

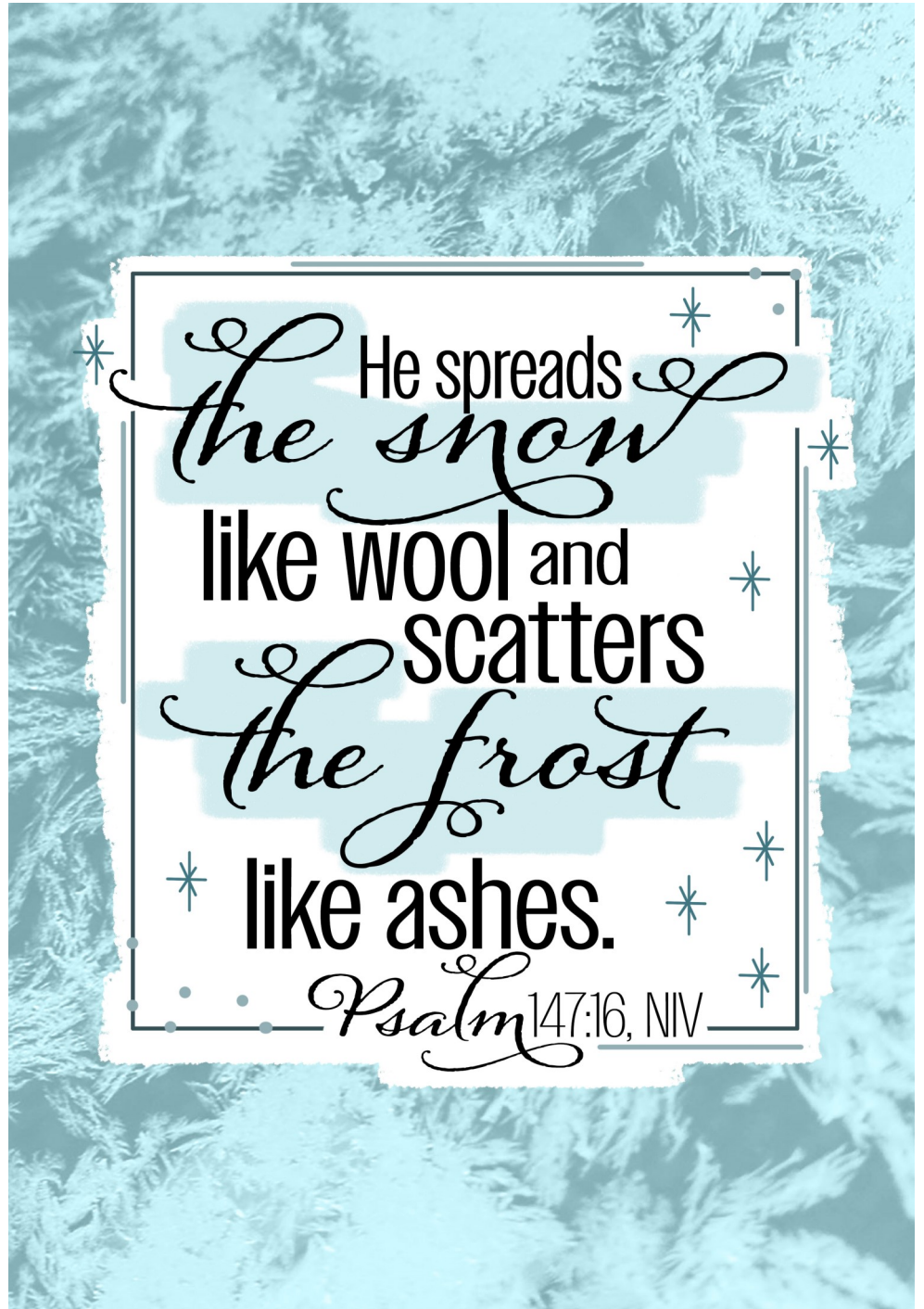
The Lamplighter

January 2025

Bethlehem Church Dallastown

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Mission Statement:

*To give of ourselves so others may know
Jesus Christ.*



Hello Church!

Over the past few years Bethlehem has had many changes. Some of those changes have been exciting and others have left us with some scars, but through it all we have found God to be faithful in leading us into the next chapter for our life together as a church. One of the changes that may not be as apparent to the entire church is how we structure our leadership for an effective ministry. We have made adaptations over the past few years and at our last Leadership Council meeting we approved a new leadership format which I believe is God's desire for us moving forward!

The first thing we looked at is what do we want our church governance to provide? We identified 4 main things; spiritual discernment of God's vision, participation of the laity at every level, ability to create movement towards God's vision, and transparency and accountability to God and each other. One of the main stumbling blocks we have faced in our effort to achieve these goals is that our Leadership Council in its current form is too large to have meaningful discernment on God's vision and direction. We are doing well attending to the "here and now" but we are unable to look forward in meaningful ways and a smaller group is needed to accomplish this work.

What we approved is to nominate 5-9 people to serve on the Leadership Council. These people will be spiritually mature disciples who collectively seek God's vision and direction for our church. They are to be willing to engage weekly in prayer and conversation and meeting monthly in person to study and discuss God's desire for our congregation in a private meeting. This group will be tasked with not making the decision, but with bringing sound spiritual advise to the Church Council.

The Church Council will then be the governing body that gives consent for the decisions and the direction of the church. This Church Council will consist of the Leadership Council, the 8 committee chairs and 2 members at large, this Church Council will meet once a quarter. The Church Council will have the primary role of consent and decision making. This will be an open meeting for the congregation to gather to celebrate our collective work over the past 3 months and have input on future ministry of our church.

Based on the framework and vision provided by the Leadership Council and the consent given by the Church Council the congregation will work daily through our various ministries to implement God's vision and mission in our church and community. I believe this is a biblical structure for leadership and will help us have an avenue to discern God's next steps for us as a congregation while also attending to the ministry happening in the moment. You can read in our yearly Charge Conference booklet more details about these changes. I hope you will continue to be in prayer for all of the work of our church and for God's blessing and guidance as we move forward together.

In Christ Pastor Dave Stough

Leadership Council – Advise



Church Council – Consent



Church Congregation – Implement





**M & M Winter Session
5:30 Meal (Fellowship Hall)
6:15PM Classes**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15TH THROUGH APRIL 10

CLASS CHOICES INCLUDE :

***FREED UP FINANCIAL LIVING- THIS COURSE PROVIDED BY THE GOOD SENSE MINISTRY PREPARES YOU TO BECOME GROUNDED IN A BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF A PROPER RELATIONSHIP TO MONEY AND POSSESSIONS AND TO COMMIT TO AND BEGIN DEVELOPING A BIBLICALLY-BASED SPENDING PLAN. YOU WILL PREPARE WORKSHEETS TO DEVELOP A USEABLE SPENDING PLAN, THE KNOWLEDGE TO IMPLEMENT IT, AND A COMMITMENT IN YOUR HEART TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON IT. THE PRE-WORK YOU WILL DO AT HOME WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL AND NO ONE ELSE WILL SEE IT. WE PRAY THAT THIS INFORMATION WILL BE VALUABLE FOR YOU AND THAT YOU WILL GROW IN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF BIBLICAL FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES.**

***MERE CHRISTIANITY-WE'LL READ AND DISCUSS WHAT LEWIS WRITES ABOUT THE CORE BELIEFS OF CHRISTIANITY, MAKING A LOGICAL AND CONVINCING CASE FOR THE CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON ISSUES THAT EVERYONE IS CURIOUS ABOUT: RIGHT AND WRONG, HUMAN NATURE, MORALITY, MARRIAGE, SINS, FORGIVENESS, FAITH, HOPE, GENEROSITY, AND KINDNESS.**

***THE COMING OF THE GOLDEN AGE/ ESTHER- WE WILL BE VIEWING DR. DAVID JEREMIAH'S NEWEST VIDEO, WHICH FOCUSES ON WHAT WILL OCCUR DURING THE 1000-YEAR REIGN OF JESUS ON EARTH, KNOWN AS THE MILLENNIUM. THIS IS SOMEWHAT OF A FOLLOW-UP TO HIS PREVIOUS VIDEO SERIES WHICH FOCUSED ON THE RAPTURE. FOLLOWING THAT, WE WILL BE LOOKING INTO THE INTERESTING BOOK OF ESTHER, WHERE THE EXILED ISRAELITES FIND THEMSELVES IN DANGER, NOT OF THEIR OWN MAKING.**

***MUSIC AND FAITH- THIS GROUP INTENDS TO EXPLORE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAITH AND MUSIC. EACH SESSION WILL CONCLUDE IN TIME FOR MEMBERS TO ATTEND CHOIR PRACTICE. WHILE THE GROUP'S FOCUS WOULD BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR, EVERYONE IS WELCOME.**

SIGN UP IN WESLEY HALL!

BETHLEHEM CHURCH

ALTAR AND FLOWER GUILD SPONSORS

All you can eat!

*Spaghetti
Luncheon*



SUNDAY JANUARY 26TH – 11 AM TO 2 PM
HOME-STYLE MEAT SAUCE WITH PASTA AND GARLIC BREAD,
GARDEN SALAD AND DESSERT
DRINKS PROVIDED

\$ 10.00 PER ADULT / CHILDREN UNDER 10 - \$ 5.00 EA

RSVP IN WESLEY HALL NET WORK TABLE BY JANUARY 19TH

Proceeds benefit the restoration of Jesus painting in Sanctuary

NAME _____

ADULTS _____ CHILDREN _____

**The Women's Bible Study will meet
Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 10:00 am**

We will be studying the book of Philippians.

*Following is a quote from Dr. David Jeremiah:
"Never before in Christian history have we had the array
of resources we have today – all designed to help us
study and understand the Bible. Take advantage of
them! When you get serious about daily Bible Study,
you'll find that the Word of God will become a lamp for
your feet, a light for your path, and a map for your soul."*



**SPONSOR
ALTAR
FLOWERS**

MANY SPOTS OPEN FOR 2025!
COST IS \$40
CONTACT WENDY PICHLER 717-578-6747

Life Under the Clock Tower

We are looking for persons or couples who would be willing to greet one Sunday before the 10:30AM service. Serving time would begin at 10AM at the front of the church. Contact Palmer Poff at 717-244-4240 if you would be willing to serve in this meaningful ministry of welcoming members and visitors to our wonderful church.

Thank you to Troy & Faye Harrold, Mike & Karen Snyder, Karl & Cindy Landis, Peter & Linda Atwood, Beverly Moritz & Sue Ayers for being greeters during the month of December.



Saturday Men's Group Meeting

When: Saturdays

Where: Common Grounds Café

Time: 8:00 – 9:00am

Calling **all** men of Bethlehem to a meeting of fellowship, discussions of subjects to enrich our understanding of the Word of God and any personal subjects, as needed, related to individual subjects.

Questions??

Contact: Troy Harrold at trharrold@comcast.net Or

Keith Metzel at sanctuarysound2015@gmail.com

Come and check us out!



Beginning December 1, 2024, and until further notice, we will ONLY be collecting knitted hats and the following items required for the making of a Mission Central CARE Kit. ALL items must be new and unwashed.

I am hoping to collect enough items to make at least 100 CARE Kits and hopefully more. When enough items are on hand, a specific date will be scheduled to have church members and friends to gather in New Fellowship Hall to help assemble the kits. Our Mission Central Volunteers will be on hand to assist you with putting the kits together.

Two reasons for the project:

- 1) To show people what one of the many projects we work on at Mission Central, and;
- 2) Hopefully sign up those persons who would like to go with us on our bi-monthly work days.

1 Hand Towel - Kitchen, cleaning and microfiber towels are acceptable. Towels MUST be dry.

1 Wash Cloth - Adult Size. Wash cloth must be dry.

1 Comb - Any size or shape comb. Picks and pocket combs are acceptable.

1 Metal Nail File OR Clipper - Finger or Toenail Clippers are acceptable.

NO emery boards.

1 Bath Size Soap - Size 2.5 oz Soap Bar or larger. IVORY, JERGENS OR LISA brand soaps are not acceptable.

1 Toothbrush - Adult Size. Single Brushes only. Packaging must be completely sealed.

10 Adhesive Bandages - Variety of sizes are acceptable.

1 Gallon Size Resealable Plastic Bag.

Please place collected items in the White Basket and / or Mission Central Carton located near the Church mail boxes.

Feel free to contact Terry Tyson for questions / info at 717-246-3808 or terger@comcast.net.



Deadline for submissions for February Newsletter is January 15th. Please email submissions to office@gotobethlehem.org

Life Under the Clock Tower



With winter now upon us, please remember to check for church closures should there be inclement weather.

Bethlehem Church closures will appear on our Facebook page, website, and the following:

FOX43
ABC27
CBS21



Closures will also be announced on radio FM 103.3

Youth Group



"Following Jesus"

Sunday Youth Group

5:30-7:00pm

January 5th Grow
January 12th Serve
January 19th Grow
January 26th Worship

If you know youth who are looking for a place to explore Jesus and have fellowship with other youth let them know they are welcome to come! If you would like provide a meal for our youth group time there is a sign up sheet in Wesley Hall!

VIEW OUR
CHURCH
DIRECTORY
ON YOUR
MOBILE DEVICE!



FREE App for iPhone,
iPad & Android

Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for **Instant Church Directory**  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.



GIFT WRAPPING CARDBOARD TUBE ROLLS

The Altar and Flower Guild is in need for our future project and will be collecting Unused Large Gift Wrapping Cardboard Tubes left over from your holiday gift wrapping. Please bring your cardboard tubes to Wesley Hall and place in BIN marked GIFT WRAPPING TUBES. We will accepting until January 30th, 2025

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



thank you!

A special thank you with a Grateful heart to the Bethlehem Church family and Pastor Dave Stough, who many reached out to Terry and Nancy while Terry was hospitalized and after by calls, texts, food, cards, notes, prayers, support and visits while Terry was being hospitalized with Viral and Bacterial Pneumonia. Still on the mend with lots of meds, rest and being cautious for the next ten days. We are truly blessed to have a very close church family and was blessed knowing that you are praying for me. I am very grateful and thank you with all acts of kindness and amazing for being there for Nancy and I. Your thoughtful expressions in many ways brought a smile to our face. Bless you, to our church family of Bethlehem Church of Dallastown.

Terry and Nancy Knisely

Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you!

This month the Congregation Care Committee is sharing news from Susan Harkcom, who has resided at Autumn House East for three years.

Susan has decorated her room with a small Christmas tree that is cheerily adorned with tiny colored lights. Susan was married to William, and they raised two sons, Timothy and Brent and are blessed with six grandchildren. Susan is a life-long member with a tremendous memory, as she can recall being in Bethlehem Church at age three with her parents Lawrence and Lillian Godfrey. Her mother sang in the choir, and her father served as a Trustee. Like her parents, Susan poured a lot of love and care into the church. She served as church janitor for many years during Pastor Mentzer's tenure. She teamed-up with Gene Ruppert to accomplish all of the church maintenance tasks. Susan did the vacuuming and dusting, and Gene did the heavier tasks such as snow shoveling. She cleaned the preschool every day at 7 AM, and she cleaned Trinity Church every Thursday. Susan also helped with weddings and funerals and other special events.

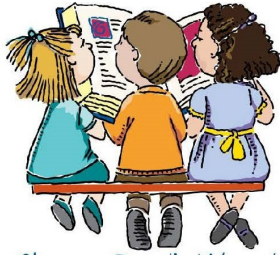
If you know of someone who is unable to attend church in person and would like a visit or to receive communion please let the church know. Under the direction of Pastor Stough, there are experienced members now helping to serve communion to these folks.

As a member of The Congregational Care Committee, I am trying to get a list of members willing to visit the home bound members on a regular basis. Please contact me so I can add you to my list. Thank you!

Margo McGuigan 717-793-1801.



Life Under the Clock Tower



Share God's Word

The children of Bethlehem need you!

We are looking for children's Sunday School teachers. Whether it's a week or a month at a time, we would love to have your help. If you would like to join us any Sunday to see what it's all about, please do so.

Lessons are easy to follow, and are fun for the children. Please pray and consider serving in this ministry.

If you are interested, please let Julie know.

jbspyker@hotmail.com / 717-600-4075



February Bethlehem Book Club

**Tuesday February 4th
10AM Conference Room**

**"The Measure"
By Nikki Erlick**



The Women's Bible Study will meet Wednesday, January 8, 2025,

**10:00 a.m. We will be studying the
book of Philippians.**

**Following is a quote from Dr. David
Jeremiah:**

**"Never before in Christian history
have we had the array of resources
we have today – all designed to help
us study and understand the
Bible. Take advantage of
them! When you get serious about
daily Bible Study, you'll find that the
Word of God will become a lamp for
your feet, a light for your path, and a
map for your soul."**

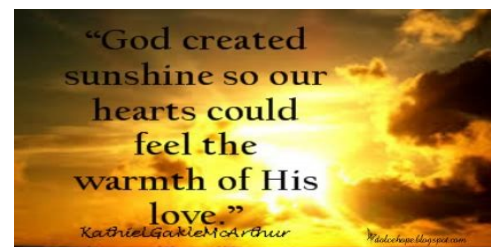
A LITTLE BAG OF

Sunshine
TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY!



Operation Thinking of You

Thanksgiving Sunshine Bags have been delivered to 36 homebound members of Bethlehem. This project of the Congregational Care Committee was a success. Your homebound friends were very appreciative of being remembered. The bags were chockfull with heartfelt messages and enjoyable gifts from so many of you. Special thanks to any who helped with visits and deliveries. We will do a second round of Operation Thinking of You prior to Easter.



Life Under the Clock Tower

Building Use

Our church building is used for many activities during the week. If you would like to use a room in the church, first check to see that the room is available. Our calendar is found on the church website, or you can call into the office at anytime to see if a room is open. Then reserve the room by contacting the church office and it will be added to the calendar.

Please do not set up the area you will be using in advance of the date, unless you have directly contacted the office and received the ok. If your event is canceled, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Please keep all areas in the building the way you found them. If you need to move furniture or tables, please return them to their original positions.

Thank you!



Bowling & Laser Tag

Sunday January 12th

1:00 – 2:30 pm

We will meet at Laser Alleys (East Market Street) for an afternoon of fun with friends as we bowl and play laser tag.

The cost will be \$5 per person

Please RSVP by Jan. 5th so we can reserve lanes

RSVP – call/text/email Julie

jbspyker@hotmail.com or 717-600-4075



Common Grounds Café

Is now open at 9:30AM!

Come by and get their new breakfast sandwich and a coffee to get your day going!

Café is open 9:30AM-2:00PM when Dallastown Schools are in session.



Lunch Bunch will be meeting Tuesday January 21st at 12 noon @ Boardwalks

Sign up at the network table or contact Margaret Malehorn at 717-266-0352



Men's Group will NOT meet on January 4

Psalm Scavenger Hunt

PSALMS SCAVENGER HUNT

Each day, enjoy reading the psalm. Then search for the answer and try the activity below.

1 Psalm 1
Find: What two contrasts appear in this psalm?
Activity: Write one way you can "delight in the law of the Lord" today.

2 Psalm 8
Find: According to this psalm, what is mankind's place in creation?
Activity: Spend 5 minutes outside observing nature and reflecting on God's creation.

3 Psalm 19
Find: What two ways does God reveal himself in this psalm?
Activity: Journal about one aspect of God's creation that reveals his glory to you.

4 Psalm 23
Find: In this psalm, what are three ways God shepherds us?
Activity: Reflect on how God has been your shepherd in the past week.

5 Psalm 27
Find: What does David say about his source of strength and confidence?
Activity: Memorize Psalm 27:1 and recite it when you feel afraid today.

6 Psalm 32
Find: What is the main theme of this psalm?
Activity: Pray a prayer of confession. Then reflect on the joy of being forgiven.

7 Psalm 34
Find: Who does the Lord hear?
Activity: Share with someone a testimony of how God has been good to you.

8 Psalm 37
Find: According to this psalm, what 4 things can you do instead of worrying?
Activity: Choose one action from Psalm 37 to focus on today.

9 Psalm 42
Find: What imagery does the psalmist use to describe his longing for God?
Activity: Write down one way you can draw closer to God when you feel distant.

10 Psalm 46
Find: How does this psalm describe God's protection during times of trouble?
Activity: Spend 5 minutes in silence, meditating on the phrase "Be still and know that I am God."

15 Psalm 84
Find: What does the psalmist say about people who dwell in God's house?
Activity: Write down one way you can cultivate a heart of worship today.

14 Psalm 73
Find: What does the psalmist realize after feeling envious of the wicked?
Activity: Reflect on a time you needed God's strength and how he provided it.

13 Psalm 65
Find: How does this psalm describe God's abundant provision?
Activity: Write down three things you're thankful that God has provided.

12 Psalm 63
Find: In this psalm, what does David say he will do?
Activity: Sing or listen to your favorite hymn or worship song.

11 Psalm 51
Find: In David's prayer of repentance, what are three things he asks of God?
Activity: Write your own prayer of repentance to God.

16 Psalm 91
Find: According to this psalm, what are some ways God protects his people?
Activity: Pray for God's protection over yourself or someone you know.

17 Psalm 100
Find: What instructions does this psalm give for worshiping God?
Activity: Create a gratitude list. Then thank God for each item.

18 Psalm 101
Find: What actions and attitudes can we follow from this psalm?
Activity: Take time today to bless the Lord by recalling his goodness in your life.

19 Psalm 111
Find: What does the psalmist say is the beginning of wisdom?
Activity: Think of times in the Bible when God saved his people.

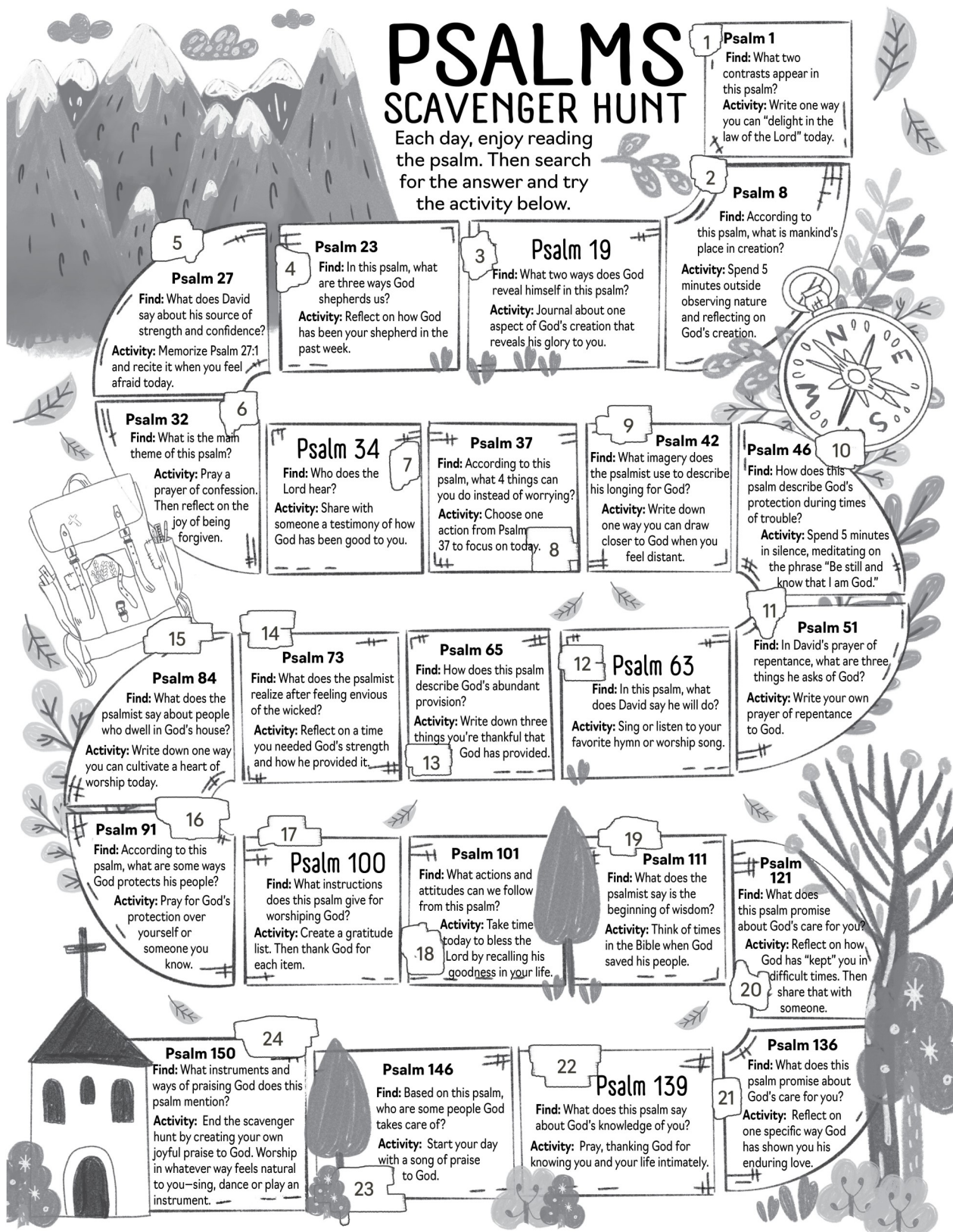
20 Psalm 121
Find: What does this psalm promise about God's care for you?
Activity: Reflect on how God has "kept" you in difficult times. Then share that with someone.

24 Psalm 150
Find: What instruments and ways of praising God does this psalm mention?
Activity: End the scavenger hunt by creating your own joyful praise to God. Worship in whatever way feels natural to you—sing, dance or play an instrument.

23 Psalm 146
Find: Based on this psalm, who are some people God takes care of?
Activity: Start your day with a song of praise to God.

22 Psalm 139
Find: What does this psalm say about God's knowledge of you?
Activity: Pray, thanking God for knowing you and your life intimately.

21 Psalm 136
Find: What does this psalm promise about God's care for you?
Activity: Reflect on one specific way God has shown you his enduring love.



January 2025



WINTER

				1-WEDNESDAY	2-THURSDAY	3-FRIDAY	4-SATURDAY
				<i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	8am Offsite Prayer 5pm Volleyball		6pm AA
5-SUNDAY	6-MONDAY	7-TUESDAY	8-Wednesday	9-THURSDAY	10-FRIDAY	11-SATURDAY	
8am Chapel 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Large group 10:30am Traditional 5:30pm Youth Group	6pm Upward 6:30pm Trustees meeting 7:30 pm- basketball	10:30AM Book Discussion 6PM- Upward 6:30PM Missions Meeting 7PM SPRC 7pm AA 7pm Men's basketball	10am Women Bible Study 7pm Choir 7:30pm-basketball	8am Off-site Prayer 1pm Lady small group 5pm Volleyball	6pm Girl Scouts 6PM Soccer	8am Men's Group 11AM Upward 6pm AA	
12-Sunday	13-Monday	14-Tuesday	15-Wednesday	16-Thursday	17-Friday	18-Saturday	
8am Chapel 8am Our Daily Bread 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Large group 10:30am Traditional 5:30PM- Youth Group	6pm Upward 7:30pm Basketball	9AM- Staff Meeting 5:30PM Bell Socialization 6PM- Upward 7pm AA 7pm Men's basketball	10am Women Bible Study 7PM Choir 7:30pm-basketball	8am Offsite Prayer 5pm Volleyball	6PM Soccer	8am Men's Group 11AM Upward 6pm AA	
19-Sunday	20-Monday	21-Tuesday	22-Wednesday	23-Thursday	24-Friday	25-Saturday	
8am Chapel 8am Our Daily 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Large group 10:30am Traditional 5:30pm Youth group	6pm Upward 6:30PM Prayer Shawl 7:30pm Basketball	12PM- Lunch Bunch 6PM- Upward 7pm AA 7pm Men's basketball	10am Women Bible Study 5PM- Soccer 7PM Choir 7:30pm-basketball	8am Offsite Prayer 5pm Volleyball	6pm Girl Scouts 6PM Soccer	8am Men's Group 11AM Upward 6pm AA	
26-Sunday	27-Monday	28-Tuesday	29-Wednesday	30-Thursday	31-Friday		
8am Chapel 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Large group 10:30am Traditional 11AM- Spaghetti Luncheon 5:30pm Youth Group	6pm Upward 7:30pm Basketball	6PM- Upward 7pm AA	10am Women Bible Study 5PM- Soccer 7PM Choir 7:30pm-basketball	8am Offsite Prayer 5pm Volleyball	6PM Soccer		

Bethlehem Church Dallastown

109 East Main Street
Dallastown, Pennsylvania 17313-2207

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Dave Stough, Lead Pastor
office@gotobethlehem.org
www.gotobethlehem.org
Sunday Worship Schedule
8:00 AM Chapel Service
9:15 AM Contemporary Service
10:30 AM Traditional Service

**WELCOME
TO
BETHLEHEM
CHURCH DALLASTOWN**