

PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 1 THROUGH JANUARY 8

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 e-mail prayer chain by contacting the church office at shavertownumc@susumc.org

OUR PRAYER LIST: The United Methodist Church, victims of the recent tornado, 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 Alzheimers

JOYS: Jane Ketchner positive results, Pat Kirk negative biopsy report,

CONCERNS: Our homebound friends, Margie Kishbaugh, Dwight Cummings, Rich Colarusso, Jane Kishbaugh. The Bunney Family, Jim Durkin, Picchi Family, Marilyn, Danielle, Jimmy Tighe
Names will be kept on the list for 2 weeks unless notified otherwise. Thank You & may God bless!

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Maj. Shannon Dzurly 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

Specialist Alex Barilla, US Army, KS

Spc. Brandon Pall, Fort Hood, TX

Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan

2nd Lt. Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force

Sgt. Amy Polachek, US Marines, Quantico, VA

Rick Hodle, Jr., US Navy

Sgt. Josh McCue, US Air Force

Specialist Charles Yavorski, FT. Bragg, NC

2nd LT Gregory Navestad, Hill AFB, UT

Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves

Lt. Mary Ketchner, Silverdale, WA

1st Lt. Allen Carson, 109th US Army Reserves, Phila.

Rick Hodle III, US Army

CPL Michael Biesecker, US Marine Corps Reserves

Jackson Rogers, US Marines, Okinawa

Financial Goal: \$6,214 Weekly December 24/26: \$8,997

Faithfulness in Person Worship Attendance: 264 On-line Worship 95

Think of this friend (with cards and prayers)

Donald & Marie Duermit, 91 Grandview Ave., Dallas, Pa. 18612

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so glad to worship with you today!

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

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD: Cathy Nicks & Phyllis Bullock

LITURGIST: Cathy Nicks (Sat.) Nick Michalisin (Sun.)

USHERS: Alice Newell (Sat.) TBD (Sun.)

GREETER: Alice Newell (Sat.) TBD (Sun.)

TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY: Aaron Harvatine

ACOLYTE: Maggie

Sun. Jan 2 Worship 9:30am
Sunday School 10:30am

Mon. Jan. 3

Tues. Jan. 4 Coffee & Conversation 10am
Men's Bible Study 7pm on Zoom

Wed. Jan. 5 Prayer 9am on Zoom
Mission & Outreach 6:30pm
AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall
Chancel Choir 7:30pm

Thurs. Jan. 6 Men's Ecumenical Breakfast 8am KB'S Coffee House

Fri. Jan. 7 Community Care Cabinet 10am

Sat. Jan. 8 Taking Down the Greens 9am
Worship 5:30pm

Pastor Jon & Barb want to thank all of you for your support, love, cards, and generous gifts this holiday season. We feel blessed to be a part of the Shavertown UMC and pray for a happy (& healthy) New Year for everyone.

COMING UP JANUARY 8 THROUGH JANUARY 15

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD: Cathy Nicks & Phyllis Bullock

LITURGIST: Sarah Church (Sat.) Margie Esopi (Sun.)

USHERS: Becky Gilbert (Sat.) Frank & Marsha Paczewski (Sun.)

GREETER: Becky Gilbert (Sat.) Charlie Kishbaugh & Barbara Brandt (Sun.)

TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY: TBD

ACOLYTE: Anna

Sun. Jan 9	Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am God's Handful 11:30am Confirmation 4-6pm Social Hall
Mon. Jan. 10	Women's Bible Study 1-3pm Lounge
Tues. Jan. 11	Coffee & Conversation 10am Staff Meeting 11am Lounge Children of Light 4:30pm Chapel Chimes 5pm Good News Ringers 6pm Trustee Meeting 7pm Men's Bible Study 7pm on Zoom
Wed. Jan. 12	Prayer 9am on Zoom AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall Chancel Choir 7:30pm
Thurs. Jan. 13	Men's Ecumenical Breakfast 8am KB'S Coffee House Cherubs 5pm Connected in Christ 7pm Sunday School H.S. Room
Fri. Jan. 14	Community Care Cabinet 10am
Sat. Jan. 15	Worship 5:30pm

MISSION AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT SHAVERTOWN UMC

BOOK SIGNING: Rev. Leonard Buxton, father of our pastor, will be signing copies of his two volume memoir following worship the weekend of January 8th & 9th in the narthex. Learn about the Buxton family and the inside story of parsonage life.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES – Please check out the bulletin board in the Narthex for all of the new bible studies being done in the New Year! There are many new exciting topics being discussed, we hope you can join us!

CONFIRMATION CLASS - We will be meeting on January 9 in the Social Hall, 4 – 6pm.

TORNADO DISASTER RESPONSE: We pray for all those who have been affected by the recent tornado that devastated 200 miles of parts of our country. Many are struggling with loss of life, loss of homes, and loss of community. UMCOR Disaster Relief is accepting donations to assist in the laborious recovery. You can donate to SUMC referring to Advance #901670 and the funds will be forwarded to UMCOR. Thank you!!!

THANK YOU! Judy Gribble would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who have sent cards and prayers to her family in this difficult time.

FLOWER CHART: The 2022 flower chart is located in the Narthex for those who wish to purchase altar flowers. Please write your request on the chart or call the office.

OTHER MISSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

MUSICAL EVENTS: St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Wilkes-Barre, will be hosting a series of musical events throughout December thru July 2022. Please check the bulletin board for dates and times and any further information. Join them for an evening of music and song.

VISITING OUR CHURCH FOR THE FIRST TIME

Welcome! We are so 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!

WORD OF GOD	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Matthew 2: 1-12	Cathy (Sat)/ Nick (Sun)
MESSAGE	“Star Light, Star Bright”	Pastor Judy
HYMN OF PREPARATION:	“Star-Child” Vs 1,2,4,5	TFWS#2095
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION		(See Insert)
*HYMN OF GOING FORTH	“Joy to the World” Vs 1,2,4	#246
*BENEDICTION:	<p>The light of the Star, the light of God’s love, shines before you as you leave this place. Go in peace, go in joy, go in love to meet God’s people in the world and greet them with the good news of salvation. Go forth as a light to the nations. We go forth, following the star of Christ’s birth. Go forth as people of blessing. We go forth with God’s blessing proclaiming hope and joy to all the world.</p>	
*POSTLUDE”	“For Unto Us a Child Is Born” (from MESSIAH)	By G. F. Handel Arr. Carol Tornquist Piano: Nancy



January 1-2, 2022
SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Director of Music – Nancy Evans
Bookkeeper – Ken Chapple
Custodian – Brad Lothridge
Christian Education Coordinator – Brenda Kopalek
Nursery Staff – Sandy Michalisin
Office Manager – Jeanne Kapral
Communications Coordinator – Amy Wall

Hospitality Opportunity Prepare Engage

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin.

Mighty God, you are worthy of our greatest gifts. But we often do not bring you the gifts you deserve or desire. The wise ones brought your Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But these days you require different gifts: radical hospitality, enduring faithfulness, relentless compassion, restorative justice. Help us bring the gifts that matter to you.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

The power that brought light and salvation to the kings of old is at work in the world today, granting forgiveness to those who turn to God. Thanks be to God for God's indescribable Gift. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Bright Morning Star, our sins are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Good and gracious God, your creation is relentless.

Just when we thought you were leaving us to our own devices, just when we thought that creation had been irreparably separated from you, you sent us your Son, the Christ-child, to make his home in our arms. To a young girl named Mary and to a man named Joseph, you blessed a child who would be the savior of the world. But their blessing is our blessing and we are called to share it.

The star hovered in the heavens, guiding the wise ones in their journey.

So, too, we ask that you guide us that we may see clearly the hope we have in you.

We come from all walks of life and in our own way struggle to find your promise.

Illuminate the way, Gracious God, that we might find you and kneel before you.

So that, with all of creation, with people in every time and place,

we may join the everlasting chorus:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

We remember how, on that holy night, Mary and Joseph could find no place to stay, so they found a manger and made their bed with the animals of the stable. Through these marginalized people seeking refuge, you made your presence known to the world.

We remember how the wise ones gathered to worship the child who would redeem all of creation. Their gifts were brought to pay homage to the true King and not to an earthly king who believed he was the world's savior. Therefore, we give you thanks for the gifts of this Table, not gold, frankincense, or myrrh, but bread and juice, the most common of elements.

We remember how this child would grow up and gather with his friends on the night he was betrayed. How he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: "take, eat, do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, he took the cup and, pouring it, said: "this is the cup of salvation, shed in my blood, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

For as long as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the resurrection of our living savior until he comes again. As we ponder with the wise ones, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We give thanks for your gifts of grace and goodness as we begin a new year of faithfulness.

May this meal of remembrance transform us into your servants,
going out into the world to proclaim your resurrection in word and deed
and to welcome all to partake in your reign of peace and love.

As we prepare to live as your disciples,

hear us as we pray: **Our Father...**

(adapted from stephenmfearing.com/liturgy)