## DECEMBER 2019



Langhorne United Methodist Church 301 E. Maple Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047
(215) 757-4984)

Greetings in This Season of Love!
When I was working as the Christian Education Director in another United Methodist Church, I spent time with little ones during the second service after we did the children's message. We called that
 time together "Bible Buddies" and we would do activities relative to both the featured lectionary scripture for worship and the children's message.

One of those times in early December, we were talking about "hope" and what that means for us for Christmas, for our families, and for the world in general. I knew that asking them about hope and Christmas would bring up what they hoped to GET for Christmas! And that DID fit in well with what I planned for our activity that morning!
So l let them go on for a couple minutes about the things they were hoping to find under the tree. Most of them named little gizmos and games that were all new to me, with a few actually naming things like a bicycle, Hess truck, and a puppy!
Then I asked them, "Since it is Jesus' Birthday, what do you suppose he would hope to get for Christmas? What would you put into Jesus' stocking?"
Well, for two to seven year old kids, it took a little bit of thinking on their part. So while they were thinking, we all made stockings to hang at home for Jesus, complete with his name right on the front... and we talked.
We talked about happy things and sad things, and what would turn sad things into happy things. Then I asked, "Would making sad things into happy things make you happy?" They all shouted (because these kids loved to shout their answers!), "YES!" And then I asked, "Would making sad things into happy things make Jesus happy?" The older ones shouted "YES!" and the younger ones joined right in, "YES! YES!...."


So we named some things that need to change from sad to happy, and what it would need to be happy:

- People crying needed hugs and tissues
- People fighting needed to say "I'm sorry" and be friends
- People without food needed to eat a big lunch everyday
- People without friends needed to come to church

The list continued a bit, but these are the main ones that I remember.
My friends, hope is an important piece of Advent and of Christmas. So many people are sad for many different reasons. What can we give to Jesus this Christmas that will change someone's sad to happy? What is Jesus hoping for from us? He is hoping for things you do that express love for God and all of creation.
There are twelve days of Christmas, and there are twelve months of the year. Here is an idea for you and/or your family for 2020: Hang a stocking for Jesus and cut 6 index cards into two pieces (to make 12 pieces, total). For each day of Christmas, think of one thing to work on for each month of the upcoming year and put it into Jesus' stocking. For example - for the first day of Christmas you would write on a $1 / 2$ piece of card something like donate to a pet shelter. That could mean time, money, food, etc. Then put the card into Jesus' stocking. Repeat this each day of Christmas with different activities of love. Then, each month, pull out one $1 / 2$ card and do what the card says. Each month will be a different project, big or little, depending on what you are able to do to the best of your abilities. Other ideas: volunteer at a rest home; help with the shared meal; crochet/knit or buy hats for kids with cancer; clean out your closet and donate your clothes; do spring cleaning for a neighbor with limited abilities; etc. I am SURE you can think of other things you can do for Jesus.

Love is endless and makes sad people happy, even for a little while. It brings the light of hope into someone's moments of sadness in dark days. Love is what Jesus is all about -- LOVE came down at Christmas. Let give love back to Jesus, and make the world around us as happy as possible!

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## Fall/Winter Sunday Scripture Schedule, Plus. . .

Here are the scriptures that are scheduled for each Sunday in November and December. They are subject to change should there be a substitute preacher, or if the Holy Spirit moves me to change one or two... I generally pick two of the four to focus on each Sunday, and often use the Psalter reading as a call to worship.
Feel free to read them in anticipation of the Sunday services' messages!

## December

December 1-1 $1^{\text {st }}$ Sunday of Advent; United Methodist Student Day

Prophetic/Old Testament Lesson
Psalter/Old Testament Reading
Epistle/New Testament Lesson
Gospel/New Testament Lesson
December $8-2^{\text {nd }}$ Sunday of Advent
Prophetic/Old Testament Lesson Psalter/Old Testament Reading Epistle/New Testament Lesson Gospel/New Testament Lesson
December $15-3^{\text {rd }}$ Sunday of Advent Prophetic/Old Testament Lesson Secondary Gospel/New Test. Reading Epistle/New Testament Lesson Gospel/New Testament Lesson
December $22-4^{\text {th }}$ Sunday of Advent
Prophetic/Old Testament Lesson Psalter/Old Testament Reading Epistle/New Testament Lesson Gospel/New Testament Lesson
December 29-1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Sunday after Christmas; 5
Prophetic/Old Testament Lesson
Psalter/Old Testament Reading
Epistle/New Testament Lesson
Gospel/New Testament Lesson

Plus...

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Isaiah 35:1-10
Luke 1:46-55 - - The Magnificat
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25
$5^{\text {th }}$ Day of Christmas
Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

...Things to note for December:

December 22-24 - Live Nativity! 6:00p-9:00p each night
We are looking for volunteers to help as the characters in the stable, costume assistants,
 outdoor greeters, refreshment hosts, etc.
See Mike and Jenn Kephart to sign up.


December 24 - Christmas Eve Services
5:00p Casual: Carols, Holy Communion, and Candlelight with special attention given to families with small children.
9:00p Traditional: Lessons \& Carols, Special Music, Holy Communion, and Candlelight.

December 29-1 $1^{\text {st }}$ Sunday After Christmas; $5^{\text {th }}$ Day of Christmas ONE SERVICE, 10:00a

Langhorne United Methodist Church
Dec 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)


| $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ - Brownies | 8:30am-Men Min. |
| :--- | :--- |
| $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$-Cub Scouts | 6pm-Movie Night |




| Sun | Mon | Tue |  | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 29 | 30 |  | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10am-Traditional <br> 11am-Adult SS <br> 6:30pm - Bell Choir <br> 6:30pm - YOUTH |  |  |  |  | 7 am-Men's Brk. <br> 9am-Steeple Kids <br> 6 pm - Boy Scouts | 6:30pm-Brownies | 8:30am-Men Min. |
|  | 5pm-Girl Scouts <br> 7 pm-Cub Scout <br> 7 pm - Trustee's Mtg. | 7 pm - Bucks Mt. <br> 7 pm -SPR Mtg. | 7 | $\begin{aligned} & 8 \\ & 6 \mathrm{pm}-\mathrm{BS} \text { Committee } \\ & 6 \mathrm{pm}-\text { Girl Scouts } \\ & 7 \mathrm{pm}-\text { CHOIR } \end{aligned}$ | 7 am-Men's Brk. <br> 9am-Steeple Kids <br> 6 pm - Boy Scouts | 10 | 11 |
| 9:30am-Kids SS <br> 9:30am - Traditional <br> 10:30am - Adult SS <br> 11am-Contemporar <br> 6:30pm - Bell Choir <br> 6:30pm - YOUTH |  |  |  |  |  | 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | 6pm - Funeral Serv.- |
| 9:30am - Kids SS <br> 10:30am - Adult SS <br> 9:30 am - Traditional <br> 11am-Contemporar <br> 6:30pm - Bell Choir <br> 6:30pm - YOUTH | 7pm-Finance Mtg. <br> 7 pm - GS Training | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \mathrm{pm}-\text { Bucks Mt. } \\ & 7 \mathrm{pm}-U M W \end{aligned}$ | 14 | 6:30pm-Girl Scout <br> 7 pm - CHOIR | 7 am-Men's Brk. <br> 9am-Steeple Kids <br> 6pm-Boy Scouts | 6:30pm - Brownies <br> 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | $\begin{aligned} & 7: 30 \mathrm{am}-\text { Men's } \\ & 1 \mathrm{pm}-\text { TLA } \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5pm-Girl Scouts | 7pm-Bucks Mt. | 21 | 9:30am-Steeple <br> 6 pm -Girl Scouts <br> 7 pm -CHOIR | 7 am - Men's Brk. <br> 9 am-Steeple Kids <br> 6 pm - Boy Scouts | $6 \mathrm{pm}-$ Cub Scouts | 8:30am-Men Min. <br>  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 9: 30 \mathrm{am} \text { - Kids SS } \\ & 9: 30 \mathrm{am} \text { - Traditional } \\ & 10: 30 \mathrm{am} \text { - Adult SS } \\ & \text { 11am - Contemporar } \\ & 6: 30 \mathrm{pm} \text { - Bell Choir } \\ & 6: 30 \mathrm{pm} \text { - YOUTH } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | 6 pm -Shared Meal <br> 7 pm - Bucks Mt. | 7pm-Bucks Mt. | 28 | 7pm-CHOIR 29 | 7 am-Men's Brk. <br> 9am-Steeple Kids <br> 6pm-Boy Scouts | 31 | 1 |
| 9:30 am - Kids SS <br> 9:30am - Traditional <br> 10:30am - Adult SS <br> 11am-Contemporar <br> 3pm-"Gathering" <br> 6:30pm-Bell Choir <br> 6:30pm - YOUTH |  |  |  |  |  | - | 8:30am-Men Min. <br> 2pm-spagetti |

December 1
Worship Assistant 9:30.............................................................Jerry Hill

Ushers .....................................................................Stacy \& Tami Lewis
Contemporary Assistants 11:00................................Bev Eick \& Carol Annucci

## December 8

Worship Assistant 9:30...........................................................Erika Paton
Greeters 9:30
.Ruth \& Raul Torres
Ushers 9:30 $\qquad$ Joe \& Helen McDonald

Contemporary Assistants 11:00
.Raab Family
December 15
Worship Assistant 9:30.......................................................Jeannette Hesser
Greeter 9:30..................................................................Marybeth States

Contemporary Assistants 11:00............................................Daeche Family
December 22
Worship Assistant 9:30................................................................Jerry Hill
Greeters 9:30..................................................................June \& Bill Gill
Ushers 9:30..................................................Lynne Gardner \& Jackie Stout
Contemporary Assistants 11:00 .................................Bev Eick \& Carol Annucci
December 24
5:00 Service - Ushers \& Greeters
9:00 Service - Ushers \& Greeters (Looking for volunteers)

DECEMBER 29 (one Service)
Worship Assistant 10:00...................................................Linda Rutledge

Ushers .Marty \& Marlene Kalbach

## Word to Live by for DECEMBER: JESUS

## Scripture 1: Jesus Is Born

Luke 2:11-14
${ }^{11}$ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ${ }^{12}$ This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ${ }^{13}$ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, ${ }^{[b]}$ praising God and saying,
14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

## Scripture 2: Jesus as a Boy at the Temple

Luke 2:41-52 New International Version (NIV)
${ }^{41}$ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ${ }^{42}$ When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ${ }^{43}$ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ${ }^{44}$ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ${ }^{45}$ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ${ }^{46}$ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ${ }^{47}$ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ${ }^{48}$ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ${ }^{[a]}{ }^{50}$ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.
${ }^{51}$ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ${ }^{52}$ And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Scripture 3: Jesus is the Light of the World
John 8:12 New International Version (NIV)
12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Scripture 4: Jesus is the Resurrection and The Life
John 11:25-26 New International Version (NIV)
25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

## The Stewardship Team

## Cookbooks

Cookbooks are now on sale! Cost is $\$ 12.00$. Stop by our table in fellowship hall during the month of December. They make wonderful gifts!

## Cookie Walk

Join us at our annual Cookie Walk, where you are invited to purchase homemade Christmas Cookies for the holiday. Always a lot of fun, and lots of variety in the cookies. Cost: $\$ 7.00$ per pound. See us on Sunday 12/15/19 to com

# LUMC Christmas Cookie~ Walk <br> Sunday December 15, 2019 Sale begins at 10:00am -11:00am 



For this Christmas, Stewardship will again offer Christmas Cookies to the members and friends of LUMC through our annual Cookie Walk. We are asking for volunteers to bake Christmas Cookies to be offered for sale on Sunday, December 15 ${ }^{\text {th }}$, between 10:00am and 11:00am.

If you bake cookies, can you please bring your cookies to the church office sometime during 12/9/19-12/12/19 between 9 and 1 pm. OR bring them on Sunday 12/15/19 between 8:30 and 9:30am. This will give us time to create the cookie packages that we receive orders for! Of course, we also need members and friends to help by purchasing the cookies. The cost is $\$ 7.00$ per pound. Come and pick out your favorite Christmas Cookies.

Order sheets are available on the attached page.
Any questions or if you would like to help please contact one of the following people; Linda Rutledge, Kathy DiGregorio, or Holly Rogerson


## LANGHORNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 63rd ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY

Each year our Living Nativity brings the love of the Christmas Story to our community. This annual event is much loved and anticipated.

LUMC will again be sponsoring a living nativity this year.
The dates of the event will be as follows:

Sunday, December 22nd, 6pm till 9pm
Monday, December 23rd, 6pm till 9pm
Tuesday, December 24th, 6pm till 9pm

Will have a signup sheet for participants and helpers in fellowship hall starting the first Sunday in December. We will also be requesting donations to help with the cost of having the live animals present. The donation box will be placed in the back of the sanctuary starting the first Sunday in November. As I am sure you are aware this ministry has been occurring each year for many years now and we would like to keep it going. Any assistance, monetary, or in person, that you can provide would be greatly appreciated.


## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## 2nd Tuesday every month - 7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to join our lively group of United Methodist
Women for the final meeting of 2019 on Tuesday, December 10, at 7 pm . Everyone is bringing something for our refreshment table, so that in itself should be magnificent. We also will be preparing gifts for shut-ins and designating members to personally deliver them so the recipients get a visit as well as a little Christmas cheer. A Christmas tree will be in place for participants to hang hand-made ornaments which include cash to be donated to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help someone who needs assistance at this glorious but expensive time of year.

Thanks for your help.


## CAN YOU HELP?

There are vacancies for Counters for these Sundays - the first Sunday of the month; the third Sunday and the fifth Sunday.
Would you prayerfully consider serving as a Counter for the Offering after the Morning Worship on one of these Sundays. Training is free and blessings are countless. You may let Raul Torres know or leave a note in the Church Secretary's mailbox.


Be sure to join us on the 4th Sunday of Advent (December 22)
Our Sunday School children will be singing during the 9:30 am Service.

VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED for two times a month for approximately an hour each time. For several years now LUMC has been involved with the Food Pantry at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Redeemer offers a food pantry which is open to both church members and the community. Pantry hours are 12-1 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The pantry is closed on Thursdays.

The GIANT Food Store in Langhorne provides us with baked goods that are picked up by volunteers from Langhorne UMC and Redeemer Lutheran every Wednesday morning. Redeemer picks up on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays and all items are delivered to the Redeemer Food Bank. Langhorne UMC picks up on the second and fourth Wednesdays and sweet goods are delivered to LUMC for the Shared Meal and Fellowship \& Refreshment ministries; and the bread goods are delivered to Redeemer.

Over the years beginning with Lyn Wallace and Holly Rogerson (and others), and continued by Bill Bryan, Mark Letham, Ken McAllister, Gary Kinsey, Mike and Matt Hanley, LUMC has continued this ministry in partnership with Redeemer Lutheran. We are now in need of one or more volunteers to help out with the two LUMC pickups and deliveries each month.

Scriptural Foundation for this Caring Ministry: Matthew 25:35-36
For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Please contact Bill Bryan if you are willing and able to participate in this critical ministry - contact via email at Bill @langhornechurch.org or 215-847-2130.

## KID'S PAGE



## KID"S PAGE




You're invited to an
Applebee's® ${ }^{\oplus}$ Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast to support Girl Scouts of Eastern PA Troop 2866
\$7.00 per person

WHEN: Saturday, December 21, 2019 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Applebee's Neighborhood Grill \& Bar 2 West Road

Newtown, PA 18940

For More Information:
To purchase tickets or for more information please email girlscouttroop2866@gmail.com

Valid only at participating restaurant listed above. Ticket valid for pancake event only Applebee's menu items are not included as part of purchase


Join us for a Night of Song
\&
Get in the Spirit of the Season With

## An American Christmas

Sacred \& Secular Songs of a Magical Holiday

6:30 to 8:00 PM, Saturday, December 14, 2019
Presented by Fred Miller
Pianist, Singer and Narrator

At

## Bensalem United Methodist Church

4300 Hulmeville Road
Bensalem PA 19020

Prayer: We thank you, lauing Gad, for the gift of Jesus. Ftelp us, we proy, to be a source of compassianate lave to athers as we welcome our newhern Fing. Amen

| "FOR UNTO US |
| :--- |
| A CHILD IS |
| BORN!" |
| - ISAIAH 9:6 |

## PROVERBIAL ANIMALS

Many expressions in our language use animals as metaphors. Consider, for example, "Wise as an owl," or "To take the bull by the horns." Below are more of these expressions. Unscramble the words to find the animals in the proverbs.

| PAE | 1. To go ___ over something. |
| :---: | :---: |
| EBRAEV | 2. An eager |
| RDIB | 3. To sing like a _ |
| GOD | 4. To be in the ____ house. |
| FOWL | 5. To be a ___ in sheep's clothing. |
| RUYTEK | 6. To talk |
| RUILQSER | 7. To __ away your money. |
| SMUPOS | 8. To play (pretend to be dead). |
| LEMU | 9. Stubborn as a |
| NOLI | 10. -hearted. | RIDDLE

I am weightless and can be seen. When I am put in a barrel, I make it lighter. What am I?
(Answer to the right)


Homelouch k Visit us at: Home Touch Ministry.com $\mid=2019$ (RI, PO) Box 9290. Canton OH 44711

## LET'S REMEMBER OUR SENIORS BY SENDING THEM BIRTHDAY CARDS!



12/1 George Schmidt,
26 Tupelo Lane
Langhorne, PA 19047
12/3 Donna Goodwin
247 Thrush Circle
New Hope, Pa. 18938
12/7 Harold Hacker
290 E. Winchester Ave.
\#314Y
Langhorne, PA 19047
12/20 Lyn Wallace,
1975 Quarry Road
Yardley, PA 19067
12/22 Dotty Gannon,
7 E. Holland Road
Holland, PA 18966
12/31 Janis Goldman,
5 James Court
Langhorne PA 19047
Langhorne United Methodist Church
301 East Maple Ave., Langhorne PA , (215) 757-4984
lumc-online.org
Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler
JoIn Us FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP!
Sunday Worship Hours:
9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler, laurie@langhornechurch.org
Bill Bryan, Director of Congregational Care, bill@langhornechurch.org
Dave Tyler, Lay Leader, deetee0810@gmail.com
Donna Goodwin, Church Secretary, church@langhornechurch.org
Kerry Fenton, Organist, Kerry@langhornechurch.org
Kim Stockburger Treasurer, Gs5th@comast.net
Hugh Green, Youth Director, Hugh@langhornechurch.org
Barbara Jordan, Choir Accompanist, acompanist@aol.com
Kim Stockberger, Bell Choir Director, Gs5th@comcast.net
Kurt Tommuscheit, Sexton
Amy Rodda, Steeple Kids Director, steeplekids@comcast.net


[^0]:    May you all have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!
    Laurie, your Pastor.
    Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler

