

Chimes		
Prelude	“Promise of Joy”	
	from Four Advent Introits with Benediction	
	Words: Marti Lanz; Music: David Lantz III	
Choral Introit (11:00)	“Promise of Joy”	
	from Four Advent Introits with Benediction	
	Words: Marti Lanz; Music: David Lantz III	
Welcome		Pastor Monica
Announcements		Pastor Margie
*Hymn	“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”	203
*Call to Worship		Pastor Margie

One: Come with your questions, your burdens, and your blessings.

Many: We come, seeking sanctuary in God and in one another.

One: When companionship is offered, joy comes alive.

Many: We, too, are called to rejoice together.

One: This is a place for honest hearts and open hands.

Many: Come, Emmanuel, and renew our joy.

***Unison Prayer** **Pastor Margie**
God of joy, you meet us in the gift of relationships that hold us and strengthen us. Thank you for the companions who encourage, for friends who celebrate, and for the community that shelters us. Teach us to be a sanctuary for one another, where joy can leap even in hard times. Fill us with your joy and send us to share it with the world. It is in the name of the One who is our joy we pray. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles - Week 3: Joy (*see insert*)

Response: “Advent Candle Song” (*see insert*) TFWS 2090

Affirmation of Faith (8:30) 883

Sharing Joys and Concerns Pastor Monica

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer Pastor Monica

Call to Offering Pastor Monica

Offertory “Pat-a-pan” Arr. Jeanine Yeager

*Presentation of Gifts “Doxology” 95

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Margie
God of joy, receive these gifts and multiply them in love. May they bring companionship to the lonely, encouragement to the weary, and joy to all who long for your presence. It is in the name of the One who is our joy we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 35:1-10 Pastor Margie

*Gospel Lesson Luke 1:24-45 Pastor Margie

Children’s Message Pastor Monica

Praise Song “I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy” George William Cooke

Sermon “Room in Relationships” Pastor Monica

(I want my listeners to make room in their relationships.)

Special Music (8:30) “Peace This Christmastime”

By Herb Frombach and David Lantz III, Sung by Dave and Marti Lantz

Choral Anthem (11:00) “Come, Emmanuel”

Words: Dom Price and Nancy Price; Music Don Besig

This Week’s Schedule			
Today	8:30 & 11:00am	Worship– Third Sunday in Advent	
	9:45am	Choir Rehearsal	
	9:45am	Sunday School-Children through Adults	
	11:00 am	New Member Reception	
	2:00pm	Soup Kitchen	
	3:30pm	Lessons and Carols - First Presbyterian Church	

Monday	9:00am	Counters-Lounge
	10:00am	Pastors Meeting
	6:00pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Ahtuwi-Kana (Scouts)

Tuesday	6:00pm	Premarital Counseling
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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
	1:30pm	Stitch & Pray
	3:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Scouts

Friday	7:30pm	N.A
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Next Sunday	8:30 & 11:00am	Worship - Fourth Sunday in Advent
	9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School - Children through Adults
	2:00pm	Soup Kitchen
	7:00pm	Longest Night Service

Prayer List - Joys and Concerns

Our Troops Todd Martin

First Responders, EMT’s, Police Officers, Firefighters

Prayer Mailboxes , Sharon Cottle , William Frazetta , Mandy Cunard

Special Person of the Week: Irene Goforth, 2925 Western Hills Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. Please remember her in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

New Member Reception (11:00)

*Hymn “Joy to the World” Verses 2, 3 and 4

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*Benediction and Sending Pastor Monica

*Benediction Response (11:00) “Advent Benediction”

from Four Advent Introits with Benediction, Words: Marti Lanz; Music: David Lantz III

*Postlude “Joyful, Joyful , We Adore Thee” L.Van Beethoven

*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.

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT We are blessed to have incredible staff throughout the year. We recognize them at Christmas with a special gift. At the rear of the church, please include your gift in the box, so we can present it on Christmas Eve.

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.

TRAVELING NATIVITY Once more our Nativity is on the move. Follow it as it moves from window to window on its way to the manger for Christmas Eve. First into the manger are Mary and Joseph. Second come the sheep outside the manger. Then on Christmas Eve baby Jesus arrives. Later on Epiphany the wise men arrive to the manger. Our pieces were handcrafted by Joni Singer in 1963. They were given to the church in 1993.

2026 ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS There is still time to return your 2026 estimate of giving card. These help us plan well for the coming year. Copies of giving estimate cards and service surveys are available in the back of the church.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE is an opportunity for us to unite as a community and seek peace amidst the storms. Join us on Sunday, December 21st, 7pm at St. John’s Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We will be taking a freewill offering to benefit our Housing Families Grant with Habitat for Humanity.

COMBINED WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 28 will have a one service, at 10:00 A.M. The M and E committee will be serving sandwiches and other items; please join us for it. We hope to see you there!

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
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 and Sophia Mylan; Streaming: Alex Herrero, Kevin Kopec
TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADER IS Pastor Margie
THE BLUE BANNER hangs in memory of Paul Warnick, given by the Warnick family.

TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in memory of Carole Burrus given by John Burrus.

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTERS 8:30 Jackie and Nick Herrero; 11:00 Susan Detwiler and Jeanette Kuhns.

CALENDAR FUNDRAISER Looking for a thoughtful and original gift for Christmas or a loved one? Check out our SUMC 2026 calendar! The cost is \$35.95 each with all proceeds going toward our Community Resource Center Revitalization. A sample of the calendar is in the Fellowship Room and order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Room. If you have already paid for your calendar, please pick it up from the church office during the week. ***Only 3 calendars remain. Put in your order soon, so that you don't miss this opportunity.*** Please contact the office with any questions. Thank you!

ADVENT IS HERE! One of our traditions is the lighting of the Advent Wreath for the four weeks before Christmas and Christmas Eve. We have families, friends, and church family groups light the candles and lead the liturgy. Consider signing up in the Fellowship Room. We are in need of people for Christmas Eve - 2:30pm and 11:00pm.

ADVENT BAGS AND DEVOTIONALS Our Advent devotionals and bags are here. Please don’t forget to pick one up in the Fellowship Room. Sanctuary was written specifically for our congregation by Pastor Monica and Pastor Margie and coordinates with our worship. Items in the Advent Bag are used throughout the season. You wouldn’t want to miss it.

THE CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON THE FRONT DOORS are given by Kathy and Steve Burnett in memory of Otto and Alberta Weber and Edward and Gloria Burnett.

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.
Retiring Church Secretary	Jackie Herrero
Incoming 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 Instagram: 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
December 14, 2025

The Third Sunday in Advent



Gather! Grow! Make a Difference - Together!
www.stroudsburgumc.com
sumc@stroudsburgumc.com

Our Mission
Share the love of Jesus in
welcoming & compassionate ways.