#### **Connect With Us**

- Rev. Dr. Stephen Heinzel-Nelson, Sr. Pastor stephen@allentownpresbyterian.org
- Rev. Lindsay Anderson-Beck, Associate Pastor lindsay@allentownpresbyterian.org
- Courtney Pitman, Office Manager courtney@allentownpresbyterian.org



Visit our website to meet all of our staff, deacons, and elders!

#### Download our App!



- Watch Live
- · See What's Coming Up
- **Stay Connected**
- **Give Easily**

Join our weekly newsletter -The Grapevine







/allentownpresbyteriannj

### **Weekly Program Registrations**

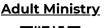


# Children's Ministry

**Sunday School** Pre-K - 5: Sun. 9:45-10:45am **Stepping Stones** 

Grades 1&2: Thurs. 5-6:15pm R.O.C.K.

Grades 3-5: Thurs. 5-7:30pm





#### **Crossroads Youth Ministry Sunday School**

Grades 6-12: Sun. 9:45-10:45am **HS Youth Group** 

Grades 9-12: Tues. 6:30-8:30pm **MS Youth Group** 

Grades 6-8: Wed. 6:30-8:30pm

### **Giving at APC**

Have you made your 2026 pledge? You can submit it using the card located in your pew.

Mail a Check: APC - 20 High St. Allentown, NJ 08501

Scan the QR or visit allentownpresbyterian.org/give

**Text:** GIVE2APC to 1-888-364-4483



# Welcome to

the Allentown Presbyterian Church



Sunday, December 14, 2025 8:30 & 11:00am

In response to the grace of God, our mission is to grow a community of fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ to produce abundant spiritual fruit for the Kingdom of God.

> 20 High St. Allentown, NJ 08501 allentownpresbyterian.org | 609.259.7289



## Welcome

Welcome to worship at APC! We are a 305-year-old church with a youthful spirit and a sense that God is always "doing a new thing" in our midst.

#### We're so glad you're here!

New? Wanting to go deeper? We'd love to get to know you and help you take your next step in your faith journey. Get connected here —



#### Have Children?

Nursery Care is provided for infants through age 3, from 8:15am-12:15pm. KinderWorship is available during worship for ages Pre-K (4) thru 1st Grade after the Children's Message. Register here If you need to step out at any point, the service will be playing next door.





Prayer Requests: Leave a written request in the offering plate or submit your prayer request here.

### Sundays at APC

Worship - 8:30am (livestream available)

Christian Education - 9:45-10:45am

Worship - 11:00am

#### **Advent Sermon Series:** What Are You Waiting For?

The hymn, "O Come O Come Emmanuel" captures the spirit of advent. It tells of the deep longing for God to break into the world; a longing that was met with the birth of Jesus. This longing continues, as we wait with expectation for Jesus to come again, and again. Join us this advent as, along with the prophets of old, we await the coming of the Messiah.

#### **December Adult Ed Series:**

Growing in Prayer and the Contemplative Life Taught by Sister Marcy, the director at our neighboring "Francis House of Prayer" for the past 35 years.

# **Order of Worship**

**Welcome/Announcements** Rev. Lindsay Anderson-Beck

The Albrights / The Macalusos **Advent Candle Lighting** 

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" Song

Confession Peggy Sue Wright / Anna Fe Rebadavia

Dear God.

We know we are to wait and watch, to be your watchman, to tell others of your grace and mercy, to show others the way to you. Yet so often we are impatient. We want a plan with full details, with all the specifics about who and when. When you ask us to wait and have faith, we get anxious and fill in the waiting with our wants. We know you include all in your plan, and we know you demand justice. Our limited logic can't make that work, so we substitute our list of who you include and who you exclude in your plan. We know you ask of us grace to all of your creatures, that we be your hands and feet reaching out to all. Yet we often reach only to our circle, afraid there isn't enough of your love and grace, or sure justice is what is needed not grace, circumventing your plan with our plan. Hear us as we pray...

"Light of the World" Sona

**Children's Message** 

Maureen Harshman

Leanna Collins

**Sacrament of Baptism** Christopher Michael Niedermayer

Scripture Habakkuk 2:1-3

Waiting For The Vision Sermon

Rev. Dr. Stephen Heinzel-Nelson

**Special Song** "The Vision"

Offering

**Prayer** 

Closing Song "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

**Benediction** 

# **Upcoming Events**

#### HomeFront Christmas Angel Wishes | 12/15

- Every child should have something to look forward to on Christmas day; for homeless and recently homeless children, that is only possible with your help.
- Contact Mary Beth Drew at 609.954.8705 or 5drews@optonline.net to get involved!
- Drop off items through 12/15 to Schulte Hall

#### FFG Caroling | Monday 12/15

- Join us for an evening of Christmas Caroling
- Dinner is provided
- There will also be a LIVE Nativity!

#### Christmas Eve Services

- o 4:00pm Children & Family (Christmas Play)
- 7:30pm Candlelight (livestream available)
- 11:00pm Candlelight & Communion

#### Loaves & Fishes | Saturday 12/27, 8am-1pm

- o Join us as we come together with the Allentown Ecumenical Community to prepare and serve 250 guests and make an additional 250 to-go meals at St Mary's Cathedral in Trenton.
- Volunteers will be needed to cook and serve the meal. Sign up here:
- Questions? Contact Phil Rondinelli
  - philr66@gmail.com

#### Advent Village Shopping

- The online store is open through 12/31
- Advent Village provides creative and "alternative" gift options that help people in need. Life-giving gifts such as food, paid heating bills, diapers, stoves, immunizations, retreat scholarships, chickens, and goats will truly change and bless the lives of those in severe need locally and around the world!



# **Upcoming Events**

#### HomeFront Christmas Angel Wishes | 12/15

- Every child should have something to look forward to on Christmas day; for homeless and recently homeless children, that is only possible with your help.
- Contact Mary Beth Drew at 609.954.8705 or 5drews@optonline.net to get involved!
- Drop off items through 12/15 to Schulte Hall

#### • FFG Caroling | Monday 12/15

- Join us for an evening of Christmas Caroling
- o Dinner is provided
- There will also be a LIVE Nativity!

#### Christmas Eve Services

- 4:00pm Children & Family (Christmas Play)
- 7:30pm Candlelight (livestream available)
- 11:00pm Candlelight & Communion

#### Loaves & Fishes | Saturday 12/27, 8am-1pm

- Join us as we come together with the Allentown Ecumenical Community to prepare and serve 250 guests and make an additional 250 to-go meals at St Mary's Cathedral in Trenton.
- Volunteers will be needed to cook and serve the meal. Sign up here:
- Questions? Contact Phil Rondinelli
  - philr66@gmail.com

#### Advent Village Shopping

- The online store is open through 12/31
- Advent Village provides creative and "alternative" gift options that help people in need. Life-giving gifts such as food, paid heating bills, diapers, stoves, immunizations, retreat scholarships, chickens, and goats will truly change and bless the lives of those in severe need locally and around the world!



# **Kneeling Notes**

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Members - Jeff McLaughlin; John Elder; Ed Rhoad; Kait Villipart; Janine Talbot; Kristin Low; Nate Ugi; Carly Nemeth & Family; Dave & Barbara Gray; Carolyn German; Lydia Boruta; Ida & Ken Ruch; Ruth & Ed Demarest; Roberta Holmes; Kathy Plotner

Friends - Jack Cook; John & Kelsy Stover; Tee Feminella (Peggy Stover's Sister): Richard Ellis (Art Diebel's Uncle): (Lari Sapnar (friend of Allyn McLaughlin); Debbie (friend of Karen Van Morter): Bob Suessman: Ian Walker: Courtney (friend of Heidi Valentine); Lorraine Ricci (Brian Ricci's mother); Deb Brown & Dot Hannigan (friends of Diane Schulte); Allyssa (co-worker of Kait Villipart); Lynn Sorrenti (friend of Krystal Odell); Catherine Cardone (mother of Marian Baylor); Friends of Melissa Collins; Ashlev Alfaro and Justine Whitman (friends of Paula Lotito): Kerri Buscaglia; Jan (Niece of Thea Tantum); Cristina Colineri; Melissa Clark and Stuart Burrows (Family of Dawn & John Koetting); Chris Lane (Brother to Laura Pellichero); Eva Heege (Aunt of Dusty Mandeville): Vernon Halpin (Vicki Elkin's brother): Rita Rufner; Elaine (Janet Jackson's sister); Liz Healy (friend of Rachel Scaturo): JJ Jesson: Dan Zander (Joe Bocchini's cousin): Charles, Leyna, and Christianne Ferzli (family of Jessica Sudah); The family of Bob Myers (friend of Helen & Pat DeLorenzo); Margaret Neuman; Judi Carroll and Bob Hoch (friends of Laura Pellichero): Luke Borden (family member of Vicki Elkins): Peter Sharpe and Family (friend of Thea Tantum); Julie (cousin of Renee Martin): Debra Mauer: Thomas (JoAnn Mount's son): Lorraine Bruno and Christopher Brooks (Mother and Brother-in-Law of Heather Saracen); JoAnn Harvey (Ashley LeBrun's grandmother); Joyce Offery (sister of Pam Wargo); Jen Bullock's Mother & Family; Don Heddy (brother of Rich Heddy); Ben Swomiak and family; Verle Cristman (Jan Cristman's father-inlaw); Elaine Szul (friend of Helen DeLorenzo); Shaune Denson (son of Linda Carr): Jackie (friend of Beverly Blauvelt): Staci Blahut (cousin of Brittany Kaplan); Meghan Sacks (friend of the Harshmans): Eveleen Conti (friend of Anne Haines): Suzanne Albright (mother of Rob Albright); Larry Long & Brooke Long (friends of Ann Marie Wiedemann); Yun Lee (Julie Yi Kiernen's brother-in-law); Donna Damico (Janet Jackson's sister-in-law); Scott Crosson (nephew of the Harshmans); Andrew Sekeras (Mary Kokesh's brother).

Ministry Candidates Under Care for ordination in the PCUSA: Dr. Sarah Vick, Jordan Heinzel-Nelson

## **Kneeling Notes**

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Members - Jeff McLaughlin; John Elder; Ed Rhoad; Kait Villipart; Janine Talbot; Kristin Low; Nate Ugi; Carly Nemeth & Family; Dave & Barbara Gray; Carolyn German; Lydia Boruta; Ida & Ken Ruch; Ruth & Ed Demarest; Roberta Holmes; Kathy Plotner

Friends - Jack Cook; John & Kelsy Stover; Tee Feminella (Peggy Stover's Sister): Richard Ellis (Art Diebel's Uncle): (Lari Sapnar (friend of Allyn McLaughlin); Debbie (friend of Karen Van Morter): Bob Suessman: Ian Walker: Courtney (friend of Heidi Valentine); Lorraine Ricci (Brian Ricci's mother); Deb Brown & Dot Hannigan (friends of Diane Schulte); Allyssa (co-worker of Kait Villipart); Lynn Sorrenti (friend of Krystal Odell); Catherine Cardone (mother of Marian Baylor); Friends of Melissa Collins; Ashlev Alfaro and Justine Whitman (friends of Paula Lotito): Kerri Buscaglia; Jan (Niece of Thea Tantum); Cristina Colineri: Melissa Clark and Stuart Burrows (Family of Dawn & John Koetting): Chris Lane (Brother to Laura Pellichero): Eva Heege (Aunt of Dusty Mandeville): Vernon Halpin (Vicki Elkin's brother): Rita Rufner; Elaine (Janet Jackson's sister); Liz Healy (friend of Rachel Scaturo): JJ Jesson: Dan Zander (Joe Bocchini's cousin): Charles, Leyna, and Christianne Ferzli (family of Jessica Sudah); The family of Bob Myers (friend of Helen & Pat DeLorenzo); Margaret Neuman; Judi Carroll and Bob Hoch (friends of Laura Pellichero): Luke Borden (family member of Vicki Elkins): Peter Sharpe and Family (friend of Thea Tantum); Julie (cousin of Renee Martin): Debra Mauer: Thomas (JoAnn Mount's son): Lorraine Bruno and Christopher Brooks (Mother and Brother-in-Law of Heather Saracen); JoAnn Harvey (Ashley LeBrun's grandmother); Joyce Offery (sister of Pam Wargo); Jen Bullock's Mother & Family; Don Heddy (brother of Rich Heddy); Ben Swomiak and family; Verle Cristman (Jan Cristman's father-inlaw); Elaine Szul (friend of Helen DeLorenzo); Shaune Denson (son of Linda Carr): Jackie (friend of Beverly Blauvelt): Staci Blahut (cousin of Brittany Kaplan); Meghan Sacks (friend of the Harshmans): Eveleen Conti (friend of Anne Haines): Suzanne Albright (mother of Rob Albright); Larry Long & Brooke Long (friends of Ann Marie Wiedemann); Yun Lee (Julie Yi Kiernen's brother-in-law); Donna Damico (Janet Jackson's sister-in-law); Scott Crosson (nephew of the Harshmans); Andrew Sekeras (Mary Kokesh's brother).

Ministry Candidates Under Care for ordination in the PCUSA: Dr. Sarah Vick, Jordan Heinzel-Nelson