



# FAITH MATTERS

Sunday, December 1, 2019

Weekly Newsletter for Faith Covenant Church of Manistee, Michigan

## Advent Sunday: Hope

Prelude	Mert Youngberg
*Hymn #120: <i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i> (vs. 1, 2, 3)	
Welcome & Announcements	Scott McKenney
Lighting of the Advent Candle	Joyce Reed
Response: <b>Rejoice! Rejoice!</b> <b>Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!</b>	& Bev Johnston
*Praise Songs	Praise Team
Giving Back to God	Scott McKenney
Anthem: <i>A Prayer for Advent</i>	FCC Choir
Scripture: <b>Psalms 16:7-11, John 1:1-14</b>	Congregation
Children's Moment	
Sermon: <b>God... With... Us</b> <b>Matthew 1:18-23</b>	Jack Hudson
Communion	
*Hymn #146: <i>Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come</i> (vs. 1, 2, 4)	
Sending Out	Jack Hudson
Postlude	

\*Please stand as you are able.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the A/V Booth.  
Nursery care for babies thru age 3 is provided.

## CELEBRATE THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS

Nationally-touring Christian recording artist, Mark Smeby, brings his popular Hope of Christmas Tour to Manistee for a repeat performance. Faith Covenant Church is pleased to host this special holiday event this Friday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. The concert is geared to all ages, highly interactive, and filled with popular holiday classics and inspirational original songs. Smeby will be debuting music from his brand new album, *Joy!*, his third Christmas project. The concert is free and open to the public, with a love offering taken. More information about Mark can be found at: [www.marksmeby.com](http://www.marksmeby.com).

## WHITE POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

It is one of Faith Covenant Church's Christmas traditions to add White Poinsettia plants to the church décor. These plants are purchased by the congregation in honor of or in memory of someone they love. After the Christmas Eve worship service, the plants go home with those who purchased them to be enjoyed for the remainder of the holiday season. If you would like to purchase one or more of these plants this year, please use the ordering envelopes that you can find on the Welcome Center. The cost for each plant this year is \$16.00. Turn in your order by placing the order envelope with payment included into the offering plate when passed or drop it in the locked office mailbox located on the wall just outside of the office door.

## THE PROPERTY STEWARDS NEED YOU

The Stewards need a Leader and more Stewards! Please contact Randy Tomaszewski: 616.260.8875 or [rtomasze10316@gmail.com](mailto:rtomasze10316@gmail.com).

## SHORT SELF-BIOGRAPHY OF REV. JACK HUDSON

I was ordained to Word and Sacrament by the Evangelical Covenant Church in June, 2012. From 1972 to 2001, I was a teacher at West Iron County High School in Iron River, MI. I entered North Park Theological Seminary in 2003 and completed my Masters in Christian Ministry in 2011, taking most of my course work through the online SemConnect program.

From 2006 to 2016, I served several congregations, both in the Covenant and Congregational denominations, as an Interim Senior Pastor.

I have served on the Board of Directors of the HarborPoint Ministries Board, which oversees two camp/retreat centers in the Central Conference. When we lived in Iron River, I taught Bible classes at the Mission Bible Training Center, as residential facility serving people recovering from substance abuse.

My wife, Verl (who was an educator for 34 years and continues as a consultant), and I lived in Iron River throughout our marriage of 47 years. We recently relocated to Traverse City. We have 3 grown children, Josh, Ellie, and Annie, twin 10 year old grandsons, and an 8 month old granddaughter.

I play flat top guitar in a band with three of my best friends. We call ourselves "Hicks With Picks" and call our style "Yooperbilly". We're still trying to figure out how to keep it going now that I have moved to TC, because we have a lot of fun.

Verl and I welcome the opportunity to share in ministry with our new friends at Faith Covenant Church.

## ECHO HIS LOVE'S MITTEN CHRISTMAS TREE

The little tree is set up in the church lobby through Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> for you to choose someone to buy a gift for Christmas. Please record the mitten tag on the clipboard under the tree. Then, go shopping, wrap your gift, and tape only the ribbon on the tag to the gift. Bring all gifts to the church office by Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Families will then come to the church to pick up their gifts. Thank you!

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Manistee Choral Society's Victorian Christmas Concert is set to perform for its 61<sup>st</sup> year with a concert that will include carols and other songs of the season performed by the 45 voice choir. The choir has prepared a program to begin the Christmas season and the Sleighbell Weekend this Thursday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at the First Congregational Church located at 4<sup>th</sup> & Maple Streets in Manistee. Tickets are available at Goody's or by calling: 231.723.7536.

## SLEIGHBELL FAMILY CHRISTMAS WEEKEND

December 6-8 at Portage Lake Bible Camp, during the City of Manistee's "Victorian Christmas Weekend," you are invited to stay at camp and take part in the weekend's festivities & activities. Register your family today! For more info, contact camp: 231.889.5911 or [portagelake.org/retreats/sleighbell](http://portagelake.org/retreats/sleighbell).

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

One of ECHO His Love's ministries is the Manna Food Pantry. A food collection tote is now available in the church lobby for non-perishable food items. ECHO is very grateful for the FCC Congregation and all we are doing to support ECHO's ministries.

## THIS WEEK'S MINISTRIES CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, December 1

9:00am: Praise Band Rehearsal  
9:15am: Fellowship & Coffee Time  
9:30am: Christian Formation Classes  
10:30am: Worship Service

### MONDAY, December 2

4:00pm: Mutual Ministries Team Meeting  
5:30pm: Worship & Music Team Meeting

### TUESDAY, December 3

3:00pm: The Team  
3:00pm: Middle School Hangout  
5:00pm: Middle School Youth Group  
6:30pm: Congregational Care Team Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, December 4

9:00am: Women's Bible Study Fellowship  
4:45pm: Women's Bible Study Fellowship  
6:30pm: Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, December 5

9:00am: MOPS  
3:15pm: Cantus Femina Rehearsal  
6:00pm: Young Families Small Group

### FRIDAY, December 6

7:00pm: Mark Smeby Concert

### SUNDAY, December 8

8:30am: Praise Band Rehearsal  
9:15am: Fellowship & Coffee Time  
9:30am: Christian Formation Classes  
10:30am: Worship Service  
6:30pm: High School Youth Group

## SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

	Ushers	Greeters	Nursery	Scriptures	Café Host	Stewards	Audio	Video
<b>Dec. 1</b>	Ruth Minster Sheryl Zimmerman Craig Smith Kathy A.B. Smith	Pat Krolczyk	Rachel Nelson Brynn O'Donnell Taylor Morey Steve Morey	Congregation in Unison	Cheryl Staszczak	Mark Miller Mike Munsell James Barker	Dave Phelps	Annette Phelps
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Ruth Minster Dave Wagner Craig Smith Kathy A.B. Smith	Bev Johnston	Jenn Reid Marina Reid Drake Reid Hillary Boyd Marsha Anderson Grace Anderson	Dave Phelps	Pat Krolczyk	Mike Munsell Mark Miller Randy Tomaszewski	Dave Phelps	Annette Phelps