



Emmanuel



Emmanuel United Methodist Church

26 West Washington Street, Fleetwood, PA 19522

Sunday Worship 10 AM; Sunday School 10 AM

Web Site: WWW.FleetwoodUMC.org

December 2017

The season of Giving Thanks is upon us, let us gather together to celebrate!

~ A Season of Giving Thanks *and*

Celebration of Christmas at Emmanuel ~

Sunday December 3rd 10:00 a.m. Worship

~ Advent begins with the Hanging of the Greens ~

Our Sanctuary comes alive for Christmas as we remember the meaning of our cherished traditions in a special worship service this 1st Sunday of Advent.

Following the service we will have a fellowship with Cocoa, Cider, Coffee & Cookies!

Youth Christmas Caroling and fellowship following the church fellowship time

Each Sunday through Christmas Eve

~Advent Candle Lighting Services ~

... begins the 1st Sunday morning in advent December 3rd and continues through each Sunday Morning, special readings and events through Christmas Eve.

Sunday December 17th 2 – 5 PM

Pastor Mark and Annette's Dricker Family Open House

Feel free to stop by to share some Christmas Fellowship... whether you can stay for a few moments or stay for a few hours...

Light refreshments and sweets on the menu..

108 Royal Horse Way, Reinholds, PA 17569

Home Phone: 717-484-1504

Directions to Dricker's home provided below

Sunday Evening December 24th 7:00 p.m.

~***Traditional Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service***~

Please join us on this special night for our traditional service of beloved hymns and carols ending in the soft glow of candlelight to Silent Night.

Pastor's Corner

What Is Heaven Like?

Jesus says, "In My Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John14:2-3). Heaven will be a mansion like we have never seen before. "We have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For we groan, earnestly desiring

to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven” (2 Corinthians 5:1-2). We should be looking forward to going to Heaven. “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body” (Philippians 3:20-21). Heaven is described as “The city had no need for the sun or moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it” (Revelation 21:23).

Heaven will always be pure. “But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life” (Revelation 21:27). There will be no evil people in Heaven.

Heaven is “an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you” (1 Peter 1:4). We do not earn Heaven, but we inherit it by being a faithful child of God. In Heaven “God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” (Revelation 21:4). There will be no tears or crying in Heaven because there will be nothing there to cause them. There will never be another sad moment because there will be nothing but joy and happiness. In Heaven there will be no funerals or cemeteries because people there will live forever, “In the land where we never grow old”. There will be no pain, sickness or hurt in Heaven because we will have an immortal body like the Lord’s body. As humans beings we cannot even begin to understand the glories of Heaven even if we were given a lengthy description. The only way we will understand how wonderful Heaven is going to be is to see it for ourselves. Let’s make sure we go to Heaven and not Hell.

God Bless

Pastor Mark

Directions to Dricker’s Home for Open House

2 – 5 PM Sunday December 17th

Directions from Church:

662 S to Pricetown Rd/ Rt. 12 (Make right onto Rt. 12)

Stay straight to go onto 422 W -

Stay straight to go onto 222 S -

Continue on Rt. 222 S to the Knauers/Adamstown Exit

Exit and at the bottom of the ramp make a right onto 272 S

Follow 272 S to the 2nd light Swartzville Rd/897 N.

Make a right onto Swartzville Rd/897 N.

Watch on the left for Smokestown Rd (approx. .8 mi.)

Make left onto Smoketown Rd and then the 1st right onto

Royal Horse Way...

We are the 4th house on the right with the full front porch.

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 the Children at Concern were taken. **just a reminder those gifts need to be brought to the church by this coming Sunday, Dec. 3rd**

We also had **\$500.00** donated for the **Fleetwood Food Bank**. A big **"Thank You"** to everyone who gave, as it certainly went to a worthy cause.

*****!*****

Church Photo Directory Still Underway

If you have not already had your photo taken for our new Church Photo Directory we will continue to take photos for a few Sundays. People can update their info on a sheet that will be available. For those that cannot make it to church, call Nancy Kiesling or Julie Knabb and we will set up a home visit if needed.

December Birthdays

December 8 – Darleen Gorski

December Anniversaries

December 3rd – Jamie and Chad Evans

December 15th – George and Christine Whitfield

December 20th – Brad and Deanne Hamilton

Are you at odds with a friend or family member?

Is it causing you to harbor bitterness, anger, or resentment toward someone that, deep down, you actually deeply love?

Maybe that person gave birth to you...maybe you gave birth to *them*. Or maybe they're a family member or best friend that has known you longer than virtually anyone else...

Let me tell you from experience: It's not worth it.

Life is short. Relationships are everything. In fact, they're not just everything, they're the *only* thing. I'm sure you've heard it before, but you can't take your "stuff" with you. If not beforehand, when you're old and gray, you'll come to the same realization that virtually everyone else who walked this planet has... it's only the people in your life that mattered... your family, your kids, your friendships... your relationships.

That said, our relationships with those closest to us usually fall into one of two categories: those we foster and invest in, or those we deprioritize and let deteriorate. And what a shame the latter is.

You see, you can't get the time back. In life, you'll either look back and treasure the time you spent and the memories you created with your closest friends and family members, or you'll reflect in regret, wishing you made things "right" sooner, having more time to cherish with the people that mattered most.

Whatever you do, don't let the second outcome be your fate. You deserve better. Your relationships deserve better. And God deserves better from you.

God's word says in Ephesian 4:32, *"...Has God graciously forgiven you? Then graciously forgive one another, just as Christ forgave you."*

Talk about perspective.

As humans, it's easy to forget God's example of forgiveness and reconciliation with us directly, though his son, Jesus Christ. But what a powerful reminder it is... God has shown us the ultimate display of grace and forgiveness, totally and completely undeserved. How much more should we strive to reconcile the relationships God has entrusted to us here on this earth?

Someone may have hurt you. You may feel like they've really done you wrong...and perhaps they have. But, how many times have you hurt the heart of God? Still, every single time, he's quick to forgive, and welcome us back with open arms.

Who are we to hold ill will toward someone? Who are we to harbor resentment or unforgiveness?

And think about it... when it's someone you love... a close friend... a family member... is it really worth

living that way? The answer in a resounding no.

Matthew 5:23 says, *“So then, if you bring your offering to the altar, and while there remember a quarrel with your brother or sister, abandon your offering, leave immediately, and go to this person and reconcile; make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God.”*

God’s word teaches us that it’s impossible for us to be in union with him, when there is division in our own relationships. We first have to reconcile horizontally, before we can reconcile vertically.

Is there someone in your life that you are holding something against, or someone who is holding something against you? Today is the day to reach out, and make it right. Offer forgiveness, or ask for forgiveness. Own up to your part. Let go of your pride, and reconcile. This is God’s commandment to us, because he knows that it’s only through reconciliation that we can live a full life, where we are at peace and our relationships are whole.

Don’t let another day go past wasting precious time before you are in union with those you love, and your creator.

In sincere friendship,

Joel

“In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while holding something against your neighbor.” -
Ephesians 4:26

Joel Marion, CISSN
Founder, Transformation Insider

Thoughts and Smiles for December





No Words Needed

A special link for you to follow!

A message from a Harvard Professor

90 Seconds you won't regret!

Just click on it below

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=YjntXYDPw44&sns=em

Reminder - Newsletter Deadline– If you have **articles or humor items for January's** Newsletter be sure to email them to Dick Tracy at dtracy@ptd.net or call him at 610-207-2016 **not later than Wednesday December 27th** . **I am always looking for articles/photos to share so please email me with anything you feel appropriate to share!**