

DID YOU KNOW..... that we have a staffed infant and toddler nursery available for you to use during worship? Children through age 2 are welcome to come and play. There is also a curtained off corner in the nursery for those who may need some privacy which can be used for nursing or for soothing your child. Additionally, we have the TLC ministry for those who are 3 years old through Kindergarten where children may go after the Children's Lesson. The KFC program is for children in 1st - 3rd grades and leave after the Children's Lesson out the back of the sanctuary. Older children can find worksheets and coloring pages on a table in the Sanctuary near the side entrance. Any of our ushers or nursery workers will be glad to show you how to locate our nursery or children's ministries and supplies. We love having so many growing families in church!

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Hey Bakers! The youth groups will once again be hosting their annual **Cookie Sale** next **Sunday, December 16th**. They will gladly accept donations of cookies from the congregation of any kind (except chocolate chip). You can drop off your cookies at the church office Monday through Friday, **December 10th - 14th** from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM, or Saturday morning from 9:30 - 10:00 AM in the greeting area. All donations need to be turned in by 10:00 AM on Saturday, December 15th as they will be assembling the trays.

The Giving Tree is up!! You will find tags from the Mars Home for Youth, VOICe, The Pittsburgh Project and local families in need. Please help us make this Christmas a happy one for those who are struggling! When you select a tag, please fill out the orange slip of paper with your name and phone number so that we can keep track of the tags. All gifts should be returned unwrapped by **next Sunday, December 16th**. If you have any questions, please contact Dara Marner (dlmarner@zbzoom.net).

The administrative expenses for the Presbyterian Church (USA) are covered by Per Capita funds. The **2018 Per Capita amount is \$40.69 per confirmed member**. Our Session has chosen to designate the total amount of per capita received for the work of Beaver-Butler Presbytery unless you specify otherwise. If you have any questions you may talk with Pastor Jim.

Please pick up your **2019 Giving Envelopes** located in the greeting area. If you find that you do not have a box of envelopes and would like one, please write your name on the sheet provided.

Attention to all those individuals who like to light things up! Come join the luminary guy (Tom Bell) on **Monday, December 24th** at **9:30 AM** to **set up the luminaries** around the church for the Christmas Eve services. We will **"de-luminate"** on **December 26th** at **9:30 AM**. Come on out and give us a hand!!

Connections Update: We would like to **thank everyone** for the goodies you contributed and all of you who helped with the assembly of the Care Packages. Please welcome the students in church as they come back home during their holiday break!

We need YOUR help in the **Infant/Toddler nursery** on **Christmas Eve** during the 5:00 or 7:00 PM worship services. We often have new families visiting our church, some for the very first time, and we can only offer a nursery if we have loving caregivers, like YOU! Please sign up by writing

THIS WEEK AT CCUPC

Today	12/9	2nd Sunday of Advent <i>Pray for Singapore</i>	
9:00 am		Sunday School	Both Levels
10:00 am		Worship	Sanctuary
11:05 am		Coffee Social Village J	Greeting Area
5:00 pm		Jr. Youth Group	Lower Level
6:30 pm		Middle/High School Youth Group	Lower Level
Monday	12/10		
7:00 pm		Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Tuesday	12/11		
8:30 am		Men's Breakfast/Bible Study	Conference Rm.
Wednesday	12/12		
9:00 am		FLM Mailing	Conference Rm.
Saturday	12/15		
9:30 am		Youth Group Cookie Assembly & Party/Greeting Area	
Sunday	12/16	3rd Sunday of Advent/Youth Groups Cookie Sale <i>Pray for Slovakia</i>	
9:00 am		Sunday School	Both Levels
10:00 am		Worship/Food Bank	Sanctuary
11:05 am		Coffee Social Village N & Village R	Greeting Area
6:00 pm		Blue Christmas Service @ Hope Lutheran Church NO Youth Groups	

A FEW REMINDERS:

- The Spiritual Growth Committee has a selection of **Advent devotionals** available on the table in the greeting area.
- The next **Men's Breakfast/Bible Study** will be Tuesday at 8:30 AM.
- The Youth Group will be selling **Cookie Trays** next Sunday, December 16th. It is also **Food Bank Sunday**. The *Items of the Month* are pasta and pasta sauce.
- The **Blue Christmas Service** will be held at Hope Lutheran Church on Rowan Road next Sunday, December 16th at 6:00 PM.
- **Luminary set-up** will take place on Monday, December 24th at 9:30 AM. **Clean-up** will be at 9:30 AM on December 26th. Come and give us a hand!
- Our **Christmas Eve services** this year will begin at **5:00, 7:00 and 9:00 PM**. The 5:00 PM service will be geared towards families and young children, but all are welcome to come share in the joy of Christmas.

Cranberry Community U. P. Church
 2662 Rochester Road
 Cranberry Township PA 16066
 724-776-5310 <http://www.ccupc.org>
 Pastor James M. Moran 724-759-4577
 Pastor Nadine L. Roy 412-848-0834



**Cranberry Community
United Presbyterian Church**



December 9, 2018

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP **A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION**

The Second Sunday of Advent

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to His temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty."
Malachi 3:1

The Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission Wayne Younger

A Stewardship Update Tim MacFarlane

(Please sign the register pad, passing it down the row, then back to center aisle.)

The Prelude **"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"**
The Kids' Choir

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." Psalm 37:7

(If you have a prayer request, please fill out a green prayer card and pass it to the center aisle as they will be collected during the first hymn.)

The Call to Worship

WE WORSHIP IN PRAISE

*A Carol **"Mary's Boy-Child"** (use screens)

WE WORSHIP IN PRAYER

*The Call to Confession

*The Unison Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, in this season of Advent, we welcome the coming of Your light in a world filled with darkness. We confess to You the ways in which we have added to that darkness rather than obeyed our call to live as children of the light. We ask Your forgiveness: for times when we worship violence and belittle peace, for times when we fight amongst ourselves, for times when we forget that we are children of God, for times when we do not stand up for the helpless among us. Grant us Your light to guide us in pursuit of Your ways. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Assurance of Forgiveness

***Glorifying God** **"We Will Glorify"**

*We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb.
We will glorify the Lord of lords who is the great I AM*

The Joys, Concerns, and Prayers of God's People

The 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

WE WORSHIP IN GIVING

Our Invitation to Give

The Offertory

“Sing Gloria, Sing Noel!”

The Adult Choir

Praising God #556 ***“Praise God From Whom All Blessings”***

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

The Prayer of Dedication

WE WORSHIP IN PROCLAMATION

The Greeting *(Please share words of peace, encouragement, and hope.)*

The Children's Lesson and Prayer *(The children may come forward.)*

Children 3 years old - Kindergarten may now leave for TLC out the back doors of the Sanctuary with Miss Gynni.)

Children in 1st - 3rd grades may now leave for KFC out the back doors of the Sanctuary.)

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

(page 1016)

The Sermon

Pastor James M. Moran

“PAY ATTENTION TO THE ALERT”

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

The Closing Hymn #93

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

(use screens)

The Benediction

The Postlude

“Ding Dong, Merrily on High”

Please stand as you are able.

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Please keep these family members and friends in your prayers:

Their daughter & all those in Anchorage, Alaska (Ken & Gretchen Peterson), Elinor Dixon (Debbie Rossi), Lillian Grundler (CCUPC member), Janet Greer (Nancy Hodges), Joseph Justus (Linda & Dave Schuman), Ryan King (Cindy Miller), Tom Liberto (the Markivich family), Matthew Markivich (the Markivich family), Toni McCullough & family (Becky Ahlgren), Jim Miller (CCUPC member), Harriet Murray (Bill Murray), Steven Popson (Peggy Wetzel), Karen Raman (CCUPC member), David Rubinosky (CCUPC member), Lois Saleone (Peggy Wetzel), Donny Santucci (Judy Weber), Travis Sauerwald (the Markivich family), Gene Smith (Jeanne Smith), the family of Ashley Roe-Snyder (Christina Cowan), Cheryl Storrs (CCUPC member), Tim (Shirl & Roy Lonie), and Ricky Vargas (Brenda Prigg).

Barb and Walt Smith share their THANKSGIVING for all of the prayers for the birth of their granddaughter, Gracen Hope Smith, born November 25th. She is the daughter of Chris and Tracey Smith.

Bob Taylor shares his THANKSGIVING for his wife, Donna, and for 46 years of a wonderful marriage (12/2).

The SYMPATHY of our congregation is extended to Helen and Alan Vogel and family on the death of Helen's mother, Rosemary Zaso.

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The Christmas tree in the Sanctuary is given by a family in our church to the glory of God, and with thanks for the blessing of Pastors Jim and Dena and to all that serve CCUPC in so many different ways.

The luminaria that will be displayed and lit on Christmas Eve are given by a family in our church to the glory of God.

You can still sponsor the Christmas tree in the greeting area in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Recognition will be noted each week in the bulletin during Advent. Please contact the church office (office@ccupc.org/724-776-5310) if you're interested.

Our next **Family Mission Day** will be **Sunday, January 13th**, immediately following worship. Join us as we make chicken noodle soup and a dessert for our friends who are experiencing homelessness. The soup that we make will be donated to L.I.V.I.N.G. Ministry and will be served through the North Side Homeless Alliance and the Allegheny County Winter Weather emergency shelter. This 'pop up' shelter will see hundreds of men and women come through its doors for a warm meal and place to sleep during the cold winter days. We will have jobs for a variety of ages and abilities - from cleaning vegetables, slicing chicken, cracking eggs, mixing, and even washing dishes! This event may take a bit of time, so come when you can, and leave when you must. If you would like to contribute to this project you may sign up to bring one or more of the ingredients on the list which is on the bulletin board in the greeting area, or we will gladly accept Giant Eagle gift cards. Please clearly mark them "Family Mission Day." If you have questions about this event, please see Pastor Dena.

I WAS JUST THINKING. . . by Pastor Jim

Last Sunday we began our journey of Advent. Traditionally, the emphasis of the opening Sunday is on the Second Advent of Christ. If you were in worship, you will recall that I emphasized three things of which we should be cognizant while we wait for Christ's return: patience, faithfulness, and preparedness.

The first Sunday in Advent begins with apocalyptic images that, in the popular imagination, are as non-Christmasy as can be imagined. The same may be true of the Second Sunday in Advent as its emphasis confronts the church (and the world) with John the Baptist, whom the church has also long insisted is an absolutely necessary character in the Advent drama. But even most Christians do not want John at Christmas.

Scott Hoezee comments: "We do not put John on Christmas cards. We have no John the Baptist Christmas tree ornaments. No child plays John in Christmas programs, and he is nowhere to be seen on front yard manger displays. John is too untidy, too dangerous for Christmas. Invite John to your holiday party and he will spill eggnog all over your Persian rug as he flails his arms around talking about the need to repent. He is too shrill. If we let John in the door, he'll wake the baby in the manger."

Then again, if we do not let John in, if we will not or cannot tolerate his uncompromising message that Christ is Lord of all, then that baby in the manger may as well just go on sleeping forever and ever. Because if we cannot let John in, we are not ready for the baby to wake up anyway. If we do not like what John says, we will not like what that baby will eventually say, either. And then Christmas is over before it really began.

For the message of Christmas to be absorbed into the fabric of our being so that it governs the way we live, we need to hear what John says. So, be alert . . . pay attention . . . turn toward God.

* * *

Blue Christmas. No one likes to be sad at Christmas time, and yet, so often, it can be hard to claim the joy of the season. Whether we've experienced the loss of a loved one, are separated from family, or things just aren't the way we think they ought to be, sometimes joy is hard, and that is magnified at Christmas. And yet, Christmas is a time of promise and hope. In conjunction with Hope Lutheran Church, CCUPC will be participating in a special "Blue Christmas" worship service. This service is designed to help those who struggle, for whatever reason, while still pointing to the hope and peace that is ours through Christ. If you feel as though you could benefit from that service, we hope you will join us **next Sunday, December 16th at 6:00 PM** at **Hope Lutheran Church** on Rowan Road. Nursery care will be provided. Or, if you know of others who may find comfort from that kind of worship, we hope that you will extend the invitation to them. There are postcard invitations on the Spiritual Growth table in the greeting area for you to use.

The Spiritual Growth Committee is encouraging our students (in lieu of individual Sunday School Teacher gifts) to make a donation to the ***“Sunday School Project”*** that will benefit local families who are in need this Christmas. The church office receives calls every year from parents who are unable to purchase gifts for their children at Christmas. You can purchase Giant Eagle or WalMart gift cards from the Scrip Gift Card Center. Place your gift card(s) in a pew envelope and write ***“Sunday School Project”*** on the front.