

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class – Practice Generosity
- 11:00 a.m. Worship and Faith Formation for Children
- 12:00 p.m. Advent Party and Decorating Church for Christmas

Monday, December 2

- 5:00 p.m. Emergency Cold Weather Shelter
- 5:30 p.m. Legacy Committee meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Nominating Committee meeting

Tuesday, December 3

- 5:30 p.m. Worship Committee meeting
- 6:45 p.m. Book Study: American Idolatry (Zoom)

Wednesday-December 4

- 5:00 p.m. Mission Committee meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Handbells
- 7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, December 5

- 10:00 a.m. Pioneer Home service
- 5:30 p.m. CE Committee meeting

Sunday, December 8

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class – Practice Generosity
- 10:00 a.m. Alternative Gift Market (closed for worship)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship and Faith Formation for Children
- 12:00 p.m. Alternative Gift Market

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Announcements December 1, 2024

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN will meet following the “Time with Children” today. The children will return to worship for communion.

The **CHILDCARE CENTER** is open today. Children five and under are welcome to go to the childcare center during the worship service. Parents need to take their children down so you can sign them in with our childcare providers. You can watch the service with your cell phone in the childcare room if you want to stay with your children.

JOIN US TODAY FOR:

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class – Practice Generosity
- 11:00 a.m. Worship and Faith Formation for Children
- 12:00 p.m. Advent Party

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: PRACTICING GENEROSITY

What are the ways that you can be generous by looking at generosity as “*Love in action for God and Neighbor?*” Join others at 9:30 a.m. in the library and be a part of this ongoing discussion and bible study as we understand generosity not so much in how much one financially contributes but as a practice rooted in justice and concern with all of humanity’s needs.

JOIN US FOR OUR ADVENT PARTY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL TODAY!

The party will include:

- Sharing a meal together
- Decorating Christmas cookies
- Working as a family to make a family creche
- Making an advent wreath
- Making Christmas cards for our homebound members
- Writing Christmas cards to the women at Hiland Correctional Center
- Decorating the sanctuary for Christmas

- A variety of crafts for you to take home and do as a family during Advent
- A table of devotionals and other activities for you to use during the advent/Christmas/Epiphany season to deepen your faith

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET IS NEXT SUNDAY!

Join us next Sunday for our annual Alternative Gift Market from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This event hosts vendors and local agencies selling fair trade, environmentally sustainable, and reasonably priced holiday gifts that create positive change for many in our community and around the world. There will be a break from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for the worship service, during which some of our vendors will speak about their work.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Who: 6th – 12th graders and your friends!
When: Friday, December 13 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where: First Presbyterian Church
What: Food, Games, Fellowship, Service Project
Bring: Candy, fidget toys, fun socks, gloves, coffee cards, movie passes, card games, hot cocoa, travel size lotions, etc. For games we will make for Covenant House to use at their Christmas party later in the month.

UPDATE ON THE EMERGENCY COLD WEATHER SHELTER FOR

FAMILIES

In October the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for families provided a warm and safe place for 22 different families; which included 73 children and adults. These numbers include both the families at our duplex and those staying at the Alex Hotel. To date, five families at our shelter have moved into permanent housing with the anticipation that 3 more will be moving in this month.

The current opportunities for volunteering include:

December 2: 1 evening host; 1 overnight host
 December 9: 1 evening host; 2 overnight hosts
 December 16: 1 evening host; 3 overnight hosts
 December 23: 2 evening hosts; 2 overnight hosts
 December 30: 2 evening hosts; 3 overnight hosts

Contact Danna Larson, Lorissa Jackson or Marcus Geist for an application. If you cannot volunteer yourself, share about what we do with a neighbor or work partner. Forty percent of our volunteers are people not part of FPC. Together as a community we can make a difference for the families in our community!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE SCHEDULE

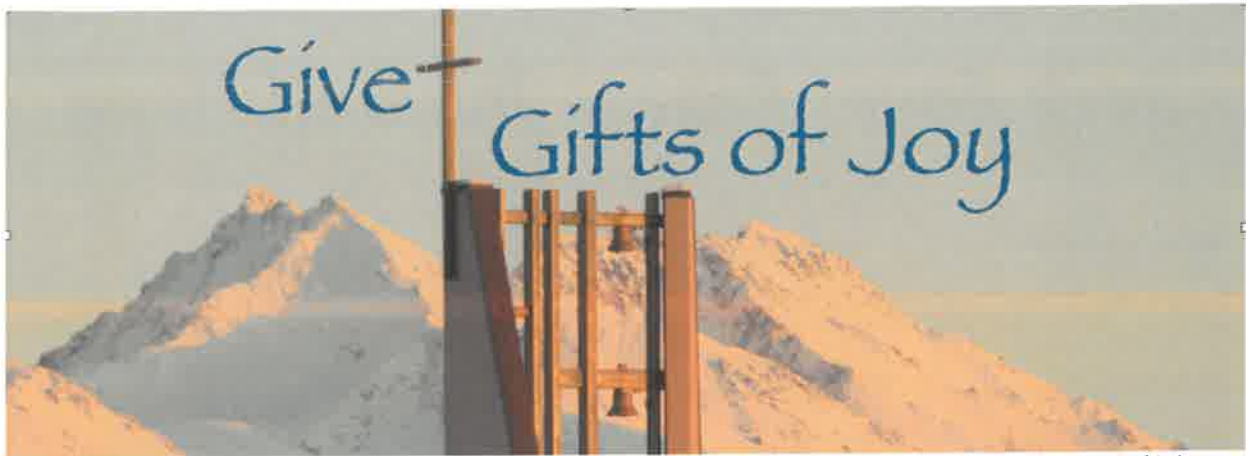
Want to be a part of this year's Christmas Pageant for the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service? We will be practicing on Sundays in December during our Faith Formation time in worship (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon). We will have extended practices on Sunday, December 15 and 22 at 10:00 a.m. Dress Rehearsal is Monday, December 23 at 1:00 p.m. Speaking and non-speaking parts are available! Contact Danna Larson at: 907 538-7313 or dlistika@gmail.com for additional information and to let her know who in your family can be a part of the pageant. Adult volunteers are needed to help with this. It is a fun time for everyone!

BOOK STUDY ON CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

The first meeting of the book study on Christian Nationalism is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3 at 6:45 p.m. via Zoom. You will be sent the Zoom link on Monday. If you pre-ordered a book through the church, you may pick it up in the office. Please contact Larry Michael at wildflower@foxnflower.com, 907-317-3151 or Kay Brown, kaybrown14@gmail.com, 907-529-6970.

DEACONS NEED COOKIES!

Calling all bakers! Our cookie supplies for Sunday fellowship is dwindling. We also need cookies for the Christmas Eve Service. There are sign-up sheets next to the coffee service in the narthex if you can help out.



Nov 24-Dec 15 Write Christmas Cards for Women at Hiland Correctional Center We hope to send 250 Christmas cards to the women at Hiland this year. You can either stop by the table in the narthex and write a note of encouragement in the cards provided or bring your own completed cards from home.

Dec 1 - Dec 15 Donate Socks for the Gambell Presbyterian Church Christmas Party Help us collect 500 pairs of new, warm socks for the Gambell Presbyterian Church Christmas Celebration. Each year FPC sends candy canes and winter socks for their Christmas party.

Dec 1-22 Angel Tree Gifts Stop by the Angel Tree in the narthex and pick up an angel. Buy the gift on the angel tree and return to the church by Sunday, Dec. 22.

Dec. 1 Advent Party Enjoy lunch, Advent activities, and help decorate the sanctuary. Take home a Reverse Advent Calendar Food Box; collect the selected food items and bring the filled box back to the church on Christmas Eve. All donations will go to the food bank.

Dec. 8 Alternative Gift Market One stop Christmas shopping! The Gift Market offers holiday shoppers a choice of gifts while supporting local, national and international organizations. Bring your friends! Bring cash or checks as some of the organizations may not be able to take cards.

Dec. 11 Food Bank of Alaska Senior Box Build Join others from FPC from 9-12. Go to the Food Bank of Alaska website to sign up as an individual or contact Rich Jackson for the FPC volunteer link.

Dec. 13 Youth Christmas Party from 6-8 pm in Fellowship Hall Join other youth from First Pres., Immanuel and St. Mary's Episcopal churches for supper, games and fellowship. We will be making a game for Covenant House as our service project. Bring any of the following to help us assemble the game: candy, chapstick, fidget toys, fun socks, coffee cards, movie passes, card games, travel size lotions, etc.

Dec. 22 Christmas Goodie Bag Delivery Volunteer to help deacons distribute goodie bags to homes of elderly church members.

Dec 23 Pioneer Home Christmas Eve Service Join other volunteers in this service for the residents.

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Hospitality Bring your donations of 1-2 dozen cookies to the church on Sunday, Dec. 22 or Monday, Dec. 23 for the Christmas Eve service.

Dec. 25 Downtown Hope Center Christmas Breakfast. First Presbyterian Church prepares a breakfast for the women on Christmas morning. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to join us at the Downtown Hope Center at 8 am to make and serve breakfast. Contact the church office to sign up.

Jan. 5 Epiphany Party and Baby Shower for Jesus Celebrate with us as we welcome the Magi to the manger! FPC will provide the gold, frankincense, and myrrh and the main course for lunch. You can bring a side dish or leftover Christmas goodies. The party will include a "Baby Shower for Jesus" with donations going to Covenant House Passage Home. Following the party, we will remove Christmas decorations from the sanctuary.

Seek Love, Peace, Joy and Hope Advent Calendar

Dec. 1, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School: Practice Generosity
Dec 1, 11 am	Advent Worship: Hope Faith Formation for Children: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Dec 1, 12 pm	Advent Party in Fellowship Hall
Dec 3 6:45 pm, zoom	Book Study: American Idolatry: How Christian Nationalism Betrays the Gospel
Dec. 5 10 am	Pioneer Home Worship Service
Dec 8, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School: Practice Generosity
Dec. 8, 11 am	Advent Worship: Peace Faith Formation for Children: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Dec. 8, 10am - 2pm	Alternative Gift Market
Dec. 11, 9am-noon	Alaska Food Bank Senior Box Build
Dec. 13, 6-8 pm	Youth Christmas Party
Dec 15, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School: Practice Generosity
Dec. 15, 11 am	Advent Worship: Joy Faith Formation for Children: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Dec 17, 10:30 am	Presbyterian Women's Bible Study at Immanuel
Dec 22, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School: Practice Generosity
Dec. 22 11 am	Advent Worship: Love PC(USA) Joy Offering Faith Formation for Children: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Pick up a Deacon Goodie Bag to deliver
Dec. 23, 10:30 am	Pioneer Home Christmas Service
Dec. 23 1 pm	Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
Dec. 24, 5:30 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Special Offering for Local Charity
Dec. 25 8 am	Downtown Hope Center Christmas Breakfast
Dec. 29, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School
Dec. 29, 11 am	Worship Faith Formation for Children: F.I.S.H. Service Project
Jan 5, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School
Jan 5, 11 am	Epiphany Worship with Communion Faith Formation for Children
Jan. 5, 12 pm	Epiphany Party in Fellowship Hall: Baby Shower for Jesus