



December 1, 2019

**A** **DVENT** is about time and Christmas is about story. We use the time of Advent to prepare ourselves to celebrate the story of Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting, preparation, and anticipation — time we use to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ.

What makes the celebration of Christmas so pronounced and meaningful are the weeks, days, and hours we spend in anticipation of its arrival. Advent begins four Sundays prior to Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. In the same way we make plans for our observance of Christmas as a holiday by decorating, shopping, cooking, and singing — I recommend we use Advent as a time to quiet our hearts and orient them toward God.

To support and encourage our observance of Advent we offer resources and activities for children, adults, and families. At tonight's **ADVENT WREATH-MAKING FESTIVAL**, starting at 4:30 p.m. in Ingram Hall, you can construct a table wreath to celebrate the significance of each candle leading up to the birth of Jesus. Visit our website to read what the tradition of creating an Advent wreath means for one FPC family.

Today and next Sunday, visit the Community Service Team's **ANGEL TREE** in Ingram Hall after 8:00 and 9:00 AM worship or in the Sanctuary Entrance after 10:30 AM worship to select a tag of a wished-for item from underserved students of Kids' Street Charter School. Take a tag either this Sunday or next, buy the item, and returned it gift-wrapped to the Tree by December 15. You may email Lisa Anderson to volunteer to help: lmanderson10@hotmail.com

Saturday, December 7, the **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** host their annual **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** with Crafts and Food Sale. Proceeds from this event support local mission and community service groups.

A hallmark of our Church's observance of Advent and celebration of the message of Christmas is the presentation of our annual music program. This year's **MUSIC FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** is scheduled for Sunday, December 8 at 4:30 & 7:00 pm. Vocal and instrumental musicians from our congregation make this a featured event for our community. We encourage you to invite a guest (promo postcards are available at the Connect Center) and to arrive early for optimum seating.

Alongside you for Christ, *Dale*

## TODAY @ THE CONNECT CENTER

### Sign up for:

- ◆ Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon (12/7)
- ◆ Photo session with Lifetouch (12/9 & 12/10)
- ◆ Rhythm of Life workshop (1/11/20)

### Pick up:

- ◆ Advent & Christmas schedule
- ◆ Advent Devotional Calendars - (Youth and/or Adult)
- ◆ Your Lifetouch Picture

### Click QR code to read:

- ◆ Newsletter & 10:30 AM Worship Bulletin

## WE CARE

### Prayer Needs

~ *for health concerns:* Richard Boone, Darla Budsworth, Theresa James, Jacque Peacock, Carolyn Prud'homme, and Lorraine Watson.

~ *for those serving in the military:* Benjamin & Jerra Brown, Josh Berto, Tom Cuneo, Blake Deal, Destinie Gacusana, Ian Gilliom, Edward Guerrant, Michelle Hauprich, John Hays, Rob Hills, Angel Hobbs, Matthew Kirby, Roger Klein, Josh Landreth, Rich Lawson, Treven Lipsey, Zackary Lipsey, Ryan MacLeod, Cooper Maloney, Luke McDonald, Vickie McDonald, Connor Aydan Momsen, Kevin Niles, and Travis Tre've.

## WE GROW

### Advent Adult Ed. Class

Dec. 1, 8 & 15 at 10:30 AM, Rm 113  
Join Allie Shoulders and Jack & Nancy Swearengen for a brief series leveraging technology and class discussion to gain a deeper understanding of the birth and childhood of Jesus.

### Advent Wreath Making Festival

Today, Dec. 1 at 4:30, Ingram hall  
Create an Advent Wreath to mark the four Sundays of the season. As it turns dark, we will light the first Advent candle of each wreath as a community. Optional: bring a plate of fruit or cookies to share!

## WE CELEBRATE

### Music Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 8 at 4:30 and 7:00 PM  
Presented by the First Presbyterian Choir and Handbells.

### Advent & Christmas Worship

#### Schedule

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve worship services at 5:00, 7:00 and 9:00 PM

Dec. 29 - Sunday after Christmas 9:00 and 10:30 AM worship services.

### Lifetouch Photo Sessions

Dec. 9 & 10

Last chance to sign up for your church directory photo session! Sign up at the Connect Center.

## WE SERVE

### Angel Tree Tags

Pick up an angel tree tag today in Ingram Hall after 8 AM and 9 AM worship. After 10:30 worship service, you can pick up a tag at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Bring gifts back by Dec. 15. Volunteer to help - email Lisa Anderson: lmanderson10@hotmail.com or call her at 318-7879.

