



Pinelands United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Church office: 5213 Pleasant Mills Road, Sweetwater, NJ 08037

Rev. Danny Clark, Pastor

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1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

Theme: Advent

www.PinelandsUMC.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

❖ Call to Worship

Leader: Let's deck the halls with the hope of the coming King!

People: We once walked in darkness.

Leader: Now we see a great light!

People: Even in times of uncertainty

Leader: We can lift our hands in praise.

People: Let's deck the halls with hope!

❖ Gathering Hymn

#196 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Opening Prayer

Holy One, we gather this day awaiting the promise you offer to us. Turn our eyes to witness you at work among us. Remind us in places and spaces of darkness that you are light. Slow our pace and help us to ready our hearts as we continue to wait in hope for your coming glory in our world. Amen.



Candle Lighting

During the season of Advent, we make space to light candles in our churches and our homes, inviting God to dwell among us and inspire us. As we journey towards the manager, the next step may seem uncertain, but we proclaim that we trust in the unknown because we trust in the one who knows all. Today we light the candle of **HOPE**, assured by the one who goes before us and with us.

Light one purple/blue candle.

May the one who is coming inspire us to keep hoping. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

❖ Hymn of Preparation

#211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

2nd Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 29:10-16

Sermon

Deck the Halls With Hope

❖ Hymn of Reflection #227 "The Friendly Beasts"
(versus 1, 2, 4, 6)

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving page 13

The Lord's Prayer #895

Joys and Concerns of the People of God

Offering God's Tithes and Our Gifts

❖ Doxology #95

❖ Closing Hymn #203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

❖ Benediction

God bless you and not let you out of his sight.
God keep and protect you by day and by night.
Let love, understanding be yours evermore.
God's grace be with you forever more.



KEEP THEM IN PRAYER

Kathy Simpkins
 Barbara Kurowski
 Linda Hirst
 Linda Green
 Dave Dixon
 Marge Clifton
 Tom Rheault
 Anna Walker
 Denny & Joy O'Shaughnessy
 Jerry
 Sandra Allebach
 Brian Plasket
 Robin Green
 Paul Cowan
 Stephen Lister
 Ciara McCarthy Burke
 Kaitlin DeLucca (US Air Force)
 Tiernan James (US Coast Guard)
 Max Lister (US Army)

Frances Ernwood
 Wilma Brown
 Mary Jo Sheridan
 Sean Plasket
 McCartney Family
 Barbara Ford
 Margie Cochran
 David & Emily Elkin
 Denise
 Larry Acker
 Evelyn Roland
 John Allebach Sr
 Nicholas Cellini
 Deneen Wyld
 Melodee Ashby
 Courtney Warner
 Billy Cheatham (US Marines)
 Riley James (US Marines)
 Robert S.
 Little Jack



CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 3, 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ADVENT EVENTS

- Dec 3 ~ Deck the Halls with **HOPE** ~ Batsto 9 / GB 10:30 am
- Dec 3 ~ Pipe Organ Concert & Carol Sing ~ Batsto ~ 2:00 pm
- Dec 6 ~ Dinner & Study ~ Atco UMC ~ 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Dec 10 ~ Deck the Halls with **PEACE** ~ Batsto 9 / GB 10:30 a
- Dec 13 ~ Dinner & Study ~ Atco UMC ~ 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Dec 17 ~ Deck the Halls with **JOY** ~ Batsto 9 / GB 10:30 am
- Dec 20 ~ Dinner & Study ~ Atco UMC ~ 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Dec 24 ~ Deck the Halls with **LOVE** ~ One Service Batsto 10:00 am
- Dec 24 ~ Deck the Halls for Christ ~ *Christmas Eve Candlelight*
 - 5:00 pm ~ Batsto
 - 7:00 pm ~ Green Bank
 - 11:00 pm ~ Nesco
- Dec 31 ~ Deck the Halls for a Promise Fulfilled ~ Batsto 9 / GB 10:30 am

FISHING CLUB MEETS

The fishing club meets on **December 6th** (the first Wednesday of every month) at the Bridel House. All are welcome to join; invite a friend to attend.



PIPE ORGAN CONCERT / CAROL SING

Organist Charles Burrichter will be performing in Batsto Pleasant Mills Meeting House (our historic Batsto Church) **TODAY at 2:00 pm** to raise funds for Church repairs. Donations accepted will offset the cost of our new roof. Light refreshments will be available following the performance. Spread the news and invite a friend!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NJ STATE PARK POLICE TOY DROP

Next **Sunday, December 10th**, the NJ State Park Police will make their annual visit to Batsto Church to drop off toys for the annual toy drive. The arrival time is approximately **8:30 am**. Please make every effort to come out to help. Immediately following the worship service we will sort toys and begin to pack bags for the children.



GIFT / TOY DRIVE

Bring gift and toy donations to church with you on Sundays. Questions about donations call **Liz Rabush 609-412-5918**. Thank you for your help. Tags may also be picked up at Mullica Township School District. Please help if you are able. Toy and gift donations are due by Sunday, December 10th.



Behold!

Advent Dinner and Study

Come join us for a joint dinner, Bible Study, and a time of Worship for the season where we wait for the of the birth of Christ the King.

Dinner for 6:30-7:30

Worship and Study 7:30-8:30

Please bring a dish to share.

Coffee, Tea, Water, and juice provided.

Family friendly and interactive Worship and Study with

Pastor Danny Clark

Atco UMC

2128 Atco Ave

Atco NJ 08004

<i>Behold Hope!</i>	<i>November 29th</i>	<i>Mexican/ South Western</i>
<i>Behold Peace!</i>	<i>December 6th</i>	<i>Italian</i>
<i>Behold Joy!</i>	<i>December 13th</i>	<i>German</i>
<i>Behold Love!</i>	<i>December 20th</i>	<i>Casserole</i>

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS...

Pinelands United Methodist Church
Advent Invitation

HOME OF THE HISTORIC BATSTO CHURCH,
NESCO CHURCH & GREEN BANK CHURCH

SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER ~ WORSHIP

BATSTO 9:00 AM / GREEN BANK 10:30 AM

NOV 26 ~ THE WAITING WORLD

DEC 3 ~ DECK THE HALLS WITH HOPE (COMMUNION)

DEC 10 ~ DECK THE HALLS WITH PEACE

DEC 17 ~ DECK THE HALLS WITH JOY

DEC 24 ~ DECK THE HALLS WITH LOVE ~ MORNING ~ BATSTO ~ 10:00 AM

DEC 24 ~ CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE ~ CANDLELIGHT ~ BATSTO ~ 5PM

DEC 24 ~ CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE ~ CANDLELIGHT ~ GREEN BANK 7PM

DEC 24 ~ CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE ~ CANDLELIGHT ~ NESCO ~ 11PM

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITY

DEC 25 ~ HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

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You're Invited

CHRISTMAS

OPEN HOUSE ~ DEC 17

PASTOR DANNY & PASTOR ROBYN

PINELANDS UMC PARSONAGE ~ 5213 PLEASANT MILLS ROAD, HAMMONTON
DINNER & FELLOWSHIP ~ ALL ARE WELCOME
3:00 PM - 9:00 PM

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