In Our Prayers

Gary Sitler - Mark Stanford
Harvey Littlefield - Phil and Nancy Johnson
Ruth Merchant - Bob Davis - Christine Hicks

Welcome!
No matter who you are or where on life's journey, you are welcome here and we are glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning!

If this is your first time visiting with us, we would love to share a little bit more about who we are with you. Please fill out as much information as you are comfortable providing on the enclosed Welcome Card and place it in the offering box located on the table in the Narthex.

Online Giving
This is just a reminder that we offer electronic giving using your checking account, debit, or credit card on our website. You can even use your smartphone by scanning the "QR Code" right here!

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First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

December 05, 2021

Following Jesus, we answer God's call to practice faith, mercy, and justice in community.
Advent Sermon Series

The pandemic has laid bare, and widened, economic disparity locally and globally. As we enter the Advent season, how can our churches become houses where the Holy will be born anew—offering respite, sustenance and care, opening the doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life? No one church can do it all, but each can do something. As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbors and “make room in the inn,” the lonely and frightened spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Join us for this special Advent worship series. We will also be providing a daily devotional throughout the season and we will once again have advent candles for you to take home, along with beautiful Advent candle holders created by Nelson Stone.

Ruth Merchant Update

Our precious member and friend, Ruth Merchant is currently living at Argo Assisted Living. She would appreciate your cards and visits. You can write her at: Ruth Merchant; #306; 2939 S. Haverhill Rd; West Palm Beach, FL 33415. Argo is also accepting visitors. However, they do request that you call and make an appointment. They can be reached 561-963-8963.
**Congregational Tree**

This year, instead of our usual Chrismon tree, we will be decorating a Congregational Tree together! We are asking you to bring a family decoration to hang on the tree in the Narthex. Let’s celebrate this Advent season and our church family in this very special way!

**Salvation Army Angel Tree**

We are hopeful that you are planning to participate in our Salvation Army Angel tree this year. Please bring your **UNWRAPPED** items to the church by December 09. You may place them under our Congregational Tree. This year, we are targeting: Educational Toys, Crafty Art, and Building Kits.

**Holiday Potluck Dinner**

Join us for a Holiday Potluck Dinner in Studebaker Hall on Friday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex after service on Sunday.
December 05, 2021
A PLACE AT THE TABLE: PEACE
Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements

We Open the Door

The Peace

Opening Hymn
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Children’s Time

First Reading
Baruch 5:1-5 (CEB)

Anthem
“For Everyone Born” Bruce Linser, Soloist

Second Reading
Philippians 1:3-11 (CEB)

I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. I’m thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it’s always a prayer full of joy. I’m glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now. I’m sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus. I have good reason to think this way about all of you because I keep you in my heart. You are all my partners in God’s grace, both during my time in prison and in the defense and support of the gospel. God is my witness that I feel affection for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ. I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God.

“Room at the Table”  Pastor Jason

Prayers of the People

Communion

A Story of Innkeeping: Offering

Communion

Closing Carol  “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Benediction

Postlude

Christmas Offering

Our church’s tradition has become for our Christmas offering to be collected for organizations outside of our church that are involved in ministries of mercy and justice. This year, we are keeping it close to home by contributing to three organizations right here in Lake Worth. The Guatemalan Maya Center works with the large Guatemalan immigrant community here in Palm Beach County, Path to College provides mentorship and college application process coaching to high school students who might otherwise not receive it, and Compass LGBTQ Community Center youth program provides support to LGBTQ youth and their families here in Palm Beach County. We are excited by the opportunity to provide resources to these organizations and support those they work with. You can bring a check with “Christmas Offering” in the memo or donate online.

Bakers Needed

Interested in baking goodies for the Annual Cookie Sale? Please contact Janet Lisle or Susan Peterson.