All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." Matthew 1:18-25

Please join us in worship on Sunday at 9:00a or 10:30a. Pastor Drew's sermon is titled "The Cost of Love" from Isaiah 11:1-10 and Matthew 1:18-25.

If you or someone you know from church is sick or hospitalized please notify the office at 609/641-3759 so Pastor Drew can reach out to you.

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Please Remember in Prayer

Linda Gillis - Patti Morris - Family of John Rogge (Lee Wolff's father) - Laura Warrener - Frances Weir - Perry Family - Bill Tilley - Jean Delesantro - Betsy Cunius - Dan Hughes - Jerry Hoenes - Doris Steele - JoAnne Morgan - Marge Loeb - Carol Thomas - Edith Budd - Carol DeLaurentis - Zack Perry - Lucy & Don Croneberger - Bob Gillis - Aidan & Wendy Licolli - Jim Mong - Ellen Plum - Dorie Keener - Russ Adkisson - Virginia Loeb - Marjorie McGuigan - Mildred Felsberg - Robin McBrearty - Ava Addams - Nancy Shaw - Lea Maxwell - Jessica Lobaz - Joyce Richard - Barbara Ferguson - Linda Gonzales - Those who will be hearing the Good News of the of the Savior perhaps for the first time Those who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones during the holiday season The poor and the homeless

Church programs and events
Future members of Absecon Presbyterian Church
Families experiencing unexpected turmoil and transition
Members of our Armed Forces and First Response Teams
Victims of fires, hate crimes, storms, and other disasters around the world
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

Sunday Servants, December 22

<u>Lay Assistant</u> <u>Head Ushers</u> <u>Offering</u>

Ann Wallace Dorie & Bill Keener Diane Kleiner & Nancy Sooy

AcolyteNursery & PreKVan DriverKwame GyasiKaren Little & Jackson HarveyVic Abelson

<u>Deacon of the Month</u> <u>Refreshments</u> <u>Counting Team</u>

Breakfast Crew

Set-up: Jackson Harvey, Cook: John Harvey, Clean-up: Jackson Harvey

This Week in Our Church

Sunday

9:00a Liturgy of the Seasons

9:30a Scrambled Egg Breakfast

9:45a Chancel Choir Rehearsal

10:15a Nursery & PreK, ages birth to 4

10:30a Worship

11:00a Grades K-6 move to classes

5:00p "Blue Christmas" Service

9:00p God Is Faithful Church

Monday

10:00a AA Support Group

Tuesday

6:00p Christmas Eve Worship

9:00p God Is Faithful Church

Wednesday Merry Christmas

10:00a AA Support Group

8:00p AA Support Group

Thursday

8:30p PB & J

Friday

10:00a AA Support Group

8:00p AA Support Group

Saturday

7:30p AA Support Group

9:30p AA 3rd Step Support Group

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The New Disciples (High School) youth group is doing a winter clothes drive! They are collecting New or Gently Used, and Clean hats, gloves, jackets, scarves and socks. There is a box set up in Madden Hall for your donations. A New Disciple member will be there to help you.

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A "Blue Christmas" Service

For many, Christmas is a time of celebration and joy. For some, however, this season is a difficult time of year. Many people are carrying significant weights: grief, loss, depression, anxiety, financial stress, unemployment, uncertainty, aging parents, sick children, recent diagnoses, unknown illnesses, etc. The public tone of the season does not resonate with many people's private experience.

The shape of worship offered here begins by gathering together in honesty about grief, hearing the consolation found in God's presence and love, and departing with the joy that comes from memory and a sense of shared peace.

On Sunday, December 22, at 5 p.m., please join us for our *Blue Christmas* Service at The Church of Saint Mark and All Saints, 429 S. Pitney Rd., Galloway, NJ.

All are Welcome

The Absecon-Galloway Ecumenical Ministerium is grateful to St. Mark & All Saints for this meaningful worship experience that not every church can provide. This service is being offered to the whole community in the hope that together, across every divide, we can worship and heal together.

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Christmas Eve service is at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday. After the service you are invited to meet in Madden Hall for cookies and a Christmas carol sing. Come celebrate God's greatest gift to all mankind!

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Please be sure to take note of the articles in your bulletin on two opportunities to give to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. The need is always great and even more so during the winter months.

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APC Prayer meeting will be taking a break over the next two weeks. (But don't worry - they will continue to pray for you!) The next meeting is **Tuesday**, **Jan. 7 at 8:30 a.m**. You are welcome to join them.

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Notes From Your Church Family:

Frances Weir would like to thank you for your faithful prayers, cards and beautiful prayer shawl she has received during her time in hospital and rehab. Psalm 23

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"May His Love surround you always. Merry Christmas"

Betsy Cunius

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Would you like to sponsor a Sunday Morning Breakfast at APC? For a gift of \$20 you can underwrite the costs of breakfast that are not covered by the \$3 suggested donation so that we can keep the price that low moving forward. By your gift, you will be recognized as one morning's BREAKFAST CHAMPION. You may advertise a business or a service, give in memory/honor of someone, or keep it anonymous. Please just indicate if or how you would like to be recognized inside the envelope provided in your pew racks with your gift and put this in the offering plate. The Fellowship Committee and Administrative Assistant will ensure that weekly sponsors are recognized as they desire to be.

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Access our online calendar 24/7/365!

The Google calendar (found on <u>our website</u> under "News") is updated as information is received in the office - good for reminders of events and meetings, or if you need directions to an event held off-site. For easier viewing click on the "Agenda" tab at the top right.

This calendar is also a helpful tool for committees and groups when planning events. See what dates, times and rooms are available.

Click on an event for more information!

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