



# Winterstown UMC

12184 WINTERSTOWN RD  
FELTON, PA 17322  
717-244-1984

[winterstownchurch.org](http://winterstownchurch.org)

717-244-1984

Office Fax

717-246-7414

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

10:30AM - 2:30PM

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday by 10:00AM

Newsletter Deadline

20th of each month

Worship  
10:30AM

"Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"

[winterstownchurch.org](http://winterstownchurch.org)



### Meet Our Staff

**Pastor** - Rev. Becky McGee  
757-709-5187

**Admin Assistant** - Amber Urey  
**Treasurer** - Connie Human

**Organist** - Nancy Forry  
**Pianist** - Rick Marks  
**Sr. Choir Director** - Sandra Gingrich  
**Senior Youth** - Sandra Gingrich

**Day Care Directors** - Abby Streett & Danielle Orwig  
717-246-8017

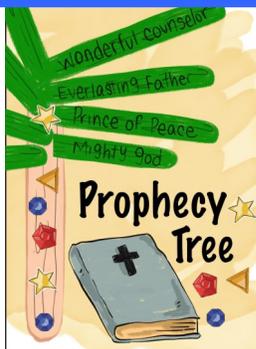
## Bible Quiz

Who was governor of Syria when Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem for a mandated registration, or census?

- A. Theophilus
- B. Herod Antipas
- C. Pontius Pilate
- D. Quirinius



Answer: D (See Luke 2:1-7)



Make this Christmas craft to display special names for Jesus.

- What you need:**
- Large wooden craft stick
  - Small green wooden craft sticks
  - Scissors
  - Ruler
  - Bible
  - Permanent marker
  - Craft glue
  - Optional: star stickers or craft jewels

- What you do:**
1. Place the large stick on a table vertically, like a tree trunk.
  2. Cut the green sticks into pieces that measure 4", 3½", 3" and 2½".
  3. On each green stick, write a name for Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 — Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Write small or ask an adult for help.)
  4. Use a dot of glue to attach each green stick to the large stick, like tree branches.
  5. Decorate your Christmas tree with stickers or jewels.

## PUZZLE

### CLUES ABOUT CHRISTMAS

The Old Testament contains many details about Jesus' birth. Can you uncover what Isaiah prophesied?

Directions: Use the code to write the letters and complete Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	!	@	#	\$
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
%	^	&	*	(	)	-	?	>	<	:	;	{

For to us a \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, to us a \_\_\_\_\_  
3 8 9 # 4      2 ^ ( % ) ^ %

is \_\_\_\_\_, and the government will be on his shoulders.  
7 9 > 5 %

And he will be called Wonderful \_\_\_\_\_,  
3 ^ ? % ) 5 # ^ ( '

\_\_\_\_\_ God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the  
\$ 9 7 8 - ;

greatness of his government and \_\_\_\_\_ there will be no \_\_\_\_\_.  
& 5 1 3 5      5 % 4

He will reign on David's \_\_\_\_\_ and over his \_\_\_\_\_,  
- 8 ( ^ % 5      @ 9 % 7 4 ^ \$ '

establishing and upholding it with \_\_\_\_\_ and righteousness  
! ? ) - 9 3 5

from that time on and \_\_\_\_\_ Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV  
6 ^ ( 5 > 5 (

Answers: child, born, son, given, throne, kingdom, justice, forever



WINTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

December 2024

Volume 11, Issue 10

Dear Beloved Children of God,



Where has 2024 gone????? Each month seems to have flown by faster than the one before it. We are entering a new liturgical year in the Christian church. The first season of the new year is called Advent, which begins on December 1st this year. The Advent season covers the four Sundays leading up to Christmas Eve. It's a time of preparation to once again remember the day when God came to earth to live with us and to show us what unconditional love is.

It's also a time when there are many ways in which we celebrate this world-changing occurrence. On Friday, Dec. 6 at 6:30, the Growing Friends' children will lead us in a Christmas Program with Christmas carols, the lighting of the Advent wreath candles (we'll pretend it's Christmas so that we'll light them all,) enacting the Christmas story while in costume, singing the songs they've learned throughout the year, and then having cookies in the all-purpose room.



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A new event the church is hosting this year is inviting the preschool (potty-trained) through high school children to an activity time in the all-purpose room on Sat., Dec. 14 from 9 am – 1 pm. We'll watch a movie or play games (we're not sure, yet,) and we'll also serve a child-friendly lunch. This way you will have some time to run errands, go Christmas shopping, or just rest. Here is a QR code to RSVP:



Finally, on December 24th, Christmas Eve, we remember the night when Jesus was born. The next twelve days make up the Christmas season. There will be two Christmas Eve worship services at Winterstown UMC again this year. The family-friendly service will begin at 4:30 pm. There is only a children's message (no sermon) during this time of worship. This year we'll have child-safe "candles" to "light" as we sing "Silent Night, Holy Night." The candlelight service (with real candles) will begin at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to either/both of these worship services when we rejoice that Love came to us as a child over 2,000 years ago.



My hope and prayer for all of us during the Advent and Christmas seasons is that we will be intentional about slowing down at points to simply reflect on how profoundly we are all loved – no matter what. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas!

In God's Love,  
*Pastor Becky*





# GROWING FRIENDS

Happy December, the last of the news for 2024!

Themes for this month include: JKL; 9 & 10; Red; Triangle; Animal Shelter; Author Jan Brett; Christmas; Nativity; Winter; Gingerbread family

Growing Friends is CLOSED this month on December 25th until January 1st. On Christmas Eve, Growing Friends closes at 1pm. Please note that staff may still be in the building throughout this week as they volunteer their time to personally clean, organize and prepare for a new fresh start to the year! We greatly appreciate the teachers for doing this as it greatly helps all around!

No Elementary for Red Lion, STEW & No Preschool Program this month on December 23rd until January 1st. Stewartstown resumes Thursday, January 2nd, then Red Lion plus preschool program resume Monday, January 6th.

We are so excited to participate in the church Christmas program on Friday, December 6th. We encourage all to attend as this program is simply adorable, and brings smiles to everyone. It is a true blessing coming together for the true meaning of Christmas! Thank you Pastor Becky for your hard work and extreme patience through our practices leading up to. Thank you to all that helped decorate the church, it's simply beautiful and we always look forward to seeing all the decorations each year!

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS :** Are you looking for children's books? Want to get some books for upcoming Christmas gifts?



Then see a book order form on the church bulletin board OR place an order online. Scholastic Book Orders are due monthly. This month orders are due by Tuesday, December 10th. If you place an order with more than one club you should total all of your orders and make 1 check payable to Growing Friends or you may pay by cash. Once they arrive, we can notify you to pick up or you have the option to get shipped to the location of your choice. This is not a fundraiser for Growing Friends; however, Growing Friends earns points that can be redeemed for free books for upcoming Christmas/graduation gifts or even to update our center library. ORDER

ONLINE – USE CODE HM46K

Our center Christmas party is Wednesday, December 18th. Our younger children will have a fun morning then once our school age children return from school, we will have their party. All activities this day will conclude by/before 4:30pm.

We are hiring!!! Hours are flexible, within reason! As little as a 3-hour shift to as much as an 8-hour shift, certain days of the week. We could really use some extra hands here; our teachers are really putting in the hours lately even the directors are helping to cover in classrooms! Our classrooms still remain full, with a lengthy waitlist that is still shut down, and not being added to. Our recommendation is to contact us after the new year to see if we are able to open the wait list in any specific classroom.

**FUNDRAISER NEWS:** Keep Christ in Christmas magnets on sale for \$5.00 each in the church and daycare offices.

Advertising for NHW ELE: Thursday, December 5th 5-7:30pm is a public event with a craft show and food truck. There may be overflow parking here at the church or even congestion during this time frame, so please note ahead of time. Also feel free to visit the Elementary and check out this nice event!



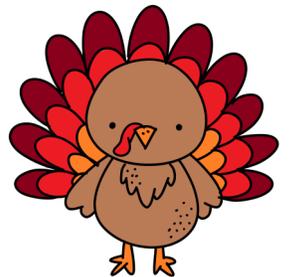
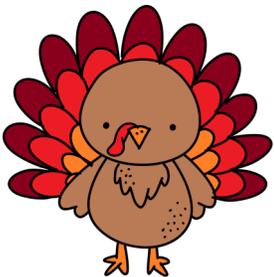
Reminder of our Amazon wish list. Many wishes from teachers/staff here at Growing Friends for back to school classroom requests, including our preschool program classes! We have our registry open till December 19th, as we added more to this to prepare for the holiday season. Check out our Growing Friends wish list registry! Use the QR code or search on Amazon gift list under "Growing Friends, Felton PA." Items can be shipped directly to us. This is one way to make a donation, and one that we greatly appreciate! It saves us greatly!

A HUGE thank you to those that supported us on our 7th annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show, and to all that participated in our 2024 fundraisers! We are incredibly thankful for the amount of support we receive and truly thank you from the bottom of our hearts! It takes a team to really make things come together and our team here within Winterstown United Methodist Church is very much appreciated by the Growing Friends family! Wishing all a blessed holiday season, Merry Christmas!

Much appreciation,  
Ms. Abby & Ms. Danielle

Email us anytime at: [GrowingFriendsChildCare@gmail.com](mailto:GrowingFriendsChildCare@gmail.com)  
Call us: Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (717) 246-8017

# HAPPY Thanksgiving



We have someone celebrating 90+ birthdays this month!

Please send birthday wishes to:

Rhoda Gladfelter  
Beacon Lodge Memory Care Unit  
Seaton at Springwood  
2321 Freedom Way  
York, PA 17402



# DECEMBER Birthdays

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 01 Amber Arnold     | 11 Ralph Latimer     |
| 01 Tyler Tress      | 17 Dawson Gilbert    |
| 04 Blaine Markel    | 17 Donna Strawbridge |
| 06 Gordy Forbush    | 20 Marie Gingrich    |
| 07 Mark Shenberger  | 25 Sue Peterman      |
| 08 Kenton McGinnis  | 26 Kate Anderson     |
| 11 Tabitha Gilbert  | 30 Matthew Gannon    |
| 11 Rhoda Gladfelter |                      |

# DECEMBER Anniversaries

- 06 Becky & Paul Jones – 17 years

## PRAYER list

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Pastor Becky & Mark McGee, Growing Friends, North Hopewell-Winterstown Elementary School, North Hopewell-Winterstown Volunteer Fire Company, Glenn & Donna Grove, Donna Overmiller, Eva Miller, Dale Flinchbaugh, Doris Edwards, Dianna Henry, Barbara Taylor, Barb Huson, Rhoda Gladfelter and family, Randy Criswell, Eleanor Yeakel, Kenton McGinnis, Betty Bolyard, Sandy Wallace, Sam Cooley, Steve Shaw, Janet Vanderlipp, Sandie Rock, Trevor & Lucas Gannon, Betty Saylor, Chief Tim Quinan, Susan, Jeannie, Connie Collins, Holly, Kizzy Fitzpatrick, Lee, Colleen & Family, Becky, Paul & Family, Brandy & Family, Brad, Wynn, Lacey, Shirley & Deb, Diane Anderson, Dawna Slack, Richard Slack, the family of Chug Gibbs

# DECEMBER 2024 VOLUNTEERS

### Liturgist

December 1st - Bill W.  
December 8th - Eunice C.  
December 15th - Connie H.  
December 22nd - Vince A.  
December 24th - Linda A.  
December 29th - Dawn B.

### Counters

December 1st - Deb S. & Brian H.  
December 8th - Dawn B. & Terri L.  
December 15th - Richard J. & Brian H.  
December 22nd - Deb S. & Brian H.  
December 24th - Brian H. & volunteer  
December 29th - Dawn B. & Terri L.

### Sound and Media Shout

December 1st - Scott G. & Patty G.  
December 8th - Bill W. & Tammy W.  
December 15th - Buddy M. & Brian H.  
December 22nd - Scott G. & Patty G.  
December 24th - volunteers  
December 29th - Bill W. & Tammy W.

If you are interested in serving during Sunday services please contact the office at 717-244-1984 or send an email to [adminassist@winterstownchurch.org](mailto:adminassist@winterstownchurch.org)



# ENGAGE IN MINISTRY



The first Sunday of every month we accept pennies. There is a container on the table right outside the Sanctuary door. This money goes to the United Methodist Home for Children in Mechanicsburg. Thank you for your contributions.



If you have a heart for visiting our folks who are homebound, then please let the office know you are willing to be a part of a visitation ministry. Your visits are a way for these people to experience love and to know they are not forgotten by their church family.

Send information to: [info@winterstownumc.org](mailto:info@winterstownumc.org)  
Or call (717) 244-1984

## Grocery Gift Card Fundraiser



Orders due by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month  
Grocery cards distributed the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

To give on-line one time or for a recurring offering, you can use this QR code:



2024 Shares Of Ministry		2024 Shares Paid to Date	
Benevolent	\$7,516.13	Benevolent	\$626.34
Connectional	\$11,185.61	Connectional	\$932.13
Clergy	\$12,043.64	Clergy	\$1,003.64
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$30,745.38</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,562.11</b>

## FINANCIAL STANDING

The Shares of Ministry monthly expense payments remain in arrears for the months of February through November. At the end of November 2024, the amount in arrears for those ten months will be \$25,621.10 (10 x \$2,562.11/mo).

The church oil tank was filled on October 25 with the resulting invoice of \$3,733.74 paid in November.

Pastor Becky shared in the October newsletter that effective October 1 our church would become a cooperative parish with Bethany Felton, and we would become Winterstown, Extended. As a result of that change, Bethany Felton will be covering a portion of the costs of the pastor. The calculated amount that will be received monthly from Bethany Felton is \$1,775.00. We received payment from Bethany Felton in November to cover their portion of the October and November expenses.

Thank you for the continued giving of your time, service, and financial support.



The United Women in Faith will have our December meeting / CHRISTMAS PARTY on December 9, 2024, at 6:00 pm in the church all-purpose room. This event is open to all women of the church.

This will be a covered dish event so attendees are asked to bring a dish or two to share. We think it would be fun to make recipes out of cookbooks from our church (such as Feeding the Flock) or if you have an older one, that would be okay to use as well. If you do make a recipe featured in such a cookbook, please make a note sharing which cookbook it is featured, and the person who submitted the recipe.

Each attendee is asked to bring a wrapped gift (around \$10.00 value) to participate in the Now You Have It/ Now You Don't game.

We hope you all will be able to join us for an evening of good food, fellowship, and games!

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the all purpose room.

**Worship Service  
10:30AM**

# December



At Christmas, God sent his Son to live among us. But he doesn't want us to be passive recipients of that precious gift. Consider these challenges for the season — and for the new year ahead: "He became what we are that we might become what he is."  
—Athanasius (4th century)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> Worship - 10:30AM	2	3  Simply Loved - 3:30PM-4:30PM	4 Poinsettia Orders are due  Small Gathering - 10:00AM Senior Choir Practice - 7:00 PM	5 Small Gathering - 2:00PM	6 Growing Friends Christmas Program 6:30 pm APR Use 4:00PM-9:00PM	7
8 <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> Worship - 10:30AM Coffee & Donuts Fellowship - 9:30AM Children's Sunday School	9  APR Use - 4:00PM-8:00PM UWF - 6:00PM	10  Lunch Bunch Brunch @ Lion's Pride Restaurant - 11:30AM Simply Loved - 3:30PM-4:30PM	11 Small Gathering - 10:00AM APR Use 3:30PM-4:30PM Senior Choir Practice - 7:00 PM	12 Small Gathering - 2:00PM	13	14 Activity Time and Lunch 9:00AM - 1:00PM
15 <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> Worship - 10:30AM Children's Sunday School	16	17 Simply Loved - 3:30PM-4:30PM	18 APR Use 8:00AM-5:00PM Small Gathering - 10:00AM Senior Choir Practice - 7:00 PM	19 APR Use 8:00AM-1:00PM Small Gathering - 2:00PM	20	21 First Day of Winter
22 <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> Worship - 10:30AM Children's Sunday School	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship Service- 4:30pm Candlelight Service- 7:00pm 	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29 <b>1st Sunday after Christmas Day</b> Worship - 10:30AM Children's Sunday School	30	31 New Years Eve Watch Night APR Use 5:00PM-2:00AM	 <i>Growing Friends and the Church Office closed</i>			

One of the season's symbolic colors is blue, representing hope. During Advent, we wait in hope to celebrate again God's coming in human form. We also look forward in hope to Christ's coming in glory at the end of the age. Purple symbolizes the royalty of Jesus, the coming Prince of Peace, and the penitence with which we receive him.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



Growing Friends Christmas Program



Friday, December 6th  
6:30 pm



Coffee & Donuts  
Fellowship Hour  
Sunday,  
December 8th  
at 9:30am



## ACTIVITY TIME: December 14th @ 9:00am

Activity Time for Pre-K through High School aged children  
Your child must be potty trained to attend.  
Give yourself some time to do your Christmas shopping or  
even just take a breather before the holidays come.  
Lunch will be provided for the children.

RSVP HERE:



Christmas Eve Service announcement:  
The family friendly worship service will start 12/24 at 4:30 pm.  
The Candlelight service will start 12/24 at 7:00 pm.



## New Year's Eve Family Fun Game night!

Last year was such a success; it has been requested to host a New Year's Eve Family Game Night at Church again! Bring your favorite box game/cards/ jigsaw puzzles. What better way to ring in the New Year than to be with your Church Family!

Mark Your calendars!

When: Tuesday, December 31

Time: 5:00 PM – Until??? (last year it lasted until 2AM!)  
Come and go at your leisure.

Where: Church – All purpose Room (APR)

Each family is asked to bring some food to share – snack/dessert/drinks/covered dish.

Sign up sheet is in the Welcome Center at the top of the stairs.

Don't miss this fun time!! Any questions, please reach out to Ann McGinnis at 717 877 5354