



Open and Affirming to All

Live Nativity, Pageant & Candlelight! Join us for Christmas Eve!



Join us on **Christmas Eve** for **Worship** and a **Live Nativity**. The Live Nativity, with **manger animals to pet and enjoy**, runs from **3:30 - 7:30 pm** on Christmas Eve. **Christmas Pageant Worship** with the children's pageant begins at **4:00 pm** and **Christmas Candlelight Worship** with the **angelic music of harp and flute** begins at 6:00 pm. The harp and flute will play an extended prelude beginning at **5:45 pm**, so come early to enjoy their celestial music!

This Sunday, the day after Christmas, we will continue our Christmas celebration. It will be **Pastor Peggy's last Sunday** with us, so she is bringing the Morning Message. Come to celebrate Christ's birth and to

bid farewell to Pastor Peggy. **Worship** is at **10:00 am** in-person or on our [Live-Stream](#)



Weekly Reflection: How does the world – indeed, the universe – respond to the good news of the birth of Jesus the Christ? All things – land, and trees, and all manner of creatures – proclaim their praise to God. This event is not merely the birth of another child, which would be miracle enough, but it's more: God's blatant declaration of being present with us, with all of us, in this world, forever and ever. How do you see aspects of creation praising God? This week, how can you be present to someone who is going through a difficult time this Christmas?

GIVE



Warm Sock Drive - In conjunction with the Mental Health Association of Morris and Essex, we are doing a warm sock drive for those who are out on the streets this winter. **Please bring your donations** of warm socks (adult sizes) to the Church. The socks may be placed on our **Christmas tree outside the offices** to be delivered after

Christmas. Help those who don't have a home to live in this Christmas, to at least have warm feet.

A note from our Council President: It has been an annual tradition for many church members and friends to donate to a **holiday gift fund for the staff** of the Community Church. Some of you appreciate the opportunity to show some special thanks for their efforts via a monetary gift. This year our Senior and Associate Pastors, Director of Music, Church Office Administrator, Financial Administrator, and Sexton have worked hard to evolve our programs to meet the changing needs of you and the broader community. If you would like to contribute, you can give in a couple ways. There are specially marked envelopes in the pew rack for you to use. You can place your gift then in the offering plate along with your regular offering. You can also give via the Tithely App, choosing "Staff Gift" as the designation. Any amount you can give would be appreciated.

Give the gift of food - As many folks are not receiving a



regular paycheck, we invite you to consider donating food. The last bunch of food we dropped off at the Food Pantry in Boonton was most thankfully received. Drop off some shelf stable food this week. There's a **tub on the porch by the glass office doors** to receive what you can share.

The **Church Office** will be open just Wednesday (29) and Thursday (30) next week due to the holidays.



Thank you to all who contributed to the **Giving Tree** this year! We had a banner year and were able to give **over 60 gift cards totally over \$1200** to families and veterans through Neighborhood Houses in Morristown. Together we made many bright Christmas. Thank you for your generosity!

We depend on your continued



support of the church and its ministries. If you haven't already, please look into setting yourself up with Tithely either on the Tithely app or by using [this link](#) on your computer or phone. You might also set up automatic giving payments



through your bank's Bill pay option. **Be part of caring for our community. Send your offering today!** You can also mail a weekly check to the Church Office. It's important that we keep our programs running to support our community and to do that, we need your support.

Covid Vaccine and Booster Clinic 2021

Last Friday's **Booster Clinic**, held in conjunction with the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris and Atlantic Health, enabled **140 people** to get vaccinated! The clinic served clients of the Mental Health Association as well as the general public. We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this service to our community!

Pictured below are some of the staff of the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris who were on hand for the clinic. The gentleman in the back row is Robert Davison, the CEO of MHAEM. The second picture is Dr. Duke and Rebecca Magdon, Director of Operations at MHAEM and organizer of the clinic. At the bottom is a photo of the clinic in our Chapel in full swing.







Gingerbread Bash

Fun was had by all ages on Sunday afternoon during our 1st ever Gingerbread Bash. Groups got creative and enjoyed making their own festive nativity scenes. Thank you to everyone who participated!









COVID Safety: Current Procedures

Masks are required for all people in our building on **Sunday mornings**, regardless of vaccination status. Those who are fully **vaccinated** and are **Worship Leaders** or are **speaking to the congregation** as part of Worship, may remove their mask while they are speaking. Similarly, those who are fully vaccinated and are attending the **Fellowship Time**, may remove their masks while eating or drinking. Please **remember to put your mask back on** when done eating and before moving around.

Those who are **not fully vaccinated** are asked to **keep their masks on at all times**.

Masks are also required of all people entering the **Office section** of the Church Building, regardless of vaccination status.

Please continue to stay home if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have reason to believe that you may have the virus. Remember to keep washing your hands and to give people space.

Everyone continues to be reminded to please **be sure that your mask totally covers both your mouth and your nose** throughout Worship, especially while you are singing as that is the time you are most likely to spread any germs.

An Opportunity to Serve

If you are interested in serving as a **Greeter or Scripture Reader** on an upcoming Sunday morning, contact Jackie Bay or the Church Office (comchurch@optimum.net).

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Future Dates

2 January -	Epiphany Sunday, 10:00 am
23 January -	Children's Worship & Congregational Annual Meeting
2 March -	Ash Wednesday
10 April -	Palm Sunday
17 April -	Easter
5 June -	Pentecost Sunday & All-Church Picnic



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