



TABERNACLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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December 18, 2020 ~ Issue No. 39

“She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this takes place to fulfill what has been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, “God is with us.” ~Matthew 1: 21 – 23, NRSV

“All this takes place to fulfill . . .” These words tell the whole story. At this time of year, we often focus upon the wonderful words of the angel and Mary and Joseph and, of course, Jesus. And rightly so.

The story of the Old Testament—the Hebrew Bible—is not complete. While it is far from empty, it is not full. At the end of Malachi, we are left hanging. The announcement of the soon-to-be-born Messiah, Christ, Lord, Savior marks the beginning of the end of the beginning.

Back during the time of Israel’s Prophets—through Empires and Exiles—many Jews believe that God is “not with us.” Yet now the Emmanuel is about to come into the world. During the period of the priests, kings, and prophets, the Almighty is presumed to exist in the mountains – the higher the better.

Now, the prophecies about the mountains being leveled and God coming down to *our* level is made complete in Jesus the Messiah, the Christ, the Lord, the Savior. The verse is not “God WAS with us.” It remains “God IS with us.” Pandemics and politics, sickness and stress, hopelessness and helplessness – God is WITH us through it all.

Christmas is not a one-time-thing. It is the story of the Creator God who is beyond time invading our time for all time. And there is no time better than this time to say “yes” to Him.

Christmas Blessings (and beyond), Pastor Glenn

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

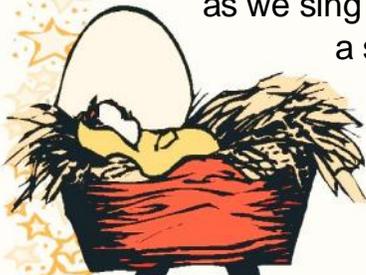
CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Please join us as we celebrate
the Birth of our Savior

Thursday, December 24th - 7pm
in the Tabernacle Sanctuary. We
will also livestream the service on
the Tabernacle Facebook page.

The evening will conclude
as we sing together during
a safely distanced
candlelighting.

Luke 2:1-20



Listen to the service on your phone!

If you cannot use the internet, you may call-in to
the 11am service to listen on your phone!

Call: (929) 205-6099 then just give the

Meeting ID: 981 176 2526 and the **Password: 779813.**

Cape Hope Celebration in Song - Sunday, 12/20 at
6pm. A Drive-in Caroling event is planned outside of the
office of Cape Hope in the Village Shoppes of Rio
Grande. Please drive up, remain in or around your car,
and join in with the singing of your favorite Christmas
Carols. Call to RSVP (609)997-1794, or email Chris
South, Chairman: CapeHopeCares@gmail.com.

Shoprite Cards will be available after Sunday service
or by calling Susan Scheyhing at (609) 600-7331. We
apologize for the delay in receiving the last order of gift
cards. This serves as a fundraiser for Tabernacle as we
are able to purchase the cards at a 5% discount.



Please be in prayer for those below, also remember in light of the Covid pandemic, the extra challenges that we face from time to time... fear, anxiety, economic hardships, isolation, & many other stresses that are unique to the times we live in.

-) Pastor Glenn & Family
-) Jodi Cathrall
-) John Dickinson
-) Dawn Garretson
-) Betty Wund
-) Carol Cahill
-) Ralph Genovese
-) Flo Magee
-) Andrew Wund

-) Lyndsey Bolton
-) Betty Church
-) Betty Carlton
-) Tandl Ankrum
-) Tom Ankrum
-) Jay Spurl
-) Cathy Oney
-) Cass Pascali
-) Mr. Phil Breden, Sr.

-) Buddy Halbruner
-) Steve Brown
-) Braden Brojakowski
-) Margie Katity - Home & rehabbing
-) Frank Cahill - surgery recovery
-) Wil Kaufman - cancer treatments

Prayer for those who have lost loved ones

-) Janis Halbruner & Family
-) The Chinn Family
-) Bill Stahl & family
-) Elizabeth Bailey & Family
-) Flo Magee and Family
-) The family of Mary Mason
-) Jackie Matkowski & Family
-) The Gorsline Family
-) The Still Family
-) Brenda & Robert Church & Family

Covid Related Requests

-) The Lords protection over those attending services at church
-) Pray for an effective Covid-19 vaccine soon
-) Wisdom for leaders in Local & Federal Government
-) Basic Blessing workers and distributions during Covid-19

Those in Shut In & Convalescent Care

- |Court House Center: Carol Cahill
- |Wesley Manor: Shirley Rutherford & Shirley Halbruner
- |Pitman Manor: Edna Dickinson

Those that live alone: Doris Raker, Ela Elliott, Bob Jenkins, John Leo, Ernie Long, Alice Fuddy, Steve Brown and other friends & family who remain anonymous.

A Note from Our Treasurer
MAILING CHANGES
Mail church offerings to Finance
Secretary during Margie's rehab:
T.U.M.C.
C/O Barbara Mortensen
306 Edgewood Avenue,
Rio Grande, NJ 08242

A Bit of Clean Humor

èThe Day After Christmasé



The pastor was looking over the crèche the day after Christmas when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing. He went outside and saw a little boy pulling a new red wagon. In the wagon was Jesus!

He walked up to the boy and said, "Hi, there. Where did you get the baby Jesus?"

The boy answered honestly, "In the church."
 "Why did you take him?" the pastor asked.

"Well," said the boy, "I prayed to the Lord Jesus and asked him for a wagon for Christmas. I told Him that if He gave me one, I'd take Him for a ride in it!"

Thank You

Donations were recently made to
 Tabernacle UMC in Memory of...

Mary Still
 by
 The Tabernacle UMW
 Mays Landing Police Dept. 911

Betty Church
 by
 Catherine Pascali
 Robert Jenkins (Basic Blessings)
 Margie Katity (Basic Blessings)
 Michael Sheahan