

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
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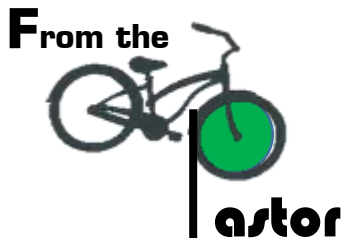
DATED MATERIAL: Please do not delay

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### ***Our Whole Life is an Advent Season***

by Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Senior Minister

Advent is a season of waiting. As the days grow shorter, this is a time of introspection and wonder. Against the gathering darkness, we decorate with lights, fill our social calendars, buy and wrap gifts, sing songs, and host out-of-town guests. Still, we wait. For what? During Advent we wait for the coming of the light, for the arrival of the Christ who comes to fill the earth with God's presence, making all things new.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who resisted and spent the winter of 1943 in a German prison, wrote: "Our whole life is an Advent season, that is, a season of waiting for the last Advent, for the time when there will be a new heaven and new earth." In a letter from prison, Bonhoeffer told his family, "We can and should celebrate Christmas despite the ruins around us."

When the church practices waiting with hope during Advent, we increase our capacity for hope throughout the year. I've started thinking about our congregation as a "little community of hope," a people who wait with hope for that great day when there will be no more tears. I'm convinced that day is coming, maybe sooner, maybe later, but surely it is coming. Let the season of waiting begin.

## DECEMBER 2017 WORSHIP

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**Sunday Worship Services are at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary**  
**Children's Worship in the Chapel follows the Children's Message**

***This program year, our worship is following the outline provided in Brian McLaren's "We Make the Road by Walking. A Year-Long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation, and Activation."***

### **December 3      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: HOPE / Confirmation Sunday**

Today we gather for multi-generational worship and light the first Advent candle, the candle of "Hope." Confirmation Class participants affirm their Baptism and become members of the congregation. The Chancel Choir sings and Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Senior Minister, preaches a sermon on Isaiah 40:9-11, "Promised Land, Promised Time." (We will not be celebrating Holy Communion this day.)

### **December 10      2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: PEACE**

We light the second Advent candle, "Peace." The Handbell Ensemble provides music and Rev. Broadbent preaches a sermon on Matthew 1:18-2:15 entitled "Keep Herod in Christmas."

### **December 17      3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent: JOY**

On this "Gaudete Sunday," we light the pink candle of "Joy." The Chancel Choir sings and Rev. Rachel Knuth, Associate Minister for Children and Families, preaches a sermon on Luke 1:5-55 entitled "Women on the Edge."



## **December 24      4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: LOVE**

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This morning we continue in the season of Advent and we light the candle of "Love." Our band, Divine Connection, provides worship music, and Rev. Broadbent preaches a sermon on Matthew 1:1-17 entitled "Surprising People."

### **Christmas Eve Services**

- ⊕ **4:00 p.m. – Child-Friendly Pageant Service** with Carols
- ⊕ **6:00 p.m. – Family-Friendly Lessons & Carols** with Children's Message, Sermon & Handbell Ensemble
- ⊕ **8:30 p.m. – Traditional Lessons & Carols** with Sermon & Chancel Choir

### **December 31      First Sunday after Christmas**

Today we gather to sing carols and lift prayers for the earth and its people on this eve of a New Year. Rev. Brian Plaugher, Minister of Music, leads the service and preaches.

**Coming in January 2018...** Multi-Generational Worship with Holy Communion, Season of Epiphany, Baptism of Christ Sunday, Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, Ecumenical Sunday, Annual Meeting of the Congregation

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

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### **FAITH IN ACTION TEAM: HELP FOR THE UNDOCUMENTED**

The tragedy of recent wildfires has hit our undocumented immigrant community especially hard. Ineligible for any aid from FEMA, and prey to skyrocketing rents for replacement housing, these families who are vital to our community, need our help. The UndocuFund was started by three local nonprofits. 100% of donations go to help undocumented fire victims with lost wages, short term rental assistance/security deposits and more. More info and how to donate is available at their website: <http://undocufund.org/>

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## FAITH IN ACTION

At the recent Issue's Assembly of the North Bay Organizing Project, we the members, voted on the issues to concentrate on for the next two years. The issues selected are;

- **Housing and Homelessness**
- **Immigration**
- **Environment and Transportation**

Task forces are being formed to research each issue and decide on actions steps to make a difference in each area. If you are interested in helping on one of these areas, please come to the next meeting, Monday, December 11, 6:00-7:30 at First Congregational Church UCC, Santa Rosa. Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month.

## FAITH IN ACTION TEAM (FIAT)

FIAT announces the North Bay Rapid Response Network:  
[northbayop.org/rapidresponse](http://northbayop.org/rapidresponse)

The rapid response network provides a way for people to respond to fear and anxiety in our community as a result of the increase in immigration enforcement, ICE raids and other attacks against our communities. The network provides a 24 hour hotline (707-800-4544) to immigrants facing a raid by federal immigration agents, dispatches trained legal observers to the raid location, provides legal defense to affected communities, and offers accompaniment to victims and families following the raid.

Legal Observation Teams are made up of MigraWatch-trained observers who respond directly to the site of an ongoing ICE raid. Observers bear witness to immigration enforcement actions and provide data for the network and the victim's legal defense. There will be more trainings for legal observers, and there are other ways to be involved. Contact a member of the FIAT for more information or go to the North Bay Rapid response Network facebook page.

## YOUR CHANCE TO SING!



Do you **LOVE** to sing Christmas Music? Come sing with us for Christmas!

Choir meets for practice on Thursday evenings with snacks at 7 pm, sing at 7:15 pm. Childcare available on request. For more information, contact the Minister of Music, Rev. Brian Plaugher 707.869.9120

And here is another opportunity to sing. . .

## Let's Go Caroling: December 17

Join us for a casual evening of caroling on Sunday, December 17. We meet at the church at 5:15 pm and make our way through the neighborhood – some on foot, some in vehicles – and end up at the Boal's home for refreshments. Bring a snack to share, your jacket and maybe an umbrella and join us for a fun evening. No experience necessary, everyone is welcome to join!



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**DECEMBER 10 • 4 PM**

Please join us Sunday afternoon, December 10 at 4 pm in the sanctuary for a Children's Christmas Concert. All children & youth are invited to participate, please call Olivia Stoll at 843-0757 or just show up on Sunday and sign up to perform. The concert is open to all ages, with a free will offering to benefit the children displaced by the recent fires. Come enjoy performances as well as a few singalongs to well-known carols.



# Memorial Poinsettias

In December we will grace the church chancel with beautiful Memorial Poinsettias in 6" foil wrapped pots. Please fill out the form below and bring it to the church office or leave in the collection plate with your check. The cost is \$11 per poinsettia plant with checks made payable to the Community Church.

Deadline for ordering poinsettias is December 11th.

Given in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- or -

Given in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia plants.  
(\$11 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my plant home

\_\_\_\_\_ Please deliver my plant to a shut-in.

Deadline for ordering poinsettias is December 11<sup>th</sup>.



## MISSION & OUTREACH

The next meeting of Mission & Outreach will be to gather and deliver shoeboxes collected and items from our Sock & Underwear Tree on December 18 at 10 am.

The Mission & Outreach Board is offering 3 different ways for you to reach out to people you don't know who need your help during the Christmas Season: the ***Shoebox Ministry to the Homeless***, the ***Alternative Gift Catalog***, and ***Gift Cards for SRJC Students***.

### GIFT CARDS FOR SRJC STUDENTS

The recent wildfires consumed the living spaces of almost 1000 SRJC students and some lost jobs when their place of work was also destroyed. The college has been distributing Gift Cards provided by donors. The Student Resource Center expects the need for Gift Cards for personal items, school supplies and text books will continue long after Christmas. In lieu of the traditional Socks, Warm Hats, Underwear that decorate our tree, you may instead choose to purchase Gift Cards from one or more of the sources listed below. On Sundays, members of Mission & Outreach will exchange your gift card for an ornament to hang on the tree, or during the week, bring your gift cards to the church office and exchange them for paper ornaments to hang on the tree.

The gift cards will be delivered to SRJC's Student Resource Center during the first week of January, so gift cards can be placed on the tree through Sunday, December 31.

Preferred Gift Cards: Target, Walmart, JC Penney, Staples, Safeway, Oliver's Markets, Amazon, SRJC Bookstore. Laundry cards for the laundromat across the street from the JC can be purchased in the church office.

### SLEEPING BAGS / TENTS

Winter is here and we always have a number of requests for sleeping bags and tents. If you have a clean, useable sleeping bag or tent to donate, please bring it to the church office and we will see that it gets put to good use. Thank you!





## MISSION & OUTREACH

### SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Shoeboxes will be available for you in the Narthex during Advent, beginning Sunday, December 3 to return filled with the items on the list you will find inside each box for both homeless men and women. Please wrap the box in Christmas paper and place it under the Christmas Tree in the Narthex no later than December 17. Please fill your shoebox generously using "regular size products (no sample or travel sizes, please.) It is important to stick to the list and include all items as these gift boxes are opening in a group setting. The Shoeboxes will be delivered to the Homeless Service Center in downtown Santa Rosa the week before Christmas.

### ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

The Alternative Gifts International is a collection of products or services that allows you to donate in honor of your gift recipient. When you make a purchase from the Alternative Gifts catalog, you receive a gift card to present, explaining about the alternative gift you have purchased in their name. Through your Alternative Gifts purchase you can honor your gift recipient by giving someone in desperate need a flock of chickens, eye surgery, a month of care for an orphan or clean water, all given in their name. Choose from a multitude of other wonderful and helpful gifts that will be truly appreciated. Pick up a catalog and let your imagination go! Alternative Gift Catalogs are available in the entryway and in the church office.



### SATURDAY TABLE

On the second Saturday of each month, Mission & Outreach serves lunch in Fellowship Hall to our local homeless population. In addition to offering a hot meal, we also offer showers, bus passes, warm clothing items and jackets. Clothing items need not be new, but they must be usable and clean. Look for the collection bin in the church entry to drop off your donations. Monetary donations should be left in the church office. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249 or the church office at 823-2484.

## Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet at 10 am on Wednesday, December 6 with The Rich Fool, Luke 12:16-21; on December 13 with The Feisty Widow, Luke 18:2-8, using the commentary by William O'Malley. All women are invited to join the group. Following these two meetings, Women's Bible Study will be on break until mid-January. Questions? Please contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249.



## Ukulele Group Meets on Fridays

The UkeStars will continue to meet on Fridays in the Fellowship Hall for their jam sessions and weekly practice from 10-11:30 AM. For information please call Vicki Reno at 827-3668 or email at [vreno@comcast.net](mailto:vreno@comcast.net).



## Name That Newsletter!

Let's have a contest to name our monthly newsletter - what do you want to call it?? Church Chatter? Cross Talk? Or better yet, submit your catchy title and let's see where that takes us. Send an email to [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org) with your suggestion and we will start 2018 with a new name for our newsletter!

## San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus Concert

**2 pm December 2 at Santa Rosa High School Auditorium**

'Home For the Holidays' is an incredible holiday celebration, full of humor, personality, and gorgeous choral music. SGGMC's performance features classic holiday favorites, alongside some new works that are sure to warm your heart and get you in the festive mood. Net proceeds support F2F's mission of ending HIV in Sonoma County while also caring for clients affected by the recent firestorms. For tickets: [www.f2f.org](http://www.f2f.org).

# Women's Fellowship

## Craft Sale

**Sunday, December 3 in Fellowship Hall**



On **December 3** Women's Fellowship will offer a variety of crafts for sale in the courtyard. Look for our famous embroidered tea towels and other handcrafted items - great Christmas gifts! You will find our table after worship in Fellowship Hall, right next to the Women's Retreat Wreaths.

## Christmas Coffee/Tea & Cookies

**Thursday, December 7 in Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for our only gathering in December when we celebrate the Christmas season with tea/coffee, cookies and Nativity sets! We will meet in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, December 7 at 10:30 for a short business meeting followed by tea/coffee, cookies and Nativities. Please bring a favorite Nativity set to display and a plate of your favorite cookies to share.

All women are invited to this final meeting and program of Women's Fellowship for 2017. Please join us!



## Women's Retreat

### Christmas Wreaths & See's Candy Sale

**December 3 & 10 in Fellowship Hall**

Beautiful Christmas Wreaths, locally made with fresh greens, will be available for sale in Fellowship Hall on December 3 & 10. Assorted See's Candy will also be available for purchase with all proceeds to benefit the Women's Retreat scholarship fund. Wreaths are \$20 each. See's Candy prices vary according to your selection.



# Youth News

**December 2017!!**

**Middle School** (Grades 6-8) Sunday mornings from 9 – 10:15 am.  
**High School Youth** (Grades 9-12) gather at 6 pm, meeting from 7-8 pm.

## December 3

9 - 10:15 AM Middle School – **God-With-Us**

10:15 AM High School – **Confirmation Sunday**

*All Confirmation participants are invited to be part of a special service*

*Sunday morning honoring you and your work.*

*No Youth Group evening meeting today.*

## December 10

9 - 10:15 AM Middle School – **Miracles**

6 – 8 PM High School – **Eternal Life**

*First youth group meeting after Confirmation. All are welcome to attend. We will be going over what we want to do in the New Year as a group, and discuss our role in the Advent season.*

## December 17

9 - 10:15 AM Middle School – **Breakfast Holiday Party**

6 – 8 PM High School – **Holiday Party**

*Come dressed in your best holiday sweater. If you would like to participate in the white elephant exchange, please bring a small wrapped gift. Food will be provided.*



## December 24



9-10:15 Open Youth Room for both Middle School and High School.

*Come hang out, listen to music, play some board games!*

*No regular evening program for High School today.*

**Christmas Eve Services at 4, 6 & 8:30 PM**

## December 31

9-10:15 Open Youth Room for both Middle School and High School.

*Come hang out, listen to music, play some board games!*

*No regular evening program for High School today*

## FAITH FORMATION HOUR:

***There's A Place for Everyone on Sundays 9:00-10:15am!***

Sunday mornings begin at 9:00am! We have a Faith Formation educational hour, with programming for people of all ages 9:00-10:15am every Sunday morning. The whole church joins in worship at 10:30am, with the option for children to continue to Children's Worship in the Chapel following the Children's Sermon.

### Sunday Mornings Faith Formation A Place for Everyone at 9 am

Who	What	Where
Children Ages 0-3	Nursery Care	Nursery – Room 4
Children Preschool-Grade 5	Godly Play	Rooms 5 & 6
Youth Middle School	Youth Group	Youth Lounge
Youth High School	Adult Offerings / Sun Evening Program	Various / Youth Lounge
Adults	Bible Study	Fireside Room
Adults	Lecture Series TBA	Media Room
Adults (Parents of Pre-High Schoolers)	Breakfast Club Hangout	Fellowship Hall Kitchen
Adults (Choir, Handbells, etc.)	Music Preparation	Music Room / Sanctuary

## YOUNG ADULT – 20/30'S GROUP

Post high school, college students – all young adults – are invited to our 20/30's Holiday Party Potluck December 8 at 7 pm in the Youth Lounge at the Community Church. Please bring your favorite holiday dish to share, beverages will be provided. We will be having a holiday sweater contest and a White Elephant gift exchange. Always welcoming new people and guests to the group! If you are interested or have questions, please Contact Ross Galletto at 707-495-1507 or rossgalletto@gmail.com.

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Join Grief Counselors Harry & Susanna Simms in the Fireside Room on Thursday evenings at 7PM as they facilitate a support group dealing with the pain of grief. Losing a loved one, whether it be a recent loss, or from years past, can be difficult to process. Please call Harry or Susanna at 829-7769 if you have any questions. The group meets each Thursday at 7PM in the Fireside Room. There is no charge and the group is open to all.



### Name Tags?

If your name tag has come up missing, or you don't have a name tag, we'd like to get one for you! And if you already have your name tag, please make a habit of clipping it on to help all of us remember your name!

To get a new or replacement name tag, print C L E A R L Y the first and last name you would like to see on your church name tag. Leave this request in the church office or collection plate:

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Minister of Music, Brian Plaughter requests that you take a few moments and jot down the titles of your favorite hymns to help with future worship planning. Please leave this in the collection plate or in the church office.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Hymns: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





2	Jean Polley	15	Colby Magster-Buman
3	Christopher Petersilge	18	Lange Look
4	George Drennon	19	Jack Dunlap
	Linda Good		Patty Raney
6	Victoria Nelson		Shawn Nichols
7	Alvin Hukins	20	Dick Zimmer
	Pamela Downie	21	Lorilee DeSantis
	Emma Steyn		Maddy Foster
10	Ginny Embry	24	Suzanne Albin
11	Jim Jenkins		Bruce Matson
	Kendall Tripathi-Clark	27	Paula Matzinger
12	Rowena Kennedy		Nichole Whitcomb
	David Peterson		Dylan Lamm
13	Elizabeth Thomas	28	Mat Keller
14	Kaglen Bright		Luke Purell
	Marquesa Weigel		Josie Malone
	Steven Kellner	30	Joanna Caldwell

## 128<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING.



The 128th Annual Meeting of The Community Church of Sebastopol will be on Sunday, January 28th, immediately following worship in the Sanctuary.

All committee chairs need to electronically turn in their annual report to the church office by January 7, 2018. Please call the church office – 823-2484 – if you have any questions or would like to see copies of previous reports to help you get started.

## CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS!

Our Christmas Pageant will be held during the 4 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service. If you have a child who would like to participate in the pageant, please contact Pastor Rachel by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.



There will be speaking+acting parts for 3rd-5th graders, and non-speaking+acting parts for 4 year olds-2nd graders. Middle Schoolers are invited to be liturgists, help with shadow puppets, sound and lighting. And there will be

singing parts for everyone! Please let Pastor Rachel know your child's name and grade level.

Pageant practices will be in the Sanctuary on the following dates:

**Dec 10:** 11:45am-12:45, 3rd graders and up

**Dec 17:** 11:45am-12:45, 4 year olds and up (includes costume fitting)

**Dec 23** (Saturday): 11:00am-12noon, 4 year olds and up (dress rehearsal)

A snack will be provided on December 3, 10, 17. Parents are welcome to stay and help out every week, but we are especially needing extra help on December 17th and 23rd for the costuming. If you are able to help with ironing or mending costumes, please contact Pastor Rachel.

## SILENT ADVENT SPIRAL - DECEMBER 3

Children, youth and adults are invited to participate in our lovely Advent Spiral in the Chapel on Sunday, December 3rd.

All are welcome to participate in the church-wide intergenerational Advent Spiral at 5 pm. RSVP to the church office at 823-2484 ext.100 or email: [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org).



This is a prayerful meditative walk to prepare our hearts for Advent. The ritual calls forth in all of us the seeking of light—in going to our very center, we discover the light and take it out to share it with others. Please come ready to participate in a quiet walking meditation as we begin our Advent season.



## CALLING ALL WOMEN OF THE COMMUNITY CHURCH!

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

### 2018 WOMEN'S RETREAT!

A RETREAT FOR ALL WOMEN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12-14, 2017 WESTMINSTER WOODS, OCCIDENTAL



Join us for a fun, spirit-filled weekend building relationships with the women of our church family. The weekend begins with Friday dinner and ends after worship on Sunday morning. There are a few openings for Saturday only.

#### THEME: The Bible Speaks to Us Today.

We will have the opportunity to take a fresh look at Bible stories in a nontraditional way. The ideas for this theme come from a book by Rob Bell titled What is the Bible. You will find comfort and support in God's presence within you, in the Bible and in the people around you.

#### FACILITATOR: Reverend Charlotte Asher

Charlotte was raised in the Community Church! She is a minister, special education teacher, has worked as the conference camp coordinator and enjoys farming. She is an excellent retreat leader, as many of you already know!

The time at retreat is yours to do as you wish. Nothing is mandatory! Sessions are no longer than 2 hours, with breaks and lots of interaction with others or alone time. There is free time to walk, sleep, chat, and there are always table games with lots of fun and laughter.

**FACILITY:** We will be at Westminster Woods, a lovely center in the Redwoods between Occidental and Monte Rio. We will have three deluxe houses that sleep between 7-10 people and 2 semi-deluxe cabins. All rooms are shared. There is parking near each house and it is possible to drive or walk to the dining room and meeting room.

The fees are subsidized by our Candy Sale and Wreath Sales.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** are available for **ANYONE** who wishes to attend. Scholarships will be limited to a maximum of \$135 of the \$185. Payment of your portion can be made monthly so long as it is paid prior to the next retreat. Scholarship information is kept confidential. Contact either Jane Huneke or Joyce Cox.

## Women's Retreat Registration Form January 12-14, 2018



#### Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Any special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Limit is 35 people! Get your registration in early!

#### FEES:

\_\_\_\_ \$185 **Full Retreat** Fri.-Sun. includes meals.

Preferred \_\_\_\_ Quiet House

\_\_\_\_ House with evening games (everyone is invited to join in the games regardless of where they are staying!)

\_\_\_\_ \$70 **Saturday Only:** includes 3 meals

**Fees are not refundable after Dec. 31**

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is the total registration fee

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is the total fee + to \$\_\_\_\_ to supplement the retreat fund

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a deposit of \$\_\_\_\_ (no less than \$50)

NOTE: The remaining balance to be paid no later than **Jan 5th**.

**Transportation:** I am interested in carpooling: Yes No  
Carpooling will be arranged by Joyce Cox [b-j-cox@att.net](mailto:b-j-cox@att.net) 829-0750

\_\_\_\_ I will be driving my car and have room for \_\_\_\_ more people.

\_\_\_\_ I would like to have a ride.

Please make checks payable to **The Community Church** with a notation in the memo line: "Women's Retreat".

Please return this form with your deposit to:

**Marge Holland: 8949 Barnett Valley Road, Sebastopol 95472**

or drop in the collection plate at church,  
or leave at the church office.

#### For more information please contact:

Jane Huneke

[jane.huneke1@gmail.com](mailto:jane.huneke1@gmail.com)

795-5441

Joyce Cox

[b-j-cox@att.net](mailto:b-j-cox@att.net)

829-0750



## GODLY PLAY IS HAPPENING AT 9:00AM!

Children Preschool through 5th grade will be in Room 5 for the season of Advent. (Children who had been in OWL class will return to Godly Play for Advent).

9 am Dec 3	Advent I	<i>Storyteller:</i> Blythe Osner <i>Door Helper:</i> Pat Dilley
9 am Dec 10	Advent II	<i>Storyteller:</i> Paula Berndt <i>Door Helper:</i> Pat Dilley
9 am Dec 17	Advent III	<i>Storyteller:</i> Paula Berndt <i>Door Helper:</i> Ann Butterfield
9 am Dec 24	Advent IV	<i>Storyteller:</i> Paula Berndt <i>Door Helper:</i> OPEN

December 31 – No Godly Play, Happy New Year!

In Godly Play, Storytellers memorize a story and present it with the children, using wooden pieces. Door Helpers offer support as a ministry of presence, assisting children with art and “the feast.” Often the Storytellers and Door Helpers find their involvement nourishes their spirits too! We are looking for more Storytellers and Door Helpers who are available to lead the program in the New Year. If you’re interested in joining our Godly Play ministry, please contact Pastor Rachel, and she will be happy to talk more about it and send you a volunteer job description: [rachelknuth@uccseb.org](mailto:rachelknuth@uccseb.org).

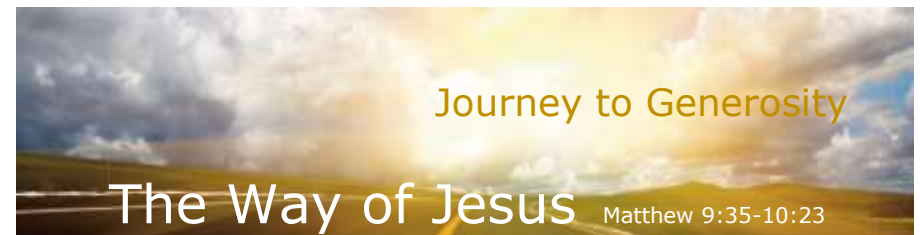


## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Pick up your Advent Devotional when you get your coffee during Fellowship Hour after church on November 26th and December 3rd. This year’s Advent Devotionals come to us from the SALT project, and include weekly coloring pages and candle lighting rituals. They are a nice companion for your Advent journey.



☺ Thank you to Doris Rowe for cleaning and stocking the pews each week in preparation for Sunday Worship. ☺ Thank you to Garth Watson for hauling away the tree/shrub trimmings! ☺ Thank you to Tom Dilley and Mike Moore for working on the men’s restroom. ☺ Thank you to Joanne Matson for her weekly help in the office – such a treat! ☺ Thank you to Barbara Wilson, Barbara Deedler, Irma Bachelor and Jerry Coleman for washing our shower towels while Norma Watson was away. ☺ Thank you to Muriel Weaver for preparing our visitor bags for Sundays. ☺ Thank you to Women’s Fellowship for the new coffee table and white board that goes so well with the rest of the furniture they purchased for the Fireside Room. ☺ Thank you to all the attendees of the recent Men’s Retreat – hopefully you will have sparked a renewed interest in retreats! ☺ Thank you to Barbara Wilson and Gail Thomas for providing snacks prior to choir practice and to all the choir members for your brainstorming ideas – we are looking forward!



## 2018 Annual Appeal

<b>Pledges (as of Nov 20)</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Over/(Under)</b>
Households	130	160	(30)
Our Congregation’s Local Ministry	\$291,474	\$369,000	(\$77,526)
Our Congregation’s Wider Mission	\$27,044	\$41,000	(\$13,956)
<b>Total Pledges</b>	<b>\$318,518</b>	<b>\$410,000</b>	<b>(\$91,482)</b>



## Prayers, Joys & Concerns

**PRAYERS for...** **Barbara & Curt Nichols; Shawn Nichols & Susan Wahl & Tristyn Nichols**, and **Cedric Taddeucci** who lost their homes in the fire; for all the people affected by the fires, the loss of life, loss of housing, loss of jobs; for the almost 1,000 SRJC students and faculty affected by the fires.

**CONDOLENCES to...** the family and friends of **Bill Stillman**, who died on October 6; the

family and friends of **Mac MacDonald** who died in October – a service was held at the chapel at Spring Lake Village; to the family and friends of **Dorothy Rowden** who died in November – services are planned for December 16 at the Community Church.

**HEALING PRAYERS for...** **Lizann Bassham**, undergoing immunotherapy; **Glenda Elvy**, returned home and continuing to recover from shoulder surgery; **Donna Tappan** at home under Hospice Care; **Helen Sokolis** at home recovering from hip surgery; **Charlene Mitchell**, recovering from a broken foot; **Virginia Hughes**, recovering at home from a fall; **Joanne Feige** recovering from a minor fall; **Celia Cummings**, recovering from a fall.

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Irma Bachelor (707-829-5485), Marian McDonald (707-338-5156), Marna McKenzie (505-660-1725) and Roger Wilson (707-823-8944) are the Members-at-Large to the Church Council for this year. If you have any issues you would like brought to the Council's attention, one of the Members-at-Large can help you out. Look for their bright red "Member at Large" name badge on Sunday mornings.

### BAKED GOODS FOR SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

We need to stock up with goodies to share during our Coffee Hour! If you have cookies, cake or some kind of treat we can serve after church, please bring it by the church wrapped for the freezer and we can save it for next Sunday. Thanks!



## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CHILDREN & WORSHIP?

Children are part of the congregation and are always welcome to stay and participate in worship with their families. We welcome children of all ages in the sanctuary every Sunday, and strive to create worship services that are accessible for people of all ages.

For children and parents who wish for an alternative, we invite children to begin worship in the sanctuary with their families, then continue worshipping in Children's Worship. After the Children's Sermon, the Acolytes will lead them to the Chapel to continue worship with scripture, music, and offering, prayer, and Communion with Pastor Rachel. At the end of Children's Worship, the group will rejoin their families in the sanctuary.

The December Hymn of the Month is "As With Gladness," an Epiphany hymn. The whole church will sing "As With Gladness" during Multi-Gen Worship on Sunday, January 7th.

Pastor Brian, our Minister of Music, is actively recruiting Musicians to participate in Children's Worship. If you are available to offer music in Children's Worship one Sunday, please contact Pastor Brian.

We do collect an Offering or touch the plate as a sign of our Offering during Children's Worship. These offerings are carried forward when the children return to the Sanctuary, and are counted among the whole church's offerings. Some children have made pledges to our church, and when their offerings are placed in a labeled envelope, they are applied to the child's pledge (or their family's pledge, if they did not make an individual pledge.)

### Children's Worship Themes

#### Dec 3 Multi-Gen Worship in Sanctuary

**Dec 10 Advent - Peace** Minister: **Pastor Rachel**;  
Musician: **Brian Plaugher**; Door Helper: **Sohni Yaylian**; Shepherd: **OPEN**

**Dec 17 Advent II - Joy** Minister: **OPEN**;  
Musician: **Jon Gonzales**; Door Helper: **OPEN**; Shepherd: **OPEN**

**Dec 24 Advent III - Love** Minister: **Pastor Rachel**;  
Musician: **OPEN**; Door Helper: **OPEN**; Shepherd: **OPEN**

#### Dec 3 Multi-Gen Worship in Sanctuary

## December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26 Reign of Christ Sunday</b> 8:45 AM Nursery Care 9:00 AM Faith Formation Hour - see below 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship 11:45 AM Advent Workshop & Lunch	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team	<b>30</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>1</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars	<b>2</b> 1:00 PM Memorial Service for Charleen Stewart
<b>3 1st Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Confirmation Sunday</b> <b>Women's Fellowship Craft &amp; Women's Retreat Wreath &amp; See's Candy Sales</b> 8:45 AM Nursery Care 9:00 AM Faith Formation Hour - see below 10:15 AM High School Confirmation Youth in Worship 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship 12:00 PM Personnel Meeting 5:00 PM Advent Spiral	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Church Council	<b>7</b> 10:30 AM Women's Fellowship Christmas Coffee/Tea & Cookies 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>8</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars 7:00 PM 20/30's Christmas Potluck	<b>9</b> 11:30 AM Second Saturday Lunch
<b>10 2nd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Women's Retreat Wreath Sales</b> 8:45 AM Nursery Care 9:00 AM Faith Formation Hour - see below 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship 11:45 AM Children's Pageant Rehearsal 4:00 PM Children's Christmas Concert 6:00 PM High School Youth Group	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 4:00 PM Pastoral Relations Committee	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Budget Sub-Committee	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>15</b> <b>January Newsletter Deadline</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars	<b>16</b> 11:00 AM Memorial Service & Reception for Dorothea Rowden
<b>17 3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 AM Nursery Care 9:00 AM Faith Formation Hour - see below 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship 11:45 AM Children's Pageant Rehearsal 5:15 PM All-Church Caroling 6:00 PM High School Youth Group	<b>18</b> 10:00 AM Mission & Outreach	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team 4:45 PM Handbell Ensemble 7:00 PM Board of Trustees / Council Joint Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars	<b>23</b> 11:00 AM Children's Pageant Rehearsal
<b>24 4th Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 AM Nursery Care 9:00 AM Faith Formation Hour - see below 9:00 AM Middle & High School Youth Informal Gathering 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship 4:00 PM Child-Friendly Pageant Service 6:00 PM Family-Friendly Lessons & Carols 8:30 PM Traditional Lessons & Carols	<b>25 Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars	<b>30</b>
<b>31 First Sunday after Christmas</b> 9:00 AM Middle & High School Youth Informal Gathering 10:30 AM Multi-gen Worship 10:45 AM Children's Worship	<b>1 Happy New Year!</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 AM Staff Team 4:45 PM Handbell Ensemble	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Grief Group	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM UkeStars	<b>6 Epiphany</b>

**Faith Formation Hour Every Sunday at 9 am:**

**Godly Play**, Preschool – Grade 5, Room 5 & 6  
**Breakfast Club**, Parents, Fellowship Hall

**Middle School Youth Group**, Grades 6-8, Youth Lounge  
**Sunday Bible Study**, Adults, Fireside Room