



GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

December 4, 2019
Volume 56, Issue 23

From the Pastor...

2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT

December 8, 2019

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Blue Christmas

10:45 A.M.

Dee's Gift Market

11:00 A.M.

CHURCH SCHOOL

3:45 P.M.

CAROLING

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2019

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Lessons and Carols

11:00 A.M.

CHURCH SCHOOL



ADVENT DEVOTIONS are available in the narthex and Chapel. This year over a dozen booklets are available for your choice.

OH, WHAT FUN IT IS TO SING! Please join us on

December 8 to **Joy to the World!** sing Christmas carols to our shut-ins in the neighborhood. What a great gift to give. No wrapping needed!



What is "Christmas"? It is three words: GOD IN FLESH; or four syllables: IN-CAR-NAT-TION. The Gospel according to John (1:14) tells us, "The Word became flesh and lived among us... full of grace and truth." Christmas proclaims that God has come in flesh, has come "to save us all from Satan's power." Christmas celebrates far more than a birthday; Christmas acclaims the beginning of messianic salvation. Christ was sent among us *in order to save us.*

What we pay homage to at Christmas, therefore, is that *the ultimate fulfillment of God's saving purpose begins with the birth of Jesus, the messianic Savior.* God's only Son is born among us in order to save the world. This is the message of Christmas.

From the beginning of time, God's saving purpose has been at work. God has raised up the seed of Abraham, including Moses and Gideon and Samson and John the Baptist. Through all these generations, God has been faithfully at work raising persons to bring us the Davidic Messiah, the messianic King, the Son of the Most High who will ascend the throne of David. Through all of human history, God has been bringing forth Jesus Christ. Now through the birth of the Savior, God's purpose will be fulfilled. God has acted to save God's people. The Christ child is born for the saving of the world. An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 92-93)

I hope that you will join us on **Tuesday, December 24th at 7PM** for our **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.** We will gather on one night as one family to worship one King! Please bring your family, friends and neighbors for a service that will include candle-lighting, a children's message and sacred music proclaiming the coming of Christ the King!

In Christ,
Phil

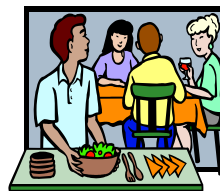
DEE'S ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

December 8 in the Chapel
from 10:30-12:30

This is the last Sunday! Dee's Market has been a way to honor Dee Tanzola and support local, national and international ministries. Please consider making a donation to one of the ministries: Urban Promise, Cuba, Habitat for Humanity, GWCM Food Bank, Community Dinner and Youth Activities and sharing this as a gift with a friend or family members.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday,
December 12, 2019
5:30 P.M.



CHRISTMAS PARTY for all the women of the church will be held on Tuesday, December 17th at noon. All women are welcome. Any questions see any member of the Women's Association.



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

supports a variety of needs: The Board of Pension's income supplement, nursing home care assistance and emergency need grants for retired church workers; the Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Envelopes are provided in the pews. Checks should be made payable to our church. Please give with joy!

JOY



IN MEMORIAM

Florence Meyer

December 1, 2019

"I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord"

ADVENT 2019

DECEMBER 8

When Christmas Hurts - 9:30am
Christian Education - 11:00am
Christmas Caroling - 4:00pm

DECEMBER 15

Lessons and Carols Service - 9:30am
Christian Education - 11:00am

DECEMBER 22

The Christmas Pageant - 9:30am
Christian Education - 11:00am



DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Service - 7:00pm
One Night - One Family - One King



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY: Bernie Carlson is leading a 5 week Advent Study Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 and Jan. 5 at 11:00. It takes great intentionality to make space for the Christs during the Christmas season. Maybe that's why the Scriptures offer so many angels from which to view the birth of Christ – the perspectives of his parents, his aunt and uncle, shepherds doing a day's work, far-off Magi and nearby despots – even the perspective of the prophets who preceded him by centuries. These Bible studies take up each of those perspectives in the hopes that you will get a fresh vision of the coming.



MITTEN TREE is up in the Chapel and ready for the mittens, gloves, and hats that will be given to Urban Promise in Camden.

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES:
12/8 Isn't Christianity just a psychological crutch?
12/15 How do I take the blind leap of faith?
12/22 As long as you're sincere?

This class will be led by Becky DiGati and Phil Oehler. Please join us for discussion on these questions on Sunday mornings beginning at 11 am in The Rock.

PLEDGE CARDS: Thank you to those who have returned their pledge cards. If you have not returned yours, please do so as soon as possible so the Budget Committee can begin to formalize the 2020 Budget.

The Christmas Tree decorated with our member's favorite ornaments is located in the chapel. If you have an ornament you would like to add, feel free to do so.



CHORAL ARTS OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY CONCERT: Join us on Sunday, December 22th at 3:00 pm for a Holiday Musical Program in the Sanctuary.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Jack Brower, Janet Muhm, Dan Shriver, Bob Roberts, Wendy Hill, Larry Geiger, Florence Hillman, Meghan and Dave Orem, Emma Mustard, Brian Praetzel, Amelia Exley, Judy Fetty, and Marie Batten. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Jonathan Gabler, Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 8-14, 2019

2 nd Sunday	8:45 AM	Adult Choir
Of Advent	9:00 AM	Prayer Room 3
	9:30 AM	Worship Service/Blue Christmas
	10:45 AM	Children's Choir
	10:45 AM	Dee's Alternative Gift Market
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages
	4:00 PM	Caroling
Monday:	6:30 PM	SJ Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Trustees
Tuesday:	1:00 PM	60+ Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Wednesday:	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Thursday:	5:30 PM	Community Dinner
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 15 - 22, 2019

3 rd Sunday of Advent:	8:45 AM	Adult Choir
	9:00 AM	Prayer Room 3
	9:30 AM	Worship Service/Lessons and Carols
	10:45 AM	Children's Choir
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages
	3:00 PM	Pack Meeting
Monday:	6:30 PM	SJ Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Session
Tuesday:	10:00 AM	WA Workshop and Christmas Party
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Wednesday:	8:30 AM	Men's Breakfast
	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting
Thursday	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
4 th Sunday of Advent:	8:45 AM	Adult Choir
	9:00 AM	Prayer Room 3
	9:30 AM	Worship Service/Pageant
	10:45 AM	Children's Choir
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages
	3:00 PM	Choral Arts Concert