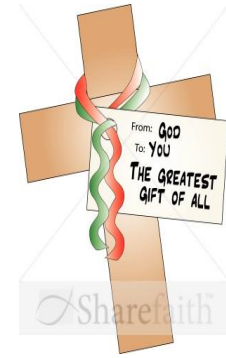


December Link



"Coming Home"

The United Methodist Church theme for Advent this year is "COMING HOME!" The four Sundays of Advent feature messages about home and family, particularly the earthly and heavenly family of Jesus. December 3rd Sunday is "Come Down Home". This immediately brought to mind all the times we have left New York State or Connecticut to drive to Maryland or to Pennsylvania to visit our parents while they were down here with us on Earth. We always felt we were doing the Perry Como song in actuality as we drove along the winding roads and hills of North Eastern Pennsylvania, or the flat lands with Chesapeake inlets and waterways of the Eastern Shore of Maryland to Polly's Trappe, Maryland home. We were the folks from "Pennsylvania and Dixie's Golden Shore" going home to those places of birth and upbringing. Truly, "There's No Place Like home for The Holidays."

What anticipation of seeing Pop Pop and Mom Mom, coming to the door and the tears of joy on their Christian faces! As the Trappe door opened the aroma of homemade, potato base rolls streamed toward us in alluring fashion. A roast chicken, chicken salad, goose, turkey, or ham would be calling to us as well. Butter Beans, slaw, green beans, hard rolls, and many more tasty delights awaited us there!

The Pennsylvania Dutch Cookbook in living color came to life at Dad and Mom Gangaware's place. There seemed to be hundreds of little dishes, which all had unique Pennsylvania flavors of sweet and sour, mashed potatoes, gravy, pickled beets, tomato sauce, corn, and apple and pumpkin pies.

Those homes only exist in our minds now. All of the inhabitants have gone to their "Eternal Home". The properties exist, but not belonging to either of our families. Places we used to hide in and play around are no longer ours to own. The years of work and memories and laughter that made those places home, exist in warm thought and occasional tears! We were blessed to be able to go home.

But there is great news! Mom Mom and Pop Pop, and Dad and Mom are living it up in a new home, made for them by Carpenter Jesus, the Star of Christmas. AND HE IS CALLING US ALL TO COME HOME! "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is calling. Calling for you and for me. See, on the portals He's waiting and watching; watching for you and for me. Come Home. Come home. You who are weary come home. Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling....calling O sinner. Come Home. Carrie Underwood recently sang this at the Country Music Awards, as pictures of those who passed away this past year flashed on the screen.

I'm preparing to go to that new home and turn down turn down the well-worn lane looking past the Golden Gates. Seeing Jesus in Polly and my big family circle waiting to pray in the Golden chariot driveway. And what a wondrous joy when it will be Christmas, Thanksgiving, Birthday and Wedding Day with Christ all at once! What a home coming day that will be.

--I want to be there, at home forever. Don't You?

--Pastor Lee Gangaware

Sermon titles for December;

- December 3rd: "Come Down Home"
 - December 10th: "John & Jesus"
 - December 17th: "Light Recognition"
 - December 24th: "Jesus' Earthly Home"
 - December 24th: "The Homes of Jesus" (5 PM Service)
 - December 31st: "A Teacher, A Prophet & A Prophetess"
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1) We are looking for an Administrative Assistant to perform clerical tasks in a well-organized and timely way.

a. Job duties;

- Answer the telephone.
- Check and send E-Mail.
- Arrange, type, copy, collate and assemble the weekly Worship Bulletin.
- Edit and distribute the monthly newsletter (The Link).
- Pick up and drop off mail at the post office; deliver mail to internal mail boxes.
- Maintain various telephone and address files.
- Organize and file.
- Other functions and duties as assigned by the Pastor.

b. Computer Skills

- Must have enough computer skills to be able to arrange internal files.
- Must be comfortable with Microsoft Word and have some skills with Microsoft Excel.

c. Please send your Resume to;

Emil Klein
144 Losaw Road
Winsted, CT 06098
or e3grk@charter.net

2) Save the date, our Annual Charge Conference Date is scheduled for January 13th at 2:00 PM. Pastor Lee has forms for Committee Chairs and personnel!

3) From Mary Lou – The exercise group is now known as "The Busy Bodies". They meet at 10:00a.m. Wednesdays and concentrate on Strength, Stretching and Balance. No fee is required, but members are encouraged to contribute to the food bank.

4) Poinsettias – Please have the order forms in by December 10th.

5) Church Humor:

- A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment of bringing something to represent their religion.
The first boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I'm Jewish and this is the Star of David."
The second boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm Catholic and this is the Crucifix."

The third boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy and I'm United Methodist and this is a casserole."

- One balmy day in the South Pacific, a navy ship espied smoke coming from one of three huts on an uncharted island. Upon arriving at the shore they were met by a shipwreck survivor. He said, I'm so glad you're here! I've been alone on this island for more than five years! The captain replied, If you're all alone on the island why do I see THREE huts. The survivor said, Oh. Well, I live in one, and go to church in another. What about the THIRD hut? asked the captain.
That's where I USED to go to church.

STATEMENTS YOU WILL NEVER HEAR IN CHURCH

- Hey! It's MY turn to sit on the front pew!
- Personally, I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf.
- I was so enthralled; I never noticed your sermon went over time 25 minutes.
- I've decided to give our church the \$500.00 a month I used to send to TV evangelists.
- I volunteer to be the permanent teacher for the Junior High Sunday School class.
- Forget the denominational minimum salary: let's pay our pastor so s/he can live like we do.
- I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!
- Since we're all here, let's start the worship service early!
- Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas.
- Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign!

December Schedule

	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Dec 3 Dec 10 Dec 17 Dec 24 Dec 31	Caprice Shaw & Dietz Hurley & Laurie Fenner Shirley Green & Pat Allen Caprice Shaw & Dietz Hurley & Laurie Fenner	S. Bailey Alter Guild Fenner Peck Millahn	Dawn & Wayne Renfrew Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Karen & Rui Carvelo Barney Connors & Shirley Green Shelly & Evan Bailey
	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
Dec 3 Dec 10 Dec 17 Dec 24 Dec 31	Steve Bailey & Gail Klein Ann Kramer & Chip Simons Emil Klein & Richard Lavieri Ann Kramer & Chip Simons John Baum & Steve Bailey	Tom Bailey Family Joann Little deRoode Family Margo Fenn Volunteer	Suzie Zygmunt & Mari Forman Ann Kramer & Angela Root Emil Klein, Chip Simons & Steve Bailey No Coffee Hour No Coffee Hour
	<u>Lectionary Readers</u>		
Dec 3 Dec 10 Dec 17 Dec 24 Dec 31	Steve Bailey Tom Lucas Cathy Baum Nick Peck Emil Klein		
	<u>Lectionary Readings</u>		
Dec 3 Dec 10 Dec 17 Dec 24 am Dec 24 pm Dec 31	Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (UMH 801), 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37 Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (UMH 806), 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126 (UMH 847), 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:47-55 (UMH199), Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38 Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96 (UMH 815), Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20 Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148 (UMH 861), Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40		

December

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
					1	2 -Parsonage work day 10:00am
3 -Worship Service 8:00 & 9:30a	4 -Pastor Off -Food Bank 6-8pm	5 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Prayer Group -Trustees -AA 8:00p	6 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Potential Members -*The Busy Bodies 10:00a -Advent Book Study & Prayer Service 7:00pm -Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm	7 - 9:00a Pastor in Office - Food Bank 2-4pm -AA 6:45p -UMW 7:00pm	8	9
10 -Worship Service 8:00 & 9:30am	11 -Pastor Off	12 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Prayer Group -AdmBoard -AA 8:00p	13 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Potential Members -*The Busy Bodies 10:00a -Advent Book Study & Prayer Service 7:00pm -Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm	14 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -AA 6:45p	15	16
17 -Worship Service 8:00 & 9:30am	18 -Pastor Off -Food Bank 6-8pm	19 -9:00a – Pastor in Office -Prayer Group -Finance -AA 8:00p	20 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Potential Members -*The Busy Bodies 10:00a -Advent Book Study & Prayer Service 7:00pm -Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm	21 - Thanksgiving - Food Bank 2-4pm -AA 6:45p	22	23
24 -Worship Service 8:00 & 9:30a -Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm	25 Have a Blessed Christmas	26 -9:00a – Pastor in Office -Prayer Group -SPRC -AA 8:00p	27 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -Potential Members -*The Busy Bodies 10:00a -Advent Book Study & Prayer Service 7:00pm -Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm	28 - 9:00a Pastor in Office -AA 6:45p	29	30
31 -Worship Service 8:00 & 9:30am						

***Mary Lou's exercise group**