

There is a saying “as you get older, time seems to fly by”. Well, I must be very old. As I write this, I am having a hard time wrapping my brain around the idea that this Sunday is the 1st Sunday of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means coming. The season of Advent proclaims the coming of Jesus - whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate.

The color of Advent is either blue or purple. Visuals used are an Advent Wreath, evergreen wreaths and branches, a Chrismon tree (an evergreen tree covered with white monograms of Christ), and holly and ivy. This Sunday’s worship service includes the Hanging of the Greens. Hanging of the Greens explains the symbols and scriptures we use during the Advent Season.

I also encourage you this Advent to attend one of the Advent Bible Studies or do an Advent devotional on your own as you prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus.

ADVENT STUDIES

- **Almost Christmas:** A Wesleyan Advent Experience; 12/3, 12/10, 12/17 6:00pm @ CUMC, Rev. Kennedy
- **A Different Kind of Christmas:** 12/4, 12/11, 12/18 11:00am @ Starbucks Lomas & Washington, Rev. Jackson Brooks
- **The Wonder of Christmas:** 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 12:30pm @ Saranam, Rev. Jackson Brooks

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

- **4:00pm** Family Service, Chapel;
- **7:00pm** Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary;
- **11:00pm** Candlelight with Communion, Sanctuary
- **Sunday, December 29th**
Covenant Remembrance Service, Life Center; Potluck, 9:00am followed by **One Service**, 10:00am



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - order forms are available at the Welcome Desk and each Sanctuary entrance. Poinsettias are \$8.50 each – checks payable to CUMC – and can be in memory of or in honor of a loved one or friend.

Please contact the CUMC offices with questions.

December 1, 2019

CENTRAL TO LIFE



WORSHIP



NAVIGATE



SERVE



ENGAGE



SERMON SERIES

"WHAT DISCIPLES DO"



Please Note: CUMC offices will be **closed** December 25th 2019-January 6th 2020 so our staff and volunteers can celebrate in the Christmas season with their family and friends.

CUMC'S GIVING TREE

Please take a tag and bring gifts cards in any increments from local retailers such as Target and Smiths in support of CUMCs Helping Hands, Saranam, and Family Promise. We will be collecting cards at the Welcome Desk on December 1st, 8th, and 15th.

BAKE SALE

Pathways Academy is hosting a bake sale Today, **December 1st**. Come and support this important program in our community!

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR CONCERT SERIES

On **Sunday, December 8**, join us for a lunchtime concert featuring the QTones! Holiday turkey lunch catered by Sandy Dow; \$10 per person (please sign up for lunch by Sunday, December 1). Concert begins by **12:45pm**. For admission, bring donations for Saranam (new or gently used housewares, sheets, towels, clothing for adults and children). Freewill donations to benefit the concert series gratefully accepted.

THIRD SPACE MINISTRIES

What is a 3rd Space? 3rd Space refers to places where people gather outside of their homes (1st space) and their workspace (2nd space). Examples of third places would be environments such as coffee shops, breweries, farmers markets, and parks.

- **Starbucks Bible Study:** (Lomas and Washington) Wednesdays, 11-12pm
- **Brewery Study:** (High and Dry on Lomas and Adams) Wednesdays, 6pm-8pm.
- **Sabbath in The Suburbs:** (High and Dry) December, 15th @ 12:30pm
- **Shared Table:** Shared Table is a community initiative where you are asked to invite your neighbors into your home for a potluck meal on any day during the last week of the month. No expectations - No requirements - Just be in community! Please share your photos and experiences on the CUMC Facebook page.

Do you have an idea for a 3rd Space Ministry?
Please Contact Pastor Kelly @ kellyb@centraltolife.org

THRIFT SHOP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE

The Thrift Shop is having their Annual Christmas Sale on Sunday December 8th in the Gathering Area. Please help support this program of the church by doing a little Christmas Shopping.

JOURNEYS OF PAUL CRUISE

Have you ever been interested in learning more about the teachings of Paul? Have you ever been interested in traveling to the places Paul wrote letters and traveled to such as Rome, Greece, and Turkey? If so, you are invited to join Rev. Kelly Brooks and Rev. Jim Hawk on an Educational Opportunities Journeys of Paul Cruise taking place **September 7-19th, 2020**.

Information is available at the Welcome Desk.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

- Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am in rooms 105 (Elementary), 107 (ages 3 & 4), and 301/302 (Youth: 6th - 12th grade)
- Childcare for ages 0-8 is available during worship services and Sunday School – (Located on the Lower Level of the building.)
- Church 4 Kids takes place every Sunday during the second service. This is a time where children 0-Elementary are invited to the Chapel to spend time with one of the clergy to learn more about the scripture lesson of the day in an age-appropriate setting.
- Youth fellowship meets every Sunday from 12:30-2:30pm in the Youth Lounge / 3rd Floor
Contact Pastor Kelly or Stacey Hawk for more information

ADULT MINISTRIES

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes. See the Pew Packets located in the pew backs in the sanctuary, or visit with the Welcome Desk volunteers for more information.
- **Monday Bible Study:** 6:30pm, 3rd Floor
- **Clergy Conversations:** 4th Sunday of each month, 9:45-10:45am, Life Center
- **WOW:** Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am, 3rd Floor
Please contact Pastor Kelly for more information.

All announcements for the CTL News are due via email to JesusValdez@centraltolife.org by **Monday at 5pm**.



Get connected! Sign up for Central Connections, our weekly electronic newsletter, at www.centraltolife.org or send an email to Jesus Valdez at jesusvaldez@centraltolife.org.
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Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm

