

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF  
December 22, 2024 – December 28, 2024**

**SUNDAY**

**8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament; Crary Chapel**  
**8:45 AM Fellowship; Covert Room**  
**8:45 AM Class Meetings Study; Parlor A**  
**9:45 AM Prayer; Crary Chapel**  
**10:00 AM Worship Service; Sanctuary**

**MONDAY**

**6:45AM Christian Men’s Accountability Group; Covert Room**  
**8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**  
**1:00 PM Chosen Ministry; Garage**  
**3:00 PM Eagle Knights Soccer practice; Gym**  
**4:30 PM Monday Nite Meal - Team D; Founder’s Hall**

**TUESDAY**

**8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours**  
**6:45 PM Epworth Bells Warmup; Sanctuary**  
**7:00 PM Madrigals Warmup; Sanctuary**  
**7:10 PM Chancel Choir Warmup; Sanctuary**  
**7:30 PM Musical Prelude; Sanctuary**  
**8:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Service; Sanctuary**

**WEDNESDAY**

**Office Closed *Merry Christmas***

**THURSDAY**

**Office Closed**

**FRIDAY**

**Office Closed**

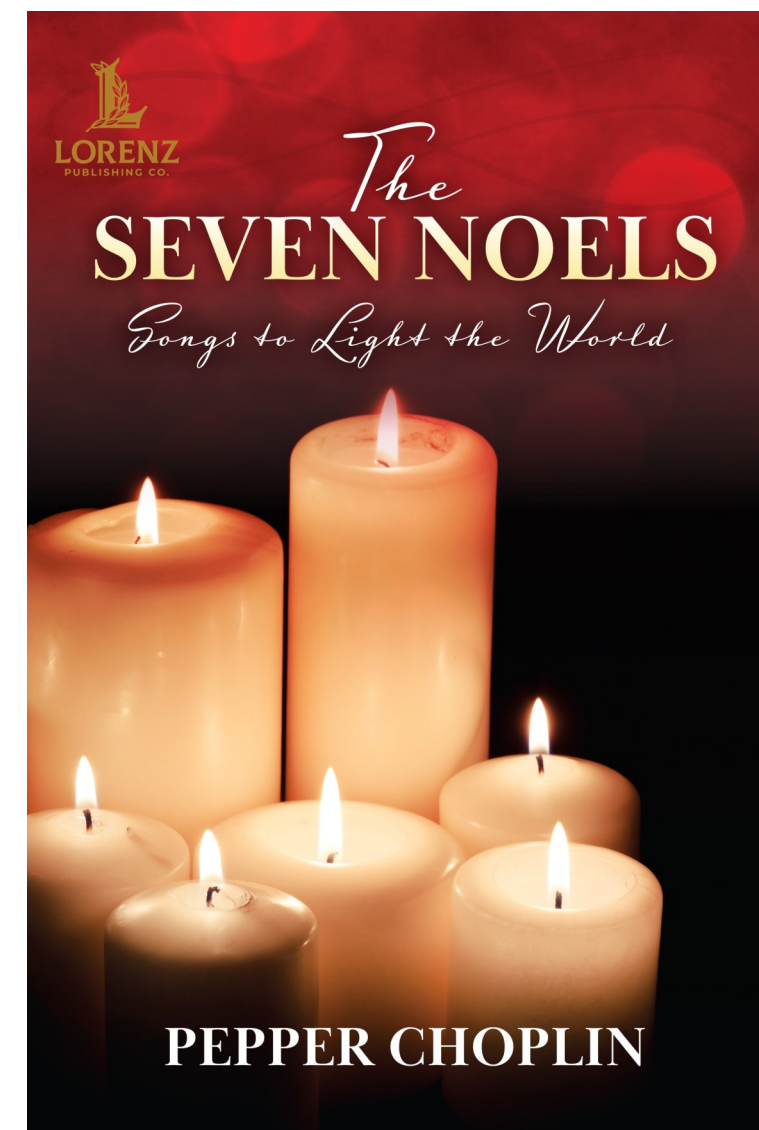
Visitation Pastor  
 Director of Music  
 Organist/Pianist  
 Pianist 8:00 AM  
 Pianist 10:00 AM  
 Flautist  
 Percussionist  
 Carillon  
 Office Manager  
 Office Assistant/Streaming Tech  
 Coordinator of Community Programs  
 Custodian  
 Acolytes  
 Front Candles:  
 Aisle Candles:  
 Liturgist  
 Usher Captain Team 2  
 Ushers

Ila Wilson

Carla Johnson  
 Patti Rublee

Rev. Mike Rutenber  
 Ruth Nelson  
 Michele Sandberg  
 Cathy Peterson  
 Zachary Nelson  
 Pat Murphy  
 David Dorn  
 Caroline Curren  
 Debbie Giambrone  
 Barbara Young  
 Heidi Ketzko  
 Bob Confer  
 Aiden Zawacki and Grant Newton  
 Lily Newton and Holden Demers  
 Bruce Parker  
 Larry Loughlin

Nick Johnson



**WARREN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH  
 Fourth Sunday of Advent - Joy  
 December 22, 2024**

Pastor **Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht**

*We are glad that you are worshipping with us at  
 First Methodist Church this morning.*

*Please SIGN AND PASS the attendance pad at the end  
 of the pew. If you are visiting with us, we would  
 especially appreciate having your name, address, and  
 phone number because we would like to thank you for  
 being with us.*

200 Market St.  
 Warren, PA 16365  
 814-723-4930

info@firstmwarren.org  
 www.firstmwarren.org

## Service of Word and Sacrament 8:00 AM

**PRELUDE** “In the Bleak Mid-winter” arr. Hayes

### WELCOME

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From the flurry of holiday busyness,

**People: We come longing for peace,**

Leader: Yearning for lasting joy,

**People: Hoping to find our rest in God.**

Leader: From full calendars and hectic schedules,

**People: We come to taste the Bread of Life,**

Leader: Drink the cup of blessing,

**People: Sing the songs of Advent hope.**

Leader: From the worry of our days,

**People: We come to be set free,**

Leader: Be made new,

**People: Follow the Prince of Peace, the joy of every longing heart.**

\*HYMN No. 201 “Joy to the World” Antioch

#### LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

**Holy God, if we glumly confess today that we cannot feel the joy of your presence among us in Jesus the Messiah, uncover our eyes to see the light of this fourth candle of Advent and pry open our hearts to feel the warmth of its joy. Whatever our circumstances today, O God, may we be filled inexpressibly with the divine joy of your presence. Amen.**

#### CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

##### THE LORD’S PRAYER (using sins)

*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever.*

*Amen.*

\*HYMN No. 188 “The First Noel”

**SCRIPTURE** “Luke 2:8 - 20” Pew Bible Page 933

**MESSAGE** “Hurry!” Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

#### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*HYMN No. 198 “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

#### BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** “Sing We Now of Christmas” arr. Drennan

**\* Indicates Please Stand if Able**

Please place offerings in the offertory plate as you exit the chapel.

We welcome you to share in some fellowship in the Covert Room after the service.

## Worship Service 10:00 AM

**PRELUDE** “Joy to the World” arr. Gawthrop

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” arr. Paxton

**PIANO PRELUDE** “Breath of Heaven” arr. Hayes

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**PIANO OFFERTORY** “Coventry Carol” arr. Mark Hayes

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*Doxology No. 682

\*Offertory Prayer

\*HYMN No. 191 “Angels We Have Heard on High” Gloria

**CANTATA** “The Seven Noels” Pepper Choplin

#### BENEDICTION

#### BEARING OF LIGHT

**POSTLUDE** “Good Christian Men, Rejoice and Sing” arr. Pethel

**\* Indicates Please Stand if Able**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** today are Phyllis Wright (8:00 AM) and Jeff and Jill Nordin & Caleb (10:00 AM).

**THANK YOU** to our Chancel Choir for sharing the Christmas Story through some of our favorite carols. Percussionist is David Dorn and flautist is Pat Murphy. The guest pianist this morning is Zachary Nelson.

**CONCERNS FOR THIS WEEK** ~ Marty Campbell 615 Rouse Ave., Room 7 - Memory Care, Youngsville, PA 16371 - Please consider sending her a card.

**STEWARDSHIP** ~ Please remember to turn in your pledge cards for 2025. Our pledges are down from 2024 and the Stewardship and Finance Committee ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge to support our church and the many ministries we support.

**GIRLS’ GAME NIGHT** ~ The New Year is almost here, so ladies, let's start it with a bang! Do you enjoy playing board games? Would you like a night out? Does that sound like fun? Then gather with us in the Covert Room on January 10th at 6:30 for a Girls' Game Night and let the games begin. If you're interested, please contact either Patty California at 814-688-6680 or Patty Hannold at 814-706-7768. Hope to see you there!

**USHERS** ~ We are in need of additional ushers. Our December team is short two members. Our team that just completed November is short one member. Teams serve the church as ushers 2 to 3 months of the year. If you are interested in helping in this area, please let the church office know and someone will quickly contact you.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** ~ The offering envelopes for 2025 are now available and can be found in the side hall just outside the church office.

**MAGNIFIERS** ~ The Worship Commission has purchased 2 lighted page magnifiers. Please ask an usher if you are in need of one and return to an usher following the service. We would appreciate it if you make sure the light is off. Thank you.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASSES COMING SOON!** ~ We are excited to announce that our next “New Members Class” will be starting after the first of the year. There is much happening in the life of our church and we are thrilled so many persons desire to be involved in the ministries of First Methodist Church. Beginning in mid-January we will be offering a 4 session class that will help interested persons learn more about our church, our history and how we live out our faith! All interested persons can either sign up outside the church office or contact the office during the week.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION** ~ Our church will be celebrating Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on Sunday, January 12, 2025, during the 10:00 AM worship service. This is our fourth year of recognizing those who work to protect all of us in our communities. Invitations have been sent to all those who are working in this area, inviting them to attend this worship service. We will be having a fellowship time in the parlors afterwards, and we hope you will consider attending the service and staying after to thank them for all they do to keep us safe.

**SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** – Please remember to turn in your fall grades to the church office to receive your second scholarship disbursement check.