

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Rev. Meredith Ann Hutchison.....	Pastor
Irina Thomas.....	Organist
Kelly Millar.....	Choir Director
Rheba Salac.....	Administrative Assistant
Wade Anderson.....	Sexton
The Congregation.....	Disciples of Christ

First Sunday after Christmas December 28, 2014

Please remember to turn off your cell phones during the Worship Service. Thank you.

Preparation Music

(Please be seated and prepare yourself for worship)

The Entrance of the Light

Welcome

Moments of Concerns and Announcements

*Ringing of the Bell

Gathering Music-Please stand and join the choir in singing:

All: Christ is the light, Christ is the light.

Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.

In the Eastern sky the stars are shining bright,

Oh, glory hallelujah children, Christ is the light. (repeat)

Call to Worship

Leader: *When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,*

People: **God is there.**

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Leader: *When Jesus is presented at the temple,*

People: **God is there.**

Leader: *When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,*

People: **God is there.**

Leader: *When Anna recognizes Jesus in the temple,*

People: **God is there.**

Leader: *This very morning,*

People: **God is here.**

Leader: *In the future we cannot see,*

People: **God is there. Let us worship God!**

*Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

1. O little town of Bethlehem,

How still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,

The silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth

The everlasting Light.

The hopes and fears of all the years

Are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars, together

Proclaim the holy birth

And praises sing to God, the King,

And peace to men on earth.

For Christ is born of Mary,

And gathered all above,

While mortals sleep, the angels keep

Their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,

The wondrous Gift is giv'n!

So God imparts to human hearts

The blessings of His heaven.

No ear may hear His coming,

But in this world of sin,

Where meek souls will receive Him still,

The dear Christ enters in.

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**4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sins and enter in,
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!**

*Call to Reconciliation (Remain Standing)

*Confession of Sin

All: Holy God, we know that you have been present to us throughout all of history, even throughout our own histories. We know you will be with us in our future. Yet often we don't live as if we know that. You ask no more of us than what we can provide.

Parents of children and youth: As Jesus' parents were asked to give within their means at the temple, you ask us to give of our means. We often fail to do this.

Men of Wisdom: As Simeon recognized in Jesus the salvation of his people, we recognize in Jesus' Way our own wholeness and health, yet we often fail to follow.

Women of Wisdom: As Anna recognized in Jesus the redemption of her people, we recognize in Jesus God's saving grace for us, yet we often fail to rejoice and to share this good news.

All: Forgive us, make us wise and joyful and strong so that we live in the understanding of your never ending love. Amen.

Silent Confession

*Kyrie # 750

**All: Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.**

*Words of Assurance

Children and Youth: The scriptures promise that God will make

all things new. As God makes the year new, may we also be made new by God's love and forgiveness in Jesus. Amen.

*Act of Praise..... #760

All: Amen we praise your name, O God! (Sing Amen)

Amen we praise your name, O God! (Sing Amen)

Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!

Amen we praise your name, O God!

*The Passing of the Peace

Pastor: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

All: And also with you.

Please share a greeting of Christian love with those sitting around you.

Children's Time: "The Fourth Wise Man"

(Children in Kindergarten and younger may go to the nursery)

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

Readers: Don McIlvaine and Myrt Driscoll

Sermon: "Reality Check"

Anthem: "Mary's Son, Precious One"

Affirmation of Faith#885

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in honor of USMC Sgt. & Mrs. Zachary Young, and as a prayer for all military personnel and first responders, especially those in harm's way.

Call to Prayer "Pray"

Pray___, pray___, pray___ for peace within our world_____.

Pray___, pray___, pray___ for peace within our souls_____.

Pray___, pray___, pray___ for love and unity_____;

Quiet our busy hearts

Pray___, pray___, pray___ .

Pray___, pray___, pray___

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer,
Prayer of Our Savior (sung)
**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

Our Time of Sharing

Invitation to the Offering, The Sharing of Gifts

Offering Music

*Offertory Response “We Are Giving in the Light of God” (526)

All: We are giving in the light of God,

We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)

We are giving, giving, we are giving, Oo,

We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn: #145 “Once In Royal David’s City”

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response #136

All: “Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child”

*Postlude

Today: The Choir is rehearsing after Worship.

In memoriam: Patricia Kistler passed into eternal life on December 17. A service of celebration was held on December 22. We thank Lynn Zimmerman and all who helped with the luncheon following the service.

Did you know that today and next Sunday we are receiving the all-church offering for “The Christmas Fund/Veterans of the Cross”? **Have you had a pastor who has had an impact on your life? Honor him or her with this offering that goes to help clergy and lay ministers in their time of need.** The gifts provided by UCC Congregations enable the Pension Boards’ Ministerial Assistance program to provide assistance for hundreds of lower-income retired clergy/lay employees. In 2013, pension supplementation totaled \$1,342,000 and quarterly health premium supplementation helped 239 retired employees. Christmas “Thank You” checks went to 543 retired UCC clergy/church employees. Emergency Grants were given to 65 active or retired UCC clergy/lay employees.

There are NO meetings this week. **Please take this opportunity to enjoy the holidays and also to work on your annual report which is due in the office on January 4.** The Annual Meeting of the congregation is January 25, immediately following worship,



Thanks to all who participated in our Christmas Eve service and especially our readers and musicians who added their special touch.

Attendance for December 21: 79

Offering for December 21: \$2,238.00

Help Fund: \$10.00

Food Bank: \$10.00

We welcome to our pulpit today, the Rev. Robert McKie. Bob was born and raised in Winsted, Connecticut. He is a graduate of Springfield College, Andover Newton Theological School, and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He served three years in the Army Transportation Corps, including a tour in Vietnam.



Visiting Pastor

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Rev. McKie retired on March 1, 2011 after 18 1/2 years as Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ, Greensburg, now with a total of 42 1/2 years as an ordained United Church of Christ minister. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Unity Township, where they are staff for four cats. Bob sings with Meredith in the Westmoreland Choral Society. He is also a passionate ferroequinologist (lover of the iron horse).

Did you know that the Rev. Robert (Bob) McKie has served at St. Peter's United Church of Christ - Punxsutawney, PA (1972-1977), St. Paul's United Church of Christ - Latrobe (Trauger), PA (1977-1992), Trinity United Church of Christ - Greensburg, PA (1992-2011) within the Penn West Conference and most recently retired from Trinity United Church of Christ in Greensburg? Trinity has its roots in the (German) Evangelical Synod of North America, which joined with the German Reformed Churches of the U.S. in 1934 to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church. (In 1957 the E and R churches joined with the Congregational Christian Churches to form the United Church of Christ, the name which we here at Denmark Manor United Church of Christ now hold.) **Rev. McKie is on call in case of an emergency and can be reached at 724-834-8534.**

Throughout the month of January our Mission Team will be collecting (new) items for the Blackburn Center against Domestic & Sexual Violence. The Center provides a 24-hour hotline (888-832-2272) along with counseling, advocacy, support and emergency shelter to victims and their children. Please put the Center on your shopping list; some of the items that help considerably are listed here:

9x13" Baking pans	Can openers	Coffee makers
Dish drainers	Dishpans	Toasters
Dishwasher detergent	Tall kitchen trash bags	
Paper towels	Towel holders	Skillets
Electric mixers	Knife sharpeners	Hair dryers

(continued)

Donation Items for the Blackburn Center continued:

Bath mats	Toilet paper	Plungers
Shower curtains and rings	Bath & hand towels & washcloths	
Toilet brushes	Alarm clocks	Bed pillows
Bed-in-a-bag sets	Twin & double sheets	Extension cords
Women's sweat suits	Telephones	Tool kits
Umbrellas	Laundry detergent	Laundry baskets
Mops	Brooms	Buckets
Flashlights	Outdoor garbage bags	Markers (washable)
Shampoo	Conditioner	Body wash
Hand & body lotion	Baby monitors	1 & 2-gal. Zip-loc bags
Soap dispensers	Nasal aspirators	Telephones

GetGo & Sheetz Gas Cards WalMart & Giant Eagle Gift Cards

Canned soups, meats & tuna, condiments & spices, cake mixes, juices, packaged snacks for lunches, cereals, jelly, peanut butter.

Children's underwear all sizes, women's underwear 5-9.

Diapers sizes 3-6+ and Pull-up diapers (larger sizes)

Women's pajamas one-size-fits-all & larger sizes; housecoats. Pajamas for infants 6-24 months, boys and girls sizes 2-8, and teen sizes.

The Mission Team will be collecting the items in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please drop your donations there throughout the month.

Thank you!!

