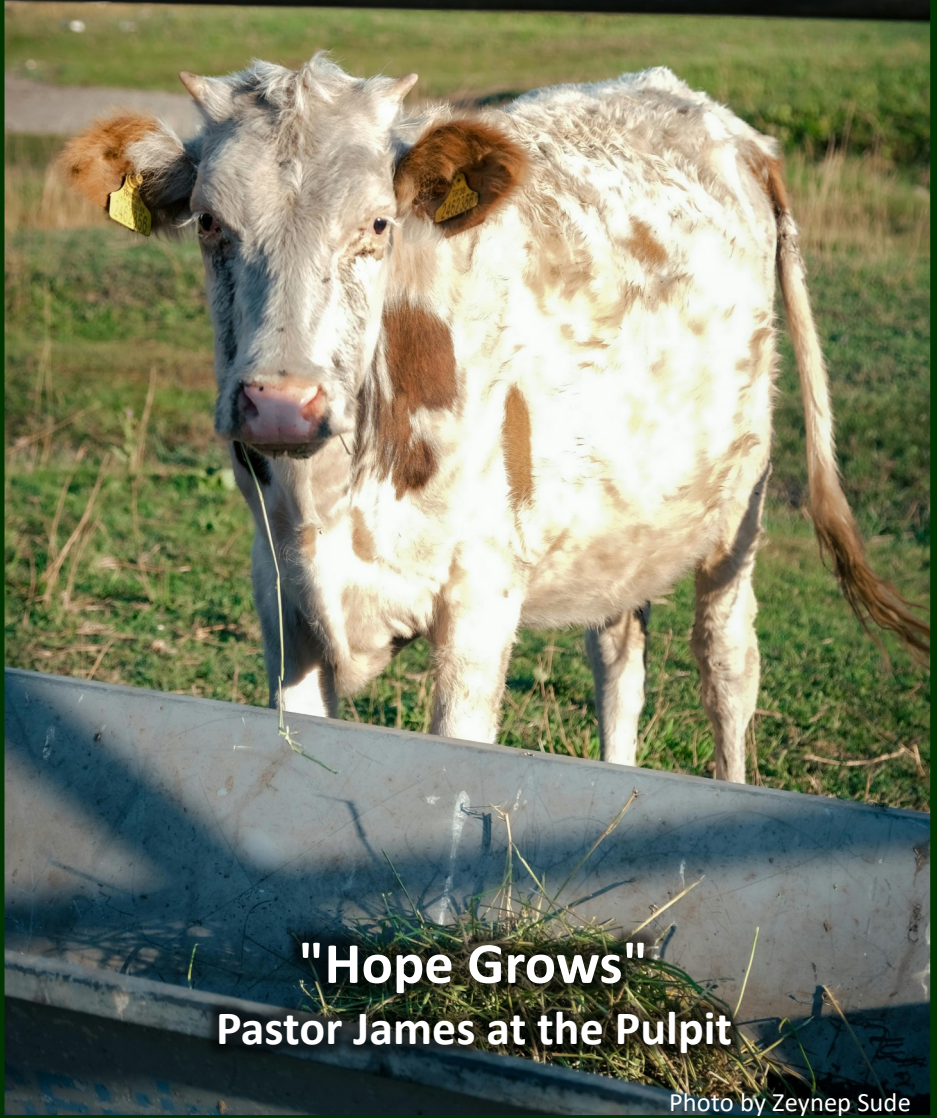


# *East Union Presbyterian Church*

December 1, 2024  
9:30am In The Sanctuary



**"Hope Grows"**  
**Pastor James at the Pulpit**

Photo by Zeynep Sude



# East Union Presbyterian Church

..... Sunday, December 1, 2024

## ..... *Compass Points*

### *Welcome To East Union Church*

We are delighted you are here! Please refer to page 11 for information about Worship Services, Christian Education and Outreach programs.

### *Communion Celebrated*

Our Table open to all. We will partake by Intinction. You will be invited to tear a chunk of bread from the loaf and dip it in the Cup (of grape juice). Elders will assist Pastors Jo and James to distribute the elements. There will be two stations. Please use the center aisle to come forward, and return to your seat by the outside aisles. You also may be served at your seat. Please motion to the pastors who will serve you at your seat after we finish serving the congregation.

### *Serving Communion To Our Homebound*

If you are unable to come to church and would like to take communion, Pastor James and an Elder are available to serve you in your home. Please contact the church office, so arrangements can be made.

### *Pastor's Terms of Call*

A Congregational Meeting will be held today, following worship, for the purpose of voting on the Terms of Call for our lead pastor, the Rev. James C. Ramsey. This brief annual meeting is required by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please join us if you can!

### **● Rummage Sale Donations ●**

We are now accepting Rummage Sale donations. All items will be stored in the Choir-Conference room. Drop off times will take place Mon-Fri from 10am-2pm. All items must be in boxes that can be stacked neatly.

Contact Carol McCaskey for larger donation items, 724-312-5656.

**The Rummage and Bake Sale will be March 7 & 8, 2025.**

(Sorry, no clothing, televisions, exercise equipment or computer screens)

# Announcements

## *Breakfast with Santa*

**Breakfast with Santa is this Saturday from 9-11am!** Bring your friends and family for a fun, festive morning!

*For our volunteers; please review all the details below:*

**Wednesday, Dec 4** from 5:00-6:00pm - Filling Gift Bags (225 of them!)

**Thursday, Dec 5** beginning at 6:00pm - Set-Up

**Saturday, Dec 7** - Kitchen and Balloon volunteers arrive at 7:00am.

All other volunteers arrive at 8:00am.

**Volunteer Parking:** Please park in the grassy areas of our lot, please **DO NOT** park in the main lot. You may also park on the side of the building or across the street by the cemetery. We need as much parking for our guests as possible.

**EAST UNION COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTS**

# BREAKFAST

*With Santa*



**JOIN US FOR:**

DELICIOUS BREAKFAST  
STORY CORNER  
FESTIVE CRAFTS  
PHOTOS WITH SANTA

*\*Donations Accepted*

**EACH CHILD IN ATTENDANCE RECEIVES A SPECIAL TREAT BAG FROM SANTA!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 | 9-11 AM**

292 East Union Rd Cheswick, PA 15024  
[www.eastunionchurch.org](http://www.eastunionchurch.org) | 724.265.1381

# Announcements

## *Holiday Babysitting!*

Mark your calendars for December 14 from 4-8pm. Have last minute shopping to do? Maybe you need to wrap presents? Either way, bring your kiddos to East Union for our Youth and Parent volunteers to entertain them! This is a fundraiser for our Youth Mission Trip to North Carolina in June 2025. **There is an RSVP on our website, you can find it under the Events.** We are capping this at 40 kids. Don't delay! All parent volunteers have valid clearances on file in the church office.

## *Adventure Bibles*

Each year, it is our tradition to gift our second graders with Adventure Bibles during our worship service. This year we will have this special presentation during the Advent Season! If you have a child who is older than second grade and has not already received a Bible, please let Pastor Jo know. We love to share God's Word!

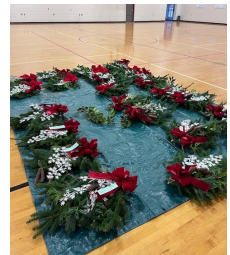
You can also sponsor a Bible for our children! Each Bible is \$17.00 and you can specify Bible sponsor on your donation.

## *Zroni Roll Pick Up*

Reminder that pick up for Zroni Rolls will be in the EUCC from 5:00-6:00pm on December 4th. If you are unable to pick up at this time or prefer to pick them up when you volunteer for Santa Breakfast, that is fine. They come frozen, just let Katie or Mindy know.

## *Christmas Swags*

Thank you to all who purchased the Swags from our Women's Ministry Team. They sold 47 total swags which means, they will be able to provide 47 Care Baskets to the women and children who seek shelter at the Hope Center.



# Join Us This Advent 2024

## FROM THE MANGER



Hunger is a universal human experience—reminding of our most basic needs for food and nourishment for our bodies, as well as of our more complex needs for peace and meaning in our lives. It’s no wonder that the story of Jesus—the one who came to feed the hungry—begins, ends, and centers around food.

Join us this season, as we reflect on the life-sustaining Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that Jesus brings and explore how the Baby born in Bethlehem continues to feed us, and a hungry world, today.

### Worship With Us

*Sundays in the Sanctuary at 9:30am*

**HOPE GROWS** ~ December 1 ~ Communion

**PEACE GROWS** ~ December 8

**JOY GROWS** ~ December 15 ~ **Christmas Pageant** in the EUCC

**LOVE GROWS** ~ December 22—**Ugly Christmas Sweater Day**

**GOOD NEWS HAS COME** ~ Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve at 7pm

Guest Preacher Noble Ramsey ~ December 29

**EPIPHANY** ~ January 5 ~ Communion

### Celebrate With Us

Breakfast with Santa ~ Saturday, December 7 from 9-11am in the EUCC

Deacons’ Seniors Luncheon ~ Sunday, December 8 in the EUCC

Night Out Youth Group Babysitting ~ Saturday, December 14 from  
4pm-8pm in Kennedy Hall

Youth Group Lock-In ~ 8pm, Friday, December 20--7am, Saturday, December 21

### Grow With Us

*Listen to...*

**Advent Song – “From The Manger” on Spotify**

**Weekly Advent Devotional Podcast and Online Devotionals**

*Everything Advent 2024 can be found on our website. Due to copyrights, we are required to have this information password protected as this information is only intended for members of our congregation. The password to access is 1234.*

# Worship Service

Sunday, December 1, 2024 • 9:30am in the Community Center

All lyrics projected on the screen



Prelude

*From The Manger*

Gathering and Welcome

Call to Worship

Lighting Of the Advent Wreath

*The Parise Family*

\* Congregational Song

*From The Manger*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Confessional Song

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Assurance of Pardon

\* Passing of the Peace

Children's Chat

*Following the Congregational Song, children are invited to take a Worship Tote and library book to their seats; the totes include coloring books and a snack. We also offer a KidsZone in the Sanctuary for little ones (and parents) with toys, puzzles and books. Our Sunday School Hallway, features a Children's Library, in the Blue Room, while the Orange Room is filled with toys.*

Scripture Readings:

**Luke 2:7**

**Matthew 14:13-21**

**Sermon**

**"Hope Grows"**

**Pastor James**

**\*All who are able, please stand**

\* Congregational Song

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Sacrament of Communion

Announcements

Offering

*Thank you for your generous financial contributions which support East Union Church, our ministries and missions. The Offering Plate will be passed. (We also accept Venmo for donations, you can scan this QR code or set up online donations at our church website. Call the church office...Mindy can help!)*



\* Congregational Song

*Mary, Did You Know?*

Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

*Mary, Did You Know?*

## *Share Your Prayers With East Union Through Advent*

This Advent, you will find an Advent Wreath Prayer Board in our Narthex, and on our Facebook page!

Even as we prepare to welcome the Christ Child once again this Christmas, our hearts are filled with joys and concerns--large and small.

You are encouraged to share your prayers of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love using the pink and purple sticky notes (or in the comment section online.)

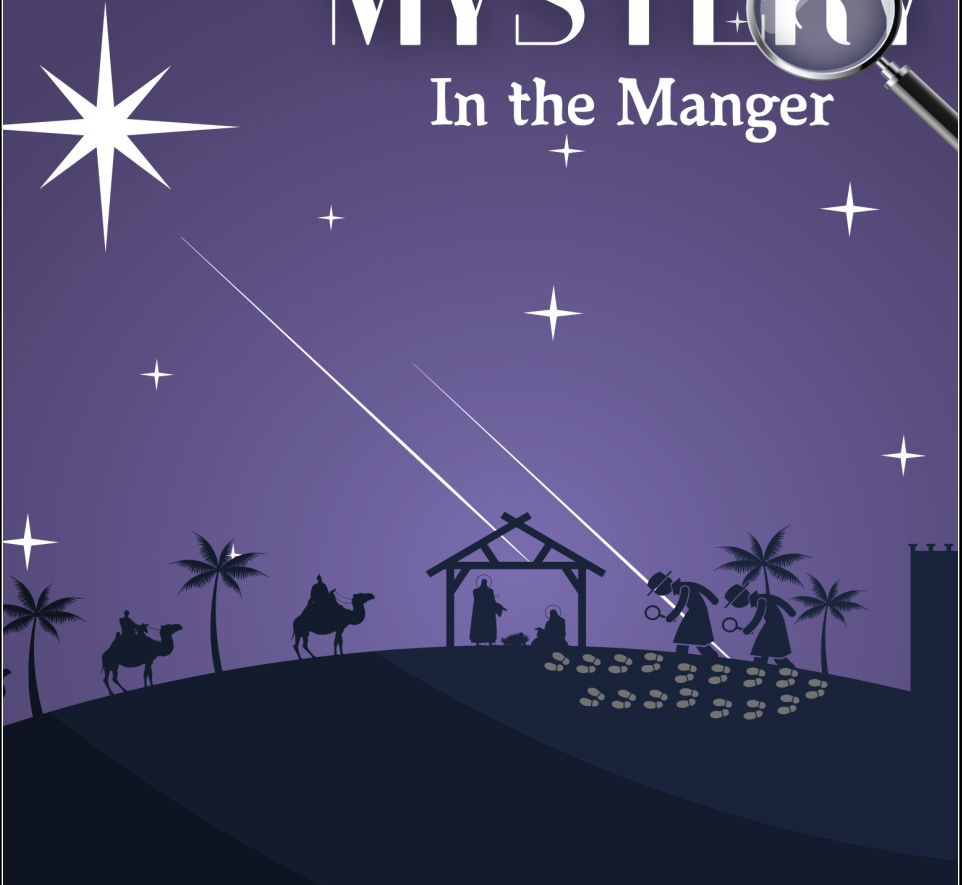
We are hoping to have all of the "white space" filled with prayers by our Christmas Eve service!



# Announcements

# MYSTERY

## In the Manger



**Date:** December 15, 2024

**Time:** 9:30am

**Location:** EUCC

**Prepared By:** Rev. Jo Ramsey

**Reporting Officer:** God

**Case No:** 12-25-00-BC

**Summary:** A Christmas Who-Dunnit?!

**Children's Practices:** During Sunday School today, as well as December 8

**Youth Practices:** Today, December 1 @ 10:45 am with the children and  
at Youth Group on December 8 @ 6:30-8pm

**Sets** - Thursday, December 12 from 5:30-8:30 with Potluck Dinner

**Dress Rehearsal** - Friday, December 13 from 5:30-8:30pm with Pizza Dinner



# Joys, Concerns & Prayer Requests

## In Our Prayers

(To include someone on the prayer list, please call the church office)

**In Mission:** Allie Gray (Guatemala)

**Care Facility:** Emily Allison (Harmar Village)  
Karen Klemmensen (Quality Life Services of Grove City)  
Joann Peterson (Atria's Senior Living, McCandless)  
Bob Fyala (Montefiore Hospital)  
Jan Fyala (Passavant Hospital)

**Home Care:** Joan Kozub Jim & Jeanne Walter Bonnie Braun

• • • • •  
*East Union Birthdays*  
• • • • •

Bonnie Braun (12/2)

James Vanderschaaff (12/04)

Marlee McCarty (12/06)

Jessica Mickail (12/08)

Samantha Vresh (12/2)

Larry Rommes IV (12/05)

Debby Tahon (12/06)

Mike Plummer (12/08)

**Contact Deacon Of The Month For Deacons Care Ministry**  
**Rachel Hetrick - 412-708-5238**

**Prayer Requests...** To initiate your prayer request or join the Cloud, contact: Carol McCaskey (724-312-5656 / camc@consolidated.net) or Teresa Williams (412-613- 4375/ dlms@verizon.net.)

**You Are Not Alone** — Your pastors are here for you! If you need support, assistance or prayer... If you have questions about who God is and how to grow in your faith... If you are struggling with grief, anxiety or depression... If addiction or conflict is affecting your relationships... We care about you...in body, mind and spirit! Please contact the church office or email the pastors to schedule a confidential visit. In case of an emergency, Pastor James can be reached at 724-681-5672.

**Also available to provide information and support:**

Samaritan Counseling Center.....(412) 741-7430

Hope Center (Abuse and/or Domestic Violence)(888) 299-4673

ReSolve Crisis Services.....1-888-7YOU-CAN (796-8226)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.....**988** or 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

National Substance Abuse Hotline.....1-800-662-HELP (4357)

# *The Week At A Glance*

## **Sunday, December 1 – December 8, 2024**

- Today:** **First Sunday of Advent-Communion**  
9:30am - Worship (Sanctuary)  
10:45am - Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)  
10:45am - Pageant Practice Children/Youth (Founders' Chapel)
- Monday:** 9:00am - Strength & Stretching - Open To All (EUCC)  
7:30-9:00pm - Adult Basketball - Open To All (EUCC)
- Tuesday:** **Compass Points Deadline**  
6:00-8:00pm - Private Reservation (EUCC)  
8:00-9:15pm - Deer Lakes Sobriety Meeting (Lounge)
- Wednesday:** 10:00am- Staff Meeting  
5:00-6:00pm - Zroni Roll Pick Up; Stuff Santa Gift Bags (EUCC)  
6:00pm - Girl Scouts (Discovery Classroom)  
6:00-9:00pm - DL Basketball (EUCC)  
6:00-8:00pm - Tae Kwon Do (Kennedy Hall)
- Thursday:** 6:00pm - Santa Breakfast Set-Up (EUCC)
- Friday:** **EUCC Closed**
- Saturday:** 9:00-11:00am - Santa Breakfast (EUCC)  
2:00-4:00pm - Private Reservation (Kennedy Hall)
- Next Sunday:** **Second Sunday of Advent**  
9:30am - Worship (Sanctuary)  
10:45am - Children's Pageant Practice (Discovery Room)  
11:30am - Deacons' Senior Christmas Luncheon (EUCC)  
6:30-8:00pm - Youth Group Pageant Practice (The Spot)

***To reserve any part of the church building or grounds,  
contact the church office 724.265.1381***

### ***Build Your Legacy with a Planned Gift***

Making a planned gift enables you to build a meaningful legacy while maintaining control of your finances. By including East Union Church in your estate plan, your generosity advances our mission and ministries, and extends the Good News of God's love into our community and beyond—now and in the future! If you have questions on how to get started please reach out to the church office at 724.265.1381.

### ***Per Capita Reminder!***

With only a couple weeks left of 2024, we want to remind everyone to please cover their per capita fee for 2024. The fee is 36.35. Per Capita can be paid online or by specifying 'per capita' on your contribution envelope.



# East Union Presbyterian Church A Church With Direction

## *A Warm Welcome Is Extended To Our Guests!*

What a pleasure to have you worship with us this morning! Please take a moment to fill out our Connection Card, available at the Welcome Table, and return it in the offering plate or Connection Card box. (We respect your privacy and do not share this information.) Please know that you are invited to participate in all of our activities and events.



## *Worship Schedule.* Sundays at 9:30am in the Sanctuary.

Weekly Services are **broadcast on YouTubeLive**. Directions are available at our website and on our Welcome Table.

(If you have trouble hearing and would like a printed copy of the sermon to follow along in worship, please contact Pastor James. )

## *Youth Group*



Teens, 6th–12th grade, are invited to Youth Group! Meeting notices and event details will be sent out through TeamSnap. Contact the Church Office or Frank McCoy to have your name added to the contact list.

## *Sunday School*



Sunday School for Children and Adults is offered most Sundays. Classes meet after worship from 10:45—11:30am

**Save the Date! VBS is scheduled for June 16-20, 2025!**

## *Women's Ministry*



All ladies are welcome to participate in our events, Bible Studies, Annual Retreat and Book Club. Please call or text Teresa Williams (412.613.4375) to have your email added to the WM's email list.

## *Facebook & Instagram*



Like and Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on all the happenings here at East Union Church!

## *Clearances*



PA State Law requires East Union to maintain a file of current PA Criminal and Child Abuse Clearances for all adults, age 21 and older, who have contact with children without their parents present. Clearances are free, easy to obtain online and last for 5 years. Please make sure yours are up-to-date. If you need help, please contact Mindy or Pastor Jo.

# East Union Presbyterian Church

292 East Union Road, Cheswick, PA 15024

Church Telephone: 724-265-1381

Website: [www.EastUnionChurch.org](http://www.EastUnionChurch.org)

Email address: [EastUnion@EastUnionChurch.org](mailto:EastUnion@EastUnionChurch.org)

Rev. James C. Ramsey.....	Pastor / Head of Staff
Rev. Jo Ramsey .....	Associate Pastor of Family Life
Frank McCoy .....	Youth Director
Mindy Young.....	Admin/Financial Secretary & Walnut Woods Director
John H. Burk, Jr.....	Treasurer
Colleen Zaremski .....	Deer Lakes Nursery School
Mike & Stephanie McCormick .....	Housekeeping/Maintenance

## Ministry Teams & Committees 2024

Administration & Staff .....	Gail Stotlemeyer
Christian Education .....	Pastor Jo
Christian Growth & Membership .....	Pastor James
Mission .....	Doug Blinn
Women's Ministry .....	Teresa Williams, Sue Vresh
Worship .....	Carol McCaskey
Nominating Committee .....	Carol McCaskey
Cemetery Committee .....	Joe Williams
Revenue Advisory Team .....	Dana Wangler

## Session

John Burk	Carol McCaskey, Clerk	Jared Hawk
Keith Russell	Doug Blinn	Todd Shaw
Dawn Spence	Gail Stotlemeyer	Lori Crawford
Teresa Williams	Marcia Cook	Patty Martinez
Vicki Callender	Jessica Mickail	Wanda Blackwell

## Board of Deacons

Bonnie Braun	Heather Rusek	Hannah Runas
Bree Hansen	Janet Wangler	Rita Michel
Jan Blinn	Rachel Hetrick	Kristin Parise
	Shari Smallwood, Moderator	Janet Volkman

## Board of Trustees

Tom Crawford	Joe Andrie	Carol Bock
William Runas	Matt Forsman	Lori Butler
Rich Rusek	Bill Maher	Mary Runas
Kevin Vresh	Tom Wagner	Keith Tarbi