



# Shippensburg First Church of God

## FYI

### Sunday, December 17, 2023

**Attendance:** Sunday Morning Worship  
Sunday, December 10, 2023

8:30 a.m.	121	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>163</b>
11 a.m.	135		
<b>Worship Total</b>	<b>256</b>		

**Attendance:** Community Night  
Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Awana	51	Ladies in Step	
Crossing Youth	39	Fresh Start	9
Kinetics	12		

**Today**  
(December 17, 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, the sermon is titled, "Good News in the Town of David". We will look at what Luke wrote about the birth of Jesus, and we will consider the words of Mary as she praised God for His faithfulness and for caring about the humble and



the hungry. We will be challenged to live humbly and to care about others who are humble and hungry and to share the good news with them.

**9:45 a.m.—Sunday School**

Children's Ministries will have a special Christmas service today. **Sunday school and Children's Church will be combined, and there will be special Christmas lessons and activities.** If your children missed being here during Sunday school this morning, they are welcome to join the other children during the 11 a.m. service.

**6 p.m.—Christmas Cantata Rehearsal**

Rehearsal will be held in the sanctuary.

**Poinsettias**

The poinsettias in the sanctuary are presented by individuals and families in our church in loving memory of or in honor of others, or to the Glory of God. For a list, please see our special poinsettia handout.



## This Week in Our Church

**Wednesday**

**8-9 a.m.—Prayer Time**

Prayer Time is held in room 9.

**6:30-8 p.m.—Community Night**

Community Night is held churchwide.

The Crossing Youth will have a game night and gift exchange this night during Community Night.

**8 p.m.—Choir Practice**

Choir practice is held in the sanctuary.

**Thursday**

**Evening—Worship Team Practice**

The worship team practices in the sanctuary.

**Saturday**

**7-8 a.m.—Men's Alliance**

This group meets at the American Legion.

**7 p.m.—Gospel Concert**

This concert will be held in the sanctuary.



## **Next Sunday Christmas Eve** (December 24, 2023)



**10 a.m.—Blended Morning Worship Service**

**6 p.m.—Contemporary Christmas Service**

**11 p.m.—Choir Cantata: “A Celebration of Carols”**

*Both evening services will include candle lighting.*

## **Mission & Ministry Opportunities**

### **Hound Packs**

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.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **The Crossing Youth White Elephant Gift Exchange**

The youth will have a Christmas game night and white elephant gift exchange on Wednesday, December 20th during Community Night. If you are planning to attend, please bring a low cost gift to exchange.



### **The Crossing Youth All Night Event**

The youth will have an all night event on December 27-28. They will be leaving in the evening and will be going to several locations throughout the night to participate in some fun & exciting activities. The cost of the event is \$25 which is due by December 15th. If you would like to learn more about this event or would like to sign up to go, please see one of our youth leaders or contact the church office.

### **Gospel Concert**

On Saturday, December 23rd, there will be an acapella gospel music concert at our church. The Baldoni Family Quartet will be performing along with their friends (one of whom is our very own worship team leader). The concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert is free and will have some of your favorite Christmas carols included in the songs.



### **Financial Peace University**

Our church will host a Financial Peace University class beginning Friday, January 19th and continuing through March. The class will be held on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. More information will be coming soon on location and on how to register!

### **Weekend to Remember**

It is time to start thinking about “Weekend to Remember”. The event at Hershey will be held February 9th-11th this year. There is a discount of \$50/couple if you register early (30 days before the event). If you register early and as part of our church group, the discount is \$100/couple. You can get more information and register at [weekendtoremember.com](http://weekendtoremember.com). The church group discount code is posted on the bulletin board in The Gathering Place.



Registration does not include lodging. Hotels in the Hershey area often fill early this weekend due to Valentine’s Day, so you will want to book your room as early as possible.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Our Daily Bread Special Christmas Devotional**

There is a special Christmas edition of “Our Daily Bread” in The Gathering Place and on the center pews. Please take a free copy for yourself, and feel free to take a copy to share with a friend.

### **New Years Eve Schedule**

On Sunday, December 31st, we will have our regular Sunday morning schedule. There will be an 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship service, Sunday school, and an 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship service.

Since it will be a 5th Sunday, there will be no Children’s Church during the 11 a.m. service for children in 1st—5th grade. These children will worship with their parents in the sanctuary. There will be a class for children ages 2 years through kindergarten.

### **December Council Highlights**

- Discussed upcoming calendar year
- Updates given on Crossroads Station
  - Near completion of renovation project
  - Financial status
  - How to effectively use and minister through the facility
- Designated recipient for Christmas Eve Offering

### **Year-End Statements**

It will soon be time for year end statements. If you had extra giving beyond your envelope giving, please contact the church secretary by early January.

### **Important Dates to Remember**

December 27th— No Community Night  
January 3—No Community Night  
January 21st— Membership Class  
February 25th—Baptism