

WELCOME TO GOD’S HOUSE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Have you noticed? God is doing a new thing.

People: We watch and wait with joy for the coming Messiah.

Leader: God is bringing freedom. God is bringing healing.

People: We watch and wait with joy for the coming Messiah.

Leader: Beloved, listen. God is calling you. To be free and to free your neighbors. To be healed and to heal your community. To testify to the Light among us.

People: We watch and wait with joy for the coming Messiah.

OPENING PRAYER

God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are. We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children, and for that we give you thanks. Amen.

Angels From the Realms of Glory | Hymnal Page 220

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Special Music | Choir Christmas Musical Offerings

CHILDREN’S TIME

John 1: 6-8, 19-28 | Leader: The Word of God, for the people of God. All: Thanks be to God!

IN THE LIGHT OF GOD - Rev. Dr. Lori Reiber

OFFERING

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of hope and compassion: Just as John the Baptist came long ago in Judea to witness to your light, we remember that light he heralds is the savior of hope. May we witness through our giving that joy, hope, and compassion win over fear and scarcity. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly | Hymnal Page 229

PASTORAL PRAYER | LORD’S PRAYER

Joy to the World | Hymnal Page 246

December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

10am Children’s Christmas Program in the Sanctuary
7pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service in the Centrum
11pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary

December 31

NEW YEARS EVE

10am ONLY Worship Service in the Sanctuary

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE Friday, Jan 12, 2024 from 5:30-9 pm—Sat., Jan. 13, from 9-Noon.
*Childcare will be provided if needed. (There is an optional Friday night social event after we close.)
Soup and Salad Meal and Continental Breakfast provided. Let us give thanks to the Lord and start off the New Year with the best possible attitude! This retreat will focus on the things that we are grateful for! We will also dive deeper into the spiritual discipline of giving thanks in all situations. Time will be spent developing a gratitude journal, reflecting on scripture, experiencing prayer stations and spending time with friends and fellow disciples. This retreat is geared towards adults (but if there is enough need for childcare, we will offer some special activities for the kids as well).

2024 GIVING ENVELOPES are now available at the Welcome Desk. We still use non-numbered giving envelopes for cost saving purposes, therefore all envelopes are the same. If you do give through these envelopes, please make sure to always write your name on the envelope so you can receive credit for your giving.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given in loving memory of Diane Anderson’s husband, Andy Anderson who passed away last week.

CAN YOU HELP? We are needing more people to usher one time a month at the 11am service. Contact the church office if you're willing to help!

ANGEL TREE NEEDS YOU! We will be delivering our gifts on Saturday, Dec., 23 We will meet at the church at 9am, have breakfast & then deliver the gifts after that. This is a great activity for all ages and family types! Please sign up on the app or contact the office if you can help!

JANUARY 28TH CHILI COOK OFF 12:00 P.M. IN THE SOLID ROCK CAFÉ Everyone is invited to our first Youth Fundraiser Chili Cook off! Enter your best chili by signing up (email or text Lisa at kidsminlisa@gmail.com or 614-746-9465). \$5.00 to sample chili (cornbread, cookies & drinks included). You can “vote” on your favorite chili with dollars and change- so bring your cash!

WE HOPE THAT YOU ARE ENJOYING THE NEW PICTURES on the wall in our foyer of the kids receiving an education at the Borde school in Haiti! For three decades now, Shawnee UMC has been invested in this school & we have continued to financially support them since. Please be in prayer during this school year for the students, staff, and Pastor Obed at the Borde school in Haiti!

THERE ARE NOW CHRISTMAS BOOKS in the commons bookcase! They are available to be borrowed by anyone, no sign up sheet, they are on the honor system. Help yourself!

OUR SAMARITAN HOUSE goCO will meet twice during the month of January. On Tuesday, January 9, we'll have a time of planning and fellowship at The Grind (320 S Cable Rd) at 11:30am. Our serving event will be Tuesday, January 23 @ 5:30pm where we will serve dinner to the ladies & children at The Samaritan House. All women are welcome to join at either event! We will not meet in December.

SUMC FAMILY & YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

EVERY SUNDAY: QUEST SUNDAY SCHOOL for 5th grade & up. We will begin at the 11:00 worship service for the music & then head to the Youth Room after the songs for a discussion of the Scripture, snacks, activities and fellowship. All youth are welcome but High Schoolers are encouraged to serve in worship, the tech team, Roots Kids Ministry or elsewhere.

JANUARY 6TH, YOUTH GROUP RESUMES for 5th grade and up! 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Solid Rock Café (every Sunday unless noted) Join us for fun, fellowship, games & Bible study & discussion about real life Biblical application

REMIND MS & HS youth and their families are invited to sign up on the Remind app to get up to date information, links to event sign-ups, and more. Sign up by texting the following code to 81010.
High School: @ygsumctumc Middle School: @mssumctumc



UPCOMING CALENDAR

Dec 17 - Angel Tree Gifts Due

Dec 23 - Angel Tree Delivery

Dec 24 - Family Christmas Program- 1 SERVICE ONLY @ 10am in Sanctuary

Dec 24 - Contemporary Christmas Eve services @ 7pm in Centrum

Dec 24 - Traditional Christmas Eve services @11pm in Sanctuary

Dec 23 - Jan 1 - Office Closed

Dec 31 - 1 SERVICE ONLY @ 10am in Sanctuary

Jan 21 - Youth Group Snow Tubing Trip at Mad River Mountain

Jan 28 - Chili Cook Off

Feb 11 - Superbowl Sub Sale

REV. DR. LORI REIBER, *Lead Pastor*
Call: 419-991-4806 ext 111
PastorLori@ShawneeUM.church
In the office on Monday-Thursday

LORI WRIGHT, *Associate Pastor*
Call: 419-991-4806 ext 109
Lori@ShawneeUM.church
In the office on Tuesdays & Wednesdays


ASHLEY ROSEBROCK, *Communications Dir.*
Call: 419-991-4806 ext 100
Ashley@ShawneeUM.church
In the office on Monday-Friday (1/2 days Wed)

OFFICE HOURS	
MONDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
TUESDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
WEDNESDAY	8:30am-11:30am
THURSDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
FRIDAY	8:30am-3:30pm


 church center

Text the word Shawnee to the number 844-242-4708.

Stripe



Ways to give electronically...



Venmo



shawnee
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 17, 2023 | 9:30am Service

