



FAMILY of FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC

December 2025

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JOINING HANDS

Vol. 15 Issue 12 №. 183

Worship

Sundays 10:00 AM
Holy Communion

December 7 Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10
Colossians 1:15-20
Matthew 3:1-12

December 14 Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35:1-10
Colossians 1:15-20
Matthew 11:2-15

December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7:10-17
Hebrews 1:1-3
Matthew 1:18-25

December 28 First Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 63:7-14
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:25-35

Sunday School

Sunday School
9:00 AM

From Pastor Phil

Christmas Joy

We are fast approaching the season of “Merry Christmas!” and “Happy New Year!”. There is a lot of pressure to be happy this time of the year. Expectations to always have a smile on your face and a song in your heart.

That’s a hard expectation for people who are going through hard times or have a heavy heart due to recent losses. Do you know there is no expectation for all of us to be happy at Christmas? The Bible speaks of great joy not of great happiness.

Joy is different than happiness. Happiness is tied to how things are going; Joy is tied to something less subject to change. Joy is not dependent on our circumstances; it rests on a firm foundation of hope that is certain. You can be having a hard time and still cling to joy. It is deeper, wider, and higher than happiness.

Happiness can make us feel better. Joy can transform us and how we respond to life. The joy of Christmas is not about the holiday celebration; it is about what God has done by becoming a complete human and still fully God. It is God loving us so much as to become one of us and live among us as one of us.

Ultimately it is God having the grace to come, take all our sins on the cross, and rise again to give us new life. Nothing can take that away from us. Nothing can change what has already happened. Nothing can separate us from the love of God we in Christ Jesus, the baby in the manger.

My Christmas wish is that all of us and everyone around us have the joy of Christmas that only comes through Christ Jesus. Don’t just celebrate the holiday. Celebrate that we have a loving and gracious God who came to make a way for us to be in the family of faith.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



December 7 Jeff Shuey
& Jim Vassar
December 14 Jeff Shuey
& Jim Vassar
December 21 Jeff Shuey
& Jim Vassar
December 28 Jeff Shuey
& Jim Vassar

Lectors



December 7 Kathy Falter
December 14 Karen Kline
December 21 Jim Vassar
December 28 Jeff Shuey

Communion Bread Bakers



December 7 Melissa Jameson
December 14 Cindy Bridinger
December 21 Tom Nahm
December 28 manna

Coffee Brewers



The Java Café is open, with coffee being served Barista style and with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

December 1
Dana Feasel
December 4
Josef Cholodewitsch
December 10
Mike Felske
December 11
Marshall Lamming
December 14
Alan Kimmet
Lindsey Stine
December 19
Scott Kiesel
Cody Stombaugh
December 21
Alec Fissel
December 22
Karen Kline
December 24
Dawn Currier
December 30
Jacob Kline



but to lead a whole team of people doing the ministry. If you desire to serve or recommend someone to serve see Randy Schwartz.

At the end of January will be our annual meeting. At that time, one of our important actions is confirming the call of Vision Team members. These people will provide leadership for our congregation and its ministries. Each position is a three year term. Once a term is completed, the person must take at least one year off from Vision Team. Spouses cannot serve on Vision Team at the same time. The areas of responsibility this year are Congregation President, Finance, Facilities, and Spiritual Development. These people are not responsible for doing the ministry

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School

December 7 - Paul and Silas in Prison

December 14 - Ephesus

December 21 - Advent/Christmas

December 28 - Paul's Testimony



Women of Faith will meet Tuesday, December 30, 2025, 5:00 PM at Zo Redman's house, please bring an appetizer to share.



If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let David Murray know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let David know.



Our December Mission Outreach Baskets we will collect canned goods and household items for the Salvation Army.



**NOAH FOUNDATION OF OHIO
COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER
DECEMBER 25TH
FROM: 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM
CAMDEN FALLS
2460 S. State Route 231
Tiffin, Ohio**

**Where will you be on
Christmas day?**

**Home Alone * Unemployed
Lonely without family
around?**

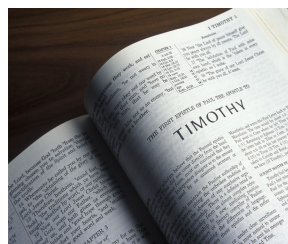
**THEN JOIN US FOR A FREE
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER**

PLEASE CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

419-455-4569



Our own facility will not be ready for Christmas Eve. Faith Methodist Church has been gracious to offer its facility to us at 7:00pm on Christmas Eve. Their facility is located at 75 North Sandusky Street, at the corner stoplight with Hudson just north of the bridge by Tiffin University. This is not a cooperative service. They are providing their sanctuary to Family of Faith for us to gather as a congregation that night. There is a large parking lot and an elevator for those needing help with stairs. We are thankful for their generosity.



There will be no adult midweek discussion sessions on Tuesday until January. At that time we will begin a study of the "Pastoral" Epistles to Timothy. Please join us at 1:30 and 7:00pm on January 6th.

Thank You's

Thank you to everyone associated with Family of Faith for your prayers, patience, and assistance after my small stroke at the end of October. I am expected to make a full recovery, but it will take a little time. I appreciate the accommodations that allow me to serve as your pastor.

Pastor Phil

Vision Team Highlights

● **Pastor's Report - Pastor Phil: Health Update -** Pastor Phil is doing well since his hospital stay and has been working from home.

2025-2026 Preaching/Teaching Plan: Pastor Phil distributed his preaching/teaching plan (sermon text, topic and teaching text) starting November 30.

● **Finance - Mike Cholodewitsch:** Mike reported on the checking account and building fund.

Construction Loan Status: the funds from the construction loan to the conventional loan have not been moved. The conventional loan will have to pay principal and interest.

Fund Recovery: We may be reimbursed for some of our extra expenses. Because the HVAC system has not been received/installed, we have placed heaters around the refurbished area. We are hoping for fund recovery.

An extra title search has to be performed.

● **Facilities - Tom Nahm: Sewer Line:** Randy reported that Chris Theis said that there is a leak and we need to find someone else to do the work. There are also tree roots in the line. The sewer line is our problem.

Fire System and Monitoring: There is a monitoring company in Forest, Ohio, and one of their employees lives in Tiffin. This company would be easier to work with. By law if there is a fire, the fire department will be notified.

Exterior Painting and Landscaping: The exterior paint is purchased and a member will be doing the painting, but will have to wait until 5 Star is done and the weather cooperates. The weeds have been sprayed.

● **Worship - Kathy Falter:** Kathy reported that everything is going well.

Randy thanked Kathy for stepping up and planning last week's service.

There will be a Thanksgiving Eve service at First Christian.

Where can we hold our Christmas Eve service? Pastor Phil will check into this; we do have options.

● **Spiritual Development - Melissa Jameson:** Melissa said that Sunday School is going great. The room is cleaned before and after each class. The classes have been combined and there are now three teachers (Julie is now helping).

Women of Faith: and our next meeting will be at Zo Redman's on December 30.

● **Congregational Care - Dave Murray:** Dave reported that he has enough volunteers to help at the Sharing Kitchen on November 24.

Also, the shut-ins are being visited each month. Christmas cards will be sent to the shut-ins next month.

● **Outreach - Julie Engle:** Julie reported that the Samaritan's Purse Christmas boxes need to be returned next Sunday and the gifts from the Angel Tree for the Salvation Army need to be returned by November 30.

● **Volunteer Coordination/President's Report - Randy Schwartz:** Randy reported that he is still working on finding new committee chairs for next year.

Randy thanked everyone who filled in for Pastor Phil last week.

● **Other Business: Exterior Lighting:** the electrical system has been in place for the exterior lighting to tie into.

The Transition Team and the Connection Team have not met lately.



Deadlines: Bulletins - Thursday each week. Newsletter - the 25th of each month.

Please be mindful of the deadlines, so that the production of these important materials can be done in a timely fashion.

Contact Information

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Praying Angels Ministry
Prayer Requests: 419.619.6904
or e-mail: hiettgirl1@aol.com

Office Hours: The church office is open from 2-5PM, through the week.

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Vision Team President: Randy Schwartz