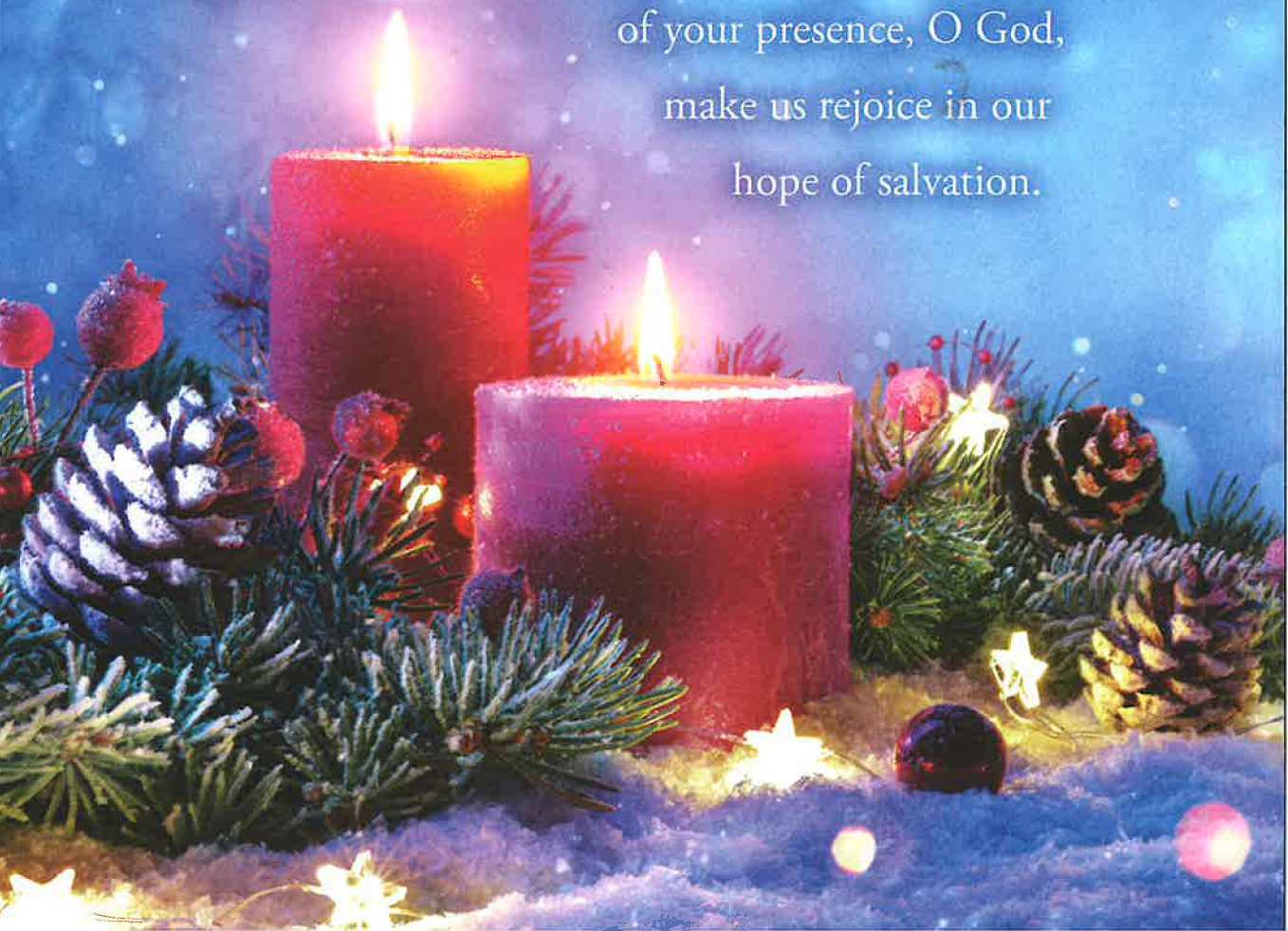


JOY

Joy

May the joyful promise
of your presence, O God,
make us rejoice in our
hope of salvation.



3rd Sunday of Advent: JOY

Helping with Worship today:

Greeters/Ushers: Frank & Linda Gruver (Sat) The Storm Family (Sun)

Liturgists: Ellie Hottenstein (Sat) Cindy Biesecker(Sun)

Altar Flowers for this weekend are provided by Frank & Marsha Paczewski

(* indicates please stand if you are able)

PRELUDE

Saturday: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Arr. Carol Tornquist

Piano: Nancy Evans

Sunday: "Oh, Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"

By Anna Krentz Organ

Flute: Cindy Thomas Piano: Nancy Evans

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MEDITATION

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Isaiah 35:1-2

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!

For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.

Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day,

and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

Langdon Family(Sat) Trevaskis Family(Sun)

*OPENING HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#240

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

#204

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/ 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 the glory forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" By Anne Krentz Organ
Flute: Cindy Thomas Piano: Nancy Evans

***DOXOLOGY** #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 THANKSGIVING** Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

Gracious God, we offer you thanks and praise for this season of anticipation, this season of Advent. As we prepare for the birth of your son, we share our tithes and offerings with the joy and excitement that are common when people anticipate the birth of a new child. Bless these gifts in your Holy Name. Amen.

WORD OF GOD Luke 1:26-38 Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)
Pg. 56

MESSAGE "Room for Christmas" Children's Musical
(See Insert)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "The Messiah Medley" By G.F. Handel
Arr. Don Wyrzten
Piano: Nancy Evans

Sunday, December 17th



**Immediately following worship, all are invited to our
Breakfast in Bethlehem in the Social Hall.**

SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

163 North Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, PA 18708

P: 570-675-3616 | E: shavertownumc@susumc.org | www.shavertownumc.com

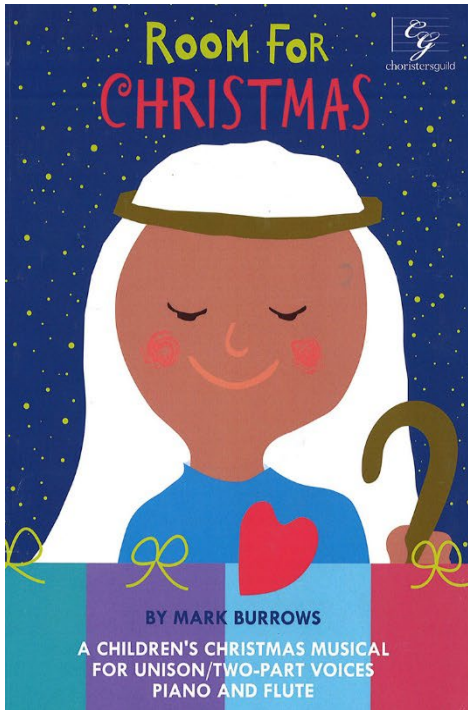
Pastor: Rev. Jon Buxton

P: 570-675-6412 | E: jbuxton@susumc.org

Director of Music: Nancy Evans | Treasurer: Rich Fufaro | Nursery Staff: Nicole Trevaskis
Custodian: Brad Lothridge | Christian Education Director: Brenda Kopalek
Office Manager: Jeanne Kapral | Communications Coordinator: Amy Wall

**The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world!**





**COME ENJOY THIS WONDERFUL GIFT
FROM OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Join Us For Our 2023 Christmas Musical

**Saturday, December 16th
at 5:30pm**

**Sunday, December 17th
at 9:30am**

By ChristySensen | Arranged by Daniel Sensen
Directed by Nancy Evans, Assistant Youth
Director Mark Kucewicz & Helper Nancy Liskosky

Additional Volunteer Help

Assistant Director: Nancy Liskosky

Flutist: Tessa Liskosky

Set Design & Props: Jenny and Gary Young

Sound Design: Mike Jackubowski

Costumes: Courtney Hahn

Pizza Party: Jenn Ostrowski & Parents

All the parents for helping to put "Room for Christmas" together.

ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS

In *Room For Christmas*, it's one week before the church Christmas musical. The director, Miss Nancy, is ill and it's up to the children to do the best they can...but it won't be easy. No one has learned their lines.

The pageant feels like "just one more thing" during a busy time of year. Everyone has their own opinions about how to make this old story feel brand new.

A bossy angel.

Wisecracking shepherds.

Unruly sheep.

Will the children get it together in time? Will the Christmas musical be a complete flop? Or will the children discover, in their own unabashedly child-like ways, the joy and wonder that comes from making room for what really matters?

Signed: Mark Burrows

Student Director: *Mark Kucewicz*

Flutist: *Tessa Liskosky*

Pageant Characters:

Angel 1: Olivia Kamback

Angel 2: Olivia Ostrowski

Shepherd: Lilly Morse

The Innkeeper: Abigail Jackubowski

Mary: Jenna Young

Joseph: Mark Kucewicz

The Narrator: Isabella Wong

Wiseman 1: Derek Morse

Wiseman 2: Noah Storm

Wiseman 3: Josh Jackubowski

Sheep 1: Madisen Brown

Sheep 2: Ava Kamback

Sheep 3: Jackson Ostrowski

Sheep 4: Owen Ostrowski

“ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS”
SONG TITLES

“Running Out of Room”

“What Do We Do with Christmas?”

“We Are the Sheep”

“There Was Love”

Interlude (What Do We Do)

“Room in My Heart”

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

“Brand New Feeling”

“ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS” SCENES

Act 1: The Rehearsal

“Running Out of Room”

Scene 1: The children arrive in the Sanctuary to find out they do not have their director.

“What Do We Do With Christmas?”

Scene 2: The children begin to quarrel over who is in charge and who gets a moment in the spotlight.

“We Are the Sheep”

Sheep: Madisen Brown, Ava Kamback, Jackson Ostrowski, Owen Ostrowski

Scene 3: The Wise Men Arrive with many opinions of their own, some good, some not so good. But they came up with a great plan to run a “Toy Drive” for needy children. Our children have collected toys from their own toyboxes to give to Jesus. They also asked that you bring an unwrapped toy to donate. If you have brought your toy today, please put it in the box provided in the Narthex or give it to the ushers and thank you so much for your donation for needy children.

“There Was Love” Soloists: Olivia Ostowski & Olivia Kamback Reader: Abigail Jackubowski

Scene 4: Interlude (What Do We Do)

Flute Soloist: Tessa Liskosky

The children exit to put on the costumes that they have designed to wear as their characters in the Pageant.

Act 2: The Christmas Pageant

Scene 5: The cast is in costume and the stage is set but we still have a few hiccups in the storyline.

“Room in My Heart”

Soloist: Abigail Jackubowski

Scene 6: The Stable Scene. The children begin their depiction of the Birth of Jesus in a Manger in Bethlehem. They begin to lay the toys they have brought from their own toyboxes to lay at Jesus feet.

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Soloist: Mark Kucewicz on Vs. 1.

*Congregation may join in singing Vs. 2 & 4

#221

Final Scene: The children realize that, even though their story wasn’t exactly Biblically accurate, they learned about giving and the importance of making “Room for Christ’s Birth at Christmas” and now they have a brand new feeling in their heart. A feeling of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love this Christmas.

“Brand New Feeling”

Soloists: Olivia Kamback & Olivia Ostowski

Congregational Hymn:

“Joy to the World” (Vs. 1-3)

#246

Shavertown United Methodist Church Announcements

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am through 3:00pm
Weekly Worship Services Saturdays 5:30pm & Sundays 9:30am
Activity Bags for young children are available in the back of the church.
Nursery is available during the 9:30am worship.

MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM: Everyone is invited for breakfast, fun, and fellowship in the Social Hall after worship on Sunday, December 17th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Children's Sunday School on Dec. 17, 25, and 31. We will see all the kids back in class on January 7th!

SWEET FUNDRAISER: If you ordered a Chocolate Christmas house made by the Navestad Family they will be ready for pickup this weekend December 16 & 17 after worship.

CHRISTMAS DANCE: Youth Group is sponsoring a Christmas Dance for all ages on Sunday, December 17, 6-8pm in the Social Hall. Youth will meet after the dance for a gift exchange and some extra fun! There is a sign up in the Narthex to help us plan the light refreshments and to request dance music.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE: Mark your calendars for the Priscilla Circle's Christmas Party. It will be held on Tuesday, December 19 at 6pm at the Apple Tree Terrace. Please contact Cathy Berkey at 570-709-2338 for more information.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: On Thursday, December 21st at 7pm we will be having a Blue Christmas service. This is a worship of remembrance and hope that creates sacred space for those living through and facing difficult times.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP: We will only be having one Christmas Eve Candlelight worship at 7:00pm.

THANK YOU: We would like to thank you for your generous support of the Angel Tree this year. Your generosity provided a Christmas for 19 children and 12 mothers. We were able to supply grocery gift cards for the mothers to serve a delicious Christmas dinner. Our church could not bless these families without you, so again, **THANK YOU** and **GOD BLESS YOU!**

NEW HOURS: Beginning January 1, 2024, the office will be closed on Mondays. We will continue to be open Tuesday thru Friday, 8:30am until 3pm.

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR DECEMBER 23-24:

Greeters & Ushers: Edith Jones (Sat)

Charlie Kishbaugh 9:30am, Donna & Sarah Church 7pm (Sun)

Acolytes: 9:30am – Anna J. & Ethan T., 7:00pm – Landon H. & Makayla K.

Liturgist: Sarah Church (Sat) Margi Esopi 9:30am & Rich Oley 7pm(Sun)

December Altar Guild: Sandy Michalisin & Sue Holdredge

Trustee Week of Dec 17: Bob Wagner **Trustee Week of Dec. 24:** TBD

Finances: Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of Dec. 9-10: \$6,540

Faithfulness in Attendance: Dec 9-10: In Person Worship 158 Online Worship 35

UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS DECEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 30

December 17: Christmas Dance Party 6-8pm – Social Hall

Youth Party 8-9pm – Social Hall

December 19: Priscilla Circle Christmas Party Apple Tree Terrace 6pm

December 21: Blue Christmas Service 7pm

December 24: Advent Week 4 Worship 9:30am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 7:00pm

December 25 & 26: Office Closed

SHAVERTOWN UMC WEEKLY RECURRING REGULAR EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Sundays	9:30am	Worship
	10:30am	Sunday School for Children and Adults
	11:30am	God's Handful
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Mondays	1-3pm	Women's Bible Study
	7pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Concert 2nd Monday)
<hr/>		
Tuesdays	8am	Men's Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace
	10am	Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown
	4:30pm	Children of Light (Grades 2 nd – 5 th)
	5:00pm	Chapel Chimes (Grades 2 nd - 5 th)
	6pm	Good News Ringers
7pm	Men's Bible Study - Zoom	
<hr/>		
Wednesdays	9am	Prayer on Zoom
	7pm	AA Meeting, Social Hall
	6:15pm	Bell Ensemble Rehearsal in Sanctuary
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir (Adults)
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Thursdays	7pm	AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall
	7pm	Connected in Christ, Lounge (no class Dec. 21 and 28)
<hr/>		
Fridays	10am	Community Care Cabinet
<hr/>		
Saturdays	5:30pm	Worship

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

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 email prayer chain by contacting the church office at shavertownumc@susumc.org.

OUR JOYS: The Children's Musical "Room for Christmas"

ALWAYS BE IN PRAYER FOR: The United Methodist Church, Our Country, People of Ukraine, People of Libya and Morocco, Victims of the shootings & 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 Alzheimer's

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Our homebound friends, Amy, Ayden & Ethan Trevaskis, Peggy Biesecker, Edward Wong, James, John & Sheryl Long, Carol Carrol, Lisa Evans, Kerry Berba, Jamie Zoppel, Family of Romaine Kunkle, Elizabeth & Julia, Rose Isne, Elizabeth, Mike, Marilyn, Marsha Paczewski, Sue Holdredge & Family, Friend of Ketchner Family, Frank Shaulis, The Costello & Valentine Families, Jeff, Vito Pilosi, Bill.

Names remain on the list for 2 weeks unless notified otherwise. Thank You & may God bless!

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Maj. Shannon Dzury Dawson, USAF
Sgt. Amy Polachek, USM, Quantico, VA
LCDR John W. Gilligan, US Navy
Rick Hodle Jr., US Navy
Sgt. Scott Kocher
Sgt. Josh McCue, US Air Force
LT. Col. Stephen C. Phillips
Specialist Charles Yavorski, Ft. Bragg, NC
Todd Mark, US Army, South Korea
1st LT. Gregory Navestad, Hill AFB, UT
LT. Joey Zobel, U.S.N., Washington, DC.

Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves
Maj. Erika Reese, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA
Captain Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force
1st LT. Allen Carson, 109th US Army
Reserves, Phila.
Sgt. Brandon Pall, Army, Maryland
Rick Hodle III, US Army
Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan
CPL Michael Biesecker, USMC Reserves
Daniel Cochran, US Navy, S.C.

Think of this Friend (with cards and prayers)
Paul Kunkle, 2292 W. Eighth St., Dallas, Pa. 18612