



**Sunday Worship, December 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Welcome to Congers UMC.** We are happy to have you with us. Join us for a time of food and fellowship after worship service in the fellowship hall.

**This is the first Sunday After Christmas or Christmastide.** We have journeyed through the anticipation of Advent and now stand in the radiant joy of Christmastide – the season where the miracle of the Incarnation continues to unfold in our hearts. On this First Sunday after Christmas, we remember that the birth of Jesus is not the end of the story, but the beginning of God's redeeming work made flesh among us.

**In December** we will also recognize **Hannukah (December 18) and Kwanza (December 26)** as well as, *HIV/AIDS, International Day of Disabilities and Universal Human Rights Awareness Month*

If this is your first or second time with us, please fill in your name, email address, and/or cell number in the **“CongersUMC Connect Card”** in the back of the pew in front of you. Kindly place it in the offering plates or give it to any member. You may also access this form digitally with our “Connect” QR code. We hope to see you again.



Congers UMC is open for in-person worship service, as well as, on Facebook Live\* [www.facebook.com/CongersUMC](https://www.facebook.com/CongersUMC). \*Please be aware that we use Facebook Live for our worship services. If you are uncomfortable being screened or having pictures taken of yourself or family members, please let our Communications Team (Cheery Villaseñor or Bishop J know).



Faith. Family. Fellowship. Music.  
**Congers United Methodist Church**

86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920  
(845) 268-2186 \* [www.congersumc.org](http://www.congersumc.org)  
Bishop Alfred Johnson, Pastor

**Bold** print: read in unison  
\*Stand in body or spirit

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

UMH (United Methodist Hymnal)  
TFWS (The Faith We Sing)

### ENTRANCE

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **GREETINGS AND WELCOME**

Laurie Tacadena and Arielle Rogers, Worship Leaders

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** The light has come, and the darkness cannot overcome it!

**People:** We rejoice in the gift of Christ, born among us.

**Leader:** God's love has taken on flesh and dwells with us.

**People:** We welcome the One who brings peace, hope, and joy.

**Leader:** Come, let us lift our voices in praise!

**People:** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to all!

#### **OPENING HYMN**

*"Joy to the World"*

UMH #246, vss. 1, 2 & 4

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty God, by the birth of your holy child Jesus you gave us a great light to dawn on our darkness. Grant that in his light we may see light. Bestow upon us that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever-brightening hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Holy God, heaven and earth are met this day in the newborn Child, Savior of the world. We celebrate his birth; for in him you come close to us, that we might be close to you. Especially, we give thanks for the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and all he means to us. We give thanks for prospects of peace in the world, for confidence in your almighty love, for those who generously give, for those who graciously receive; for the Church's nurturing us in faith. God of all mercy, forgive us for our sins that often sickness and suffering; those who know no laughter, only tears; those who govern and rule that perpetuate oppression, inequity and unjust ways. Have mercy upon us and renew us in the birth of the Christ Child born. **AMEN.**

#### **SILENT MEDITATION**

#### **THE LORD's PRAYER**

#### **PRAYER RESPONSE**

*"What Child is This"*

UMH #219, vss. 1<sup>st</sup> & last

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE, GRACE AND FORGIVENESS**

**\*Offer each other the gift of forgiveness: "In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."**

#### **WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPERS**

(Please fill out a CongersUMC Connect card)

**(Children may be dismissed for Sunday School, singing Jesus Loves Me, UMH #191)**

#### **PROCLAMATION**

#### **\*SONG OF PREPARATION**

*"The First Noel"*

UMH #245, vss. 1, 2 & last

#### **MESSAGE**

**"Faithful Alignment: Stepping Up With Jesus"**

**Dr. Rondee Gaines Hall**

Isaiah 63:9-9

**Minister Mark "Tony" Hall**

Matthew 2:13-23

## RESPONSE

### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

#### PRAYERS OF COMPASSION/ PASTORAL PRAYER

You are invited to lift names for prayers of celebration or concern; respond with  
“Thanks be to God/ Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers”

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

For your giving convenience, Congers UMC now has online giving with Givelify:  
go to <https://www.givelify.com> designate Congers UMC. Or, Use our QR code  
by pointing the camera on your cell phone to this image:

\*RESPONSE

*“Let the Church Sing Amen” (3X)*



#### SENDING

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE (see page 4)

\*SENDING SONG

*“Silent Night”*

UMH#239, vss. 1, 2 & 4

#### \*DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS

POSTLUDE (Please be seated)

**Acolytes carry the Light into the world!**

## Opportunities for Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

### We thank our Worship Team Leaders:

Worship Leaders: Laurie Tacadena and Arielle Rogers

Musician: Jim West

Morning Messages: Minister Mark "Tony" Hall and Dr. Rondee Gaines hall

Communications/Sunday School: Cheery Villaseñor

Facebook Coordinator: Roberto Villaseñor

Hospitality: Carole Anderson and Congers Church Team

### Compassion Prayers

- Please keep in heart and prayer church members, families, and friends who stand in the need of prayer. You can find the complete list on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. (If there are additions, removals, or amendments to this list, please let Pat Williams know.)
- We pray for God's Peace and Justice throughout our country and throughout this world; such as the ongoing wars between Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Iran, The Congo, Somalia and other parts of Africa, and other parts of our world. Global issues, such as, immigration, atomic energy, women and children abuse, active shootings, climate change, attacks on democracy, disarmament, food insecurity, the unsheltered, etc.



### Service

If you didn't bring your non-perishable food item to be donated to **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**, this Sunday, and you would like to donate, bring it next week or see Francs Reid, coordinator, for more information.

### **December Birthdays**

Dorothy Miller 12/5, Evelyn Jaeger 12/6, Amor Oliva 12/13, Cheery Villasenor 12/14, Carol Oliver 12/19, Jim West 12/18, Rondee Gaines Hall 12/21, Lorenzo Tacadena 12/30, Khayrie Bullock Hayes and Jaeden Rollins, 12/25, Ellen Strauss Reed and Shui Kurian 12/31



### Future Opportunities



**Thursday January 1, 2026:** "Happy New Year!"

**Sunday, January 4, 2026**, 10am Worship, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany Season, Celebration of Holy Communion, Wesleyan Covenant Sunday

**Sunday, January 11, 2026, 10am:** *Shantelle Williams Johnson, Morning Message*

Celebration of the Baptism of the Lord/ Dedication of 2026 CongersUMC Church Officers:

**Sunday, January 19, 2026, 10am:** *Martin Luther King Birthday Sunday*

**Sunday January 25, 2026**, following worship, **CongersUMC One Board** will meet

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**Sunday March 22, 2026**, CongersUMC celebrates: **140<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!!!**

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**Saturday, June 13, 2026, Joshua: "Sight and Sound Production"**, Lancaster County, PA. with Spring Valley UMC, \$300, payable in stages beginning October 19. Info: please contact Shantelle Williams Johnson (to date: 3 CongersUMC members attending, join us!)