



Shippensburg First Church of God

FYI

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Attendance: Sunday Morning Worship Sunday, November 26, 2023			
8:30 a.m.	125	Sunday School	157
11 a.m.	97		
Worship Total	222		

Attendance: Community Night Wednesday, November 29, 2023			
Awana	45	Ladies in Step	6
Crossing Youth	21	Fresh Start	10
Kinetics		Total	

Today
(December 3, 2023)



8:30 & 11 a.m.—**Morning Worship**

We are currently in a series called "O Little Town". We are looking at Bethlehem and some of the stories that are connected to it. We are considering how God used this "little town" for something great and how God often uses the small, seemingly insignificant, or weak things to fulfill His plans and show His greatness. We are also looking at how the events that happened in Bethlehem long ago can change our "little town" of Shippensburg. Today, we will look at the story of Ruth.



PMI Sunday Offering

If you would like to give toward our commitment to help PMI with their rent, please use one of the preprinted envelopes located in the back of the pew in front of you. On one of the "Others" lines, write "PMI" and then specify the amount. You may also complete the other information on the envelope if you would like to include it.

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School "Get Connected" Sunday School Class

This class is held the first Sunday of the month during Sunday school in room 206. This class is for anyone who is interested in learning how to "get connected" to our church. It will introduce you to our Sunday school classes, our Care Groups, and other ways you can get involved in our church.

Missions Sunday Offering

On the first Sunday of each month, half of the Sunday school offering goes to missions.

11 a.m.—Children's Church

Children's Church is for children ages 2-grade 5 and is held in the lower level.

6 p.m.—Christmas Cantata Rehearsal

Rehearsal will be held in the sanctuary.

This Week in Our Church

Monday

9:30-11 a.m.—Women's Bible Study

This study is held the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month in the Annex.

1 p.m.—Card Making Ministry

This group meets in the Annex. You are welcome to join them to help make cards for our Friends at Home.

6-8 p.m.—GriefShare

This group will meet in the Annex.

6:30 p.m.—DGC Ladies' Christmas Dinner

This dinner is being held at Doubling Gap Center.

Tuesday**6:30 p.m.—Elders' Meeting**

This meeting is held in room 205.

6:30 p.m.—Deacons' Meeting

This meeting is held in room 108.

Wednesday**8-9 a.m.—Prayer Time**

Prayer Time is held in room 9.

6:30 p.m.—Service From the Heart

This special service will be held in the sanctuary.

8 p.m.—Choir Practice

Choir practice is held in the sanctuary.

Thursday**Afternoon & Evening—Worship Team Set & Workshop**

The Worship Team will meet in the sanctuary to have a time of practice and training.

6:30-8 p.m.—Some Surprising Ways to Save Taxes on Your Charitable Gifts

This free seminar will be held in the Annex.

Friday**5 p.m.—Young Adult Fellowship**

This dinner & fellowship time is held in the Annex.

Saturday**7-8 a.m.—Men's Alliance**

This group meets at the American Legion.

Next Sunday

(December 10, 2023)

**8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.—Morning Worship****9:45 a.m.—Sunday School Building Fund Offering**

The entire Sunday school offering goes into the building fund to help with the upkeep of our facilities.

11 a.m.—Children's Church

Children's Church is for children ages 2-5th grade and meets in the lower level.

6 p.m.—Christmas Cantata Rehearsal

Christmas cantata rehearsal will be held in the sanctuary.

Mission & Ministry Opportunities**The Giving Tree**

The Outreach Committee is helping Circle of Love provide Christmas gifts to children in our area this Christmas by displaying a "Giving Tree" in The Gathering Place. The "Giving Tree" is a way to connect the needs of these children with people who would like to purchase gifts for them to receive at Christmas. The "Giving Tree" program will run from November 12th to December 13th.



If you would like to participate, just take a snowflake from the tree which has a number on it and the requests/needs of a child. Then you can go shopping and purchase the items. Once you have purchased the gifts, label each item with the number that is on the snowflake. (Do not wrap the gifts. Parents/guardians are provided with paper and bows and are given the pleasure of wrapping the gifts for their children.) Then, bring the items to church on or before December 13th. The Outreach Committee will give the gifts to Circle of Love who will then get them to the families of these children so they can receive them for Christmas.

Bible Adventure Help Needed

Bible Adventure is growing and more help is needed on Tuesday mornings. Currently, they are in need of listeners. If you are interested in helping and would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact the church office.

Hound Packs

Don't forget, our church is collecting individual packets of oatmeal and individual serving sized containers of cereal for Hound Packs. If you would like to donate some of these items, please bring them to church, and place them in the vestibule located closest to Crossroads Station.



There will be no Community Night on the following dates due to the holidays:



December 27th
January 3rd

Upcoming Events

GriefShare—Surviving the Holidays

If you have experienced grief due to the loss of a loved one and are finding the holidays difficult, you are invited to GriefShare's "Surviving the Holidays". This is a one night session which is being offered this holiday season. It will be held on Monday, December 4th in the Annex from 6-8 p.m. (This will be the same material that was offered in the November session. However, if you attended in November, you are welcome to attend again in December.)

If you would like to attend this session, please sign up in your Sunday school class, The Gathering Place, the Children's Ministries Area, or by calling the church office.



Doubling Gap Ladies' Christmas Dinner

For those ladies who signed up to attend the ladies' dinner at Doubling Gap Center, please be reminded that the dinner is being held on Monday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m. If you are meeting at the church, please be in the church parking lot and ready to leave at 5:30 p.m.

Also at the dinner, there will be collection of items for Carlisle Area Family Life Center in order to spread Christmas joy to others. You are invited to take diapers (sizes 3,4,5,6), baby shampoo, a receiving blanket, a baby board book, a onesie (newborn, 0-3 months), or a monetary donation.

Service from the Heart—

We will have our annual Service from the Heart service on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. There will be no regular Community Night that night so that we may gather as a group and share our testimonies and talents to glorify God. Please plan to join us!



Free Seminar

"Some Surprising Ways to Save Taxes on Your Charitable Gifts (that you probably don't know about and won't believe they are legal-but they are!)"

Date: Thursday, December 7, 2023 in the Annex.

Time: 6:30-8 p.m.

Location: Annex

Topics:

- Qualified Charitable Distributions from IRAs (how to reduce or even avoid tax on you IRA distributions)
- Gifts of appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds (how to avoid capital gains taxes)
- Donor Advised fund (sounds too good to be true, but it is)
- Charitable bequests (get rid of the IRA—it's the worst investment to leave to your kids)
- Charitable lead and charitable annuity trusts (giving that survives you)

This seminar is Presented by Phil Ritchie. He will also be available for one-on-one consultation at no charge afterwards. (This is not a fundraiser. You will not be asked to give.)

Christmas Eve Services

Following are the times for the services our church will have on Sunday, December 24th:

10 a.m.—Blended Morning Worship

6 p.m.—Contemporary Christmas

11 p.m.—Choir Cantata
"A Celebration of Carols"



Both evening services will include candle lighting.

Miscellaneous

Kitchen Supplies Instructions

We have been blessed with so many activities and events going on in our church, and we are so thankful for everyone who is serving. Often with activities comes a need for kitchen supplies, and we just want to share three important things with you about the consumable kitchen supplies in the lower level kitchen closet.

First, when looking for an item, look on the shelves first. Supplies are stocked on a regular basis. Opened items are placed on the shelves, and as new supplies are delivered, they are stocked on the floor below the shelves. Only open a new box when all other like items have been used. Second, when returning an item after an event, please put them back in their original location. Third, please do not remove any of the boxes from the closet that are specially marked for an item. These boxes are used to house small items and are refilled as the items get low.

We thank you for all you do, and we hope this helps everyone as we work together to serve our Savior!

