

THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST
December 25, 2022
Christmas Day

PRELUDE: “*Prelude on ‘What child is this?’*” by Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

SPECIAL MUSIC: “**Joy Medley**” by H. Sorenson

Kateri Andress & June Pettit (piano duet)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The world was once in darkness

People: Now we have God’s Light, Jesus to shine on us.

Leader: The words and promises of God are all true!

People: God has given us the best gift of all!

Leader: Rejoice! God is with us!

All: Praise be to God! AMEN.

***HYMN:** #161 “Once in Royal David’s City”

CCLI Song #2649014, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** The celebration of Christmas has just begun. O Loving God, You have wrapped the gift of your Son Jesus Christ around our lives. The light of your love through him is shining brightly. Open our hearts and spirits as we hear the words of your Holy Scriptures. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray...Our Father... (using debts and debtors...) Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI:** #807

***HYMN:** #147 “Away in a Manger”

CCLI Song #38583, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

Sermon
“The Greatest Gift”
Pastor Wade Allen and the children

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Beautiful Savior” arr. Tom Fettke

Men’s Quartet

***HYMN:** #150 “What Child Is This?”

CCLI Song #30983, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” by Dennis Janzer

***DOXOLOGY:** #809

***HYMN:** #146 “Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come”

CCLI Song #24016, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “*Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella*”

Traditional French Carol, arr. by Keith Chapman

Our sympathy and prayers are with Daryl High, whose wife, Julie, passed away on December 17th. Please keep Daryl, their daughter, Lauren, and the family in your prayers during this difficult time. Daryl’s current address is 5722 Dalton Dr. in Farmington.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Bob Cloutier, whose mother, Georgette Cloutier, passed away on December 19th. Please keep the Cloutier, Beyrle, and James families in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: Louis and Carolyn Verspoor, David Sanford, Kathy Mills, Clancy Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), Patti Cagwin, David Crowe, Jack Schermon, Brexton Bigos-Stocker (grandson of Ardelle Bigos), Dylan Smith (friend of Kat McFetridge), Ethan Eckert (friend of Scharr family), Shane Collins (staff at LeTourneau), Matthew Gullace

Cancer: Rob Stults (cousin of Wade and Christy Allen), Donna Schoenacker (aunt of Aldrich family), Laurie Rudy, Mike Davis (friend of Guy Green), Tom Wager (friend of Mark Slomski), Kelly Fish (James Mergenthaler's sister), Dawn Miller, Mary J. Havens (Mary Lou's step-daughter), David Pagoda (friend of Eveleigh family), Keith Laursen (Tim's brother), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Jackie Crego (Stan and Evey Wright's daughter), Stephen Carges (brother of Paula Traber), Jon Santmyer (friend of Malecs), Darryl Kramer (friend of DiCiccos)

Recovering: Karen Roaix, Mary Jane Laird, Barbara Scott, Jan Gullace, Sue Paul (friend of Zajacs), Jay Peck (son of Jim & Ann)

MILITARY SERVICE: Steven Munk (MacKenzie Brown's cousin) deployed to Somalia, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN) stationed in Everett, Washington, MAC Adam Thorman (USN) deployed overseas, E6 Cody Wells (USN) returned from deployment, Technical Sergeant Timothy Peck (USAF) home from deployment

MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla and Mayra Giovantti – the BGs (Central/South America), Tim and Patti Long (Baja Mexico), Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan and Alethia White (Berlin)

* indicates an invitation to stand for those who are able and comfortable doing so.



Important holiday announcements in a nutshell (please read the rest for more details!)



- We will have **one Christmas Day service at 11 am** (no early service) - Come in your Christmas jammies if you like (child or adult, we won't judge you!)
- We will have **one New Years Day service at 11 am** (no early service)
- **The church office will be closed Dec 26-30** (leave email or voicemail if you need to reach staff)
- **Sunday School and The Cause resume on January 8**
- **Youth Club resumes on January 11**

Have you been on our church website recently? We've got a nice new look, and hopefully it will be easier for everyone to find what they're looking for.

<https://www.unitedchurchcanandaigua.com/>



Some of the links on the website will take you to updated versions of things like the calendar, livestreams, bulletins and Lamplighters, online giving, and registration for events. Check it out!

If you use a smartphone or tablet, download the free Church Center app to have easy access to everything church related!

Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast invites you!

Men of all ages are invited to join us at 7:00 am Wednesday morning in the Fellowship Room for a hot breakfast, prayer and Bible study.



The shopping cart for collecting **food donations** will be in the Gathering Area every Sunday due to increased needs in the community. We will alternate taking the donations to the CCIA and Salvation Army food pantries. Thank you for your generosity!



We welcome your help to serve as **Greeters for the Sunday Services**. Greeters welcome people as they enter the church building and they hand out Bulletins at the Sanctuary entrances. Greeters also pass the Offering Plates during the Offertory. Reminders are emailed with instructions and location assignments. The Greeter ministry is a wonderful way to show that we are a hospitable church and that we welcome all who want to worship the Lord with our congregation. **The January sign up sheet is on the Office door.** If you have any questions, please ask any Steward or call the Office. Thanks so much for serving in this way on any Sunday that you're available.

The Stewards Assistance Fund: This Fund assists those in our congregation who are facing temporary financial challenges. If you are struggling, please call the Office at (585) 394-0503 to speak with Virginia Holroyd, or email her at virginia.holroyd@uccdga.org

ARE YOU VISITING US TODAY? If so, WELCOME to the United Church, we are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us. We invite you to check out our Welcome Table found in our Welcome Center, and to pick up a blue bag for yourself/your family to take home and to learn a little bit more about us. Please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the collection plate or mail in. **We are so happy that you joined us today and look forward to seeing you again soon!**

Nursery care is not available today but any family may utilize the nursery if they desire.

Children's Time ~ There is no Children's Time today. We hope you enjoy worshiping as a family.

Advent Devotionals for Adults

We are offering two different devotionals this season -- one is online and the other is in booklet form. Choose either one or both for daily readings during Advent.

1. "The Promised One" -- Advent readings from Christianity Today. This devotional is online only. Go to the following link on your computer or device -- https://bit.ly/CT_Advent_2022
 2. "Be Born In Us Today" -- by Chad Bird. Find this booklet at the sanctuary entrances. If you'd like us to mail one to you, please contact the church office.
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Called to Care, Canandaigua has welcomed our first family!!! Tired from their flight to NYC from Poland and then a day-long bus ride to Rochester, this Ukrainian family of five arrived in Canandaigua last week. Our committees are a buzz of "welcome" activities. "Housing" is getting their apartment ready. "Other needs" delivered welcome items. Our "core group," which acts as a board, has many resettlement tasks ahead of us. But it is with a full heart and the joy and hope that the season brings that we appreciate the many of you and others in the community who are now a part of this family's story to leave a war ravaged country to find welcome in our community. Praise be to God...

Called to Care ~ A couple of folks from the United Church are needed to be "on call" to donate new household linens (sheets, bath towels, etc) for the refugee family's apartment once we know the sizes and numbers needed. If you'd like to help in this way, contact Cathy Bush.

Care Net is in need of volunteers! Here are some ways you can help:

- organizing the baby boutique
- greeting clients and getting them diapers and wipes; praying with clients that are open to it
- being a peer counselor (requires a 24-hour training)
- assisting at the front desk
- assisting with our parenting classes (in the center and virtual)

Please call Care Net at 393-0437 for more information.



MISSIONS

Hope Love Joy Peace

Christmas greetings from Germany



Wir wünschen Ihnen eine besinnliche Adventszeit und ein friedliches, frohes Weihnachtsfest!

We wish you a reflective Advent time and a peaceful, merry Christmas!

Wir bedanken uns und hoffen, dass wir die Gespräche im neuen Jahr gemeinsam fortsetzen können.

We send our thanks and hope to keep the conversations going together in the new year.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen von unserer Familie,

*With warm wishes from our family,
Ryan, Alethia, Ariella, and Laila*

Sunday happenings...

TODAY –

Service at 11:00am ONLY

Sunday, January 1, 2023 –

Service at 11:00am ONLY

Sunday, January 8, 2023 –

Service at 8:45am

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45am

Service at 11:00am

The Cause, 5-7:30pm

Annual Reports now are due! If you are the person in charge of writing your committee or board or group's Annual Report, please send it to Carolyn in the office ASAP (unless it includes end of year financials, in which case ASAP after January 1st, please!)



YOUTH CLUB
Our Wednesday afterschool ministry
For children in grades 2 – 8
After school – 6:30 October through April
Bible Study~Worship~Recreation~Family Time

Thank you to parents who are signed up to help out with snack and kitchen clean-up! We couldn't do it without your help!

Parent Duties:

Kitchen Clean Up – Wednesdays, 6pm til done

Dec. 28 – No Youth Club

Jan. 4 – No Youth Club

Snack for 42 hungry children – at the church by 2pm Wednesdays

Dec. 28 – No Youth Club

Jan. 4 – No Youth Club

Family Time Themes:

Dec. 28 – No Youth Club

Jan. 4 – No Youth Club

Baking for Youth Club!

Calling all bakers! We serve dessert to our Youth Club kids and volunteers each week. Sometimes we like to enjoy homemade desserts. If you see something you'd be able to bake, please let Deb Marshall know. Desserts need to be delivered to church by Wednesday at 4:00pm. Often more than one baker helps to make the quantity needed.

For January 18th – 6 dozen smiley face cupcakes



Young Adult Ministry

2023 will be an exciting year of ministry here at the church. As part of our growing efforts to effectively ministry to the young adult community, we are forming a Young Adult Ministry Team. This team will meet periodically and will facilitate Young Adult Ministry, similar to other ministry teams we have in our church.

Are you interested? Contact Mark Slomski to share your interest.



Pledge forms were mailed out. If you haven't received one yet, feel free to take one of the extras. We have a goal of **150 families** sending in a pledge! Help us get closer to our goal! Pledge forms may be placed in the offering plate, in the gold box, mailed to the office or submitted online. To do it online just scan this code!

As of this week, we've received **121** pledges of \$356,836.04 to the operating budget and \$96,162 to the missions budget.

Sybil's Socks for Shelters: Thanks so much for all the donations of socks to our special collection in memory of Sybil Amico, who passed away on Thanksgiving Day. Because of your generosity, there will be more warm feet this winter in our community.

The church's winter-wear clothing drive continues, so if you still have socks that you had planned to donate, you may put them in the gray box in the Welcome Center. THANK YOU!



We are looking for people interested in helping with the audio support of the 8:45 am Sunday worship service and both audio and video support for the 11:00 service. People interested can contact Dale Zajac at 585-924-8564 or mrz@rochester.rr.com. We plan to coordinate show and tell training in the next few weeks.

For adults that still love puzzles ... (Solution from last week was PRISCILLA)

Pick up a special packet of Christmas Begriddled puzzles outside the office, my holiday gift to the Begriddled “superfans”.

Can you solve the puzzle this week? It is pretty tricky! Read all of the instructions!

1. Join horizontally, vertically, and diagonally adjacent pairs of numbers that appear next to each other in the circle.

Work out the missing numbers using the fact that only the letters shown below can be hidden in the puzzle, and each is three numbers wide and tall.

0, 9,
- A -
 2. Arrange the revealed letters to spell a name from the Bible.

Each letter can be the right way up, upside down, or on its side.

All possible letter shapes are shown below. Some are the same when rotated!

Find Begridded books on Amazon

U W X Y Z
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