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November 30 & December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent: Hope

CURRENT SERMON SERIES



We are so often focused on the destination in our travels. "Where are you going?" is the most common question upon hearing that someone is heading out of town. This Advent season, we will pay attention not just to the destination of Christmas, but also to the places where events occurred that led to a starry night on which a child was born who would change the world. And we will ponder our own milestones—the progress and the potholes "on the way."

WELCOME!

Whether this is your first time watching or you're a member of our church family, we desire to welcome you and offer the opportunity for you to engage in worship and teachings from the Word of God.

If you're new to Pendleton Center or need to update your info, please fill out a <u>Friendship Card</u>. This helps us keep connected with you and let's us know you were watching online with us today.

To learn more about our church, visit pendletonchurch.org.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Centering Song

Opening Prayer & Advent Candle Lighting

Passing of the Peace

Opening Music

Offertory

Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:18-30, Luke 2:1-3

Sermon: "Rome: A Place of Longing" - Pastor Scott Johnson

Communion Closing Song Benediction

PRAYER CONCERNS -

Please lift these people and circumstances to God in your prayers throughout the week

Prayer for Healing: Larry, Genna, Barb, Brian, Wayne, Connor, Ezekiel, Coleen, Tom, Patricia L, Aaron, Tyler, Steve, Christa, Sandra S, Melodie, Delores

General Prayer Concerns: Family, Finance, Pain Relief, Health & wellbeing, Susie, Healing of our country, Safe travels

Ongoing Concerns: Young drivers, Bless PCUMC, Peace in world, Our church, Our country, Evie's family during her passing, Peace among men, Norm H, John B, Sherry L, Gary N, Health

Random Prayer Selection: Brian & Jennifer Morrissey, Mike Marchese, Joe & Traci Leaver, Bob & Linda Zanke, Al & Nancy Jayne, Tom & Becky Heideman, Jon & Loretta Grenda, Diane Feind, Susan Annalora, Norm Kimberle

Please be in prayer for these randomly selected names and those close to them.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

This Week's Birthdays

- 30 Paige Bull
 - 1 Adell Grear, Harshad Thacore, Susan Walck
 - 2 Gail Brown
 - 3 Philip Bova
 - 6 Mandy Manning, Holly Moss

This Week's Anniversaries

7 - Taylor & Meghan Wienke - '18

Communion elements, altar flowers, and bulletins are sponsored anonymously, "Celebrating the reason for the season."

Please consider sponsoring our worship elements by signing up in the back of the sanctuary or at <u>pendletonchurch.org/worship-sponsor</u>. Leave a message or sponsor anonymously.

Hanging of the Greens This Sunday, 12/1, 10:30a

Stay after the Sunday service this week to help decorate the church for the season! Children are welcome to help decorate with their family or enjoy a Christmas movie in the Ark. Adrian Almeida

The Wandering Wisemen

This advent season, beginning December 1, enjoy the illustrated story of Gaspar, Melchior, Balthazar, and Hezekiah as they travel afar in search of the Christ child. Read how the Magi from the East, and their faithful camel, face daily adventures along the way to Bethlehem. Follow "The Wandering Wisemen" Facebook page or go to the link on the PCUMC Facebook page. Produced by Amy Folby and Hannah (Folby) McFarlin.

RaiseRight Gift Cards Orders due by Monday, December 2

Raise funds for the church by buying gift cards through the RaiseRight program. Order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary or at pendletonchurch.org/raiseright. <u>Tracy Masse-Wells</u>
We are temporarily out of Tops gift cards.

Advent Bible Study Thursdays, 11a & 7p, Connection Room 1

Our Advent Bible study, On the Way to Bethlehem, looks at the places of the Christmas story to help us understand the challenges each place and people faced. These challenges are similar to many modern issues, which will give fresh insight into the power and meaning of Jesus' birth for us. Pastor Scott

Feeding Hope Wednesday, 12/11, 3p

Help provide a meal to the homeless in Buffalo. We are looking for donations of ground beef and sandwich bags. If you'd like to help, we'll be cooking in our kitchen starting at 3:00 PM. We leave to go downtown at 6:30. If you'd like to do either, you're welcome. If you are in need of a meal that day, contact me or the church office. Sandy Houck

Blue Christmas Service Thursday, 12/19, 6:30p

This service is a comforting space for those who struggle with grief, depression, anxiety, or other issues during the Christmas season. It's a place where you are safe and welcome to express those feelings. Here, you'll find a community that will support you as you face a challenging time.

Intergenerational Angel Wings Saturday, 12/14, 12p, Fellowship Hall

Join us at our December meeting where we will put together care packages for Community Missions in Niagara Falls to distribute to those looking for help. Currently we are collecting the following items:

- Personal size toiletries (razors, shampoo, wash cloths, etc.) to give to those helped by Community Missions.
- Twin-size bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace to make beds for children.
- Cleaning supplies & personal care products for Journey's End Refugee Program.

Becky Heideman and the Angel Wings' team

Thursday Night Dinner Christmas Celebration

We want to be a source of light in a dark world, and you can be part of it as well! We are currently looking for donations to support our dinner: ham, boxed scalloped potatoes, frozen peas, pineapple, butter, and eggs. If anyone is able to help us gather these items, we would be very grateful! We are anticipating some 350 dinner guests for our Christmas Dinner, so your help is much needed! We need to have any items by Tuesday, December 17. *DJ Mahar*

Bless a child or family this year for Christmas with our Angel Tree!

Choose a tag from the tree in Mission Central, the Fellowship Hall, or online: pendletonchurch.org/angeltree. Purchase and wrap your gifts and return them by Sunday, 12/15.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Valentine.

Thank you for blessing a child during this season. Let's help the little ones feel the love of our Lord through our acts of kindness.



Saturday, December 7, at 7:00 PM at PCUMC

This holiday season, the choirs of Pendleton Center UMC and St. Paul's UCC are joining together to present a Christmas choral concert! Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to join in this special occasion!

If anyone is interested in helping with the reception after, contact Nancy Himes.

UPCOMING EVENTS -

More information about these events can be found at pendletonchurch.org.

BIBLE STUDIES & DEVOTIONS Adult Sunday School

Sundays, 10:30a, Connection Room 3

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Sundays, 10:30a, Connection Room 2

Closer Walk Wednesdays

Wednesdays, 12p, on Facebook

Thursday Bible Study

Thursdays, 11a & 7p, Connection Room 1

Loyal Ladies Bible Study

Thursdays, 1p, Connection Room 2 (Wed. when United Women in Faith meets)

ADULTS

United Women in Faith

Thursday, 12/12, 12:30p, Fellowship Hall

Women's Book Club

Wednesday, 12/18, 6p, The Country Cottage

Niagara County Senior Lunch

Mondays, 10a, Fellowship Hall

Watercolor Classes

Tuesdays at 1p, Saturdays at 9a, Art Room

Country Line Dancing

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7p, Gym

Beginner Pickleball

Wednesdays, 6:30p, Gym

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Group (7-12th grade)

Sundays, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 6p, Gym

Hot Chocolate with God & S'mores

Fridays, 6p (Check calendar for dates)

Youth Retreat (7-12th grade)

January 24-26, Camp Findley

MUSIC

Pendletones Bell Choir

Wednesdays, 6p, Connection Room 1

Men of Hymn

Wednesdays, 7p, Choir Room

MISSIONS

Feeding Hope

Wednesday, 12/11, 3p, Kitchen

Intergenerational Angel Wings

Saturday 12/14, 12-3p, Fellowship Hall

Niagara Falls Thursday Night Dinner

Thursdays, 5p, First UMC

CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24 at 7 & 11p Live stream & Jr. Church available at 7p