

Advent IV
December 23, 2012 +8:30 A.M. +++11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE "Gottes Sohn ist kommen" Heinrich Buttstedt

*HYMN OF INTENTION "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" No. 203
 (VENI EMMANUEL)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice!
Congregation: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee...
ALL: Good Christian friends, Rejoice!

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" (IN DULCI JUBILO) No. 224 v 2
*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
 Now ye hear of endless bliss:
 News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!
 He hath opened heaven's door, and ye are blest forevermore.
 Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!*

Leader: Rejoice!
Congregation: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee...
ALL: We rejoice in the light!

"There's a Song in the Air" (CHRISTMAS SONG) No. 249 v 4
*We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song
 that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.
 Ay! We shout to the lovely evangel they bring,
 and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!*

Leader: Rejoice!
Congregation: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee...
ALL: Rejoice! Go and tell...

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" No. 251 v 3
 (GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN)
*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
 Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.
 Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
 And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
 Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
 Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Kathy Schmucker, Director of Christian Education & Spiritual Formation
***Almighty God, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help
 in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should
 change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though
 its water roar and foam. Lord of hosts, you are with us. You are our
 refuge. Thanks be to God. We offer this prayer in the name of Christ
 Jesus. Amen.***

FAITH STORY

OFFERING
 OFFERTORY + "Candle of Hope" Douglas E. Wagner
 Joy Unlimited Steve Moore, Director
 +++ "Prepare the Way of the Lord" William Rowen
 Chancel Choir William Kaiser, Director

*DOXOLOGY No. 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 DEDICATION
 SHARING CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS
 SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The 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
 glory forever. Amen.*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Pg.58 NT

SERMON *From Nazareth to Bethlehem*
 Sermon 4 of 5 in "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem"
 Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

HYMN OF MISSION "All Earth is Waiting" (TAULÉ) No. 210

BENEDICTION
 *CHORAL RESPONSE "+World Peace Canon" Donald Moore
 +++ "Two-fold Amen" Robert C. Bennett

*ORGAN POSTLUDE "Gottes Sohn ist Kommen" Johann Gottfried Walther
 *Please stand if you are able CCLI License #1596957

For further reflection:
*Faith UMC is engaged in a church-wide sermon and study series during this season of
 Advent. Each week we will offer a scripture and reflection question to encourage you
 to share in your homes and among your friends and families to guide us in further
 reflection on each week's message.*

3rd Week of Advent: Read Luke 2:1-7
*How did the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem change and define the lives of Mary
 of Joseph? How have journeys in your life changed and defined your life? How do you
 experience God being with you as you journey through life and as you face significant
 journeys ahead? Prayer Focus: Thank God for being with you in all your journeys!
 In preparation for Christmas Eve: Read Luke 2:8-20*

Next Sunday at Faith Church
 Rev. Steve Stultz Costello
 8:30 AM- Duet – Kathy Schirra / Cindy Wilcox; Solo – Andy Dolvin
 11:00 AM – Joy Unlimited and Alums

Announcements

Wheelchair Accessible Van Available Christmas Eve Do you know someone in a wheelchair who would like to attend one of our Christmas Eve services? Eric Mansfield, a member of our congregation, has access to a wheelchair accessible van on Christmas Eve. He works for MobilityWorks and has 8 years of experience in the mobility industry. He is a Certified Mobility Consultant and is trained in mobility transportation assessment needs and is a certified instructor. Eric has offered to drive anyone in a wheelchair (plus other family members/friends) to any of the Christmas Eve Services. For additional information, Eric may be reached at 330.418.0242.

Young Adult Christmas Get-Together Young adults (ages 18-30) are invited to a dinner on January 3rd at 6:30pm in the Parlor at Faith UMC. Please RSVP to the church if you plan on attending.

New Year/Act of Grace Prayer Station A prayer experience will be available in the Gathering Area from December 28th – January 9th to guide us in praying for the New Year and Faith UMC's 2013 theme, *Act of Grace*.

Online Giving is now available for those who have a PayPal account! Go to our website: faithumchurch.org, click on [Resources](#) on the homepage, scroll down to [Donate](#) and over to [Online Giving](#). It's that easy! If you don't currently have a PayPal account, its free and easy to setup at paypal.com.

An important and timely reminder from the Finance Ministry Team: In accordance with IRS regulations, to be deductible on individual tax returns for the calendar year 2012, donations to Faith UMC must be dated and postmarked by December 31, 2012 or delivered to the church **on or before noon, Monday, December 31, 2012.**

UMW Thank you! Thank you to all who supported UMW with their purchase of pies, pudding and cookies. We are able to continue to give to numerous missions due to your generous support. Thank you, thank you!

Need Some Stocking Stuffers? Support our Fair Trade Ministry by purchasing coffee, tea, chocolate bars and baking chocolate! We are reminded by the Bishop about the importance of this cause. In addition this is a great way to give two-fold this holiday season. Check it out outside of the church office.

Stewardship Update Have you made your 2013 financial commitment to Faith UMC? The largest source of income to support the daily operation of the church comes from your gifts and pledges. We are still hoping to receive more pledges before the end of the year. Contact the church office for more information, visit our Resources Tab on the website (www.faimchurch.org) or pick up an orange 2013 pledge form in the Gathering Area. Total received through Dec. 20: 211 cards returned = \$588,400; Last year by year end we had received 232 cards - \$648,392. Please help us meet or exceed the total for 2012. **Remember it's not too late to turn in your pledge cards.**

Worship Attendance Last Sunday:

| 8:30 | 9:45 | 11:00 | Total |
|------|------|-------|-------|
| 147 | 155 | 161 | 463 |

Join Us In Sunday School!

Nursery (Infant – Age 2) – 8:30, 9:45, 11:00 AM in Room 18
Following the Children's Sermon, the following ages/grades will be invited to attend Sunday School:

Preschool (Ages 3-5) – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 20

Grades K-2 – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 6

Grades 3-5 – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 8

Youth (6th-12th together during Advent) @ 11AM Youth Room

Adult Sunday School @ 9:45AM in the Conf Rm & W Parlor

Adult Sunday School @ 9:45 AM in Room 16

Adult Sunday School @ 11:00 AM in Room 16

Experience Advent:

Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

A church wide sermon & study series! Small groups and Sunday school classes are happening this week. Check out the Advent info at the church info center or table outside of the Youth Room & Website! Check out these studies:

Sunday @ 9:45AM, Facilitator: Jim Skinner, Rm 16

Sunday @ 9:45AM, Facilitator: Kim Reynolds & Steve Golden, W Parlor

Sunday @ 11:00AM, Facilitator: Sue Bell & Kathy Schmucker, Rm 16

Youth and Children will participate in the study through their Sunday School Classes (listed above).

Advent Books Available! Our daily Advent devotions will continue through Christmas and Epiphany on January 6th. View **ONLINE, through the Spiritual Formation Blog, & in print!** In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we have a limited number of printed Advent Devotionals. Please visit the website to view the devotional digitally each day throughout Advent and to comment and share your story!! (www.faithumchurch.org) or the blog (www.faithumchurch.wordpress.com)

Advent Resources Along with our Advent devotion book, we also have an assortment of handouts available to help you experience Advent & Christmas in your homes. Check out the display at the Church Info Center in the Gathering Area & the literature stand near the youth room outside the Family Life Center.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Volunteers are invited to assist with our 7:00pm Interactive Family Christmas Eve Service. See Kathy Schmucker or Sandy Vaughn for more information.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH CHURCH

Sunday

9:45 & 11

5:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

December 23

Sunday School for All Ages!

Joy Unlimited Youth Choir, Choir Room

Refuge Youth Ministry:

Christmas Party!

Refuge Parent Group, W Parlor

Monday

5:00 PM

7:00 pm

9:00 pm

11:00 pm

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

7:15 am

7:30 am

12:00 pm

2:00 pm

5:45 pm

6:30 pm

Friday

Saturday

December 24

Christmas Eve Service – Family Life Center

Christmas Eve Service (Interactive Family)

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Service (Communion), Sanctuary

December 25

Merry Christmas!

Office Closed

December 26

Office Closed

December 27

Retired Men's Breakfast: Susanna's

Working Women's Breakfast, Samantha's

Library Volunteers

Faith Stitchers, Parlor

Boy Scouts – God & Life, Rm 5

Stephen Ministry Supervising Session: E & W Parlor

December 28

December 29

Join us on Christmas Eve!

5PM - The Praise Service Worship Team will provide music and worship for this candlelight service held in the Family Life Center. Childcare will be available!

7PM - Join us for a Family Nativity and Candlelight service which includes a presentation of the manger scene! Kids! Come dressed as a sheep, shepherd or an angel to help us worship during this interactive family service! Glowsticks will be available. The Cherub (K-2) and Carol (Grades 3-5) Choirs will sing. Childcare will be available.

9PM - Carols, Worship & a message to help focus our hearts and minds towards the reason for Christmas. The Church Youth Choir, Joy Unlimited, will provide music. Childcare will be available.

11PM - As the minutes lead to Christmas, bring in the holiday with our candlelight service filled with carols, worship, communion & a message to focus our hearts & minds. The Chancel Choir will provide music.

Faith

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Journey:

Walking the Road to
Bethlehem

*From Nazareth
to Bethlehem*

WELCOME!

Today is the fourth and final Sunday of Advent. We're pleased to have each of you here. Please join us on Christmas Eve to celebrate the Savior's birth.

Co-Pastors: Rev. Steve and Cara Stultz Costello

Organist: William Kaiser

The altar flowers are given by Betty & Jim Riddle in memory of their precious daughter, Connie Riddle Danley.

December 23, 2012

- Communion is available today in the Chapel. Guided meditation books are available. Please enter quietly.
- Large print copies of the order of worship and hearing aid devices are available from the ushers.
- Restrooms are located in the hallway off the Gathering Area.
- Find Sunday School for all ages & Childcare Info inside!
- Copies of the weekly Prayer List are available at the Information Station in the Gathering Area along with Jan/Feb Upper Room & Daily Bread devotionals.



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