

Chimes
Prelude “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”
Words by Christian Henry Bateman/Trad. Spanish Melody
Choral Introit (11:00) “’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” UMH 244
Welcome Pastor Monica
Announcements Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
*Hymn “We Three Kings” UMH 254
*Call to Worship Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
One: When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,
Many: God is there.
One: When Jesus is visited by the Magi,
Many: God is there.
One: This very morning,
Many: God is here.
One: In the future we cannot see,
Many: God is there.
All: Let us worship God!
*Unison Prayer Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
God of light, shining in darkness, through a little child, born in Bethlehem, you open to us the treasure of your grace. Help us to search diligently for him, so that we may offer our lives to you with thanksgiving, joy, and praise; through Jesus Christ, the rising star. Amen.
Special Music (8:30) “’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” UMH 244
Call to Offering Pastor Monica
Offertory “O God, our Help in Ages Past”
Words: Isaac Watts, Music: Samuel S. Wesley
*Presentation of Gifts “Doxology” 95
*Prayer of Dedication Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
Holy God, we present these gifts with love, so that others might know the refuge of Christ. May these gifts be used so others may know the light that is found in you. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.
New Testament Lesson Ephesians 3:1-12 Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
*Gospel Lesson Matthew 2: 1-12 Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
Children’s Message Pastor Monica
Praise Song “Another Year is Dawning”
Words: Frances R. Havergal, Music: Samuel S. Wesley
Sermon “Refuge” Pastor Monica
(I want my listeners to learn about the need for refuge.)
Choral Anthem (11:00) “Come, Follow that Star”
Words: Don Besig/Nany Price, Music: Don Besig
Invitation Pastor Monica
Prayer of Confession Pastor Monica
(Moment of Silence)
Words of Assurance Pastor Monica
The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer Pastor Monica
The Reception of Bread and Cup Pastor Monica

This Week's Schedule

Today 8:30 & 11:00am Worship/Communion
9:45am Choir Rehearsal
9:45am Sunday School-Children through Adults
2:00pm Soup Kitchen

Monday 9:00am Counters-Lounge
10:00am Pastors Meeting
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Stitch & Pray

Tuesday 9:00 am Pocono Interfaith Council (Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Poconos)
6:00 pm Membership and Evangelism (Longue)

Wednesday 10:00am Bible Study
11:15am Worship Planning
12:00pm Open Sanctuary
12:15pm Prayer on Wednesdays - Live on Facebook and in the Sanctuary
1:00pm Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm Cub Scouts

Thursday 10:00am History Committee
3:00pm Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Scouts

Friday 7:30pm N.A

Next Sunday 8:30 & 11:00am Worship
9:45am Choir Rehearsal
9:45am Sunday School - Children through Adults
2:00pm Soup Kitchen

Prayer List - Joys and Concerns

Our Troops Todd Martin
First Responders, EMT’s, Police Officers, Firefighters Prayer Mailboxes
Special Person of the Week: Sharon Cottle, 346 East Brown Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301. Please remember her in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

Prayer After Receiving Cliff Rogell/Thomas LaDelia
God of ink black skies and starry nights, we seek you and you have claimed us, loved us, and fed us. Today we drew star words. For some of us, these words are full of meaning, challenge, and invitation already. For others, these words are a blank canvas, inviting you into our lives. Holy God, be in our dreams and in our waking as we arise and stand. Allow us to use these star words as a tool to see you in our everyday life. May they guide us, as the star guided the Magi. And in a year, may we find ourselves here, together again, with a mouth full of praise for the ways in which you have been present to us. With hearts full to the brim, together we pray, Amen.
*Hymn “There’s A Song in the Air” UMH 249
*Benediction and Sending Pastor Monica
*Choral Benediction Response (11:00) “For Everyone Born”
Words: Shirley Erena Murray, Music: Lori True

- Postlude “From Heaven Above”
Gordon Young (Based on a German Chorale)

*Rise in body or in spirit.
Bold Print = Say in unison.

Please plan to join us for Christmas Eve with family and friends.
Come to the 2:30 pm service for lessons and carols, and be home before dark.
Join us at 7:30 pm as our choirs offer beautiful music, a play is planned, and we end with Silent Night candlelight.
Looking for Holy Communion, worship with us at 11:00 pm as we offer carols, candles, and communion.

SOUP KITCHEN 2026 We have started filling in the Soup Kitchen 2026 calendar. Please let the office know of your interest to help feed our neighbors. To date we have served over 3,700 meals. **We are in need of volunteers for January 18.** Please contact the office if you would like to assist our neighbors.

WINTER WEATHER Wondering about winter weather and snow? How will you know if the worship service is canceled? Announcements will be posted by 7am on the Sunday morning regarding worship. You can check your emails for cancellation or the church Facebook page. Feel free to share the news with others as well. Our congregation comes from a large geographic area. The weather in town might be different from the accumulation or the road conditions in Tobyhanna, Analomink or even East Stroudsburg. Please use your best discretion for travel. If there is a service, you can worship online.

ALTAR FLOWERS the 2026 altar flower chart is up in the Fellowship Room. Please consider putting flowers on the altar in honor of or in memory of a special person or event. Two vases cost \$37.50.

Connection Card
Welcome Members & Visitors!
Please let us know how we can help each other this week:

Name _____

Address _____

Email/Phone _____

Prayer requests, needs, comments:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good morning! Check in on Facebook! [Facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC](https://www.facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC)
Whether you are visiting with us or you are a member, WELCOME! Please fill out the "Connection Card" in your bulletin today and place it in the offering plate. Help yourself to a copy of our weekly eNews in the back of the sanctuary. We are glad that you are here today!

SERVING YOU TODAY:

Head Ushers: DeAnn Harris, CJ Penwell, Soundboard: Jackie Herrero, Alisabeth Guepet, and Peter Guepet;
Camera: Alex Herrero, Felicity Guepet; Streaming: Alex Herrero, Kevin Kopec

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS ARE 8:30 Cliff Rogell and 11:00 Thomas LaDelia

THE WHITE BANNER hangs in memory of William Dildine, given by the Dildine family.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Fellowship Room. Please pick up your box after worship today.

END OF YEAR STATEMENTS will be mailed later this month.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR Sunday, January 25th, after the 11 o'clock worship service. Bring questions and curiosities. If you are interested in joining the church or would like more information.

PRAYER COURSE We started our year-long study of prayer in September. The next class is on January 12th at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in prayer, you are welcome to join us for any of the sessions or simply drop by for one. Each session is on a Monday at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Room. This session focuses on what I can say and do! Mark your calendar for April 27th and June 29th as well. No advance work needed.

MISSIONS SOUPER BOWL SOUP SALE Our Missions Team will be selling soup again this year. Order forms are in the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Room by the Missions display. We will be selling Vegetable Soup, Ham and Potato, and Cheddar Broccoli. All soups are \$10 per quart, and all proceeds benefit Missions projects in our church. Orders and payment are due by January 25th. Pick up will be on February 8th. If paying by check, please note "Souper Bowl" in the memo. If paying by cash, please note on an envelope "Souper Bowl". If you have any questions, please see Amanda Miller or contact the office.

Would you like to receive our weekly eNews?

Email address _____

How did you learn about our church?

Friend/Family Internet/Website

Other

What I/we look for in a church _____

Please circle your age group: 18-23 24-35 36-49 50-64 65+

We cordially welcome each visitor, member and friend to our Stroudsburg United Methodist Church. We pray that God will touch your life through the worship and fellowship we share. If you would like to make Stroudsburg United Methodist YOUR church, please mention your interest to the Pastor at the end of the service.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
547 Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-421-6020

CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor	The Rev. Monica B. Guepet, M. Div.
Pastor of Visitation	Pastor Margie Good, M. Ed.
Church Secretary	Ashley Emerson
Choir Director	Aram Tchobanian
Organist	Marti Lantz
Custodian	Robert Medina

CHURCH LEADERS:

Daniel's Dream Team	Chairperson, Jenny Bogart
Worship	Chairperson, Rev. Monica B. Guepet
Giving and Funding Committee	Chairperson, C. J. Penwell
Property & Building	Chairperson, Kay Bucci
Staff Parish Relations Committee	Chairperson, Vin Zelizo
Missions	Chairperson, Amanda Miller
Membership & Evangelism	Chairperson, Peggy Stewart
Co-Lay Leaders	Jeanette Kuhns, Jeremy Miller

Church Office Hours - Monday - Thursday, 9am-4:30pm; Friday 9am-3pm

[Facebook.com/Stroudsburg UMC](https://www.facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC)

Instagram: [stroudsburgumc](https://www.instagram.com/stroudsburgumc)

Giving is easier than ever. Use this QR code to give to the general fund or special ministry. Contact the office for more information.



Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
Stroudsburg, PA
The Worship of God
January 4, 2026



Gather! Grow! Make a Difference - Together!

www.stroudsburgumc.com
sumc@stroudsburgumc.com

Our Mission

Share the love of Jesus in
welcoming & compassionate ways.