



190 years of seeking the light

Third Presbyterian Church

Weekly Update

Thursday, December 7, 2017

[View the Monthly Calendar](#)

A memorial service for **Angela Johnson** will be held on Monday, December 11 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Schedule

Sunday, December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

One service at 10:45am.

Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:30pm – Festival of the Nativity, Sanctuary

8:00pm – Candlelight Communion, Chapel

11:00pm – Festival of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary

This Sunday, December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

8:30am Worship in the Chapel – Communion

John Wilkinson preaching, "The Stewardship of Advent" [Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-9](#)

Sunday Seminar (9:30am, Johnston Hall) "Art of the Nativity," led by Jim Moore, Third Church member.

Growing in the Word (9:30am, Parlor) "The Mystery Appears, Mark 1:1-15," led by David Evans.

10:45am Worship in the Sanctuary

John Wilkinson preaching, "The Stewardship of Advent" [Isaiah 40: 1-11, Mark 1:1-9](#)

Organ: "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645" - J.S. Bach; "Prelude and Fugue in G Major" - Felix Mendelssohn

Introit (Junior Choir): "Come to Us, Emmanuel" - Carol McClure

Bell Anthem (Covenant Ringers): "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - arr. Arnold B. Sherman

Anthems (The Chancel Choir): "Drop Down, Ye Heavens" - Robert Edward Smith; "This is the Record of John" - Orlando Gibbons

Hymns: 106 "Prepare the Way, O Zion" 87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Stewardship Update



Thanks to those who have responded already to the 2018 Stewardship Campaign, "Our Hope for Years to Come."

If you've yet to respond, you can:

- Place your pledge card in the offering plate this morning. Additional cards are available in the pew racks.
- Mail a completed pledge card to the church office.
- Send a confidential pledge to cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Your timely response is deeply appreciated.

Thank you again, and Advent blessings to you.

The Stewardship Committee

Thursday Voices

Thursday, December 7, 12:00pm

Johnston Hall

"Advent Credo," written by Allan Boesak and "Into The Darkest Hour," written by Madeleine L'Engle, led by Martha Langford.

Thursday, December 14

"Waiting for God," written by Henri Nouwen, led by Lynette Sparks.

Third Church Advent Retreat

Saturday, December 9, 12:00pm-3:00pm

It is a season for storytelling; after all, the gospels began as shared stories. Resurrection has always been the story's finale, but each gospel has a unique take on the beginning. Hear the story of Advent unfold as we shape and share our stories and the seasonal stories of Third Church. Work with Jeanne Fisher, Vice President for Radio at WXXI, and Robin Flanigan, freelance journalist, as they lead us in the art of storytelling.

If you would like to attend, please contact Martha Langford, mlangford@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537, ext. 108) by today, December 7.

Junior Choir Annual Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 10, during coffee hour

Celebration Center

Please visit our table of goodies, which will be available for a suggested donation of \$5/package. We will also have copies of our latest CD, "So it is with the Spirit," available for purchase - the CD makes a GREAT Christmas gift or stocking stuffer for family, friends, and neighbors!

Exploring Membership Luncheon

Sunday, December 10, 12:00pm

Johnston Hall

Are you new to Third Church, and want to learn more about us? Or have you participated for some time and are

interested in exploring membership? We invite you to join us at our next Exploring Membership Luncheon this Sunday, December 10. You can bring all your questions, get to know our pastoral staff, members of the church, and other folks new to this place. The emphasis of the conversation is exploring ways to connect. Childcare is available; please let us know in advance if you need it. Our luncheon conversation will conclude by 1:30pm.

For those that are ready to join in membership, the next step is a New Member Gathering offered that same afternoon following the luncheon from 1:30-2:30pm, or the following Sunday at 8:30am. To RSVP or learn more, contact Lynette Sparks (271-6537 ext. 106 or lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org).

2017 East Avenue Grocery Run Souvenir Pint Glasses

Relive the fun of the Grocery Run all year! Due to a vendor error, we have extra Grocery Run pint glasses! Please stop by our table in coffee hour on **Sunday, December 10** to purchase your souvenir Grocery Run pint glasses! Each glass is a suggested \$1 donation to our hunger programs—take home a set of 6 for \$5 or 12 for \$10. Glasses make great stocking stuffers or fill them with treats and give them to coworkers, neighbors and friends as gifts with a meaning.

Monday Night Yoga

Monday, December 11, 6:30pm, CE 206

Please note that this week we're in the Ed Building. Join us for this free class!

Handel's "Messiah" Times TWO!

Sunday, December 17

The Chancel Choir, Soloists, and Orchestra will offer Part One (the "Christmas" portion) of George Frederick Handel's beloved masterpiece, "Messiah" on Sunday, December 17 - twice! And you're invited to each! Soloists will include Danika Felty, soprano; Riki Connaughton and Caroline Nielson, alto; Anders Namestnik, tenor; Sam Witmer, baritone; and Nicholas Landrum, bass.

On Sunday morning, "Messiah" will serve as the centerpiece of our Advent III worship service at 10:45am, offered by choir, soloists, and orchestra. And on Sunday evening at 7:30pm, we'll offer it to the wider community - as a "Community Sing!" Bring your own score, borrow one for the evening, or download the choruses from www.thirdpresbyterian.org. Or, if you'd like, you can just sit back and enjoy the music!

Spread the word to your family and friends, and plan to join in this wonderful musical preparation for Christmas!

Support for these presentations comes from the Lois V. Parker Special Music Fund, and the Janet S. and David B. Reed Fund. A special music offering will also be received to support this special experience. Your generosity is appreciated!

YOUth Holiday Ornament Sale

Sunday, December 17, during Coffee Hour

This year's version is Origami ornaments made from our old blue Hymnals. Don't miss it!

Living Waters: Longest Night Service

Monday, December 18, 7:00pm, Chapel

All are invited to a "Longest Night" observance in this Advent Season. Also known as "Blue Christmas," this Living Waters service will take place on the Monday before the winter solstice—the longest night.

Dining Room Ministry Christmas Meal – Volunteers Needed

Saturday, December 23

Our annual Dining Room Ministry Christmas Meal will be served on Saturday, December 23. We are looking to the Congregation for volunteers to help serve our hungry neighbors. Experienced and inexperienced volunteers are welcome to help with this meal. Bring your children, your grandchildren or your next door neighbor. Wear your Santa hats and Christmas aprons! Volunteers will need to arrive at the Celebration Center kitchen at 10:00am and would be done by 1:00 pm. Please consider joining us on December 23.

Contact Nancy Adams at nancycadams@hotmail.com or 314-3783.

Immediate Food Cupboard Staffing Needs

We are in immediate need of several volunteers to manage the Food Cupboard stockroom.

-**Stockroom manager:** 3 hours every Tuesday afternoon plus 1 hour on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

-**Foodlink Shopper:** a few hours every Tuesday.

-**Shopper for last minute perishables:** a few hours every Wednesday for Thursday needs and every Friday or Saturday morning for Monday needs.

For more details, please contact Lynette Sparks, lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537 ext. 106.

Boar's Head Needs You!

Many bakers are needed to provide cookies, breads, mince tarts and plum puddings for the festive receptions which will follow both performances of The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival on January 6 and 7. Items may be prepared as you do your holiday baking, but need to be delivered to the church by Friday, January 5. Easy recipes for mince tarts, plum puddings, and volunteer forms may be found in the literature racks outside the church office. Please let us know as soon as possible if you can provide baked goods, and also if you are available to help with the reception set-up for either performance.

YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP financially support our presentation of the biennial Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival on January 6 and 7, as a Patron. The Festival is a wonderful tradition and a gift from our congregation to the larger community of Rochester as we conclude our celebration of Christmas with this great Epiphany event! To help in this way, send a check payable to Third Presbyterian Church with the notation "Boar's Head Patron" clearly marked—or place your check, so marked, in the offering plate.

Help Publicize Boar's Head

YOU can help spread the word about the upcoming Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival, January 6 & 7! Pre-printed invitation post-cards are available in the church office for you to pick up and send to your friends. All you need to do is add an address, and a stamp! There's room for a short personal message, too. They're available in packets of ten. Please help yourself, and help US fill the church for the Festival!

Christmas Basket Ministry

The Christmas Basket Committee appreciates all who have chosen to sponsor a food basket for a family in need as well as all who have donated money for the purchase of TOPS Gift Cards, mittens, hats, undies and tights. However, we are still in need of additional funds to cover the Gift Cards and we will continue to collect those funds through the end of December. Please mail or drop off your check or cash donation to Carol Foster at the

church and make a note that it is for The 2017 Christmas Basket Ministry Program. The box for hats, mittens, tights and undies can be found in the Celebration Center after the second service.

Thank you all for your generosity!

Should you have questions feel free to contact Sheila Elliott at 750-0611 or email selliott@rotoliteelliott.com

Find Us on Twitter  and Instagram 

In addition to Facebook, Third Church is also on Twitter and Instagram at handle @ThirdChurchROC.

Join the conversation!

Worship Recordings and Sermon Availability

Did you know that Sunday sermons and anthems can be listened to again via the church website?

Visit http://thirdpresbyterian.org/worship/worship_sermons.shtml. Sermons are also available for viewing on the website; printed versions are available at several locations in the church.

Outreach Blog

[Click here](#) to read the latest outreach blog, "[Why Calvary St. Andrew's?](#)"

Presbytery of Genesee Valley Newsletter

Click [here](#) to view the November 2017 newsletter from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.

Support Third Church When You Shop at Amazon

Amazon Associates is a program which pays referral fees to Third Church when an Amazon customer accesses amazon.com through the Third Church website. Go to www.thirdpresbyterian.org and click on the Amazon logo on the homepage. Shop as you usually do, and Amazon will send a percentage of your purchase to Third Church. It's a great way to generate income for Third Church at no additional cost to you!

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