Welcome to...

We're glad you're here! Connect with us: 2540 Center St. Bethlehem PA 18017 info@wesleychurch.com Office: 610-865-5715 Fax: 610-865-7909

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What's up in worship?

This month: Advent asks us to recognize the future return of Christ and yet the present "God with us." Our journey home, no matter what life throws at us, is never absent from the presence of Christ! Today we celebrate the music that gets us through Advent and ready for Christmas in a Festival of Advent and Christmas Music, featuring all of our musical groups in praise to God. Next week: Part two of "Come Home." We talk about our own personal faith journeys, but the One who is doing the moving is Jesus – that is, Jesus "moved" in history, and He will, do so again. What's our job in this homecoming? To prepare the path. God comes to us, but the way to our hearts must be made ready.

Today's Community Connections:

- The altar flowers are presented today by Joseph Sofhauser in memory of Lena Sofhauser. If you are interested in providing fresh flowers for worship, please sign up at the *Connections Corner* table. (See bullet point below.)
- Feel like you missed something? The *Connections Corner* table can help. Head across the atrium and get the information you need just under the tv monitor.
- Don't receive our weekly e-news? Please email Sue Kiefner at: <u>SueK@wesleychurch.com</u> to get on the list!
- Have you seen our new website? Ric Lehman has been working diligently to update it. Go check it out! Look next to the graphic above for where to go...
- Those who have assigned giving envelope numbers will please pick up their 2018 envelopes on the table just outside the library. Requests to have a number assigned to you can be shared with Sharon Schultz.
- All those who did not yet receive a Finance team mailing can pick that information up on the same table. It consists of a letter and a 2018 pledge card.
- Please bring your completed pledge cards to worship next week, as we dedicate our financial promises for 2018!
- Christian Education for all ages will be offered next week, December 17, beginning at 9 AM (8:30 for adults). It will NOT be offered on the 24th.
- Wesley Church, in partnership with the Salvation Army (Angel Tree) and Mammy's Angels Giving Tree, is hoping to brighten the holidays of over 120 individuals through your generosity. Take a tag or two from the tree and be a secret angel!
- December 19th; Quiet Christmas service. See Bob for details.

ADVENT ALERT!

Due to the timing of Christmas and a few other events happening during Advent, our Sunday morning worship schedule is as follows, for ALL SUNDAYS in December: We will worship all together in one blended worship style at 10 AM.

Wesley Church Staff

Pastor Andy Krpata – Ext 13 pastorandykrpata@gmail.com Minister of Discipleship Bob Keiderling Ext 11 bobk@wesleychurch.com Office Manager and Director of Children's Education Susan L. Matacavage - Ext 12 susan@wesleychurch.com Minister to Youth Brian Graybeal wesleyyouthleader@gmail.com Circle of Friends Preschool Director Tracy Leszcynski - Ext 14 tracy@wesleychurch.com Bell Choirs Director Frank Arbushites 610-866-1718 arbus@rcn.com Ensemble Director Becky Graybeal 610-867-0294 beckersflute@rcn.com Children's Choirs Heather Hunter 610-863-9443 shorething@rcn.com Child Care Coordinator Keranie Whipple 610-997-0832 kwhipple@rcn.com Today's morning schedule:

8:30 – Adult Sunday School

NO Sunday School for children!

10:00 – Blended worship

Hospitality is offered in the atrium.

Church office hours are from 9 AM-3 PM weekdays during the school year.

Festival of Advent & Christmas Music

December 10th, 2017; 10:00 AM - The Second Sunday of Advent

Worship note: Outside of the children's groups, please refrain from clapping after musical selections. (An "Amen" is always in good order.) You will have an opportunity to share your appreciation before the service ends. Thank you! Parents, please take advantage of the parlor or child care in room 202 if you or your children need the break!

Prelude Noël X (Louis-Claude Daquin) Frank Arbushites, organ

† Welcome and Greeting Bob Keiderling, Minister of Discipleship and Andrew Krpata, Pastor

Advent Wreath Lighting The Childs Family, readers

Reader: God of Love, you created the universe and all that is in it. You created all things and called them good.

Reader: You wove into life a beautiful diversity from your infinite creativity. All the creatures that walk or swim, crawl or fly sing praises to you.

All: We, God's people, affirm the creation of all things in love, saying with the psalmist: "God's salvation is very close to those who honor God so that His glory can live in our land. Faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed." (Psalm 85:9-10)

Reader: We light a second candle to remind us that the God of Creation calls us home to love all that we meet. (Two purple candles are lighted.)

All: Sung Response O come, thou Key of David, come,

and open wide our heavenly home. The captives from their prison free, and conquer death's deep misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Rejoice: Rejoice: Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Glockenchor "Gentle Mary" (Piae Cantiones) arr. Callahan

Do You Hear What I Hear? arr. Wagner

† Carol O Come, All Ye Faithful (verses 1, 2, 3, and 6) #234, United Methodist Hymnal

Season's Greetings Tracy Leszcynski, Director, Wesley Circle of Friends Preschool

Wesley Circle of Friends Preschool Lord, I Lift Your Name on High arr. Founds

Go Now in Peace arr. Sleeth

Ensemble Make Room Hall & Maher

Emmanuel Come Morgan, Fields & Steingard

Kinderchor Get Ready! arr. Burrows

Ordinary Baby arr. Gaither and Smith

† Carol The First Noel #245, United Methodist Hymnal

Klangchor O Come, Emmanuel arr. Krug

† invites all to stand, if able.

Chancel ChoirCarol for Adventarr. Price/Besig

The Rose Tree Carol arr. Martin

Klangchor God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen arr. Lamb

† Carol On This Day Earth Shall Ring #248, United Methodist Hymnal

Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 Gary Jerabek, reader

Celebration Ringers Love Came Down at Christmas arr. Moklebust

† Carol Hark, the Herald Angels Sing #240, United Methodist Hymnal

Celebration Ringers 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime arr. Prins

Reading "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Carolyn Miller, reader

Chancel Choir Carol of the Bells arr. Wilhousky

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings and Other Gifts

The blue Sign-in Cards / Prayer Cards are available in the pew racks. They, as well as your morning offering, can be placed in the offering plates as they are passed along your pew. A note to our guests: We would very much appreciate having your information (that stays in the church) so we might follow up with you. Please do not feel pressured to give today. Thank you!

Morning Offering Good Christian Men, Rejoice (Organ and piano duet) arr. Ford

Ensemble What a Glorious Night McDonald, Brown, Frey & Smith

Community Connections (Please see front of bulletin.)

Andy and Bob

† Closing Words and Choral Response Walk in the Light (N. Price/D. Besig) Chancel Choir

May the light of God shine down on us as we leave this quiet place.

May we go and share with all of the world the blessings of God's grace.

With the hope and love, joy and peace the Advent promise brings,

Let us wait and watch with open hearts to welcome our Lord and King.

† Closing Carol Joy to the World + Unspeakable Joy #246, United Methodist Hymnal (Organ, bells, and ensemble)

Postlude Grand Chœur: Sortie pour Noël César Franck

Many thanks are offered to all our volunteer musicians for their contribution to worship today, and our holiday season. Wesley Church is especially grateful to Frank and Becky, as they work together to make beautiful music and administer the music program of the church; and to Heather, whose passion shows on the faces of "her" kids!

Wesley Church wishes all God's blessings this season.

Ensemble Director: Rebecca Graybeal
Celebration Ringers and Klangchor Director: Frank Arbushites

JOYS AND CONCERNS

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." Philippians 4:6 New Living Translation

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM DEC. 3rd: Rebecca Roe Healing for herself. Tom & Bonnie Keel Pray for husband Tom undergoing stent procedure, also for brother Chris Pucci, that he may receive a kidney as he is on dialysis.- Frank Madura Praise God for this community and Thurs. Men's group. God's guidance as I look for a job and as my Mother's care-giver Chuck & Wendy Stehly For Luce family as they the passing of father & husband Dick Lois Donchez for niece Debbie- airlifted to hospital with serious heart problem. Lockhart family safe travels for nephew Tyrell and girlfriend Heather. Irene Bradt Comfort for family of cousin who died unexpectedly. The Matushah family, overwhelmed as they didn't know loved one's medical condition until just before passing. Audrey Viglianti For Ricky Sterner- transplanted lungs are good, but has anxiety issue. Sandy Kereczman We continue to pray for Andy as they do research for his rare form of cancer **Deb Silliman** safe travel for all during Advent season. Strength & healing for those struggling. Help us keep Christ in our celebrations. Pray for Aunt Ruth in hospice.

Karen Marmaras For Rosie & Don, both recovering from surgery. Safe travel for Peter. Chris Foster For Roby battling cancer, Joshua Raysor & family, Health, peace & prosperity for all, especially those subject to shortfalls of grace, safety, and medical services. Bob Keiderling For his sister, Pat Solazzo, diagnosed with breast cancer. Joan & Bob Barlieb Continue praying for granddaughter, Kyleigh Kerecz, (13). Her back surgery was successful but recovery process slow, especially for teenager. Prayer Team For Harley Collins now in hospice. For Kasey Renowden, in Cedar Crest Hospital. She is undergoing testing for blood on surface of brain and cardio issues which could be restricting blood flow to brain & heart. May need pacemaker.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM NOV. 26TH: Clarke Chapman gives thanks for the life of faith of my cousin Joanne Rogers. Chris Foster for Bill Whipple's health issues and a successful resolution and curing of same. and for Ray Buckno who completed radiation treatments and prayers for healing completely. Charlie Neunert for cousin, Doug, with stage 4 cancer. Kasey Renowden for Austin, newborn, with necrotizing pneumonia, which is basically eating his lungs away. He is in Shands Hospital in Gainesville, FL. For Miles & Sue; for cousin Dick (Jeanette) with stage 4 lung cancer; and for niece Brenda with bone cancer. Reggie Young- for my fiancé Steve being treated for heart issues and myself for testing of 2 nodules on lung.

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS: Ray Buckno prayers for the continued healing of his mouth and face. Betty Holt with lung problems. Melissa Day with cancer. George Danner and his wife Martha as he recovers, Donna Giardina for brother Tommy suffering with two types of cancer. Peter Marmaras for prayers for Mother, Kate. Audrey Viglianti for Carol Viglianti suffering with kidney disorder, lupus & lymphoma. Suzanne & Mike Krom for Theresa for healing her cancer. Sue Kiefner prayers for friend's husband, Geoff battling colon cancer. Chuck & Wendy Stehly for Jeff with brain cancer & for friend Ivelisse, with breast cancer & receiving treatment. Suzanne Hastie's parents, Aaron & Janice Hastie, with health issues.

JOYS AND PRAISES: Louis Horwath now in rehab after cancer surgery. Gary Jerabek shares daughter Becky, expecting 2nd child, a girl in May. Gary's 6th grandchild. Karen Marmaras rejoices over arrival of great nephew Colin Thomas Shirley Brandon's sister Frances doing better, is now home. Karen Schaefer gives thanks for the joy in our church. Audrey Viglianti reports that Ricky Sterner is doing very well after a double lung transplant and is breathing on his own with the new lungs. Family thanks everyone for prayers, and especially to the family of the donor of the lungs, **Deb Silliman** for <u>Jackie & baby Ethan</u> Michael doing well; Praise for Tina & Cindy, my awesome teaching partners for Sunday School.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO: Barbara Guldner on the passing of husband George. Nicole & Christian Lockhart for the family of Vanetta Dorm on her passing. Larry & Carolyn Miller on the passing of his sister.

THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP:

At Home: George & Martha Danner, Betty Hein, Naomi Jones

Gracedale Nancy Breon, Jane Sandt, Dorothy Collin Arlington (Easton) Sylvia Thele King's Daughters Gertrude Kunsman

Moravian Village Agnes Smith, Loretta Jensen

Traditions of Hanover Marian Jeffery

Westminster Village Howard & Shirley Beiseigel **Sterling Heights** Peggy Jacobson

Irvin & Lorene Arnold Kirkland Village Barbara Guldner

Traditions HOA

Betty Holt

WESLEY CHURCH MINISTRIES:

Our teachers and facilitators; Good Grief: Men's & Women's Small groups, TEACHRwanda; Visitation/Stephen Ministry; We've Got Your Backpack Day; Backpack Buddies; Cancer Support Group; Wesley Community Garden; Outreach Depot.

> We ask that you please update your prayer request information at lease every two weeks. This ensures that your request will remain on the Prayer List. Thank you.