

Watch TV, look at the paper, listen to the radio, surf the Internet and it's pretty clear that our culture encourages us to make a mad dash to the "holidays." The weeks leading up to December 25th will be filled with Santa, carols, and other Yuletide imagery. Yet in all our hurrying and scurrying towards Christmas, we risk missing the deep riches of the Advent Season: the chance to slow down, catch our breath, and get ready for the arrival of the Christ Child.

As Advent begins, First Congregational Church invites you to slow down and join in worship, fellowship, study, and song; immerse yourself in this season of anticipation; and take a moment to prepare yourself for joy incarnate.

Worship

Sunday, December 11

New Members will be welcomed into the church during worship. Afterwards, enjoy a Sloppy Joe lunch, caroling in the community, cocoa and cookies back at church.

Wednesday, December 21

7:30—Blue Christmas Service: For those carrying burdens or dealing with loss, this can be a challenging time of year. This service will offer support, solace, and renewal in God's grace.

Worship (con't.)

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:00—Family Service with Pageant: A time for Christmas song and story for families and the young at heart. Kids are invited to participate in the service, which includes a pageant and living crèche. Pageant prep at 4:00.

7:00—Service of Lessons and Carols – The story of Our Savior's birth is told in lessons from Scripture and traditional carols. Children are welcome!

11:00—Candlelight Communion Service: In a service of light and song, we celebrate our Lord's Birthday by celebrating the Lord's Supper.

Christmas Day, December 25

10:00—Sunday Morning Worship with Carol Sing: A casual, come-as-you are service.

Fellowship

Monday, December 5

6:30-8:00—Christmas Party: Carols, appetizers/dessert & Yankee Swap!

Sunday, December 11

After worship: Sloppy Joe luncheon and caroling in the community.

Fellowship (con't.)

Sunday, December 18

4:00-6:00—Christmas stories, refreshment and song for kids, families, and the young at heart at the parsonage (15 Kimball Street, Lebanon).

Music

Friday, December 2

7:30—Will Ögmundson: An evening of Christmas Music

Sunday, December 4

3:00—Elizabeth Montmagny: Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 11

4:00—Classicopia: Let's Dance

Study and Reflection

Tuesday, November 29

Learn how to care for and pace yourself during this busy time of year in this program led by Susan Reade.

Sunday, December 4, 11, 18

9:00—The Forum: The Nativity in Word, Song, and Art.

Saturday, December 10

9:00-Noon—Advent Retreat at the church—Join with others for a time of quiet, prayer, reflection and readings.

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