



Pendleton Center
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Real Love. Real Hope.

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December 14 & 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

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 [Friendship Card](#). 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: *Luke 1:26-45*

Sermon: *"Nazareth: A Place of Simplicity"* - 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: Christa, Dennis, Fran, Peter, Phil, Larry, Fena, Barb, Brian

General Prayer Concerns: Environment, Peace in Israel, Health & wellness during the changing seasons, Family, Finances, Healing

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

Random Prayer Selection: Phil & Yvonne Bova, Renae & Alec Towne, John & Gale Ceccato, Carol Dombrowski, Donald & Bonnie Weber, Lisa Sendker, Robert & Lynne Rogowski, Tim & Jeanne Prendergast, Bonnie Okon, Pauline Holben, Jacob & Destiny Kenny

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

This Week's Birthdays

14 - Loren Beutel, Rachel Rogowski, Sandy Roslund, Cindy Smist

15 - Roy Barczykowski, Tracy Finiki, Dee Mann, Pam Marin

16 - Kevin Weller

17 - Lisa Dannebrock, Bill Tubbs

18 - Marci Lorenz, Darryl Noble, Kevin Parks, Theresa Zimmerman

19 - Dave Lester, Kevin Palm

20 - Carrie Bazinet

21 - Natalie Hilts

This Week's Anniversaries

14 - Steve & Sheri Cappon, Todd & Elizabeth Fisher - '91

17 - Delbert & JoAnn Pfohl - '66

Altar flowers, bulletins, & communion elements are sponsored by Kevin and Jackie Parks. Please consider sponsoring our worship elements by signing up in the back of the sanctuary or at pendletonchurch.org/worship-sponsor. Leave a message or sponsor anonymously.

Christmas Poinsettias Order

Help decorate our sanctuary for Christmas Eve and take after to enjoy at home! Envelopes available in the back of the sanctuary or pendletonchurch.org/flowers. *Orders are due by next Sunday, Dec. 22.*

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

The Wandering Wisemen

This advent season, 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.*



Wanted - Jars of peanut butter and jelly!

Drop donations in the blue bin in the Fellowship Hall through December. Help spread the love!

Women's Book Club

Wednesday, 12/18, 6p, at the Country Cottage at Beach Ridge & Townline Rd

Join us for dinner and a discussion about this month's book, *Comfort & Joy* by Kristin Hannah. If you want to join the book club or have any questions, let Yvonne Bova know. All women are welcome!

Thursday Night Dinner Christmas Celebration

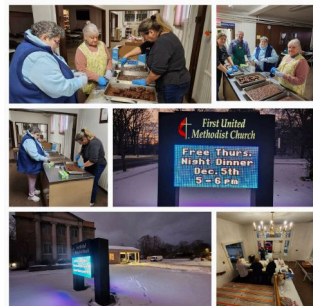
It's the most wonderful time of the year! As we reflect on the beauty of the season and all the ways God has blessed us, let us be mindful of the needs of others and how we might be a blessing to them. We love to celebrate the birth of our Savior by holding special services, gatherings with friends and family, and great holiday dinners! This is certainly true for the folks who attend our Thursday Night Dinner in Niagara Falls! They do so look forward to the holiday meal that is provided, and for some of the lonely, needy, or neglected people, this is their only such celebration. Let us reach out to them with a message of hope, generosity, and love. 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 that evening, so your help is much needed! Our Christmas dinner will be held this Thursday, December 19, so we will need to have any items by this Tuesday, December 17.

If you would prefer, we would also greatly appreciate any financial assistance you could put toward the dinner for items like take-out containers, bags, and other supplies.

We would also love to invite anyone to come help prepare, serve, or clean up with our holiday meal or any of our Thursday night dinners. Just contact DJ Mahar to sign up or to get any more information!

Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help out.





Blue Christmas Service

Thursday, December 19 at 6:30 PM

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.

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 & 11:00 PM

Join us for our special Christmas Eve services as we gather to rejoice in the birth of Christ, listen to the Word, and sing Christmas carols and Silent Night by candlelight.

Live stream & Jr. Church will be available at 7:00 PM.

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)

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Group (7-12th grade)

Sundays, 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

ADULTS

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

MUSIC

Pendletones Bell Choir

Wednesdays, 6p, Connection Room 1

Men of Hymn

Wednesdays, 7p, Choir Room

MISSIONS

Niagara Falls Thursday Night Dinner

Thursdays, 5p, First UMC