

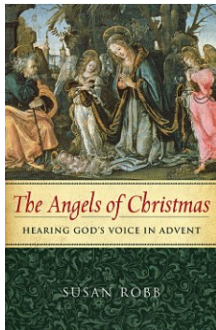
First Light

A weekly e-newsletter from
First United Methodist

November 5, 2024

Church-Wide Advent Study

Our church-wide Advent study this year will be Susan Robb's "The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent." This four-week study explores the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. We'll explore the visits and dive deep into the history of the angels in the Old Testament. The Angels of Christmas uses these four angelic appearances to discuss God's presence in history and our lives today.



Listed below are the day and time options to be a part of a small group study. Sign-up sheets will be available at the Connection Tables starting this Sunday, Nov. 3, or you can [register online here](#). Suggested donations for the study book is \$5.00 and can be paid at the first session. Books will be available on the Connection Tables.

There are six class options to choose from. **Please pay special attention to the start date of each class and whether weeks are being skipped for each class:**

Sundays, beginning November 24th:

- 9:30 a.m. led by Deb Steransky, Church Lounge
- 10:45 a.m. led by Dave Gehrum, Living Water Cafe

Mondays, Dates: Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16, Dec. 30

- 6:30 p.m. led by John Smay, Church Lounge

Tuesdays, beginning November 26th:

- 10:00 a.m. led by Pastor Rick, Living Water Cafe

Wednesdays, beginning November 27th:

- 1:30 p.m. led by Sally Gardy, Room 202

Wednesdays, beginning November 20th: (skipping 11/27)

- 6:30 p.m. led by Holly Pote & Becky Shaner, Living Water Café

Terri Lynn Nuts Have Arrived

The nuts are sorted and ready for pick up on Sunday morning in room 200 in the upstairs Sunday School wing. There will be a limited number of extra bags available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please make plans to pick up your nuts this Sunday or as soon as possible.



November 3, 2024
All Saints Sunday

Sermon: "Sanctified"

Scriptures: Philippians 1:6
Philippians 3:10-14
Acts 26:12-18

Reminders:

-Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Brighten the Christmas for children around the world. Empty shoeboxes are available in the Welcome Center and on the Connection Table outside the Living Water Café. There are also instructions on how to pack a shoebox along with suggested items. When you pick up a box, please sign the sheet and indicate how many boxes you have taken. The cost of shipping each box is \$10.00. If you are able to contribute all or part of that expense, please place your donation in an envelope provided at the table. Envelopes should be placed in the basket at those locations. **DO NOT** put the donations in the shoebox and do not wrap the shoebox. Shoeboxes should be returned to either location by Sunday, November 10th. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Pentz at 570-546-3998.

-Church Conference: Nov. 10th at 2:00 pm

We will be hosting the East Lycoming Cluster churches for this annual meeting where we care for important items that must be completed per the Book of Discipline. We will begin in the sanctuary with words from the District Superintendent and then break off into individual churches for the business of the day. All members have voice and vote.

-Apple Crates Needed

If you have any apple crates we can borrow for our Harvest Home Collection display, please bring them to the church by November 13th. Questions? Call Jane Lucas.

-2025 Disciplines

It is time to order your 2025 *Disciplines* books. Order forms are on both Connections Tables. The books are \$10.00 each and orders are due by November 24th. You can put your payment in a special offering envelope, mark it for "Disciplines" and place in the offering plate or turn in to the church office.

-Church Conference Flood Bucket Collection

In response to the recent hurricanes and UMCOR's desperate need for supplies, the churches of the East Lycoming Cluster will work together to collect items that make up the flood buckets that UMCOR supplies to flood survivors. A list of needed items can be found on both of the Connection Tables. Bring your donations to Church Conference at 2:00 pm on November 10th or place them in the collection bins in the Welcome Center or under the coat racks outside the Living Water Café. Donations are due by November 10th.

-Harvest Home Collection-November 17th

We will once again be collecting non-perishable food items as part of our "Harvest Home" service which will take place on November 17th. If you would like to participate, bring your donations to church on **November 17th** and place them in the display in the sanctuary or in the Living Water Café. Food items will be donated to Son Light House.



Thanks to everyone who came out for the Blood Drive in Memory and Honor of George Frey! We had 35 heroes registered to give and were able to collect 31 units and a monetary donation for the Red Cross. There were 6 first time donors! Thanks to the First United Methodist Church Muncy for hosting. The Red Cross staff were great and we learned so much more about the importance of donating blood to save lives. Giving blood is relatively easy and such a small price to pay to help someone in need. Please consider it.

~ The Frey Family

Dear Church,
Words cannot express how thankful I am for welcoming Fierce Love 4 Good to share their mission, dealing with the human trafficking problems, with not only our church, but also with the surrounding communities. Thank you to the Praise Team who volunteered their time and inspirational music. We are truly a welcoming family of Christ followers, living lives of generosity, as we seek to be a blessing to others.
Blessings! ~Sharon Goss



Some of our Faithful Hands group helped with a party at Wolf Run on October 26th and visited with some good friends.

**Good 'N Plenty Meal
Wednesday, November 6th**

Curb-side take out 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Dine in: 5:00-6:30 p.m.



**Pork chops, filling, potatoes,
gravy, vegetable, applesauce,
dessert & beverage
Suggested donation \$12**

Thank you for all the cakes provided for the last Good 'N Plenty meal. Please pick up your cake pans from the kitchen.

**We're having a card shower
for Pearl Rathmell's 98th
Birthday on November 10th!**



**If you wish to
participate, you can
send cards to:**

**Mrs. Pearl Rathmell
10 E. Lincoln Street
Muncy, PA 17756**



CHRISTMAS IS COMING

The following announcements are repeats from last week, included here as reminders

POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE NOVEMBER 10TH

It's time to order the poinsettias that will adorn the church during the Christmas season. Poinsettias are \$8.00 for each 6.5" pot and come in either red, pink, white or Candy Cane (red/white variegated). You may dedicate each poinsettia to the memory of a loved one, in honor of someone or to the glory of God. Poinsettias can be placed in either the sanctuary or the Living Water Café. To purchase poinsettias, please complete an order form which will be in this Sunday's bulletin. After this Sunday, forms will be on both of the Connection Tables. Place order forms and payment (either cash or checks payable to First United Methodist Church) in the offering plates or baskets or turn in to the church office. You can also order [online here](#) and send your payment to the church office. Orders are due by November 10th. We ask that you leave your poinsettias in the worship space through Christmas Eve if possible. Any poinsettias left after December 29th will be donated unless other arrangements are made with the church office.



TOUCH A HEART—TAGS AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 24TH



It's the most wonderful time of the year. Touch-A-Heart time!! For those who are not familiar with this outreach, local churches partner to help provide Christmas blessings to people in need in our area. Gifts provided by sponsors will be distributed to both children and senior citizens for Christmas. You can sign up to receive gift tags and be a sponsor using the sign-up sheets on the Connection Tables. Gift tags will be available for sponsors beginning November 24th. Sponsors will use those tags to shop for the gifts that are due back to the

church by December 15th.



The collection bin has arrived and the annual Marine Corps Toys For Tots toy drive has begun. First UMC will again collect new, unwrapped toys. You can place your donations in the collection bin located under the coat rack, outside the Living Water Café. Toys will be collected until December 12th.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

For many who have lost loved ones, the holidays can be the worst time of the year. To help the grieving navigate the holidays, our GriefShare Ministry will hold a special, free -standing (one-time) meeting for those who are struggling with loss. The gathering will be held on Tuesday, November 12th beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the church lounge. Come find support or tell a friend who you think might benefit from this ministry.

