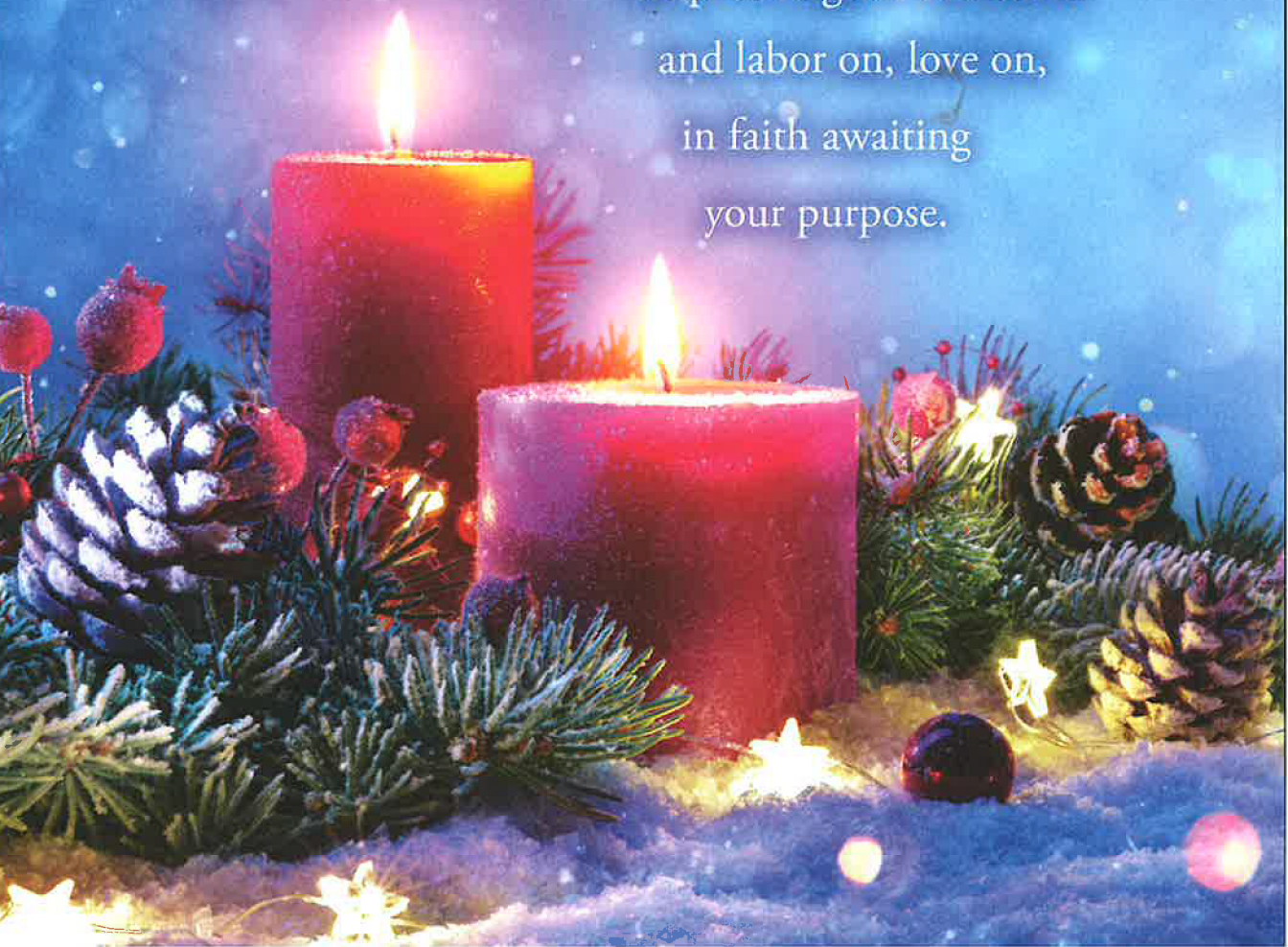


LOVE

Love

In uncertain times,
help us to greet the dawn
and labor on, love on,
in faith awaiting
your purpose.



4th Sunday of Advent: LOVE

Helping with Worship Today:

Greeters/Ushers: Edith Jones (Sat) Charlie Kishbaugh (Sun)

Acolyte: Anna J. & Ethan T.

Liturgists: Sarah Church (Sat) Margi Esopi (Sun)

(* indicates please stand if you are able)

PRELUDE

Saturday Worship Musician: Nancy Evans

“Ring!” (Sun)

By Linda R. Lamb
Good News Ringers

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MEDITATION

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes
in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah (Sat) Margi (Sun)

Tell the timid to take heart
The Lord our God will come!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE

Ketchner Family (Sat) Storm Family (Sun)

*OPENING HYMN

“He is Born”

#228

CHILDREN’S CHAT

“Where Children Belong”

#2233 (Sun)

*This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.*

GIFT OF MUSIC

“Shepherd’s Carol”

Children of Light (Sun)

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

GIFT OF MUSIC

"Hallelujah" (Sat) Soloist: Courtney Hahn
"Mary, Did You Know?" (Sun) Arr. Masa Fukuda
God's Handful with Soloist: Katerina Kopalek

*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

Sarah (Sat) Margi (Sun)

We celebrate the birth of the Holy Child! Although born in humble surroundings, Jesus' presence surrounds all who call upon his name. The hope born in a manger long ago is birthed again. We gratefully offer these financial gifts as a way to provide hope for all God's children. We rejoice in knowing that your ministry is strengthened by our gifts and prayers.

We pray in the name of the Babe in the Manger. Amen.

GIFT OF MUSIC

"On This Glorious Christmas Night" By M.Donnelly & G. Strid
Chancel, God's Handful with Flutist: Katerina Kopalek

WORD OF GOD

Romans 8: 31b-32, 35, 37-39
Matthew 1:18-25
Pgs. 158 & 1 respectively

Sarah (Sat) Margi (Sun)

MESSAGE

"Making Room for Love"

Pastor Jon

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

“Love Came Down at Christmas”

#242

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“For Unto Us A Child Is Born”

By G.F Handel Arr. C. Tornquist

Piano: Nancy Evans

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!**



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

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP: We will only be having one Christmas Eve Candlelight worship on December 24th at 7:00pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 24 and 31. We will see everyone back in class on January 7th!

NEW OFFICE 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.

UPPER ROOM: The January/February edition of the Upper Room, a daily devotional, is now available in the Narthex. A donation is appreciated to go toward the cost, but is not required.

TAKING DOWN THE GREENS: Volunteers are needed to take down the Christmas decorations after worship on January 7.

FLOWER CHART: The 2024 flower chart is now in the Narthex. If you would like a particular week to purchase altar flowers, please fill in on the date you wish to reserve.

SHOE COLLECTION FOR MISSION CENTRAL: Once again this year, the Churches in our Back Mountain Cluster are invited to collect NEW & GENTLY WORN SHOES during the month of January for Mission Central. All donated shoes will be redistributed to the network of microenterprise partners in developing nations. Proceeds from the shoe sales are used to feed, clothe, and house families.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024: Mark your calendars with some of these upcoming events at Shavertown UMC.

- Soup Tasting & Fest January 27
- Valentine's Dinner February 10
- Chinese New Year Dinner February 17
- Easter Eggstravaganza March 23
- Spring Concert April 28
- Children's Day May 12
- Vacation Bible School July 15-18
- The Kings Brass Concert August 13
- Annual Golf Tournament September 9
- Trunk or Treat October 20

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR DECEMBER 30-31:

Greeters & Ushers: Donna & Sarah Church (Sat) Don & Mae Rome (Sun)

Liturgist: Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) TBD (Sun)

January Altar Guild: Mary Ellen Pajor & Margi Esopi

Trustee Week of Dec 24: TBD **Trustee Week of Dec.31:** Joe Kopalek

Finances: Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of Dec. 16-17: \$5,791

Faithfulness in Attendance: Dec 16-17: In Person Worship 149 Online Worship 35

UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 6

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
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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
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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
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Fridays	10am	Community Care Cabinet
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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 birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ

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, Family of Shirley Edwards, Nancy Osgood ,Alex, Roberts Family, Royal Sutton, Tom, Ron, Amy, Ayden,Ethan, Declan & Nicole Trevaskis, Peggy Biesecker, Edward Wong, James, John & Sheryl Long, Carol Carrol, Lisa Evans, Kerry Berba, Jamie Zoppel, Rose Isne, Elizabeth, Mike, Marilyn, Family of Romaine Kunkle

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)

James & Elaine Laubach, 100 Freemason Dr., Apt., Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022