that day.

I think of Christmas greetings  
Bringing words from far and near,  
Their messages are peace and joy  
And a wish for the New Year.

At this happy Christmas season  
We remember Christ our King,  
And though we have no costly gifts  
Ourselves to him we bring.

### **Children's Christmas Program**

**December 24<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.**

"Recitations and Songs"

Nothing says Christmas like the smiles on the faces of our children telling the story of the birth of the baby Jesus and singing the songs to honor his coming.

The congregation is welcome to stay following the worship service.

Let these children fill your hearts with the Christmas spirit and let's show them how much we love and appreciate them.

### **Christmas Eve**

#### **Candlelight Service**

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.**

Christmas Eve service beginning with special music at 7:00 p.m. Children's "Rainbow Choir" will be singing.

#### ***"Little Christmas Candle"***

As the light from each small candle  
Joins with others, watch it grow  
From a solitary shining  
To a heavenly peaceful glow.

Let the glow from all the candles  
Remind you of God's love  
And that he watches over you  
From his Kingdom up above.

We'll leave the church together  
The candle's flame will die away  
But the love of Christ our Saviour  
Will be ours through all our days.

## **Christmas Eve Luminaires**

The youth is selling luminaires in Memory or in Honor of loved ones for \$1.00 each now through Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. These will be lit on Christmas Eve lighting the pathway.

## **Our Shut-Ins:**

Mary Appel – Williamsport Retirement Village  
Thelma Chalker – Ravenwood Nursing Center  
Iris Stickell – Ravenwood Nursing Center  
Marilyn Painter – Julia Manor Nursing Center

## **Our Homebound Shut-Ins:**

Margie Dentler  
Lois & Charles Patton  
Betty Pryor  
Carol Smith  
Marion Streletz  
Catherine Uzelac

\*\*Please find addresses in the 2017 Directory.

**To all those of our church family who are unable to be with us, we wish you a Very Merry Christmas.**

## **Happy Birthday!**

### **December**

1 – Richard Keller  
2 – Kristie Miller  
7 – Elizabeth Jones  
8 – Christopher Trovinger  
8 – Cynthia Davis  
10 – Cole McKeever  
11 – Alyssa Dorsey  
11 – Carolyn Brooks  
11 – Gerald Frey  
11 – Jimmy Koontz  
12 – Lester Trovinger

## **Birthdays**

23 – Jeanne Reeser  
23 – Marion Streletz  
24 – Nellie Mae French  
25 – David Frey  
25 – Kevin Jaye  
27 – Laura Miller Bruchey  
28 – Ashlyn Gardner Frey  
30 – Pamela Noble

## **Anniversaries**

### **December**

6 – Charles & Jane Frey  
29 – Frank & Carolyn Brooks

### **Administrative Council Meeting**

December 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.

### **Deadline for Jan-Feb-Mar Newsletter**

December 17<sup>th</sup>

### **Happy Hearts Luncheon**

December 19<sup>th</sup> Western Sizzlin 11:30 a.m.

## **Upcoming in January**

### **Exercise Class**

January 8<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.

### **Pancake Breakfast**

January 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Youth trip to ROCK

### ***The blessed road to Christmas***

***Has light to show the way. . .***

***The star of Bethlehem leads to Him***

***Who made our Christmas Day.***

***Merry Christmas Everyone***