

Welcome to...



We're glad you're here!

Connect with us:

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Wesleychurchbethlehem



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ADVENT CONSPIRACY

MAKING CHRISTMAS MEANINGFUL (AGAIN)

What's up in worship?

Today: Back to conspiring together... What does it mean to love all? It sounds so simple... Then why don't we do it more often? Once again, the culture says we don't have the time, the presence, etc. If we'll take an honest look at what God has done in Christ, a new (or renewed) realization can take place. We'll receive a special Conspiracy offering as well.

Worship Alert!

Next week, December 30: One service only at 10AM.

Christmas Eve services:

4PM (Child-friendly Service),

7PM (Contemporary), and 10PM (Classic)

Today's Community Connections:

- **The chancel flowers are given today by Nancy Kuhns in memory of her parents, John and Winifred Matol; and by Joan and Bob Barlieb in loving memory of sister, Kay Amato.**
- 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: SueK@wesleychurch.com to get on the list!**
- **Our worship today includes participation in receiving "conspiracy" cards (estimate of 2019 giving). If you did not receive yours in the mail, you forgot it, or you're a guest, you are still welcome to participate (and not just in offering an estimate). The ushers have with them extra cards and an accompanying letter that explains it. Please allow them to get one to you, if you will just make it known that you need one. If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, please fill out a blue card (in the pew racks) and state that desire along with the pertinent information. Thank you! All are welcome to participate this morning, in one way or another.**
- The office will be closed over the Christmas holiday from December 25-January 1. It will reopen on January 2. In the case of pastoral emergency, please call Bob or Pastor Andy. Those numbers can be found on the church's phone message.

Wesley Church Staff

Pastor Andy Krpata – Ext 13
pastorandykrpata@gmail.com

Minister of Discipleship

Bob Keiderling – Ext 11

bobk@wesleychurch.com

Office Administrator

Susan L. Matacavage - Ext 12

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Director of Children's Ministries

Deb Silliman - dlj@silliman.org

Minister to Youth Brian Graybeal

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Circle of Friends Preschool Director

Tracy Leszczynski - Ext 14

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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:

10:00 – Blended worship

Hospitality is offered in the atrium.

No children's Sunday School.

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

† invites all to stand, if able.

Blended Worship Order

December 23rd, 2018; 10:00 AM – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Once in Royal David's City (Arr. R. Farlee) Frank Arbushites, organ

† Welcome and Greeting

Bob Keiderling, Minister of Discipleship

† Opening Hymn and Song

Angels from the Realms of Glory #220, United Methodist Hymnal (UMH)
Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord/ What Child Is This? The Ensemble

Recognition and Commissioning of New Stephen Ministers

Bob

Betty Weaver, Kasey Renowden, and Frank Madura

Advent Wreath Lighting (Please see the insert.)

The Muffley Family, readers

† Scripture:

Canticle of Zechariah, #208, UMH
Matthew 22:34-40

Patti Tironi, reader

Children's Message

Deb Silliman, Director of Children's Education

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings and Other Gifts

The blue *Sign-in Cards / Prayer Cards* are available in the pew racks. Please fill them out completely! They, as well as your morning offering, can be placed in the offering plates as they are passed along your pew. Thank you!

Music during the Offering

Good Christians, All Rejoice (Arr. J. M. Martin)

Mike Schanewolf and Bob Sopko, percussion; Frank Arbushites, piano; Becky Graybeal, flute

† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

#95, UMH

Congregational Prayer

Bob

Whether offering your prayer aloud or keeping it confidential, please continue to fill out the blue cards and place them in the offering so that the prayer team may continue to faithfully do its work. Thank you!

The Lord's Prayer (sung to the tune of *Away in a Manger*)

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name! Your Kingdom among us, Your will done the same.
By mortals and angels, come Lord, reign alone: O, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for provide us each day; As we forgive others, our sins take away.
In times of temptation, to lead us be near; From evil deliver Your children most dear.**

**For Yours is the Kingdom, O'er all things You reign. And Yours is the power- All things You maintain.
To You be the glory, Resounding again. From all of creation, Forever! Amen.**

Anthem

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Chancel Choir

Said the night wind to the little lamb / "Do you see what I see? Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb / Do you see what I see? Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night / With a tail as big as kite / With a tail as big as a kite"

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy / "Do you hear what I hear? Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing thru the sky, shepherd boy / Do you hear what I hear? Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song high above the tree / With a voice as big as the sea / With a voice as big as the sea"

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, "Do you know what I know? Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king / Do you know what I know? Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold / Let us bring Him silver and gold / Let us bring Him silver and gold"

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere / "Listen to what I say:
Pray for peace, people everywhere! / Listen to what I say:
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night / He will bring us goodness and light / He will bring us goodness and light
Bring us light"

Message

"Love All"

Pastor Andy

Musical Response

Give This Christmas Away (M. West & S. Mizell)

The Ensemble

While listening to the musical response, please raise your hand so an usher can supply you with a conspiracy card and letter as a courtesy to those who have forgotten theirs or would like the opportunity to respond in this way today. All are welcome. In addition to filling out the front, all are encouraged to identify on the back of their card what "loving all" means to you.

What if I told you, you have the pow'r / To give someone hope beyond their wildest dreams?
What if I told you, it's right there in your hands, in your hands?

It's hard to imagine how something so small / Can make all the difference, tear down the tallest wall
What if December looked diff'rent this year? What if we all just...

(Chorus) Give this Christmas away? / If there's love in your heart, don't let it stay there
Give this Christmas away, and your life will be changed by the gift you receive
When you give this Christmas away

It's feeding the hungry, serving the poor / It's telling the orphan, "You're not forgotten anymore."
It's doing what love does even when no one's watching you (to chorus)

For God so loved the world that He gave us all His Son / So we could be His hands, His feet, His love, His love (to chorus)

What if I told you, you have the pow'r / To give someone hope far beyond their wildest dreams?
What if December looked diff'rent this year? Yeah, What if we all just... (to chorus)

Give this Christmas away / You have the power, just give it away
Give Christmas away / Give it away, Give Christmas away

† Receiving Conspiracy Cards and Prayers

All are invited to come forward with their conspiracy card and/or "love all" prayer. Every person is encouraged to participate, especially in family groups. Even if you choose not to conspire with an estimate of giving for 2019, you are welcome to come forward and present the back of this card as a prayer for the season. Please come down the center aisle only and place your cards in the "love all" present. Music during this commitment time:
In the Bleak Midwinter Becky, flute; and Frank, piano

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a Shepherd, I would bring a lamb
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart

Community Connections (Please see front of bulletin)

Andy and Bob

† Closing Song:

Star Child

The Ensemble

† Benediction

† Choral Response:

O Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus

Chancel Choir

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus / There is room in my heart for you (repeat)

† Dismissal Song:

The Ensemble

WESLEY PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS

December 23, 2018

"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

Dec. 16th

Christine Bainbridge for friend, Chris, & his sister, Courtney, both had a gastrectomy. **The Marmaras family** for the family of Arnov Krishina, a high school junior who passed away from cancer at age 16, and for the Moravian Academy Junior class who mourn him now. They are all young. **The Matacavage Family** for Mikailyn's best friend at school, hospitalized with depression & suicidal thoughts. Prayers for those struggling with depression during what is the most joyous time of the year. **Laurie Bilheimer & Scott Stackhouse** that our son is safe. **The Hume family** We give joy in celebrating our son Alexander's 14th birthday on Dec. 21st, & the celebration of our 20th wedding anniversary on Dec. 19th. We praise the Lord for all the blessings bestowed on our family. **Sandy Kereczman** for good results as Andy is hospitalized to see if he has any blockage. **Frank Madura** for God's healing for Chuck, Joe, Mary & Dennis – all with cancer; God's guidance as my mother's caregiver; God's wisdom with all seeking employment. **Chris & Noah Foster** Praise for Roby's improvement, prayers for Wendy's healing from emergency surgery and praise it was possible. **Kasey Renowden** for Brenda with brain cancer; Karen & Jacque dealing with cancer. **Betty Weaver** for Cheryl & Tom Henry with pain & health issues; Donna Duncan grieving thru the first Christmas without her husband; Christine Teichert struggling with addiction.

JOYS AND PRAISES:

Carol Mitchell gives gratitude for God's amazing grace. **Carolyn Miller** gives praise for **Wayne** able to go back to work. **Frank Madura** gives praise to God for His forgiveness, the fellowship at the church, & the opportunity for service.

CONTINUED HEALING /PRAYER CONCERNS:

Melissa Day, new health cares. **Kelly Hines'** father, Parkinson's disease. **Tom Keel**, foot surgeries & rehab. **Bob Keiderling's** sister, Pat with chemo. **Andy Kereczman**, cancer. **Bill Mains**, prostate cancer. **Beverly Marriner**, pain relief. **Carolyn & Larry Miller** prayers for healing. **Chuck & Wendy Stehly** for **Jeff**, brain cancer; for **Ivelisse**, breast cancer, and **Jennifer Grube** battling cancer. **Frank Vitali** for cancer. **Diana Rivera** (Wesley's Circle of Friends preschool teacher) dealing with serious eye concerns.

THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP:

Alexandria Manor Forrest Taylor
Abington (Easton) Sylvia Thele
Gracedale Jane Sandt, Dorothy Coolin
Kirkland Village Barbara Guldner

At Home George & Martha Danner, Naomi Jones
Moravian Village Agnes Smith
Sterling Heights Peggy Jacobson
Traditions of Hanover Marian Jeffery
Westminster Village Shirley Beiseigel

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 Groups; Wesley Community Garden; Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot; and UMC Leadership.

WESLEY LEADERSHIP TEAMS:

Committee on Nominations and Leadership: Pastor Andrew Krpata, Lenore Mohr, Mike Matacavage, Chris Jacobsen, Brian Graybeal, Christy Hume, and Jane Kempfer.

Committee on Staff/Parish Relations: Dave Siegfried, Andrew Krpata, Mike Matacavage, Karen Marmaras, Meg Ksenzakovic, Steve Caskie, Liz Lewis, Mike Krom, and Jaimee Walters.

Board of Trustees: Rich Chambers, Jeff Rose, Deb Silliman, Andrew Krpata, Frank Madura, Kim Krupka, Craig Hume, Lisa Jacobsen, and Doug Jantzi.

Committee on Finance and Stewardship: Jim Hunter, Peter Marmaras, Andrew Krpata, Mike Matacavage, Karen Marmaras, Dave Siegfried, Rich Chambers, Sharon Schultz, Wayne Muffley, Anita Dalske, Aaron Hook, Bob Sopko, and Matt Dietz.

Church Council: Christian Lockhart (chairperson), Mike Matacavage (Lay Leader), Karen Marmaras (Lay Leader to Annual Conference), Chris Foster (Alternate to Annual Conference), Jason Walters (Social Justice Ministries) and Sue Kiefner (Outreach & Ministries).

Also included in Church Council are the chairpersons of our administrative committees.

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