

### **Emmanuel United Methodist Church**

26 West Washington Street, Fleetwood, PA 19522 Web Site: <u>WWW.FleetwoodUMC.org</u>

December 2020 (Pandemic related safety restrictions in place) Happening at Emmanuel in December 2020 Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup> - 10 am Worship and Sunday School Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup> - 10 am Worship and Sunday School Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> - 10 am Worship and Sunday School Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup> - 3 pm our EARLY Christmas Eve Service Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm Traditional Christmas Candlelight Worship Service Sunday December 27<sup>th</sup> - 10 am Worship and Sunday School

#### \*\*\*\*

#### **Christmas Eve Services - Your choice of two**

This year we will hold **two Christmas Eve Services**. There will be an **Early Christmas Eve Service starting at 3 PM** and our **Traditional Candlelight Service starting at 7 PM**. This is being done for several reasons even though we know that overall attendance may be low due to the pandemic. **Christmas worship service is incredibly special for all Christians and we want to accommodate all our congregation**. Having two services allows the opportunity for you to choose which service accommodates your individual and/or family needs. The early service will also accommodate those who may not feel comfortable going out after dark.

Due the Covid-19 restriction we are limited as to how many people are allowed in the sanctuary even though wearing masks. We do social distance. So additionally, the Fellowship Hall will be open with a speaker broadcasting each service for anyone who may be more comfortable there.

### **Christmas Gift Programs**

We wish to thank everyone who participated in our various Christmas Gift programs. The Shoebox gifts were a great. All the names for gifts for Children at Concern were taken. Just a reminder those gifts need to be brought to the church by this coming <u>Sunday</u>, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Don't Christmas Shop on Amazon!

### <u>Instead, Please shop using AmazonSmile Charity</u> <u>and Help Out Your Church – with NO extra cost!</u>

This is a reminder that **if you shop on Amazon and you switch to <u>AmazonSmile.com</u> you could be donating a portion of your purchase to our church. Amazon will donate 0.5% of all orders made through AmazonSmile and it is amazingly simple to register yourself and your charity as Emmanuel. When you go to set up our church you will have to** *enter and**search for <u>Emmanuel United Methodist Church</u> and <u>then scroll down and pick out our</u> <u>church under Fleetwood, PA.</u> Click here to learn* 

more: <u>https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/ref=smi\_aas\_redirect?ie=UTF8&%2AVe</u> <u>rsion%2A=1&%2Aentries%2A=0</u> AmazonSmile.com is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com.

\*\*\*\*

## **Pastor's Corner**

## Why Study God's Word

Just as we eat 3 meals a day to sustain our physical bodies, we must also feast on God's word daily to sustain our souls. If we don't we are in danger of losing our souls. God says in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge." People will be lost because they did not care enough to read and study God's instruction book on how to go to Heaven.

Paul says in 2 Thessalonians 2:10 that people will be lost "because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved." Satan wants to distract us with the cares and

deceits of this world. He does not want us to read and study our Bibles every day. He knows that we become weak and vulnerable when we fail to study. Our strongest defense is a shield of faith. How do we obtain that shield of faith to protect us? Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." The more we study the word of God the stronger our faith will be. If we want to protect ourselves against Satan we must have a strong faith.

In years past Christians were thought of as "walking Bibles" because they studied their Bibles. But sad to say, this is no longer true because people have failed to study God's word, as they should. But what happens when people fail to study God's word and become spiritually starved? 2 Peter 3:16 says that those who are "untaught and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the scriptures." We cannot understand God's word unless we study it. And because of this Jesus says in Matthew 15:14, "They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a ditch."

To keep from wandering around in spiritual darkness, let us study God's word so that "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalms 119:105). Let's not endanger our souls by a lack of study of God's word. Let's take time to study it daily.

God Bless,

Pastor Mark

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Great Results from our Fund Raiser**

We were able to send \$411.00 to The Fleetwood Food Bank. We were incredibly happy to be able to give that much this year. Thank you to all who contributed. It certainly went to a worthy cause with so many in need.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone who stayed after worship on Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup> to help put up the Christmas tree & decorations. It was greatly appreciated.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **December Birthdays**

#### December 8 – Darlene Gorski

### **December Anniversaries**

### **December – 15 George & Christine Whitefield**

### **December – 20 Brad & Deanne Hamilton**

\*\*\*\*

## **Prayer Concerns for December**

Please remember the following members in prayer

Catherine Lenhart, Nancy O'Rourke, Glenn Sanders, Joan Sehl, Pat Tracy, Eleanor Wolf

\*\*\*\*\*

# **Smiles for December 2020**



~ Charlie Chaplin

Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes

I'd like to live like a poor man only with lots of money.

~ Pablo Picasso

Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes



Do you know that awesome feeling when you get into bed, fall right asleep, stay asleep all night and wake up feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day?

## Yeah, me neither!

Celebrities: We are all in the same boat...

Their boat:



My Boat:





\*\*\*\*\*\*

<u>Reminder - Newsletter Deadline</u>— If you have articles or humor items for the Decemberber Newsletter be sure to email them to your newsletter editor, Dick Tracy, at <u>dtracy@ptd.net</u> or call or text him at 610-207-2016 <u>not later than Friday November 27<sup>th</sup>.</u> (Remember, If you don't send humor items they you're stuck with my choices!) We are always looking for articles/photos stories or jokes so <u>PLEASE</u> <u>PLEASE</u> email Dick with anything you feel appropriate to share!