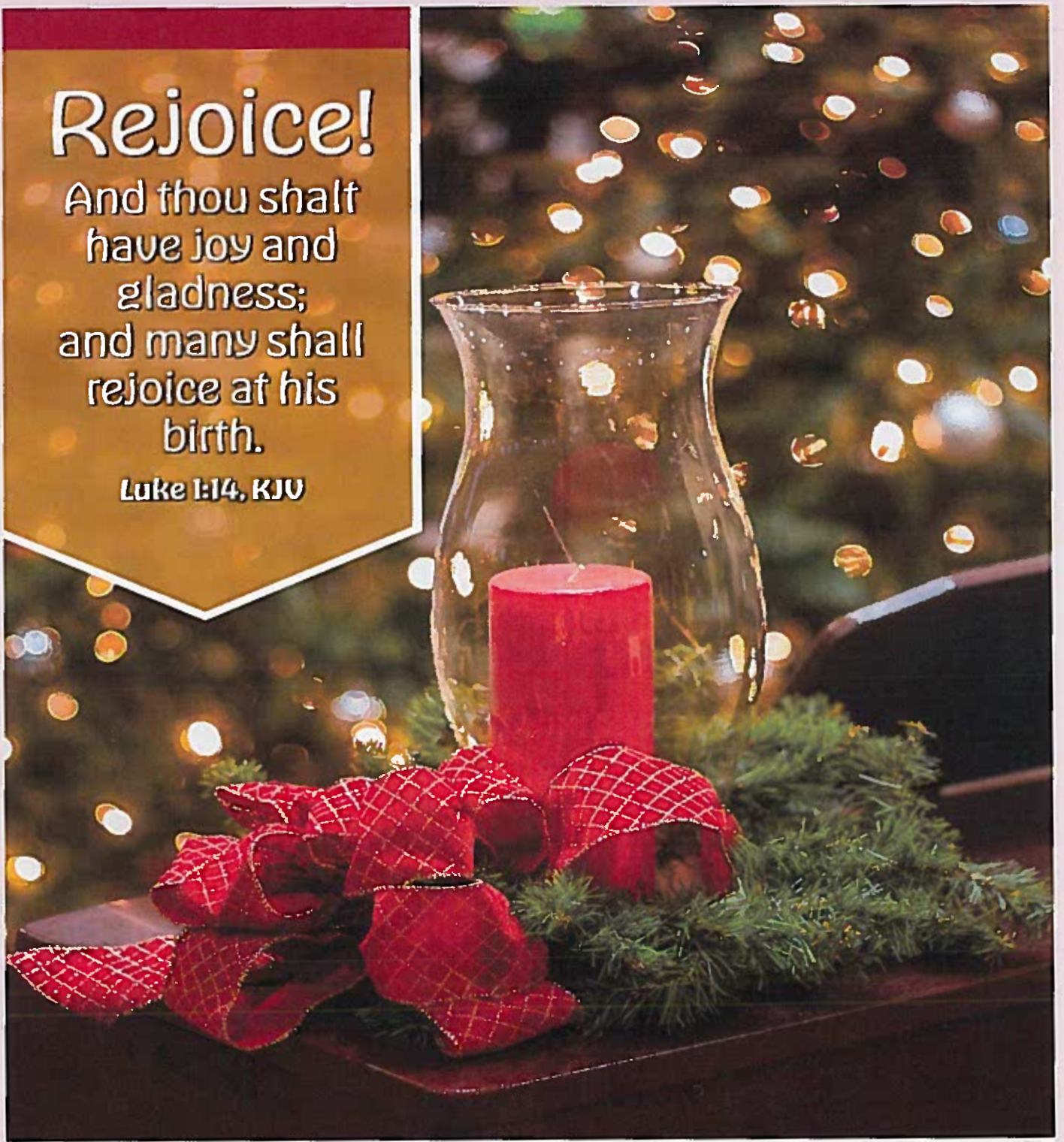


**Rejoice!**

And thou shalt  
have joy and  
gladness;  
and many shall  
rejoice at his  
birth.

**Luke 1:14, KJV**



**MAINSTream**

DECEMBER

2022

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> Prayers of the People 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Schools 11:00am Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00am Wednesday Morning Bible Study 4:00pm WOW	<b>1</b> 6:15pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Belles II 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Schools 11:00am Worship with Communion	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Deacons	<b>6</b> 6:00pm Mission and Society Committee	<b>7</b> 10:00am Wednesday Morning Bible Study 1:30pm - 2:30pm Rotary Backpack- Deacons - Latrobe 30 Plaza 4:00pm WOW	<b>8</b> 6:15pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Belles II 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>9</b> JOY Christmas Luncheon set-up	<b>10</b> 12:00pm JOY Christmas Luncheon
<b>11</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Schools 11:00am Worship	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Christian Education and Nurture Committee 7:00pm Evangelism and Membership Committee	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:00am Wednesday Morning Bible Study 1:30pm - 2:30pm Rotary Backpack- Deacons - Latrobe 30 Plaza 4:00pm WOW	<b>15</b> Decorating - Unity Chapel 6:15pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Belles II 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30am E/M Gingerbread House Making 9:30am Sanctuary decorating - Main
<b>18</b> Christmas Joy Offering 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Schools 11:00am Worship 7:30pm Lessons and Carols - Unity Chapel	<b>19</b> 7:00pm Session	<b>20</b> 1:30pm - 2:30pm Rotary Backpack- Deacons - Latrobe 30 Plaza	<b>21</b> 10:00am Wednesday Morning Bible Study	<b>22</b> 6:15pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Belles II 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
<b>25</b> Prayers of the People 11:00am Worship	<b>26</b> Office closed for the Christmas Holiday	<b>27</b> Office closed for the Christmas Holiday	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:15pm Men's Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



DECEMBER, 2022

*"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End ... The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life."*

Revelation 22:12-13, and 17

We are now in the beginning of the season of Advent. This is a special season of the church calendar in which we look forward to celebrating the coming of the baby Jesus at Christmas time. The word Advent means "to come." This is an appropriate name because Advent is about waiting. During the season of Advent, we are waiting for the baby Jesus to come. We are waiting for the celebration of Christmas. We sing songs about the waiting. We sing, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and we sing "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus." During Advent, we are waiting. We are waiting for Christmas and we are waiting to see the fulfillment of God's promises.

"Now, wait a minute!" someone might say. What do you mean that we are waiting? Jesus already came. Jesus was already born in the stable in Bethlehem. The Shepherds and the Wise Men came. Jesus has already come. If Jesus has already come, then why do we celebrate a season whose name means "to come"?

For those of us who live on the other side of that first Christmas, the season of Advent has two purposes. First, Advent is a time to remember. During Advent, we remember the stories of those who waited in the past. We remember the stories of those in Scripture, like Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph and more, who were waiting to see God fulfill his promises to his people. By remembering their stories, we have the opportunity to once again remember how God did come. We remember how God did fulfill his promises. We remember how God has shown himself faithful to his promises in the coming of his son at that first Christmas. By entering into the story of those who came before us, we are reminded of all the ways in which they saw God proved faithful.

And this remembering encourages us in our faith. The second reason that we celebrate Advent is that the Scriptures talk about two different comings. The Scriptures talk about Jesus coming as a baby in Bethlehem, to live among his people and to reveal the heart of God to them. The Scriptures also tell us that Jesus is going to come again. They tell us that Jesus will come again to take us to be with him forever. By remembering the stories of those who came before us and the ways that they waited for Christ to come, we remember that we are still a people who are waiting for Christ to come. The difference is that we are waiting for Christ to come again and make all things right. We are waiting for Christ to come and wipe away every tear from our eye and to make all things new.

Scripture ends with this promise. Scripture ends by telling us that we do not wait in vain. Scripture ends in Revelation 22 with Jesus speaking directly to his people and saying, "I am coming soon." During Advent, we look back to the coming of Christ as a baby in Bethlehem, and we look forward to that great coming when Christ shall make all things new.

My family and I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Rev. Derek Campbell



## MISSION AND SOCIETY NEWS

When you think about Mission, what comes to mind? Often we think of some disaster in a location far away from home. And indeed, those are good Mission efforts. However, recently our committee has been spotlighting Mission in our own backyard. On Sunday mornings during our Moment for Missions, besides listening to information about the PCUSA annual special offerings, you have heard from representatives of:

- Union Mission and homelessness,
- Club F.R.E.D. after school program,
- Faith in Action volunteers for seniors programs,
- Local disasters such as Dorothy Patch and a Jeannette fire,
- Westmoreland County Food Bank regarding food insecurities, and
- Greater Latrobe School District regarding the Dove Tree and Weekend Backpack program.

As a congregation we are stepping up to meet the needs of our local community and our global community. Our church regularly supports the Union Mission's efforts to support homeless men. Members of our church prepare meals (with financial support from the church) for Club F.R.E.D. and volunteers prepare meals, serve meals, assist at tables and lead student groups. Our church provided more than financial support for Faith-in-Action as members enjoyed over 20 hours of volunteer work to rake leaves in our area.

How amazing it was to hear of the announcement during the All Saints' Day Tea that we collected \$844 for the displaced families in Jeannette. Furthermore, all you have to do is look at the steps in front of the communion table to see how our members are contributing to food pantries, but we also provide financial support to the county Food Bank and we volunteered at food distributions. To conclude this 2022 year, we, as members of Latrobe Presbyterian Church, know that our most vulnerable children go home on weekends with a backpack with healthy easy to prepare food items, packed by members of our church, and gifts are purchased for children of the local elementary schools to ensure our local children's Christmas wishes are fulfilled.

In addition, we are not going to abandon our efforts for those Missions far away from home. This is what is often called a tease. Watch this space for a future announcement!

Finally, I thank everyone during this season of Advent as we look forward to the birth of our Savior, because the Holy Spirit moving within us has encouraged us to give of our time and talents.

Cindy Soltys, Chair



The Worship and Music Committee is overwhelmed by your generosity in GIVING THANKS AT THANKSGIVING. Many people within the community will be blessed to receive your food donations. We thank you.

## Mission Trip to Harmons, Jamaica 2022

I am so happy and blessed to have been able to be a part of this mission trip. There are so many ways in which I am recalling God's love at work. There is so much to process from the trip and I will be sharing with everyone in January in more detail. But I wanted to thank you all again for being so supportive in this venture. I was able to take part in helping to build a shelter for a disabled mom who has 3 young children still living with her. I was able to be a part of the construction of a new church being built. The medical clinic had a dedication service that I was able to help prepare for. I joined fellow missionaries at the local school and helped the children one on one with helping with letter sounds, reading words, and putting sounds together. There was a total of 23 of us on the trip and we all made so many connections with each other and also the local Jamaicans.

It was a hot, rainy, challenging week, but one I will never forget. God's love is out there, you just have to see it and be it!

Lisa McCracken



Our November "Two-Cents-A-Meal" collection was \$576. Thank you for your generous contribution to this hunger relief program.



### Committee Chairs

Your one page 2022 Annual Report, e-mailed to the office, will be due no later than December 31.



### Advent Wreath participants for 2022 are:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| November 27 | Diana Kreiling and Elise Ibrahim-Campbell |
| December 4  | Adam and Mallory McMahan                  |
| December 11 | Laura and Landon Smith                    |
| December 18 | Timea, Melania and Akos Szep              |
| December 24 | Liz, Mike, Payton and Maddox McBroom      |



Deacon's  
Corner

Well, we did it again!!! I cannot thank the Deacons and the congregation enough for supporting our extra two weeks of serving Meals on Wheels. You all really stepped up and provided our every need. We could not serve without the help and donations that we received. I want to give special thanks to our helpers and food/cookie donators! Thank you to Susan Mough, Sandy Wano, Jackie Huska, Jay Jamison, Tess Gleckl, Linda Tito, Pat Speedy, Harry Speedy, Marge Buerger, Elaine Hudimac, Nancy Auman, Jan Mills, Ardi Hill, Janet Ressler, Donna Witherspoon, Betty Ann McHugh, Emily McMahan, Karen Stewart, Jen McNerny, Dee Gamble, Becky McChesney and Jinsel Pyo. We are truly blessed with such a great church family that helps out when needed. Many hands make for light work and I couldn't be more grateful for all of you.

God Bless,

Bobbi Jo Pevarnik, Deacon



## Breakfast with Santa Claus

**Come one, Come all to the Breakfast  
with Santa Claus on Saturday,  
December 17 at 9:30 a.m.**

**We will meet in the Vogelsang Room  
for breakfast. We will do crafts, deco-  
rate Gingerbread Houses and we are  
hoping Santa Claus will make an  
appearance. All ages are welcome.  
Feel free to bring a friend to join in  
the fun.**

**Please sign the sheet in the back of  
the Sanctuary or call the church  
office to reserve a space so we have  
plenty of supplies on hand. The  
morning may even end with a  
spirited snowball fight!**



**MEAL-O-  
DELIVERIES**



Dear Friends,

Many, many thanks to the LPC Community of  
Faithful Christians.

You have provided comfort through prayers,  
calls, cards and visits during this time of need.

Fondly,

Jean and John Krouse



We were one of the beneficiaries of the joint leaf raking program between Faith-In-Action and Latrobe Presbyterian Church under the very capable leadership of Cindy Soltys. Cindy and her team arrived on schedule on November 12 and went right to work. Working with Cindy were Lisa McCracken, Maya McCracken and friend Paige, Breanna Carini, Scott McNerny and Rob Endersbe. They took no breaks and in under three hours had 45 bags of leaves and three large tarps ready for pickup.

Thank you so much to all of you and God bless.

Robert and Susan Endersbe

O Come  
Let us  
Adore  
Him



## EPIPHANY

Please plan to celebrate Epiphany at Latrobe Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 8, 2023.

Epiphany, as you know, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. Known by some as Three Kings' Day, it commemorates the day the Magi visited the Christ Child and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles.

We will assemble in the Vogelsang Room and participate in the Great Epiphany Feast immediately following worship.

Sign-up sheets are in the back of the Sanctuary. Members of the Worship and Music Committee will be there to assist you.

The Great Epiphany Feast will be catered this year so you do not need to bring a covered dish. We hope you will find this a refreshing idea for the celebration and will want to participate. A free-will offering will be accepted at the Epiphany Dinner.



Thank You  
Notes

Thanks to my LPC family for the many cards, calls and well wishes on my 90th birthday. I have been a member at LPC for many, many years and the love and caring of this congregation gets stronger each year.

Thank you again with love, Eileen Lint



**SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER 18, 2022  
UNITY CHAPEL 7:30 PM.**

The Chancel Choir will be joined by Cello, Violin, Flute, Harp, Piano and Organ.

The gathered congregation will join in singing several hymns of the Advent and Christmas seasons.

All are welcome to this free event.

At this Christmas time, your staff members (Ann, Arlene, Connie, Dina and Michael) take this opportunity to thank the congregation of LPC for your unending support, encouragement, your friendship and everything else that makes for a great work environment. We are thankful to be associated with this great community of faithful who treat us like family. We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.





You are cordially invited to worship together at our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 pm at the Main Street Church.



*The Annual Christmas Joy Offering will be received Sunday, December 18.*

*Envelopes will be available in the pew racks or you may mail your donation to the church.*

*Thank you for your support of this benevolent program.*

January will be with us before we know it and with January comes the new Elder/Deacon classes. Below are the names of those who have accepted the call to serve on one of these committees for the next three year period.

Let's pray for them and support them as they begin their work here at LPC.

**Elder Class of 2025**

- Liz Armstrong
- Ed McKinnon
- Steve Mills
- Donna Witherspoon
- Gary Zimmerman

**Deacon Class of 2025**

- Diana Adams
- Kathy Conway
- Tessie Gleckl
- Eileen Lint
- Rebecca Parry
- Karen Stewart
- Emily Sweeney
- 1 year—Youth Rep.

With appreciation we thank those good and Faithful servants who have completed their terms.

- Patti Baird
- Lorraine Burd
- Susannah Calvo
- John Jamison
- Wylie Overly
- Lee Stewart

- Elaine Hudimac
- Jay Jamison
- Dave Knox
- Lisa McCracken
- Susan Mough
- John Squib

The Greater Latrobe Ministerial Association has a Food/Supply Pantry collection bin in the back of the Sanctuary.

**DECEMBER**

**Dish Soap**



**DECEMBER 14**

**6:00 PM**

**DENUNZIO'S ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE**



## Save the Date, LPC Members of all Ages!

Latrobe Presbyterian's members who are 80 and older will be honored

With the goal of celebrating the lives and wisdom of LPC members who are 80 and older and also learning more about them and their Christian journeys, JOY will host a catered luncheon in their honor on the afternoon of Saturday, April 29, 2023, in the Vogelsang Room. **All LPC members as well as family and friends of the honored guests are invited!** Please mark your calendars!

In preparation for the *Cheers to the Years!/80+ Birthday Party*, the JOY Steering Committee invites:

- all LPC members who are 80 and older to attend the celebration in April 2023 as honored guests of the Latrobe Presbyterian Church Family.
- We hope your family and friends will also be there to help celebrate YOU! Information about the cost of the luncheon for family and friends will be forthcoming.
- You will receive general questions we'd like you to answer so we can begin to better know you. We'd also like to schedule an interview with you and a LPC member at a convenient time and place between late November 2022 and early 2023.

Photos and a booklet that tell the stories of LPC's 80+-year-olds will be presented at the *Cheers to the Years!/80+ Birthday Party*, so start to consider which photos (up to 3) you most want to share.

Let's look forward to celebrating the lives of LPC members who are 80 and older and to developing closer bonds as a church family.



### Latrobe Presbyterian Church

### 2022 Christmas Flower Memorial Request Form

In Memory of:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: December 14, 2022**

# HOSPITALITY TABLE HOSTS



Team 10	December 4	Kent Snyder Pat Speedy Beth Ann Vreeland Jean Wright
Committee	December 11	Christian Education and Nurture
Committee	December 18	Deacons
Committee	December 25	Evangelism and Membership

## GREETER SCHEDULE

DATE                  GREETERS          USHER

<b>December 4</b>	Jim Pevarnik John Squib	IV
<b>December 11</b>	Larry Ruffner	V
<b>December 18</b>	Cindy Soltys Emily Sweeney	VI
<b>December 24 Christmas Eve</b>	Kent Snyder Linda Tito Sandy Wano	I
<b>December 25 Christmas Day</b>	Scott Balliett Lee Stewart Karen Zimmerman	II

## DECEMBER CALLING SCHEDULE

- 1 Pat Speedy
- 6 Marge Buerger
- 8 Mary Ruth Kucera
- 13 Susan Mough
- 15 Diana Kreiling
- 20 Sandy Wano
- 22 Susannah Calvo
- 27 Susan Mough
- 29 Linda Parker

I ordered a chicken through the internet  
and an egg from another site,  
....I'll let you know.

# Puzzle!

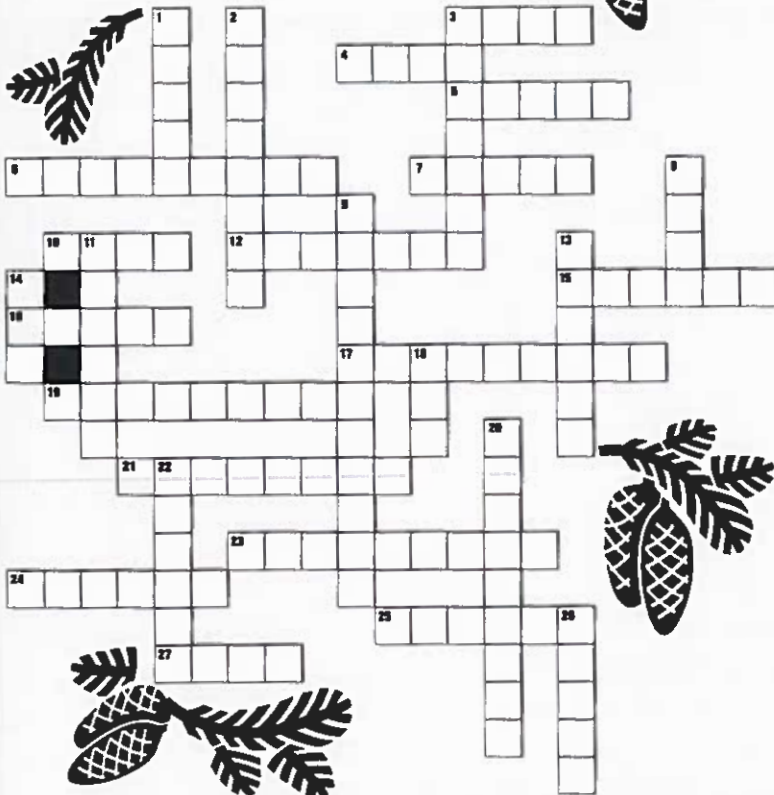
Take a break from Christmas preparations to complete this seasonal crossword.

## DOWN

1. song
2. keeper of sheep
3. Anointed One
8. a gift of the magi
9. red plants
11. coming
13. Jesus
14. 12th month (abbrev.)
18. B&B
20. a form of holly
22. heavenly messengers
26. he ordered the slaughter of the innocents

## ACROSS

3. wise men
4. author of the most famous Christmas account
5. red-suited gift-giver
6. of Ephrathah
7. presents
10. Gabriel came to her
12. has a red nose
15. "Messiah" composer
16. northern little helpers
17. patron saint of children
19. made flesh
21. home for Mary
23. tree decorations
24. crib
25. he was a carpenter
27. a nova



Answer: DOWN 1. carol, 2. shepherd, 3. Messiah, 8. gold, 9. poinsettias, 11. Advent, 13. Christ, 14. dec, 18. inn, 20. mistletoe, 22. angels, 26. Herod; ACROSS 3. magi, 4. Luke, 5. Santa, 6. Bethlehem, 7. gifts, 10. Mary, 12. Rudolph, 15. Handel, 16. elves, 17. Saint Nick, 19. incarnate, 21. Nazareth, 23. ornaments, 24. manger, 25. Joseph, 27. star

## A COLLABORATION ACROSS TIME AND PLACE

For Christmas Day worship, many churches use Psalm 98. It is fitting, then, that Isaac Watts, who interpreted 132 psalms as hymn texts, based a now-beloved carol on it.

Watts (1674-1748) was a student of language, religion and philosophy. He wanted to make Scripture more relevant to lay people and thought hymns could help. Watts composed more than 600 hymn texts, many still in use. But Psalm 98:4-9, "Joy to the World," needed music to fit its words.

Enter Lowell Mason (1792-1872), an American choir director. He came across Watts' Psalm 98 hymn text and sought inspiration for a melody from the famous oratorio *Messiah* by George F. Handel (1685-1759). Mason pulled musical phrases from sections of Handel's work, resulting in the tune we now recognize as "Joy to the World."

So it is that three men who lived across three centuries and never met — along with the composer of the original psalm more than two millennia earlier — together produced a hymn to the Christ-child, which millions have sung and continue to love.



"The Lord is coming, always coming. ... Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord."

Henri Nouwen

**Latrobe Presbyterian Church**  
428 Main Street  
Latrobe PA 15650

**Non-Profit Organization**  
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**Permit #91**  
**Latrobe, PA**

**DATED MATERIAL-DO NOT DELAY**



**CANDLE**—The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning. Many churches have a candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve, often at midnight.

**The MAINStream** is the Newsletter of Latrobe Presbyterian Church located on Main Street at the top of downtown Latrobe. Parking is beside the church, one block west off Depot St. Office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am to Noon and 1 pm to 4:00 pm. Voicemail is available when the office is closed.

Every Sunday from September through May we offer Christian Education for Adults at 9:30 am and children at 9:45 am, Worship at 11 am at Main Street and child care is provided.

During the summer (June through August) we worship at 8:30 am at Unity Chapel and 11:00 am at Main Street.

To our **RADIO** listeners, our worship service may be heard on **98.7 FM, 910WXJX AM or 1480 AM** on your radio as well as **thisisgold.net** each Sunday morning. To **VIEW** the service, our service is livestreamed on Facebook live at Latrobe Presbyterian Church.

You may connect through our website by choosing **SERMONS** under the **WORSHIP** tab and then clicking **View Livestream on Recording**.

**Our Pastor is**  
**Rev. Derek Campbell** at  
[pastorderek@latrobepec.org](mailto:pastorderek@latrobepec.org)

Our Director of Music and Organist is:  
**Michael Long** at  
[music@latrobepec.org](mailto:music@latrobepec.org)

Our **Main Office** may be contacted at  
[office@latrobepec.org](mailto:office@latrobepec.org)

Questions and information about **Financial Support:**  
[financialsecretary@latrobepec.org](mailto:financialsecretary@latrobepec.org)

Bulletins, maps, and information are available at [www.latrobepec.org](http://www.latrobepec.org) or by phone at 724-537-3631

We are a part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a church in Redstone Presbytery.