

Leader: Sometimes, in the solitude of darkness, our fears and concerns, our hopes and our visions rise to the surface. We come face to face with ourselves and with the road that lies ahead of us. And in that same darkness, we find companionship for the journey. In that same darkness, we sometimes allow ourselves to wonder and worry whether the human race is going to survive.

**All: We know you are with us, O God, yet we still await your coming. In the darkness that contains both our hopelessness and our expectancy, we watch for a sign of God's hope.**

HYMN "Still, Still, Still" 3066

**We Respond to the Word**

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS/JOYS

MORNING PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

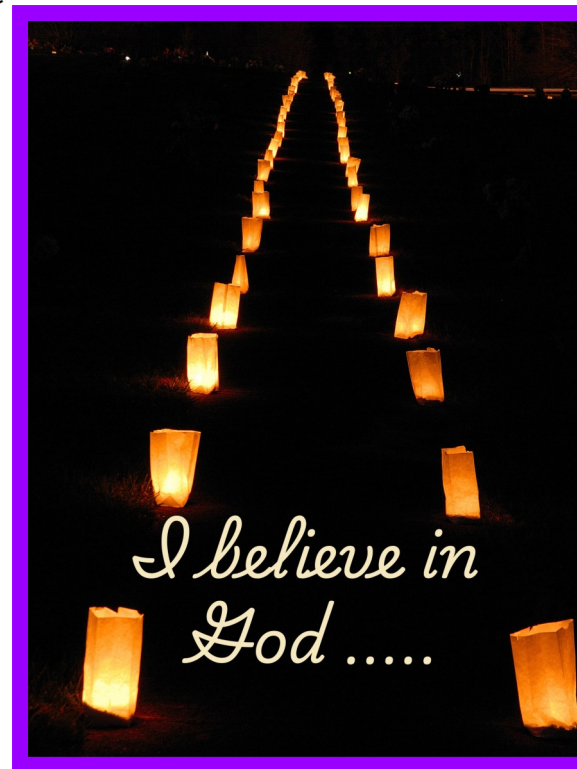
**We Go Forth to Serve**

HYMN "Star Child" 2095

BENEDICTION



## Edinboro United Methodist Church



**December 14, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Edinboro United Methodist Church**

P.O. Box 764, 113 High Street, Edinboro, PA 16412

814-734-3182

Email: [office@edinboroumc.org](mailto:office@edinboroumc.org)

Check out our Website: [www.edinboroumc.org](http://www.edinboroumc.org)

Find us on social media:

Facebook Page: **Edinboro UMC**

YouTube: **@BoroUMC**

**Our Staff:**

Pastor Ed Schoeneck

Dr. Jerra Jenrette, Assistant Pastor

John Layden, Lay Leader

Junia Isiminger, Adm. Asst.

Kay Jordan, Treas.

Amanda Carter, Director of Youth Ministries

Dennis Carner, Tech

Jane Springer, Organist

Melissa Kuffer, Nursery

Larry & Brenda Evans, Music Lead

Nikki Tatta, Nursery

**NURSERY TEXT NUMBER: 814-528-4881**

**EMBRACE**

**ENGAGE**

**IGNITE**

**EDINBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Rev. Ed Schoeneck, Pastor**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 14, 2025**

*\*denotes standing as able*

**We Gather in Praise**

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT **"Edinboro Food Pantry"** Janice Castro

**\*LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE** Jessica Walburn  
"Come, Lord Jesus, Come" & Edinboro UMC Choir

Leader: I believe in the sun...

**People: even when it isn't shining**

Leader: I believe in love...

**People: even when I don't feel it.**

Leader: I believe in God...

**People: Even when God is silent."**

Leader: Our Advent journeys often challenge us to love more deeply. To walk in ways right in God's eye.

**People: "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them."**

Leader: Come let us walk in the light of the Lord!

**People: We come to embrace the new advent, to be renewed in Joy.**

\*HYMN "What Child is This?" 219

\*OPENING PRAYER Jessica Walburn

**Gracious God, remind us today and every day that we have good reason to be joyful, and forgive us for focusing our minds on negative things. Because you sent your Son into the world we can truly celebrate this season of wonder. Fill our hearts with calm assurance so that we might be messengers of peace who joyfully spread love wherever we go. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE Gloria Patri/Glorify Thy Name

**We Receive the Word**

SCRIPTURE READING Jessica Walburn  
**Isaiah 40: 1—5 (NRSV)**

HYMN "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" 204

CHILDREN'S TIME Karen Swager

HYMN "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" 204

CENTERING MOMENT Video—"Rejoice"

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 1: 1—8 (NRSV)** Pastor Ed

REFLECTION **"I Believe in God"** Pastor Ed

A LITANY OF DARKNESS AND LIGHT Pastor Ed  
(From Department of Parish Development & Mission, New Zealand)

Leader: We wait in the darkness, expectantly, longingly, anxiously, thoughtfully. The darkness is our friend. In the darkness of the womb, we have all been nurtured and protected. In the darkness of the womb, the Christ-child was made ready for the journey into light.

**All: You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader: It is only in the darkness that we can see the splendor of the universe—blankets of stars, the solitary glowing of distant planets. It was the darkness that allowed the Magi to find the star that guided them to where the Christ-child lay.

**All: You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader: In the darkness of the night, desert peoples find relief from the cruel, relentless heat of the sun. In the blessed desert darkness, Mary and Joseph were able to flee with the infant Jesus to safety in Egypt.

**All: You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader: In the darkness of sleep, we are soothed and restored, healed and renewed. In the darkness of sleep, dreams rise up. God spoke to Jacob and Joseph through dreams. God is speaking still.

**All: You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader: In the solitude of darkness, we sometimes remember those who need God's presence in a special way—the sick, the un employed, the bereaved, the persecuted, the homeless, those who are demoralized and discouraged, those whose fear has turned to cynicism, those whose vulnerability has become bitterness. Sometimes in the darkness, we remember those who are near to our hearts—colleagues, partners, parents, children, neighbors, friends. We thank God for their presence and ask God to bless and protect them in all that they do—at home, at school, as they travel, as they work, as they play.

**All: You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**



# EUMC Capital Campaign

PHASE ONE COMPLETE **\$33,471**

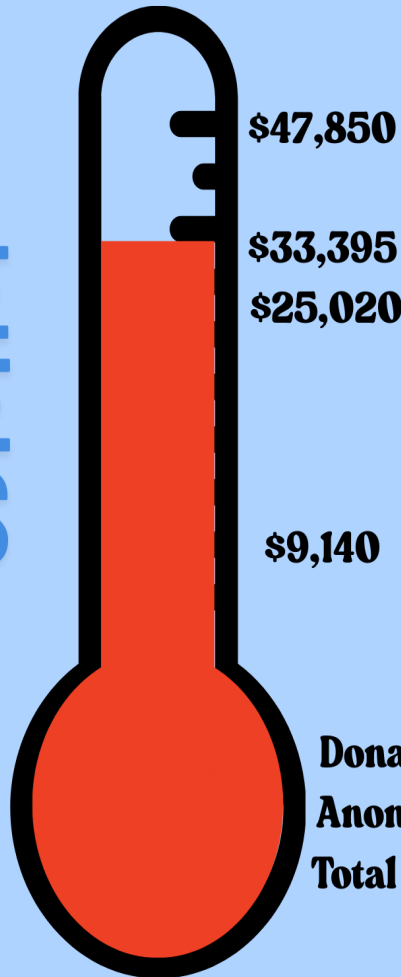
PHASE TWO COMPLETE **\$34,331**

PHASE 3A COMPLETE **\$61,250**

A BIG THANKS  
TO ALL WHO  
HAVE DONATED  
TO OUR 4 PART  
CAPITAL  
CAMPAIGN -  
WE HAVE BEEN  
SUCCESSFUL IN  
CARING FOR  
OUR CHURCH  
BUILDING  
BECAUSE OF  
ALL OF YOU.

3B  
PHASE  
THREE  
GOALS

3B - \$47,850  
FOR GRACE  
HALL ROOF



**Donations \$18,395**

**Anonymous \$15,000**

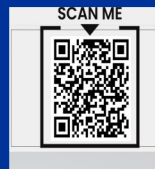
**Total 3B \$33,395**

## THIS WEEKS REMINDERS

- ◆ Children's Sunday School today following Children's Time  
K-2nd grade—Saints Room; 3rd-4th grades—Beatitudes Room  
5th—7th grades—Wesley Room
- ◆ Youth Sunday School today at 12:30 p.m.—Youth Room
- ◆ Kairos Meeting today at 1 p.m.—Wesley
- ◆ Invitation to the New Testament today at 7 p.m.—Zoom
- ◆ Boy Scout Meeting on Monday at 6:30 p.m.—Scout Room
- ◆ Faith for Today Group on Monday at 7 p.m.—Beatitudes
- ◆ CARE Team Meeting on Monday at 7 p.m.—Zoom
- ◆ Reconciling Ministries Task Force on Monday at 7 p.m.—Zoom & Wesley
- ◆ Cub Scout Meeting on Tuesday at 6 p.m.—Grace Hall, Scout Room, up-  
stairs classrooms
- ◆ Tuesday Movie Group on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.—Zoom
- ◆ Shadbrush Meeting on Tuesday at 7 p.m.—Wesley
- ◆ "Early Risers" Men's Book Club on Wednesday at 7 a.m.—Wesley
- ◆ Invitation to the New Testament on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.—Wesley
- ◆ Finding Peace Through Grief on Wednesday at 6 p.m.—Beatitudes
- ◆ Choir Practice on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary
- ◆ Praise Band Practice on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary
- ◆ Men's Coffee Group on Thursday at 9 a.m.—Overflow/Wesley
- ◆ Women's Book Club on Thursday at 9 a.m.—Zoom
- ◆ Finding Peace Through Grief Support Group on Thursday at 11 a.m.—  
Beatitudes
- ◆ Service of Light service on Thursday at 6 p.m. (Dinner) 7 p.m. (Service)  
- Grace Hall
- ◆ Men's Breakfast Group on Saturday at 8 a.m.—Flips Café

*Please note : Our worship service is being live-streamed on our YouTube page. If you wish to not have your image broadcast during the live stream, please sit in the front area on the choir side near the windows of the sanctuary under the camera.*

Are you a visitor to our church? If you answer this question with a yes —  
**Welcome! We are happy you are here!** Please complete the blue Visitor  
card in the pew and place it in the offering plate.



### Electronic Giving Platform

For those who would like to bless EUMC with their financial gifts electronically. Scanning the Q-Code will take you directly to our electronic giving site.





**When: Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> after church. We will carol after a light lunch and will likely return to church no later than 2 p.m.**

**Who: Children, Youth & Families (pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade)**

**Where: We will carol to some of our church neighbors on High, Normal and possibly Waterford streets**

**Food: Students and family members will go to Grace Hall after church for pizza before we go caroling.**



## Christmas Eve CHURCH SERVICE

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.



Whether you've been part of our community for years or are visiting for the first time, we invite you to share in the love and light of Christ's birth.

**I believe .....**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ♦ The 3D Café will be returning on January 18, 2026. The IFF Team will be hosting the first Café with hopes that other groups will sign up to host in other months. The plan is to have the 3D Café on the third Sunday of the month. Sign up your group on the sign up sheet on the Narthex table.
- ♦ Linger Longer Luncheons will continue in 2026. IFF and the Outreach/Mission Team will host Game On 4 with the first Linger Longer Luncheon on Sunday, January 11, 2026. Now is the time to secure your date to host one or more Linger Longer Luncheon. The sign up sheet is on the Narthex table.

**EUMC has two church families who are recovering from surgeries & injuries. If you are able to provide them a meal while they recuperate the website to sign up is below:**

- ♦ Take Them a Meal needs for Darla & Tim Elder  
<https://takethemameal.com/HMYH3991>
- ♦ Take Them a Meal needs for Janyce & Lynn Brawn  
<https://takethemameal.com/CPRZ1344>

## SERVICE OF LIGHT

Christmas can be a painful time of year. We may be missing a loved one who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult - making us feel alone.

The Service of Light offers that time and space for you. Come out and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture and music that acknowledges God's Presence with us who mourn and struggle.

Thursday, December 18, 2025  
6:00Pm - light meal - 7:00Pm - service

“the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.”

INTER-CHURCH MINISTRIES OF ERIE COUNTY

presents

LIGHT THE

WAY:

A CONCERT

FOR HOPE

AND HOME

TICKET PRICE  
\$10.00

**A jubilant benefit concert for ICM's mission to lift neighbors in need.**

For tickets and info.

Contact: ICM at (814) 454-2411  
or Chris Magno at  
[magno001@gannon.edu](mailto:magno001@gannon.edu)

**EUMC Youth Group**



# **FUNDRAISER**

## **LINGER LONGER LUNCHEON & Gift Wrapping Fundraiser**



**21st December 2025**  
**Following Worship in Grace Hall**



**All you can eat - soup, salad and breadsticks!!**

**Join us at the Youth Linger Longer Luncheon for a special gift-wrapping fundraiser. Bring your gifts and let our youth wrap them beautifully for you!**

**Free will donation per gift wrapped**  
**All proceeds support our Youth attending "Current" Weekend**



## **MONDAY NIGHT DISCIPLE GROUP**

### **ACTS**

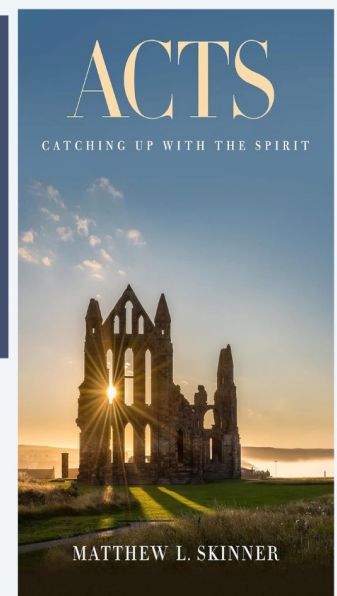
**CATCHING UP WITH THE SPIRIT**

by: Matthew L. Skinner

The Acts of the Apostles is a unique and crucial book that chronicles the story of God's grace flooding out to the world through the lives of the apostles in the decades immediately following Christ's ascension into heaven.

In Acts: Catching up with the Spirit, author and biblical scholar Matthew Skinner provides a broad yet theologically attuned introduction to this important book and its story of the early church learning to bear witness about God's salvation through Jesus Christ..

Skinner explores six key themes that illustrate the ways in which reading Acts is capable of igniting our imagination about the character of the Christian message, the work of God's people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world.



**To Begin: Monday, January 5, 2026 at 6 p.m. by Zoom**

**Sign up in the Narthex.**