



*Celebration
of Epiphany*

January 1, 2012



St. John's
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Red Lion, Pennsylvania



Epiphany—January 1, 2012

The Service of Worship with the Sacrament of Communion—10:15 a.m.

The altar flowers are placed in memory of my father, Jesse Saylor, presented by Stan Saylor.

We Gather Together to Worship

Some Instructions for Worship:

The worship leader speaks words in italics

The people speak words in boldface print

The asterisk (*) indicates worshippers will stand together in God's Presence, if able.

THE PRELUDE

Please avoid visiting after The Prelude begins
that by your silence others may hear the still, small voice of God.

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

THE CHORAL INTROIT

*Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts of fire.
Flow, river, flow flood the nations with love and mercy;
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!*

THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Arise, shine, for your light has come.
A new year is born,
Arise, shine, for your light has come.
On every path we take,
Arise, shine, for your light has come,
Through all we say and do,*

**Wake up! A new day is dawning,
Fresh and clean.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
No matter who we are or where we go.
For now we reflect God's Glory,
Let our voices join together to sing God's praise!**

***THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Arise, Your Light Is Come
The New Century Hymnal #164

***THE UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God of Glory, we come to you groping in the darkness, searching for a way out. Open our eyes so that we might receive guidance through your son, Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World. Open our minds and challenge our hearts as we experience your glory. Then shine on our pathway as we step out in new directions. Amen.

THE WORDS OF WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Please sign and pass the ivory colored Fellowship Register found on the aisle seats,
If you are a visitor, please sign a welcome card and let that be your offering to us this day!

We Listen to God's Word

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Following the Children's Message, children between the ages of 4 & 10, move to the Kindergarten Room for song, lesson, "concerns," and prayer.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word
Thanks be to God!

Isaiah 60:1-6

THE GOSPEL LESSON

God is still Speaking.
Spread the Word!

Matthew 2:1-12

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

We Three Kings

On insert

A LITANY OF PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY

God of Gold, we seek your Glory.

Your richness transforms our drab existence into a colorful palette of possibilities; you brighten our dull sensitivities with your vibrant light.

God of incense, we offer you our prayers.

Your spirit touches our spirit in a mysterious conversation we call prayer. Touch us again with your love.

God of myrrh, we call out to you in our trials,

You know the pain of rejection and the sorrow of betrayal. Come to us in our suffering that we might experience your healing again.

God of eternal hope, you place a light into every darkness and a star in every sky, and yet we prefer to walk in the darkness of despair and worry.

We cover over the light of possibility with a flurry of worry. We walk bent over with care and concern and miss the reach of the stars.

We fear the worst and distrust the best. We forge ahead on our own, not noticing your outstretched hand.

Shine on, O God, in splendor and in glory and let our attention be claimed by what you have to show us.

Give us eyes to see and ears to hear; let us know your action at our places of work, at our kitchen tables and in the prayers we say at night before we sleep.

Let us not be ashamed of the light you are shining into our lives. Instead, shine forth - and make us light and bright, like you. Amen.

THE ANTHEM

Lift Your Light

The Chancel Choir

THE MORNING MESSAGE

We Respond to God's Word

THE OFFERTORY INVITATION

On entering the house, the magi knelt down and paid Jesus homage, opening their treasures before him, offering him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Like those of old, let us present our gifts to the One who is born among us!

THE OFFERTORY

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE AND PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

What can I give him poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

What can I give him: give him my heart.

THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Divine Light, illuminating our shadows and darkness, we turn to you in hope and fear. We long to be freed from times of bewildering darkness, when depression and despair haunt our days and perplex our nights. We hope for clear answers and readily marked paths. Yet we fear your refiner's fire that illumines our bad choices, our cautious spirits, our angry hearts. When you look deep, we feel shame for what we have done and for the things we have left undone.

Loving God, Healing Light, remind us that you desire not our punishment, but our salvation. Your light is gracious and brings insight and renewal, hope and blessing. Restore our courage and make us your light for others. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD & THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(sung during the distribution of the bread)

Lord, the light or your love is shining,

In the midst of the darkness shining,

Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,

Set us free by the truth you now bring us,

Shine on me. Shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;

Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts of fire.

Flow, river, flow flood the nations with love and mercy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

THE SHARING OF THE CUP & THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(sung during the distribution of the cup)

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,

So our faces display your likeness;

Ever changing from glory to glory,

Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me. Shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;

Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts of fire.

Flow, river, flow flood the nations with love and mercy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

*THE BENEDICTION & THE POSTLUDE

Church Office Information

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Church Telephone

244-5031

Pastor's Telephone

515-5731

Assistant Pastor's Telephone

603-340-3187

St. John's Website

www.stjohns-ucc.com

E-mail: stjohsuccredlion@verizon.net

Church Ministry Staff

Pastor: David D. Tietje

Pastor Emeritus: Thomas M. Burns, Jr.

Assistant Pastor: Brian Percy

Director of Music: Lee M. Shaull

Preschool Director: Mary Zambito

Church Support Staff

Custodians: Jan and Barb Kehr

Preschool Assistant: Mary Barshinger

Administrative Assistant: Wendy Tompkins

Bookkeeper & Treasurer: Rob Willhite

Weekly Calendar

Today, Sunday, January 1, 2011: Epiphany (observed)

New Year's Day

No Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Service of Worship with Chancel Choir and
the Sacrament of Communion

Activities This Week:

Monday	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday	Preschool Resumes
	7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship
	"Experiencing God" Study Group
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Thursday	6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
Friday-	Epiphany Annual Reports Due in Office

Next Sunday, January 8, 2011: Baptism of Our Lord

With the Sacrament of Baptism and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Service of Worship with the Sacrament of Baptism and
Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Serving Us Today

Greeters: Keith Bortner, Ethan Detweiler, Gwen King, Steve Vaclavik

Ushers:

Acolytes: Emily Moose and Jennifer Nowicki

Lay Reader: Jan Kehr

Children's Church: Kristina Jacoby, Olivia Uberti and Ethan Detweiler

Children's Message: Pastor David

Nursery: Tammy Poff and Carolyn Markel

Sound Technician: Chad Jacoby

Accounting: Brian & Barb Doll, Ruthann Young, Glenn & Linda Shaffer

Prayer Needs

Each Sunday's bulletin lists individuals in need of special prayer support. Please communicate your prayer concerns to the Pastors or the Prayer Chain by using the "*Prayer Request*" cards in the pew racks.

Prayer Needs: Annabelle Diffenbaugh, Frank Klein, Shirley Meads, Ed Shanabrough, Suzanne Snyder, Pauline Yohe, Robin Leaming and Eugene Turlington (friends of Patricia Ferraris O'Neill), Rocky Davis (friend of John Langley, in need of heart transplant)

Serving in the Military: Dan Hannigan (Army– Fort Campbell, KY); Jim Pritchard (MdNG); Joshua Pritchard (Army-USA); Brant Seibert (Navy-USA)—grandson of Bob and Mary McFarland; and Kyle Smith (Army-USA)—grandson of Art and Ann Herrold; Schuyler Thompson (Navy-Hawaii) and Adam Tietje (Army–Fort Campbell, KY).

*The votive candle on the altar is lit each Sunday to remind us to pray for those in need:
Hold in prayer all the troops who are serving around the world, and pray for world peace.*

Serving Us Sunday, January 8

Greeters: Keith Bortner, Ethan Detweiler, Gwen King, Steve Vaclavik

Acolytes: Emily Moose and Jennifer Nowicki

Lay Reader: Juanita Klein

Children's Church: Crystal Miller, Sallie Shepherd, Hannah Minnick and Caroline Pritchard

Children's Message: Amy Emlet

Nursery: Karen Gibbs and Pam Girvin

Sound Technician: Chris Emlet

Ushers: TBA

Accounting: Brian & Barb Doll, Ruthann Young, Glenn & Linda Shaffer

Lectionary Readings for Epiphany January 8

Primary Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5

Primary Psalter: Psalm 29

Epistle Lesson: Acts 19:1-7

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:4-11

Stewardship News: Pledge Update

as of December 29, 2011

(last year's numbers as of the same date are indicated in the parenthesis)

Giving Units Pledged—54 (47) representing 96 (89) members

Dollars Pledged : \$110,925 (\$104,584)

Have you submitted your 2012 PLEDGE yet??? There's still time!

*Please place it in the offering plate or
return it in to the church office at your earliest convenience.*

Announcements

SIGN-UP TODAY to serve in 2012! LAY MINISTRY NEEDS YOU! —There are still needs and opportunities to serve...check the Opportunity Board and plug in today!

FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE The committee will hold a meeting on **Tuesday, January 10th at 7:15 p.m.**

CONGRATULATIONS!! It is with great happiness and pride that Lee, Stacy, and Little Brother Luke Shaull announce that Andrew Noll achieved Dean's List with Highest Honors for the Fall 2011 Semester attending California University of Pennsylvania. Beginning in the Spring 2012, Andrew will be moving to the Big Apple, New York City, to attend LIM College for studies toward a BBA in Fashion Merchandising Management. Dick and Janet Orwig are Andrew's proud grandparents.

NYE PARENT AND YOUTH MEETING—Today is the deadline to sign-up for the **Sat., Jan. 7th meeting from 11 a.m.-??** Lunch will be served. Registration will be completed this day, so parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Fundraising will be discussed. A sheet will be sent home prior to the 7th with the info needed for registration so you can have everything ready for the 7th. Any questions, please call Pastor Brian at 630-340-3187 or Jennie at 717-586-7306.

MEDICAL MISSION NEWS

Medical Planning Meeting—**Jan. 11, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Travel Team Meeting—**Feb. 7, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.**

FUNDRAISERS

Mickey's Pizza: Today we will be handing out pizza order forms. If you wish to order, or to sell, please pick-up a form. Order forms should be handed in to the church on Sunday, January 15, 2012. Delivery of the pizza will be in time for Super Bowl Sunday. Please make your checks payable to: St. John's UCC "Kenya Mission".

Hoss's Restaurant – Sunday, January 8, 2012 all day on E. Market St., York, PA. If our sales are over \$1200, we will earn 25% profit towards Kenya. Flyers will be needed and will be handed out today and January 8th.

Looking Ahead

January 8th—The Baptism of Our Lord with the Sacrament of Baptism and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

January 15th—Second Sunday after Epiphany—Global Missions Sunday

January 22nd—Third Sunday after Epiphany—Annual Meeting Sunday

January 29th—Fourth Sunday after Epiphany—Traditional Evangelical and Reformed Order of Worship

Call to Annual Meeting

Plan to attend the Annual meeting of the membership of St. John's United Church of Christ to be held on **Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. in the Auditorium.** The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Receive and review Annual Reports for 2011
- Elect new members of Consistory
- Elect new members of the Finance Committee
- Elect new members of the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee
- Act upon the Proposed Budget for 2012
- Consider an amendment to the Endowment to include all church owned musical instruments within the scope of the "Organ Fund."
- Consider any other business to properly come before the church.

Please remember: the time of the Annual Meeting is **8:45 a.m.**. This starting time allows all members the opportunity to express input on the various issues of church life in the meeting. Our regular Sunday morning service of worship will start at 10:15 a.m.

Light refreshments will be served **in the auditorium.**

Our newly elected Consistory members will be installed to their office during the morning service of worship on Sunday January 29, 2012.

Service of Worship: December 24

Total Attendance (a Year Ago):	378 (398)
5:00 p.m.	109 (114)
7:00 p.m.	142 (163)
10:00 p.m.	127 (121)
Total Offerings	\$3,724.28

Service of Worship: December 25

Total Attendance:	86
Offerings:	\$2,342.00