

## DECEMBER 14, 2025 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT: JOY

Traditionally called “Gaudete Sunday,” today we light the 3<sup>rd</sup> candle, the pink candle of “Joy.” Three sisters will be baptized; the Handbell Ensemble, directed by **Karna Roa**, shares worship music; and **Pastor Benjamin** preaches a sermon on Matthew 11:2–11 entitled, “What You Hear and See.”



### TODAY

**NURSERY CARE** for infants to age 4 in the Nursery, 9:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. with fully vetted Nursery Attendants, **Kelli Clark & Ellie Green**.

**GODLY PLAY** for people in Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade follows the Children’s Message in Room 5. Today’s story: “The Holy Family,” facilitated by **Joanne Matson & Alvin Hukins**.

**ADVENT CHILDREN’S CHOIR** for people in Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade rehearses 11:00 – 11:15 a.m. For details, see “Advent & Christmas” below.

**FAITH FORMATION HOUR**, 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

- **Intergenerational Gym**, organized by Middle & High School Youth in Memorial Hall
- **Church Chat: “Incarnation & Chronic Pain,”** facilitated by **Pastor Benjamin** in the Chapel.

**SEE’S CANDY** on sale in the Bell Tower Courtyard during Kinship Time. See “Christmas Wreaths & See’s Candy” below.

### UPCOMING

**INQUIRERS’ CLASS** Sunday, January 11, 2026, 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to learn more about Community Church and as a first step toward membership. RSVP to **Pastor Benjamin** by January 6 at [pastorbenjamin@uccseb.org](mailto:pastorbenjamin@uccseb.org).

**FAITH VIGIL FOR SOLIDARITY**, Dec 17, 5 – 6 p.m., Old Courthouse Square, Santa Rosa. Flyers available in the Narthex. Organized by Sonoma County Sanctuary Coalition. For info contact [office@srchristchurch.org](mailto:office@srchristchurch.org).

**WOMEN’S RETREAT** at Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma January 16–18, 2026. Facilitated by **Kathy Bell & Amy Furber Dobson**. Deadline to register: Dec 29. QR code to register. Contact **Chris Chang Weeks** at



Click or scan the [ccweek@mac.com](mailto:ccweek@mac.com).

**OCCIDENTAL COMMUNITY CHOIR** final winter concert, “Light in today, Dec 14, 3:00 p.m. at The Glaser Center in Santa Rosa. \$25 [occidentalchoir.org/tickets](http://occidentalchoir.org/tickets). Children 12 and under free.

the Darkness” tickets available at

**MEN’S RETREAT** at St. Columba’s Retreat House in Inverness, Fri – Sun, Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2026 with facilitator Nathan Oates. Click or scan the QR code to register. **Mitchell** at [stuartmit@gmail.com](mailto:stuartmit@gmail.com).



Contact **Stuart**

**SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING** for the life of **Jean Boal** in the Saturday, February 7, 2:00 p.m. Reception follows in Memorial Hall.

sanctuary on

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

**POINSETTIAS** adorn our chancel for Christmas Eve. To dedicate a poinsettia that will grace the altar for Christmas, use the form available [Online](#), in the Narthex, or in the church office. Dedications will appear in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Return the form with \$15 payment by next Sun, Dec 21.

**ADVENT CHILDREN'S CHOIR** for people in Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade rehearses for 15 minutes following worship on Sundays through Dec 21, and will sing in worship Dec 21 and on Christmas Eve at 4:30. Contact **Andy DelMonte**, Choral Director, at [delmontemusic@yahoo.com](mailto:delmontemusic@yahoo.com) / 707.239.4455.

**ALTERNATIVE GIFTS** catalogs now available in the Bell Tower Courtyard during Kinship Time and in the church office. Recipients receive a card with a description of the gift. Contact **Joyce Cox** at [b-j-cox@att.net](mailto:b-j-cox@att.net).

**DECORATE THE CHRISTMAS TREE** in the sanctuary entryway with hats, scarves, and gloves for those who need them. Today is the last day to place your items. Contact **Joyce Cox** at [b-j-cox@att.net](mailto:b-j-cox@att.net).

**SEE'S CANDY** to support Women's Retreat being sold in the Bell Tower Courtyard. Contact **Jane Huneke** at [jane.huneke1@gmail.com](mailto:jane.huneke1@gmail.com) / 707.829.0750.

**CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS** for residents of the Sam Jones Shelter available Sun, Nov 30. Take an empty bag and fill it with the list inside the bag and return by Mon, Dec 15. Fill more than one or split the list with a friend.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

- 4:30 p.m. Family Friendly Candlelight Service with "Pop-Up" Pageant
- 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Choir, Handbells & Sermon

### **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**GODLY PLAY** happens on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Contact **Terri Harper** at 707.236.2448 / [beelady59@gmail.com](mailto:beelady59@gmail.com).

**YOUTH GROUPS** (Grades 6–8 & 9–12) meet weekly for "God & Donuts," 11:15 a.m.–1:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.

**WINTER CAMPS** through our Northern California-Nevada Conference. See flyers in the Narthex. Significant camperships available.

- **Mid-Winter Camp** for Grades 6 – 8 at the Danville Congregational Church, Sat – Sun, Jan 17 – 18.
- **Feb Camp** for Grades 9 – 12 at the Community of the Great Commission Camp in Foresthill, Sun – Mon, Feb 14 – 16.

For information about Faith Formation programs for children, youth, and adults, contact **Tirza Dawn** at [faithformation@uccseb.org](mailto:faithformation@uccseb.org).

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS** for 2025 expenses should be made with receipts and authorized check request form to the Church Office by December 24, 2025.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed December 25, 2025 – January 2, 2026. Please plan accordingly.

### **THIS WEEK AT COMMUNITY CHURCH – December 14–21, 2025**

**Today**

10:00 am    Worship Service, Sanctuary & Online  
11:00 am    Kinship Time, Fellowship Hall  
11:00 am    Advent Children's Choir, Sanctuary  
11:15 am    Intergenerational Gym, Memorial Hall

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent: JOY**

	11:15 am	Church Chat, Chapel
Monday		Salt & Light Newsletter Deadline
	10:00 am	Prayer Shawls, Fireside Room
Tuesday	9:00 am	Grounds Team, Campus
	9:00 am	Shower Program, Memorial Hall
	3:00 pm	Finance Committee
	3:30 pm	Health & Safety, Room 6
	4:00 pm	Handbell Ensemble, Sanctuary
	5:30 pm	Faith In Action Team, Room 6
Wednesday	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study, Room 6
	5:00 pm	Online Bible Study, Zoom
	6:30 pm	Leadership Council, Media Room
Thursday	12:00 pm	Meditation Group, Room 6
	5:30 pm	Drop-in Dreamwork Group, Room 6
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Friday		No Church Programs
Saturday		No Church Programs
<b>Next Sunday</b>		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent: LOVE</b>
	10:00 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary & Online
	11:00 am	Kinship Time, Fellowship Hall
	11:15 am	Pageant Craft Prep, Fellowship Hall

**FLOURISHING TOGETHER** (as of 12/10)

**2026 Local Ministry & Outreach** – 102 households have returned Intent Cards totaling \$336,660 (69% of \$485,000 goal).

**3-Year Capital Campaign** – 105 households have committed \$830,716 (69% of \$1.2 million goal).

**BULLETIN & WEEKLY EMAIL** content due in digital form to **Joy Richards**, Congregational Administrator, at [office@uccseb.org](mailto:office@uccseb.org) by Noon on Wednesdays. Salt & Light articles for January edition due December 15.