

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

December 25, 2011

CELEBRATING THE COMING OF THE ONE WHO IS EMMANUEL – GOD WITH US!

*Indicates those who find it comfortable may stand

**Please turn off all pagers and cell phones before worship begins

All who enter this place of worship today are warmly welcomed in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ! Please use the time before worship to greet one another in the joy and gladness!

STRIKING OF THE CHIMES

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

When the chimes are struck, worship begins! Please end your conversations with those around you & turn your attention toward the One who sent His son into the world to be our joy and our life!

WELCOME AND GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRISTMAS MORNING JOY

Leader: A joyful Christmas morning welcome to you all!

People: And also to you!

Leader: This, above all days, is the day which the Lord has made!

People: And we will rejoice and be glad in it!

CENTERING OUR MINDS AND HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Leader: In the joy of this Christmas morning, let us quiet our voices and open our hearts that we might receive anew the coming of Him who is Emmanuel: God with us, always!

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH MUSIC (Prelude) *“Overture” (Messiah)* -G.F. Handel

BRINGING IN THE WORD OF GOD AND THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (Acolytes)

THINKING ON JESUS COMING ANEW

Each year, the Child is born anew!

Each year, some new heart finally hears...finally sees...finally knows love.

And in heaven there is great rejoicing all over again!

There is a festival of stars!

There is a celebration among the angels who once again sing ‘Gloria in excelsis Deo!’

For in the finding of one lost sheep, the heart of the Shepherd is glad,

and Christmas has happened once more.

The Child is born anew

and one more knee is bowed in wonder, love and praise! (Ann Weems, adapted)

CALLING OURSELVES TO WORSHIP WITH THE WORD

Leader: Hark! The herald angels sing!

People: Glory to the newborn King!

Leader: Peace on earth, and mercy mild

People: God and sinners reconciled!

Leader: Joyful, all you people rise!

People: Join the triumph of the skies!

Leader: With angelic host proclaim!

People: Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Leader: Hark! The herald angels sing!

People: Glory to the newborn King!

*SINGING IN PRAISE *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* Number 31

*PRAYING CHRISTMAS PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND JOY

*PRAYING TOGETHER THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US (Traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name!

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen!

*SINGING TO THE GLORY OF GOD *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”* Number 41

SHARING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH

SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS

(Please sign the friendship pads found on the end of each row, pass them down and notice those seated around you, offering them the warmest of greetings!)

SHARING WITH THE YOUNG FOLKS *The BEST Christmas Present Ever!*

CELEBRATING THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT EVER *“Go Tell It”* (Chorus & vs. 3) No. 29

SHARING OUR GIFTS & OFFERINGS

Invitation to Sharing

Playing to the Glory of God (Offertory)

“Cradle Song”

-setting: David Paxton

*Singing in Grateful Praise

“Gift of Gifts”

Tune #446

Gift of gifts, Your love in-ca-r-nate, Giv-en Fath-er for u-s all!

We re-spond in deep de-v-o-tion, Giv-ing You our all i-n all!

Self for se-lf, You give, we gi-ve You, Life for life and love for love!

(c.1996 Shining Light Music,

Of-fered u-p in thanks and pra-is-ing, For Chr-ist J-e-s-us, Lord o-f all!

CCLI#11471175)

*Praying in Thanksgiving

SHARING THE GIFT OF SONG *“Christmas Lullaby”* Soloist: Kirsten Chervenak

SHARING THE WORD OF THE LORD

HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD Luke 2:15-20 Pew Bible p. 1217

Matthew 2:11-15 p. 1133

PRAYING FOR THE GUIDING PRESENCE OF GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT

SHARING A CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

“Picking Up Where We Left Off”

“And the shepherds returned to their flocks praising God for all they had seen and heard...

and the Wise Men went home by another way.” (Luke 2:20 & Matthew 2:12)

SINGING IN MEDITATION *“The Baby in a Manger Stall”* Tune # 426

The ba-by in a— man-g-er stall Is God In-car-nate for us all,

As God, true God, th-e on-l-y One, Is born on earth a-s Mar-y’s Son.

We can-not keep th-e Sav-i-or there, For Christ is meant for ev-ery-where,

Not just for shep-her-ds’ watch-f-ul eyes, Nor for a wise ma-n’s val-ued prize.

As God’s own per-s-on here o-n earth, Christ came to show us hu-man worth,

So Je-sus can-n-ot stay a— child, De-pen-dent, gen-t-le, meek and mild.

The Car-pen-ter o-f Gal-i—lee Must leave his show and home as he

Takes up the mi-s-ion and th-e pain Of life and death a-nd life a-gain! (continued)

So glad-ly let u-s sings a-nd pray Since Christ is born for us each day,
And Christ is ris'n wi-th God t-o reign, Let earth re-peat th-e glad re-frain! (Jane Parker Huber, 1981)

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP OF CHRIST

Worshippers are invited to come forward by way of the center aisle to partake of the Bread and Cup of Christ who is God's gift of love for us all. We will be sharing communion by "intinction" – taking a piece of bread from the loaf and dipping it in the cup. After you have shared communion, please return to your seat by way of the side aisle to continue your quiet meditation, remembering the greatest of all God's gifts – the gift of love and light which brings life – abundant and eternal!

*SHARING PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND JOY

*SINGING IN JOYOUS REJOICING ***"Joy to the World!"*** (Vss. 1 & 2) Number 40

*GOING FORTH WITH A CHARGE & A BLESSING (Benediction)

*SINGING IN JOYOUS REJOICING ***"Joy to the World!"*** (Vss. 3 & 4) Number 40

*SHARING A MOMENT OF QUIET BEFORE GOING FORTH

*GOING FORTH WITH MUSIC (Postlude) *"Christ Was Born on Christmas Day"* -setting: N. Rawsthorne

*THE PEOPLE OF GOD GO INTO THE WORLD TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST!!

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled...

When the star in the sky is gone...

When the kings and princes are home...

When the Shepherds are back with their flocks...

When Mary and Joseph and Jesus have moved on

from Bethlehem...

then the work of Christmas begins!

To find the lost...

To love the unlovely...

To heal the broken hearted...

To feed the hungry...

To release the captives...

To rebuild the nations...

To bring light into the darkness...

To bring hope to the hopeless...

To bring peace to all people.

(Adapted from Howard Thurman)



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*"Reaching Out to Nurture God's People
With the Good News of Christ's Love"*

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT 1ST UPC

Deacons "On Call": Jennifer Oelker & Tammy Fowler

1ST UPC IN FAITH AND ACTION FOR THE WEEK of Dec. 25, 2011 – Jan. 1, 2012

- Sun., Dec. 25, Pray for College Hill Presbyterian Church, Dayton / Read Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)**
NO Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
Christmas Day
- Mon., Dec. 26, Pray for Steve & Becky Mast / Read Isa. 62:6-12** *God comes to restore the people*
Church Offices Closed
- Tues., Dec. 27, Pray for Jayne McAdams / Read Ps. 97** *Light springs up for the righteous*
Dinner @ the Prez
- Wed., Dec. 28, Pray for Pam McBrien / Read Titus 3:4-7** *Saved thru water and the Spirit*
- Thurs., Dec. 29, Pray for Larry & Julie McCarthy / Read Luke 2:1-20**
The birth of the Messiah revealed to shepherds
- Friday, Dec. 30, Pray for the McClelland Family / Read John 1:1-14** *The Word become flesh*
All 2011 Contributions DUE by Noon
- Sat., Dec. 31, Pray for Dave & Marla McCormick / Read Ps. 148**
God's splendor is over earth & heaven
- Sun., Jan. 1, Pray for the 1st UPC Family of Faith / Read Luke 2:22-40**
No Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
New Year's Day
1st Sunday after Christmas

Celebrating Birthdays This Week: Dec 25: Theodora Holloway

Dec. 26: Julie Sailors, Amy Willis & Sandi Chervenak

Dec. 27: Anne Heinlen & Phyllis Baker

Dec. 30: Peg Lee & Tiffany Wilcoxon

Greeting You Before Worship: East Entrance: Denny & Mary Jane Lane

West Entrance: the Adelsberger Family

Back Door: Judy Wical

Serving as Ushers: Michael Chervenak, Courtney Chervenak, Brandon Standley, Peggy Hatcher,

Eric Caughenbaugh, Vicky Petty, Pam McBrien, Jeremiah Vigansky

Serving as Sound Tech: Colin Yoder

Serving as Acolytes:

Serving in the Nursery: The Ameys

Preschool: Flora Family & Caroline Eader

Elder Greeters After Church: East: Elder Eric Adelsberger

West: Elder Tony Core

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH extends a warm and joyous "**Welcome!**" to **ALL** who have joined us for worship on this Joyous Christmas Day! Our hope and prayer is that as we share together during our time of worship, we may each know more fully and completely the blessing of God's love, grace and mercy which comes to us in Him who is God's light and life for us all! Whether you are a first time guest, an occasional visitor, or with us every Sunday, please know you are ALWAYS welcome within the 1st UPC Community of Faith!

SHARING IN THE MINISTRY OF 1ST UPC

Ministry Partners	Members & Friends of the Church
Coordinator of Parish Nursing	Phyllis Lyons
Coordinator of Pastoral Partners	Marty Marine
Clerk of Session	Judy Wical
Moderator of the Board of Deacons	Tammy Fowler
Moderator of Presbyterian Women	Karen Brady
Custodian	Ralph Morrison
Secretary	Julie McCarthy
Treasurer	Sue Dearwester
Nursery Attendants	Deb and Kent Amey
Handbell Choir Director	Cindy Jenkins
Choir Directors	Bob Day and Cindy Jenkins
Organist	Thomas Boone
Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry	JoAnne Sharp
Pastor	Rob Fulton

If you are interested in learning more about faith in and discipleship to the Lord Jesus Christ, or about exploring membership within First United Presbyterian Church, please speak with Pastor Rob or one of the Elder Greeters TODAY! It would be our JOY to welcome you into the 1st UPC Family of Faith on our next New Member Sunday or at any time that is convenient for you! Please let Rob or the Elders know of your interest!

AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, we believe that worship is a time for ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY to come together to hear God's word and sing God's praise! Therefore, ALL CHILDREN OF GOD, no matter what their age, are welcomed during our service of worship! Parents are encouraged to help their children engage in QUIET ACTIVITIES during the service that will not interfere with the worship participation of those seated nearby. Also, please visit the restrooms prior to worship and pick up QUIET ACTIVITY BAGS on your way INTO the sanctuary. WELCOME ONE AND ALL!

THE CHURCH NURSERY for children birth through kindergarten is located on the lower level of the building, down the west stairs from the sanctuary. Please ask the ushers for directions. Children in 1st grade and older are encouraged and expected to worship with their families in the sanctuary.

OUR WE CARE POSTERS TODAY is for **PHYLLIS BAKER** who celebrates her **Birthday** on Tuesday and for **DAVID AND MARLA MCCORMICK** following the death of his mother last week in Texas. Please sign the WE CARE poster in the sanctuary hallway and let **Phyllis and David & Marla** know that they are in our thoughts and prayers and that WE CARE about them!

THOSE NEEDING OUR SPECIAL PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

(**Bold print** indicates new additions or changes in status of those listed previously)

Fellow church members with health & family problems and employment issues

Ruth Irwin, moving to Green Hills Inn in the coming days

Elaine Hess Keller, daughter of Mark and Carol, high risk pregnancy with twins

Kim Wagner at home following hip replacement surgery at OSU on Monday

Beulah Orahoad, recuperating from a fall at home

Dave Haw, continuing recuperation at home following foot and leg surgery

Brian Murdock, awaiting surgery to remove hip replacement because of infection

Former Pastor Tom Stout, following quadruple bypass surgery

Tom's address: 4634 Muggleton Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19808

Friend of Susie Barlow: Ted Hoy of Springfield, moved from ICU to trauma unit following massive stroke

Joe & Pat Opel, neighbors of Louise Gordon, Joe has cancer and Pat has liver disease

Friends of Jenna (McLaughlin) Leopold, following explosion in Fairborn

Dottie Cost, blood clots in her legs

Trisha Prenger, friend of Judy & Tom Oldiges, diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma

Janet Fullerton

Lorna Brunson and Debbie Stein, sisters of Carol Hess, both dealing with breast cancer

Isabella Santos, 6 yr. old niece of Barb Neff's coworker, battling cancer

FYI.....Sunday's bulletins are on our website as well as sermons, prayer list, events calendar, birthdays, pictures, newsletters, etc.

Check it out!! www.bellefontainepres.com

Upper Rooms (Jan.-Feb.) and These Days (Jan.-Mar.) are available today on the sanctuary hallway tables.

2011 Contributions to the church are due by Noon Fri. Dec. 30th.

DINNER AT THE PREZ! This Tuesday! **HELP NEEDED!** 1st UPC has the joyous opportunity to reach out and serve the Bellefontaine community again this Tuesday when we host **DINNER AT THE PREZ!** Lots of help is needed! We need 15 Green Bean Casseroles and 15 Cheesy Potato Casseroles as well as preparers, servers and those able to help with clean-up. If you can help, please let Ranae Lentz know. Thanks!

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 4th !!!!**

2012 Coffee Hour / Fellowship Time

We would like to continue our monthly fellowship time following worship. We are in need of helpers for 2012. The host is responsible for providing punch or fruit. Those who volunteer to bring cookies will need to bring 3 dozen.

If you are interested in participating, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office or place in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you!

Margaret Appel

I / we are willing to help with the 2012 Coffee Hour/ Fellowship Time.

Please mark your choices:

Bake Cookies (3 dozen needed) _____ **Host (provides punch or fruit)** _____
Month _____

Name _____ **Ph No.** _____

Questions??? **Call Margaret Appel 935-2872** ***Thank You!!***

The Way to a Happy New Year

To leave the old with a burst of song;
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the things that bind you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;
To have the strength to let go your hold
Of the not worth while of the days grown old;
To dare go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that's new;
To help your brother along the road,
To do his work and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer,
Is to have and to give a Happy New Year.

-Author Unknown



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