

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of December 5, 2019



Dear First Congregational,

I am looking forward to our special advent worship services that prepare us for celebrating the birth of Christ. As we seek to Be The Church, we will explore this Sunday how John the Baptist speaks to us in today's world as we seek to reject racism. We prepare the way for Jesus by listening to the voices that cry out from the wilderness...what do they have to teach us about ourselves and about our neighbor and about God?

In the coming weeks we will enjoy special music Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> with singing favorite carols paired with favorite poems for the season.

We will once again gather for a special service of Blue Christmas on Friday, December 20 at 6:30pm followed by a light soup supper. This is a time for all of us to bring our shadow sides near the light of Christ, knowing that all of who we are and all of what we think and feel is embraced by the love of Christ. Our Student Pastor Cassidy Hall is planning and leading the service, working to make this a meaningful time together.

Now is the perfect time to reach out and invite a friend or family member to join you for worship at church. The church is prepared to welcome guests and we know that it pleases God when we can share the love that we feel here with others.

Blessings,  
Pastor Sarah

## Worship

### Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

For December, the Adult Ed class will move through the Advent Season by taking up the first four sessions from *Hallelujah: The Bible and Handel's Messiah*, a curriculum from Kerygma. We will be listening to parts of *Handel's Messiah*, and engaging with the scriptural references. Come and be awed!

- **Dec 8** - Led by Worth - "**Who May Abide the Day of His Coming?**"

Haggai 1:1-14 & 2:1-9;  
Malachi 1:6-14; 2:1-9 and 3:1-4  
Ezra 1:2-4; 3:10-13; 6:3-5  
Revelation 4:1-6

### Sunday Worship Service

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Cries from the Wilderness."

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-6



**Sneak Peek at Upcoming Special Worship Services - Please Mark Your Calendar!**

**Lessons & Carols** - December 15, 11:00am

**Blue Christmas** - December 20, 6:30pm

**Christmas Eve** - December 24, 7:00pm

### **What's Happening at FC**

(See December Colony for monthly announcements and further details.)

#### **Choir Rehearsal TONIGHT!**

The FC Choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We welcome new members. If anyone is interested in joining the choir, please email Julie at [juliehouston@comcast.net](mailto:juliehouston@comcast.net). We would love to have you join us!

#### **Poinsettia Time**

It is the Advent Season. Please order a poinsettia to help celebrate this special time of year. The cost per plant is \$10.00. Have any questions, please see or email Sally Coombs at [sallysews73@gmail.com](mailto:sallysews73@gmail.com).

Deadline: December 15th. Display: December 22nd.

#### **You're Invited!**

Our friends at St. Peter's UCC invite us to join them for a Blue Christmas Service on Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m.

3106 East Carmel Drive  
Carmel, IN

### **Updates about Ways to Serve in 2020**

The Care & Connections Board is responsible for filling the slate of church officers and boards for the congregation's approval at our Annual Meeting at the end of January. There will be several openings on our various boards, and we hope you will consider getting involved with one of them.

Of note, there are 3 open leadership positions:

- The Moderator position is our church's top lay position, with the primary function of leading Church Council, among other things. It is normally filled by the Vice Moderator from the prior year. Lianna Campos agreed to be our Vice Moderator in April 2019, and has chosen to not continue in leadership during 2020. Alice Rutherford, who has a background of serving on boards and Church Council, has agreed to be on the slate for 2020 for the Moderator position. If you would also like to be considered, or have a suggestion of someone who could step into the Moderator position, please contact Wendy Baldwin by 12/20.
- At this time, we have no candidate for the 2020 Vice Moderator position. This position assists the Moderator, and is in line for being Moderator in 2021. If you would like to be considered, or have a suggestion, please contact Wendy Baldwin by 12/20.
- George Meier has been our Financial Secretary for several years, and he no longer wishes to serve in this role. The Financial Secretary records our pledges, gifts, and donations. This position is the only person in the church who has access to what individuals give. One needs to have a comfort level with numbers and tracking details. If you would like to be considered, or have a suggestion, please contact Wendy Baldwin by 12/20.

Thank you to all who have served on boards in 2019, and our great appreciation to Lianna and George as their service journeys follow a different path in 2020!

### **Holiday Recycling Done Right**

by Len Detwiler on Dec 4, 2018 in [LEARNING CENTER](#)



It's estimated that an additional 100 million tons of trash are generated every week between Thanksgiving and New Years Day. All that food, wrapping paper, cardboard and packing material adds up! So, we're going to get you ready with some pointers for Recycling Right this holiday season.

- **Capture the Cardboard & Preserve the Paper:** there's so much packaging! Hold on to what you can reuse and recycle the rest. Cardboard and chipboard (like those shirt boxes or the wrapping paper tubes) are accepted in the curbside recycling programs offered by [Ray's Recycling](#) and [Republic Services](#). Large pieces should be cut down so they fit easily in your curbside bin. Flattened cardboard and chipboard are also accepted at the [District's Recycling Drop-off Centers](#). While we're on the subject, let's talk holiday cards for a minute: the paper ones are recyclable (along with the envelope they came in), but the photo cards are not.
- **Battery Basics:** gadgets and gizmos use batteries. Alkaline batteries are safe to be thrown away (they can be recycled at [Tox-Away Days](#) or at [a few local retailers for a fee](#)). Button batteries and rechargeable batteries should always be recycled at any [one of these fine, local retailers](#), or at Tox-Away Day.
- **Lights to Lowe's:** let your old Christmas lights have a new life by recycling them at Lowe's. Look for bins near the customer service desk inside the front door. (FYI: Lowe's accepts compact fluorescent bulbs, plastic bags and rechargeable batteries for recycling, too. Rock on, you recycling rock stars!)
- **Electronics Everywhere:** if you have some old, unwanted electronics to get rid of, first consider reuse! If the item still works, consider Goodwill, Salvation Army or the Habitat ReStore as options (except for TVs...no one wants your old, huge CRT TV, sorry...). If the life has left your old device, recycling is the next best option (and landfilling them is no longer allowed). Fortunately, e-waste recycling options abound here in Hendricks County. In addition to our [Tox-Away Days](#), these [other organizations](#) will accept most of your electronic waste for recycling free-of-charge. TV's are a different kettle of fish, however. Recycling TVs is expensive and only a handful of companies will even accept them for recycling. You can expect to pay to

have them taken away and recycled. The District will also accept TVs at our Tax-Away Days—we charge \$20 or \$25 each, depending on size, to recycle them.

- **Taking out the Tree:** natural, undecorated Christmas trees can be recycled this winter into excellent mulch for next spring. The District will be collecting (naked) Christmas trees at our Yard Waste Recycling Centers in Brownsburg (90 Mardale Drive) and Plainfield (7020 S. County Road 875 E.) from December 21st through January 21st. The sites will be open 24/7 and there is no charge to drop off your tree. Our friends at GreenCycle-McCarty in Danville will also accept Christmas trees for recycling. They are located at 494 S. County Road 200 E. and their number is 317-745-2000.

Have questions about other stuff we didn't cover above? Check out our online Recycling Directory or contact us at the District office. We're always glad to help! Season's Greenings!

### **The Green Team wants YOU!**

The Green Team could use more members! Fresh off our success in getting solar panels installed, we have fresh ideas for 2020--but could use some help dragging them across the finish line. If you have any interest in joining up to help, please contact any of us, particularly Rich Gibson, Nancy Dickinson, Bill Gillette, Ann Leatherman or Katie Booth

### **Green Team Tip**

Temperatures are changing: have you checked your tire pressure recently? (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com).)



### **Food Donations for the Northside Pantry**

Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming!

### **December Mission of the Month: The Christmas Fund**

The Christmas Fund is one of the "5 for 5" offerings of the United Church of Christ that FC has committed to support. The Christmas Fund, formerly known as the "Veterans of the Cross Offering," gives congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in loving compassion, providing assistance to those who have so faithfully served our churches and now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs. These funds enable the Pension Board's Ministerial Assistance program to provide, on behalf of the whole Church, pension

supplements, health premium supplements, emergency grants for health or unexpected travel expenses, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks to individuals and families in need.

This year’s theme is “A Light Shines in the Darkness.” Your gifts this December will bring light into the darkness of financial need of deserving retired church workers and keep needed funds coming in the year ahead. Watch for the weekly bulletin inserts during Advent for stories of how individuals and their families have been helped by the Christmas Fund.

### **Advent Giving Opportunities**

We have several opportunities to give to those in need during Advent. Some are old traditions, others are new:

- The “**Mitten Tree**” in the narthex will again be collecting hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for both children and adults. These will be **delivered to Exodus Refugee on December 16.**
- The “**Giving Tree**” in the parlor will again be collecting \$25 gift cards for big-box stores such as Target, Meier, and Wal-Mart. These will be **delivered to Family Promise on December 16** for the After Care families for purchasing their own gifts.
- After the gift cards are removed from the “**Giving Tree**” on Dec. 15, it will become a place to donate items for the **Church World Service hygiene kits** that will be taken to the Southwest Border by our delegation in mid-January. Many of the items are being provided by the Outreach & Service Board, but there will be tickets on the tree for the remaining items needed. This is a way for all of us to be a part of this Witness at the Border. These items should be returned by **Sunday, Jan. 5, Epiphany Sunday.**
- **New this year** is the **Reverse Advent Calendar** for collecting food items for the Northside Food Pantry. Instead of you getting a treat each day during Advent, you will be adding a designated food item to bring to church. Items should be turned in weekly, and they will be delivered weekly. Flyers with the list of items will be on the narthex table or may be accessed [here](#).

### **Pastoral Care**

Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at [pastorsarah@fcindy.org](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org).

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	<b>11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Women's Lunch</b>
<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Men's Lunch</b>
<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Saturday, December 7</b>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Bell Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Outreach &amp; Service</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 10</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Care &amp; Connections</b>
<b>Thursday, December 12</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Saturday, December 14</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Bell Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sunday, December 15</b>	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday Adult Class</b>
<b>Sunday, December 15</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship: Lessons &amp; Carols</b>
<b>Sunday, December 15</b>	<b>12:45 p.m.</b>	<b>PCRC (w/ Pastor Sarah)</b>



 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



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On Sunday I shared in worship this poem by e.e. cummings "little tree" and offer it to you here for your reflection.

little tree  
little silent Christmas tree  
you are so little  
you are more like a flower

who found you in the green forest

and were you very sorry to come away?  
see i will comfort you  
because you smell so sweetly

i will kiss your cool bark  
and hug you safe and tight  
just as your mother would,  
only don't be afraid

look the spangles  
that sleep all the year in a dark box  
dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine,  
the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads,

put up your little arms  
and i'll give them all to you to hold  
every finger shall have its ring  
and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy

then when you're quite dressed  
you'll stand in the window for everyone to see  
and how they'll stare!  
oh but you'll be very proud

and my little sister and i will take hands  
and looking up at our beautiful tree  
we'll dance and sing  
"Noel Noel"

I hope you can join us for our second annual Blue Christmas service Friday, tomorrow night at 6:30pm in the sanctuary followed by a lite soup and bread supper in the parlor. Our Student Pastor Cassidy Hall will guide us for a time of support and caring during a time of year where our emotions might be a mixture of terror and delight, anxiety and hope, sadness and joy or we may not be able to feel much of anything. That's okay. Come as you are and know that you are loved!

Blessings,  
Pastor Sarah

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This warning (see article below) comes from Rhode Island, but both Rich Gibson and Bob Cook received solicitation emails from what looked like Pastor Sarah's authentic email address. Be careful out there!

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### Church Office Closed for the Holidays

The church office will be closed Dec 24 – Jan 1.

## Worship

### Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

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### Sunday Worship Service - 4th Sunday of Advent: Love

Pastor Sarah will be preaching on "Dream God's Dream."

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25





**Sneak Peek at Upcoming Special Worship Services - Please Mark Your Calendar!**

**Blue Christmas** - December 20, 6:30pm

**Christmas Eve** - December 24, 7:00pm

### **What's Happening at FC**

(See December Colony for monthly announcements and further details.)

#### **Choir Rehearsal TONIGHT!**

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#### **TOMORROW! Blue Christmas Service: Friday, Dec 20, 6:30 p.m.**

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As your Student Pastor, I will be leading the night with some friends from my cohort at CTS and music from Sister Sinjin. The evening will conclude with a provided soup and bread dinner. Thoughts or questions? Email me: [studentpastor@fcindy.org](mailto:studentpastor@fcindy.org)

#### **Friday Night at the Movies: December 27, 6:30pm**

Note a change of date in December from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday to the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday – 12/27, 6:30ish. Join us this month on 12/27 to avoid the hectic Christmas shopping season. We'll meet at 6:30ish at Keystone Art Cinema in the Fashion Mall at Keystone, and decide which film(s) to see, get refreshments, and socialize. Then, after the movie, hang out at the Indie

Lounge for more fellowship. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin

### **Annual Stewardship Campaign – Devoted to Generosity**

Thank you to all who have turned in a pledge card and/or Time & Talent card for 2020. The ministries of our church depend on our faithful gifts. If you have not turned one in, extra cards are available in the Narthex, or by contacting the church office; to help with our planning, please turn these in by December 31. Thank you for all of the generous ways that you give to the church and to the world!

### **Thank You for Your Generosity!**

Outreach & Service thanks everyone who contributed to the Giving Tree and the Mitten Tree. This week we were able to deliver \$640 in gift cards to Family Promise so that the After Care Families can buy gifts for their families. We also delivered three large trash bags full of hats, gloves, scarves, and socks to Exodus Refugee for their clients. Many of the lovely items were hand knit or crocheted. You can also show your generosity by continuing to participate in the Reverse Advent Calendar and in providing gifts for the hygiene kits for the border. "

### **A Chance to Offer International Help**

Shannon Abbott, Cassidy Hall and Sandy Wood will be going to the U.S. Mexico border January 14<sup>th</sup> with a group from the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC to witness what is happening there. Outreach and Service Board is making 25 **hygiene kits** for our host congregation, Good Shepherd UCC in Tucson, AZ. to use in their work with migrant shelters there and in Mexico.

The Board is providing most of the items for the kits, but has asked the congregation's help in obtaining hand towels and white adult size tube socks. The tree in the Parlor which had gift cards for Family Promise will now contain ornaments specifying an amount of socks or towels to buy. Please take an ornament, buy the item(s) on the ornament, and return the item(s) and ornament to the tree by Sunday Jan 5<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup> we will assemble the kits after worship. If you have questions, please contact Sue Chapman, Cassidy or Sandy. **Thanks for your efforts to help refugees!**

### **Will You Serve on a Board in 2020?**

Most of the ministries of our church are planned and managed by our 5 boards. We currently have several openings for 2020. This is a great way to get involved, and make a difference in people's lives. Our boards are: Worship & Faith, Care & Connection, Witness & Welcome, Outreach & Service, and Trustees. Also, we are looking for a new Financial Secretary; this position records our pledges, gifts, and donations, and one needs to have a comfort level with numbers and tracking details. If you would like to learn more

about these opportunities, please contact Wendy Baldwin.

### **The Green Team wants YOU!**

The Green Team could use more members! Fresh off our success in getting solar panels installed, we have fresh ideas for 2020--but could use some help dragging them across the finish line. If you have any interest in joining up to help, please contact any of us, particularly Rich Gibson, Nancy Dickinson, Bill Gillette, Ann Leatherman or Katie Booth

### **Green Team Tip**

Though they take more time, think about simple homemade gifts that show love. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com).)



### **Food Donations for the Northside Pantry**

Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming! We are grateful to the Meridian Hills Nursery School and Kindergarten who has joined us in donating and delivering food to the pantry.

### **December Mission of the Month: The Christmas Fund**

The Christmas Fund is one of the "5 for 5" offerings of the United Church of Christ that FC has committed to support. The Christmas Fund, formerly known as the "Veterans of the Cross Offering," gives congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in loving compassion, providing assistance to those who have so faithfully served our churches and now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs. These funds enable the Pension Board's Ministerial Assistance program to provide, on behalf of the whole Church, pension supplements, health premium supplements, emergency grants for health or unexpected travel expenses, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to individuals and families in need.

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### **Pastoral Care**

Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at [pastorsarah@tcindy.org](mailto:pastorsarah@tcindy.org).

### **Holiday Pastoral Care**

While Pastor Sarah is visiting family for the holidays from Dec 25 – Jan 3, Pastor Carol may be reached at (317) 496-9732 or [casowle@gmail.com](mailto:casowle@gmail.com).

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

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<b>Thursday, December 19</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thursday, December 19</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Winter Solstice Celebration @ Unitarian Universalist Church</b>
<b>Friday, December 20</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Blue Christmas Service &amp; Soup Dinner</b>
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday Adult Class</b>
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 24</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 25</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
<b>Sunday, December 29</b>		<b>NO ADULT CLASS</b>
<b>Sunday, December 29</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship w/ Pastor Carol Sowle preaching</b>

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



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and were you very sorry to come away?  
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i will kiss your cool bark  
and hug you safe and tight  
just as your mother would,  
only don't be afraid

look the spangles  
that sleep all the year in a dark box  
dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine,  
the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads,

put up your little arms  
and i'll give them all to you to hold  
every finger shall have its ring  
and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy

then when you're quite dressed  
you'll stand in the window for everyone to see  
and how they'll stare!  
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and my little sister and i will take hands  
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### **Green Team Tip**

Though they take more time, think about simple homemade gifts that show love. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com).)



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Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming! We are grateful to the Meridian Hills Nursery School and Kindergarten who has joined us in donating and delivering food to the pantry.

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This year's theme is "A Light Shines in the Darkness." Your gifts this December will bring light into the darkness of financial need of deserving retired church workers and keep needed funds coming in the year ahead. Watch for the weekly bulletin inserts during Advent for stories of how individuals and their families have been helped by the Christmas Fund.

### **Pastoral Care**

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### **Holiday Pastoral Care**

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### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

<b>Thursday, December 19</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Men's Lunch</b>
<b>Thursday, December 19</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thursday, December 19</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Winter Solstice Celebration @ Unitarian Universalist Church</b>
<b>Friday, December 20</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Blue Christmas Service &amp; Soup Dinner</b>
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday Adult Class</b>
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 24</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 25</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
<b>Sunday, December 29</b>		<b>NO ADULT CLASS</b>
<b>Sunday, December 29</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship w/ Pastor Carol Sowle preaching</b>

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of December 26, 2019

**Dear First Congregational,**

Merry Christmas beloved of God! From my heart to your heart, I give thanks to God for this life of faith and community that we share at First Congregational. As we embrace this gift of God-with-us, we are reminded that in Jesus Christ we are made ONE. There is no place I'd rather be than in a church that extends to me the gift of radical, unconditional love of God in Christ Jesus. This is the gift of Christmas: knowing that God comes to Earth and says, "I love you!"

You are loved. So very much. Let this gift of love delight you and comfort you. Christmas is here! "Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere. Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!"

With Christmas love,  
Pastor Sarah

### **Church Office Closed for the Holidays**

The church office will be closed Dec 24 – Jan 1.

### **Worship**

**No Adult Class this Sunday, Dec 29th.**

### **Sunday Worship Service - 4th Sunday of Advent: Love**

Pastor Carol will be preaching on "Hear the Angels?"

Scriptures: Psalm 148 & Matthew 2: 13-23



### **What's Happening at FC**

**(See December Colony for monthly announcements and further details.)**

### **No Choir Rehearsal TONIGHT!**

The FC Choir will return for rehearsals in the new year on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We welcome new members. If anyone is interested in joining the choir, please email Julie at [juliehouston@comcast.net](mailto:juliehouston@comcast.net). We would love to have you join us!

### **TOMORROW! Friday Night at the Movies: December 27, 6:30pm**

Note a change of date in December from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday to the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday – 12/27, 6:30ish. Join us this month on 12/27 to avoid the hectic Christmas shopping season. We'll meet at 6:30ish at Keystone Art Cinema in the Fashion Mall at Keystone, and decide which film(s)



to see, get refreshments, and socialize. Then, after the movie, hang out at the Indie Lounge for more fellowship. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin

### **Annual Stewardship Campaign – Devoted to Generosity**

Thank you to all who have turned in a pledge card and/or Time & Talent card for 2020. The ministries of our church depend on our faithful gifts. If you have not turned one in, extra cards are available in the Narthex, or by contacting the church office; to help with our planning, please turn these in by December 31. Thank you for all of the generous ways that you give to the church and to the world!

### **Thank You for Your Generosity!**

Outreach & Service thanks everyone who contributed to the Giving Tree and the Mitten Tree. This week we were able to deliver \$640 in gift cards to Family Promise so that the After Care Families can buy gifts for their families. We also delivered three large trash bags full of hats, gloves, scarves, and socks to Exodus Refugee for their clients. Many of the lovely items were hand knit or crocheted. You can also show your generosity by continuing to participate in the Reverse Advent Calendar and in providing gifts for the hygiene kits for the border."

### **Thank You for Your Generous Christmas Gift Donations!**

We are overwhelmed with the outpouring of generosity from everyone who donated gifts so quickly for the family in need request that went out last Friday. We were able to provide each boy with multiple outfits, socks, underwear, hats, coats, gloves, shoes, toys, and also some gift cards for the family to be able to purchase anything else they might need. Shannon Abbott personally delivered these gifts to the family, and the mother was so very grateful. Thank you all for your generosity!



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If you are fortunate to gather with friends and family this Christmas, what can we share with them about "living green?" What will we learn from them? (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com).)



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**Thursday, January 2**

**Sunday, January 5**

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**Sunday, January 5**

**11:00 a.m.**

**7:00 p.m.**

**9:45 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m.**

**12:30 p.m.**

**NO SUNDAY ADULT CLASS**

**Worship w/ Pastor Carol Sowle  
preaching**

**Choir Rehearsal**

**Sunday Adult Class**

**Worship**

**PCRC (w/Pastor Carol)**