

Were we traveling with Joseph and Mary, we'd be entering Bethlehem now—a relief, especially for the one great with child, so we ponder the solemnity and wonder of this day. Welcome to worship.

This worship service can be watched live on YouTube, as it happens, anywhere you have an internet connection. Additionally, past services will be archived so you can stay up-to-date or relive your favorite Sunday morning moments. You can find the link on our website or check it out at <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>

Worship Assistant: Melanie Shimer
Ushers: Buce Luff & Janie Slamon
Deacon Greeter: Kim Kreider
No Nursery

Candle Lighting: Mallozzi family
Audio: Chas Shimer
Video: Andy Ingram
Fellowship: Deacons

NOTE: Sheet music for the hymns can be found on the next page or pages.



Order of Worship
December 24, 2023

Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus

3002 N. Second Street, PO Box 507
Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049
610.967.5600

office@faithchurchemmaus.org
www.faithchurchemmaus.org



***THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS EVE***

10:00 AM

DECEMBER 24, 2023



THE FIRST NOTE OF THE PRELUDE begins our worship.
Please use the prelude time to turn your attention to God's presence and help.
Nurturing our relationships and friendships in fellowship is essential to our life
as a congregation, so please continue to do so following our time of worship.

à Those who are able are invited to stand.

FOCUSING UPON GOD'S PRESENCE AND VOICE

PRELUDE *"Es ist ein Ros" (Lo, How a Rose is Growing)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CANDLE LIGHTING & CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The God who makes us feel loved is the source of our joy and peace and hope.
Today we light four Advent candles: the candles of hope, love, joy, and peace.
We also light the fifth candle, the candle of light as we celebrate Christmas
Eve this morning.

Leader: Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: At Christmas, Jesus came as a baby.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: He came to be like us because he loves us.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: We praise Jesus, who came as a baby and will come again.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

***OPENING PRAYER**

*HYMN #133

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
 MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irregular

*HYMN #136

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Refrain 



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

Fine



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

to Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

THE WORD OF GOD TO THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

ISAIAH 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken

as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

LUKE 2:1-14

²In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

*HYMN #147

"The First Nowell"

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
 east be - yond them far; and to the earth it gave
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain
 Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

LUKE 2:15-20

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this,

they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard
 they were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these
 words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and
 praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

MESSAGE

“God is Like Light”

*HYMN #134

“Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

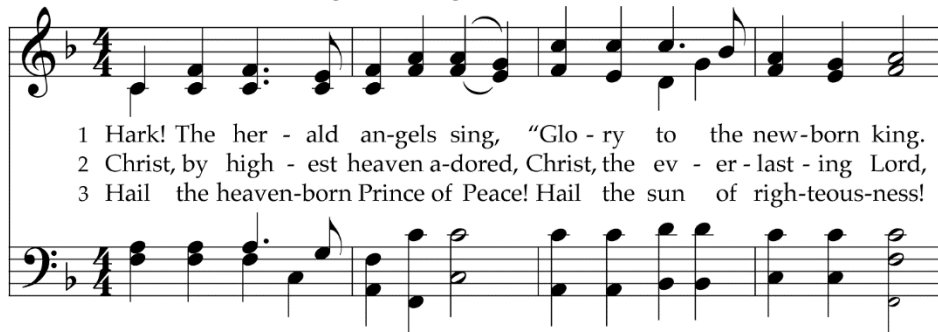
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,


OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

CALL FOR OFFERTORY

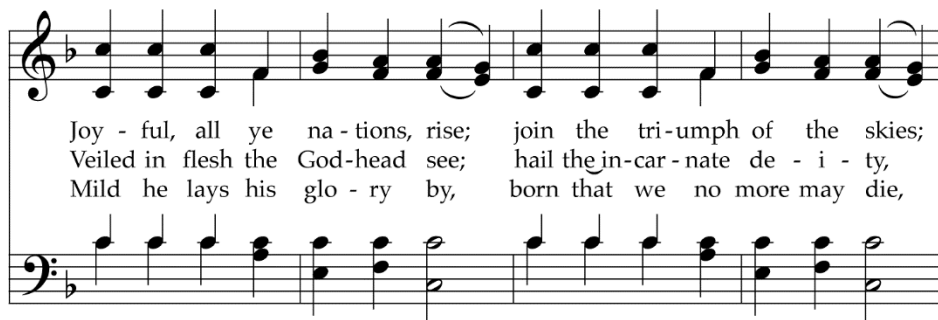
OFFERTORY Congregational sing
Hymn #119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”



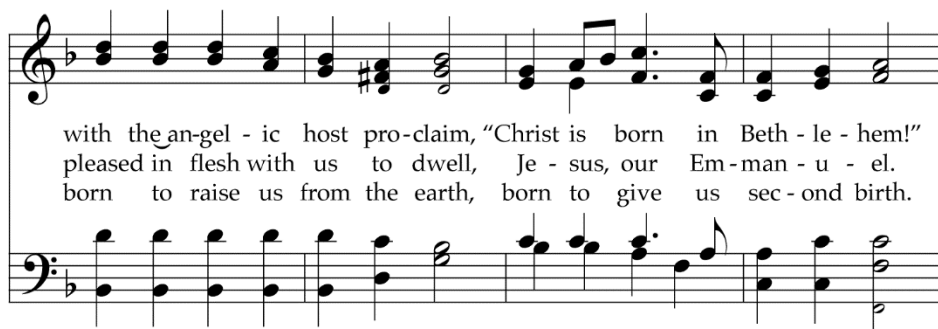
1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king.
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #122

"Silent Night"

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 6/8. The lyrics are arranged in four stanzas, each with a corresponding line of music. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple melodic lines in both hands.

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Ii Est Ne" (He is Born)

Please feel free to sit and reflect during the postlude or depart and join us in Fellowship Hall.



Music Licensing Information

Prelude	John Leavitt, OneLicense.net A-713988
Hymn #133	Public Domain
Hymn #136	CCLI 1695793
Hymn #147	Public Domain
Hymn #134	Public Domain
Offertory	Public Domain
Hymn #134	Public domain
Hymn #122	Public Domain
Postlude	Richard Hudson, OneLicense.net A-713988

Faith Life

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

SUNDAY Morning TOGETHER

- **TODAY: December 24-** Fellowship (Christmas Eve) at 10 am service only. The deacons are serving during fellowship time this morning. Please stop in Fellowship Hall and greet

your deacon. Not sure who is your deacon? Check the photo quilt in the hallway.

- **December 31** –Fellowship (New Year's Eve)

See the back of this page for a list of SMT's future Sunday and mid-week events. Youth Group News is also on the next page!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Pastor Becki will be on vacation December 25 through January 1, and will be back in the office on January 2.

For pastoral care needs during that time, contact your deacon or Rev. Joanne Marchetto. Their information can be found in the directory.



Also! All contributions to the church that are to be counted as 2023 contributions **must be received at the church no later than Tuesday, January 2.** Donations made after that, even if the check is dated 2023, will be counted toward your

2024 giving. Online gifts processed after December 31 will also count towards your 2024 giving. Thank you for your understanding.

The Financial Secretary will print and send out your 2023 tax statements before the end of **January 2024.**

KNOW THYSELF

In the midst of cold and flu season (and whatever else might be going around), remember to pay attention to how you are feeling and who is around you. Stay home if you aren't feeling well. Listen to your body and get rest when you need it. Masks are not required, but are welcomed for anyone who might feel more comfortable with a mask, or anyone who might be feeling even a little under the weather. We can love our neighbors as we love ourselves when we take consideration for everyone's physical health!

There is a box of luminaries in the Narthex for folks to take for personal use Christmas Eve.

THE DRAFT COPY OF
CHURCH DIRECTORY
IS READY!

Look for the green notebook on the table in the narthex, Update your information as needed! Thanks!

Christmas
THE SAVIOR IS BORN

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Sunday, December 24th

10:00 a.m.— Family Worship
8:00 p.m.— Traditional Service
11:30 p.m.— Outdoor Service
at the Emmaus Triangle

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EMMAUS

3002 N. Second Street - PO Box 507 - Emmaus, PA 18049
610-967-5600—office@faithchurchemmaus.org
Visit us on the web! www.faithchurchemmaus.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday from 9:00 AM to Noon.
Closed on Fridays.



Sunday Morning Together brings our church family together for fellowship and special activities. Most activities take place right after worship. Children of God of all ages are welcome!

- 1/7 First Sunday Luncheon
- 1/14 Fellowship
- 1/21 Fire Safety & First Aid
- 1/28 Congregational Meeting
- 2/4 First Sunday Luncheon
- 2/1 Fastnacht
- 2/8 Fellowship
- 2/25 Pretzels & Lent Fellowship
- 3/3 First Sunday Luncheon & Ice Hockey
- 3/10 Fellowship
- 3/17 Vision Team Event
- 3/24 Palm Sunday- Egg Hunt
- 3/31 Easter; Easter Breakfast
- 4/7 First Sunday Luncheon
- 4/14 Church Clean-up Day & Lunch
- 4/21 Earth Day Clean



TALENT SHOW: FEBRUARY 4

Sign up to participate in our upcoming talent show!

- ☆ Share a **SIGHT**; crafts or hobbies you enjoy and can be placed on a table to see.
- ☆ Share a **SOUND**; something to be heard and/or performed on a stage.
- ☆ **"S" FOODS** don't need to be signed up for, but please bring a dish to share for lunch that starts with the letter S. If your last name begins with A-K bring a side dish that starts with the letter S, and L-Z bring something sweet.

Sign up by speaking with Heather Davis, or on the whiteboard in Fellowship Hall.

WORD ON WEDNESDAY (WOW)

Our Word On Wednesday group meets on Wednesdays at noon in the parlor. WOW will take off for the holidays and will **not meet on December 27 or on January 3.**

All are welcome!

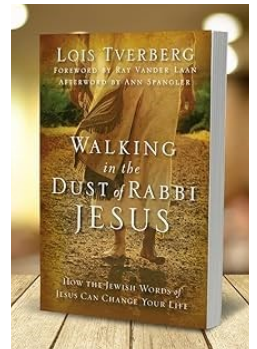


THURSDAY WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

This group meets Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in homes of our members for coffee, study, prayer and laughter.

We will continue our study on "Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus" **starting again January 11, 2024** and begin a new study (TBA) in February.

Interested? Contact Anne Laubach or Deanna Robinson.



YOUTH GROUP NEED

Pastor Jo Marchetto, our Youth Group Director, could use some help from us here at FPC. **At times, an adult or two are needed to assist in the Youth Group activity, program.**

No experience is needed or special skills, just a genuine interest in our youth. The commitment can be flexible. Why not give Pastor Jo a call (phone number is in the directory) and find out what it's all about. You will be greatly appreciated! **THANK YOU!**



SUPPORT OUR YOUTH! BUT HOW?

Sponsoring a meal for our Youth Groups is a very beneficial and easy way to show your support for our youth. (For a rewarding experience, consider joining them for the meal and getting to know them better.)

It's easy - scan the QR code to schedule/sponsor your meal, or you can call Pastor Jo Marchetto, our Youth Director. What a wonderful way to show interest in and support our youth! **Thank you.**





REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

The last three holiday seasons, our Reverse Advent Calendar has been a big success, so we will be doing it again this year.

The calendar began in the middle of November and ends a week or so before Christmas so the items can be dropped off at church (in the narthex), have time to “cool off” and be delivered to the Emmaus Food Bank at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in January.

Thank you to everyone who participated this year!

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE UPDATE

As of 12/17 we have 65 pledges at \$224,794.

It's not too late to pledge. It's not too late to pledge. The pledge cards will stay in the pews until the end of the year or use the on-line form found on the website: <https://faithchurchemmaus.org/donate/pledge/>.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

You might think that assisting during worship is a bit daunting, but it is easier than you think! Spoon-fed instructions are provided, with all the necessary materials. Everything is prepared for you! Yet, as easy as it is, volunteers are always needed. Here are the dates where a worship assistant is needed:



January 7

Contact Sally Heimbach, or use this link to the SignUpGenius: <https://bit.ly/3FCW8iO> Thank you.

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS NEEDED

Everybody loves fellowship time following worship. It's a wonderful time to catch up with your church family! Hosting is easy and instructions are provided, but we still need people to volunteer. Here are the dates where hosts are needed:



January 21, 28

Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex, or contact Heather Davis. Thank you.

THE NURSERY NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for volunteers for the nursery during the worship time. If you do not have your clearances, we can assist you in obtaining them. Here are the dates where volunteers are needed:



January 7, 14, 21, 28

Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex, or see Sally Heimbach. Helpers will need their clearances. Thank you.

COLLEGE ADDRESSES

Is your information up to date?

- ✓ Contact your deacon
- ✓ Email or call the church office.
- ✓ Comment on the Facebook group page.
- ✓ A note in the secretary's mailbox

PLEASE UPDATE NOW

610-967-5600 office@faithchurchemmaus.org

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Messages to be shared via the Prayer Chain may be emailed directly to prayers@faithchurchemmaus.org. Messages can also be sent through a form on the Prayer Requests page of the church website. If you wish to be included in our Prayer Chain distribution list (or if you don't think you are receiving messages), please contact the office.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Scan this QR code to donate to aid disaster relief, or send a check with PDA in the memo line, mail to:

Presbyterian Disaster c/o
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700



TWO WEEKS OF FAITH

This calendar is prepared on the Thursday prior to distribution.
Please see the church [website](#) for the most up-to-date information.

Key	
BR	Brick Room
FH	Fellowship Hall
MR	Music Room
P	Parlor
S	Sanctuary
Z	Zoom

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

- 10:00 a.m.— Family Christmas Eve Service
- 11:00 a.m.— Sunday Morning Together
- 8:00 p.m.— Traditional Christmas Eve Service
- 11:30 p.m.— Outdoor Christmas Eve Service @
Emmaus Triangle

Monday, December 25

Christmas Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

Wednesday, December 27

- 8:00 a.m.— Rotary Food Program (FH)
- 7:00 p.m.— Faithful Harmonizers rehearsal (S)

Thursday, December 28

- 11:00 a.m.— Youth Group Movie Marathon
- 7:00 p.m.— Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, December 29

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 30

- 9:00 a.m.— Zumba (FH)

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 31

New Year's Eve

- 10:00 a.m.— Worship Service: Rev. Joanne Marchetto
- 11:00 a.m.— Sunday Morning Together

Monday, January 1

- 9:00 a.m.— Quilters

Happy New Year!

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2

- 9:00 a.m.— Quilters (FH)
- 7:30 p.m.— Ministry of Support meeting (P)

Wednesday, January 3

- 7:00 p.m.— Faithful Harmonizers rehearsal (S)

Thursday, January 4

Friday, January 5

Church Office Closed

Saturday, January 6

- 9:00 a.m.— Zumba (FH)
- 10:00 a.m.— Crazy Quilters (FH)

Weekly Volunteers Needed!

Please see Page 3 for details.

Daybreak - January 8
2023 Per Capita—\$48.00
Spring Flyer deadline—February 18



SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY

If it snows sufficiently to make you wonder if worship will be held, we will post the cancellation information on WFMZ: (<https://www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter/>).



Looking Ahead

Mark Your Calendars!

- Jan. 1Happy New Year 2024!
- Jan. 7Pot Luck Luncheon
- Jan. 28.....Annual Congregational Meeting
- Feb. 4Pot Luck Luncheon, Talent Show
- Feb. 23.....Youth Group 30 Hour Famine
- Mar. 3Pot Luck Luncheon
Phantoms Hockey Game
- Apr. 7.....Pot Luck Luncheon
- Apr. 14Church Clean-Up Day
- May 4.....Fellowship Event—Mind Body Soul
- Jun. 17-20.....Vacation Bible School

ARE YOU GETTING THE INFO YOU NEED?

Faith Church has four email lists. Are you interested in being added to one or more of them? Please indicate your interest, add your email address, tear off this tab, and drop in the offering plate.

- Weekly Announcements Quarterly Newsletter
- Prayer Chain Emergency Alerts

Name & email: _____

The poinsettias beautifying the sanctuary this Christmas Eve were donated by the following:

- **Lynda & Dick Scheirer**, in memory of loved ones.
- **Mary & Bill Roberts**, in memory of Bob Gedney and Marilyn Roberts
- **Penny & Jim Pantano**
- **Helen & Charley Underwood**, in memory of their parents
- **Marlene Smith**, in memory of her husband Larry
- **Terry Eck**, in memory of Sally W. Eck, and in honor of his grandchildren
- **Larry & Kathy Hemberger**, in honor of precious grandchildren - Graham, Ella, and Max
- **Sue & Bob Vitale**, in honor of loved ones
- **Christina Godiska**, in memory of Pappy and Bob Forbes, Jr.
- **Ron & Sandy Gingrich**
- **John & Carolyn Baittinger**, in memory of our parents
- **Luff Family**, in memory of Jim Slamon
- **Steven Eck**, in memory of Sally Eck, and in honor of Betsy Turner and Gail Corvaia
- **Ann & Kevin Greenwood**, in honor of Owen, Meredith, and Michael
- **Anita & Jeff Krause**, in honor of their great-grandchildren
- **Pam Melchior**, in memory of Eleanor Pronath, and in honor of Donald Pronath
- **The Webb Family**, in memory of Julius & Margery McIntosh, Maurice Webb, and Allie Shuemaker
- **Donna Call**, in memory of loved ones.
- **Jim & Ellie DePhillips**, in memory of their parents
- **Lynn Ingram**, in memory of the Ingram and Hanna families
- **Kennington family**, in memory of Christmases past
- **Bruce & Beth Kunkle**, in memory of Sandy and Michael, and in honor of our family
- **David & Jana Masenheimer**, in memory of Robert & Eleanor Rippon, and Marilyn Rippon
- **Donald & Helen Perry**, in memory of Lora Perry, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hari, and Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Perry
- **Chas & Melanie Shimer**, in memory of Ernest & Margaret Shimer, and James Fehr

Plants may be collected after the 10 p.m. service.