

# The First Church of the Brethren

## Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania

### December 3, 2023

On this first day of Advent, Lord, I am eager for your coming — at Christmas, at the end of time and in the present moment. Amen.

Community Greeting

Welcome & Announcements

Enter the Light of Christ                      *"While we are Waiting, Come*

Chancel Choir              *The Coming of the Lord/ While we are waiting*

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

Earl & Becky Bryson and family

\*A Litany of the Greens

Kaye Russell

One: How can we remind ourselves that Jesus, the King  
humbled himself to become one of us?

**All: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

One: How shall we prepare this house to remind us that  
Jesus, the eternal Christ is here with us now?

**All: With garlands of wreaths of pine and fir, whose  
leaves are ever living and green.**

One: How shall we prepare this house to celebrate that  
Jesus is coming again?

**All: With arrangements of holy and ivy, symbolizing  
His passion, death and resurrection.**

One: How shall we prepare this house as an  
encouragement and reminder of all He is for us?

**All: By hearing again the words of the prophets who  
foretold the saving work of God.**

One: For God did not send His Son into the world to  
condemn the world, but that the world through Him  
might be saved yesterday, today and tomorrow.

**All: All Glory to God in the Highest.**

\*Invocation

\*Hymn # 178

*Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus*

Children's Story

Betsy Garach

*(Children ages Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are invited to attend  
Children's Church)*

Wreaths and Garland

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The Manger

Luke 2:6-7

Hymn

*Away in a Manger*

Screen

Tree Lighting

John 1:1-5, 9-14

Singing of Carols

Psalms 96 1-4, 6

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

The First Noel

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Scripture

Mark 13:24-37

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David A. Crumrine

So. What Exactly Does Hope Look Like?

Offertory Thought

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Closing Hymn # 210

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Slate Affirmation

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

**Bold print indicates congregational response.**

## Living out our Faith

Vision Being the hands and feet of Jesus,  
serving with open minds and hearts.

Mission We exist to be a community of welcome  
and worship where people find peace,  
purpose, and power through Jesus Christ.

### Serving Today

### Serving next Sunday

Candlelighter	Youth	Youth
Organist	Terry Hershberger	
Pianist	Cathy Petre	Brenda Fluke-Garber
Worship Leader	Kaye Russell	Kaye Russell
Storyteller	Betsy Garach	Betsy Garach
Children's Church	Jodie & Terry Dellinger	Janie Myers Jaden Myers
Advent Readers	Earl Bryson Family	Zach Croft family
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Nursery		
Parking Lot Greeter		Earl Bryson
Greeters	Don Bookhammer	Don Bookhammer
Deacon Greeters	Soug & Brenda Garber	Doug & Brenda Garber
Head Ushers: Dave Brumbaugh, J D Barry, Pat Frazier Worship Coordinator & Choir Director: Terry Hershberger Chancel Choir Accompanist: Cathy Petre <b>Officiant: Rev. Dr. David A. Crumrine</b>		

### Weekly Stewardship Report

November 26, 2023	Attendance	Offering
Worship	115	\$ 5,768.00
Sunday School	80	\$ 42.00

### Income / Expense through November 26, 2023

Actual Income	\$ 247,995.60
Budget Income	\$ 236,243.08
Actual Expense	\$ 246,142.09

**The altar flowers** are given in memory of Sarah Hoover by her family.

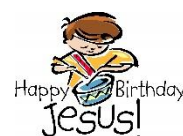
**The bulletins** are given in loving memory of Duane Snyder by Krista Snyder.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please include in your prayers:** Joyce Mock, Barbara Roush, Tom Sell, Bill & Carolyn Grubb, Nancy Mobley, Fred Beers, Dorothy Holsinger, Sharlene Wood, Dan Emerick, John Coates, Eric Thompson, Pat Dick, first responders, those affected by natural disasters, those with health concerns, our church family.

**Please sign the Friendship Attendance Register** located at the end of each pew, including any **changes** to address, email or telephone numbers. New attenders may include their information when they feel comfortable to do so. This enables us to keep our records updated as to who is an active member/attender.

**The Youth will once again** be helping elves and sort the Christmas cards that you wish to send to the regular attendees. We will have our box in the welcome center for cards through December 17.



**Come celebrate Jesus' Birthday** with a party on Wednesday December 20th from 6 – 8 pm in the fellowship hall. Refreshments and cake will be served. Come and play some party games.

Want to bring a present? We are asking for baby cereal, wipes, diapers, etc or items to fill boxes for the Jared Project. Find the list of items at the Welcome Center. Questions contact Mindy Wagner.

**Childrens Christmas Skit** will be Wednesday December 20th at 6pm in the Sanctuary. Practice will be during a combined Sunday School Class December 3rd, 10th and 17<sup>th</sup>

**Poinsettia order forms** are available at the Welcome Center.

**December 3 - 10, 2023**

Today	9:25 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Sunday School
	11:45 am	Deacon Prayer Gathering
	6:30 pm	Hymn Sing
Monday	6 pm	BDM Christmas Dinner
Tuesday	9:30 am	Bible Study
	6 pm	Leadership Team Meeting
Wednesday	9 am	Ladies Aid Quilting
	1 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parlor
	5:45 pm	ReCharge
	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Practice
Thursday	9 am	Bulletin Announcement deadline
	9 am	Breakfast Fellowship / Spring House
	6:30 pm	Knitting in Parlor
Sunday		Food Bank Collection
	9:25 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Fellowship Time
	10:30 am	Sunday School



This evening at 6:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall

All voices welcome.

We will be singing Christmas songs and carols.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors.



December 14 at 10 am

J O Y Christmas Social

All those 55 and older are encouraged to join us for food and fun. We play some games, share some food, sing some songs and fellowship. Please sign up at the Welcome Center so we know how many to prepare for.



December 24 at 7 pm

Christmas Eve Service



### A GOOD GRIEF Christmas opportunity

**The monthly gathering of good grief** will be held on Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM. We will join together in the parlor as we continue to bring comfort and support to one another in our journeys of finding a new sense of peace and purpose,

especially as the Christmas season is about us. If your heart is grieving over a loss, recent or otherwise, please pray about attending this informal support group. If you have questions, please speak with either Pastor Dave or Kaye Russell.

### 2023 – 2024 Sunday School Classes

Class	Location	Class	Location
Nursery	Room 202	Generation Hope	Room 506
K – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Room 201	Genesis	Room 406
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 405	Alpha	Room 402
Junior High	Room 504	Living Faith	Room 301
Senior High	Room 502		



**This year's Giving Tree** will be dedicated to giving gifts of food and hygiene items to our local food banks. Please place your donations under the tree during these weeks of Advent, through December 24. If you prefer to donate money, please give your financial gift to a Mission & Service Team member and a paper ornament will be placed on the tree with the amount given (without names). Thank you for sharing.

~ Mission & Service Team (Don Bookhammer, Bobbi Beers, Sandy Burket, Marlys Hershberger, Darlene Wyland)



**We have been asked to provide cookies** for the Angel Tree Gifts that are handed out.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center with your name and how many dozen cookies you are willing to provide. They need to be placed in the Alpha Classroom no later than 6 pm, Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please come to the Alpha Classroom at 6 pm December 12<sup>th</sup> and help us sort them. Linda Steele will be happy to answer any questions.

**White Gift Christmas Offering** envelopes may be found at the Welcome Center and from the rack near the rear door entrance and may be turned in anytime.



**December 31**

**11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall**

**Brethren Brass will perform free Christmas Concerts at 7 pm**



December 7, 2023 at Hollidaysburg COB

December 11, 2023 at Woodbury COB  
The public is invited to attend. A love offering will be collected to support the Middle PA District Churches of the Brethren.