

Our Christmas presentation and the Birthday party for Jesus will be held this Sunday at 10:00a.m. Bob Gillis and Priscilla Schultheis are bringing their talents together to bring us an amazing presentation, while we have a fun birthday party celebrating the birth of our Lord. It will be a pot luck luncheon so bring your favorite dish, chicken nuggets and fries will be served for the kids. There will be games, crafts and goodies. Also, we will be accepting gifts of warm hats and gloves for all ages that will be donated to Sister Jean's kitchen. (A continental breakfast will be served that morning.)

Special thanks go to the cast and crew of our Christmas play and to all the helpers working on our celebration to follow. A Merry Christmas to All!

*Pastor Tom is in the office Tuesday through Friday. If you need to get in touch with him at any other time, he can be reached at 856/935-9140 (home), 609/970-0865 (cell) or by email at [tpurchasesnj@comcast.net](mailto:tpurchasesnj@comcast.net); (fax 856/935-9145).*

**Our administrative assistant will be taking a vacation day on December 16. Office deadlines have been advanced accordingly.**

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**Christmas mailboxes will be ready Sunday for your card exchanges. Throughout the next several weeks boxes will also be used for distribution of an updated church directory, 2017 offering envelopes and various other church correspondence. Please check them often as they can fill up quickly!**

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Our Cents-Ability offering will be received Sunday. Please use the lunch containers at the entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for remembering the hungry.

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### **Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree**

Our Christmas Angel Tree is up waiting for you to take a tag and give a child a blessed Christmas.

The tag has the size of clothing the parent has chosen and the child has chosen a toy they wish for. The gifts are to be UNWRAPPED. Please make sure the tag is securely attached to the gift to make sure the correct gift goes to each child.

If you purchase more than one gift for the child make sure they are together in a bag or tied with string or ribbon. Please attach the tag securely.

Gifts must be back to the church on December 12.

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The Memorial Tree for Christmas is in the hallway outside the sanctuary. Pictures of your loved ones will be placed on an ornament to be hung on the tree. Pictures should be 3"x4" or 4"x5" – no larger. Please contact Dee and Jack Heil at 264-1179.

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**The deadline to order Christmas poinsettias and Mission Bouquets is Wednesday! Use the pink form in your bulletin.**

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Sunday School's first Fellowship Sunday will be next Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity for all the children to come together for some creativity, praising and fun. Grades Pre K-6 will be reporting to Madden Hall once dismissed from service. This first lesson will be on gifts and the children will be creating things to share with those less fortunate. We will be caroling at the Absecon Manor at 2pm so we will be flip-flopping our schedule as follows:

- 10:00 am – 11:00 am Service
- 11:15 am – 12:00 am Sunday school
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Practice
- 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Caroling

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Evergreen's Christmas Luncheon is at noon on December 21st at Smithville Inn. Church van will leave at 11:30 for those who need a ride. Reservations, money (cash only) payable to Anita Brown or Fran Weir. Lisa Whitaker will be sharing her missionary experiences.

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The Chancel Choir will meet with Harold Hawkes on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 6:00 p.m. to prepare for Christmas Eve service.

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### **Session Spotlight**

- ✦ 2017 General Fund and Benevolence budgets have been approved. Advance copies will be available from the office.
- ✦ Our Christmas Eve offering has been designated to Family Promise
- ✦ Ordination and installation of new elders, deacons & trustees will take place during worship on Sunday, January 22, 2017
- ✦ The annual meeting of the congregation and corporation has been called for Sunday, January 29, 2017 following worship.
- ✦ Our first host week for Family Promise will be January 8-15, 2017

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**The Church of The Holy Innocents  
Marine Street, Beach Haven, NJ  
Please join us – all are welcome**

**Lessons and Carols  
Friday December 16, 7pm**

**Choral and congregational singing  
featuring vocal and instrumental soloists**

**Free will offering will be taken at each event  
A reception will follow**

**For more information please call 609/492-7571**

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## **Sunday Servants**

### Lay Assistant

David Burgess

### Head Ushers

Elaine Risley, Carol Thomas

### Acolyte

Jacob Sabo

### Offering

Jack & Dee Heil

### Nursery

Gloria Achamizo

### Deacon of the Month

Bob Hudak

### Refreshments

Mary Bew, Betty Lloyd

### Van Driver

Barbara Hughes

### Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew

Join us for a Continental Breakfast

## **Please Remember in Prayer**

Barbara Hughes

Jaynie Perry

Elizabeth Britland

Ferd Morgan

Dottie Hanlon

Fran McManus

Cathy Guenther

Stan Weir

Jordan Torjussen

Joanna Howell

Virginia Loeb

Susan Little

Ruth Carmen

Robin McBrearty

Chuck Inman-Sergott

Rose Scott

Essie Newell

Betsy Cunius

Kayla Storr

Grunwald, Hunter and Hamaty Families

Victims of storms and fires

Christians in Pakistan & the Middle East, People of South Sudan

Pastor Udo, his Churches & all Christians in Nigeria

Conflict and unrest throughout our nation and around the world

## **This Week in Our Church . . .**

Sunday

8:30 Continental Breakfast!

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Worship & Christmas play

11:15 Lunch and Birthday Party for Jesus  
Worship Committee meeting

Monday

9:00 **Deadline for weekly office publications**

7:00 Fellowship Committee

Tuesday

4:00 King of Kings

Wednesday

7:00 Adult Bible Study

Thursday

Friday

**Admin. Asst. Vacation Day**

Saturday

9:30 Mission Committee Meeting