



# Third Presbyterian Church

*Seeking the Light*

## Congregational Update

Thursday November 29, 2018

This Sunday, December 2—First Sunday of Advent

### Special Offering This Sunday

*This Sunday we will collect a special offering for the People's Emergency Fund, which provides assistance to people who come to the church seeking help to prevent evictions and utility shut-offs.*

**John Wilkinson** preaching at both services, "A Family Story" | Thessalonians 3:9-13; Jeremiah 33:14-16

8:30am Worship in the Chapel—Communion

**Organ:** "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," BWV 659—J.S. Bach; "Prelude on 'HYFRYDOL'" — Ralph Vaughan Williams

**Anthem (Chancel Choir):** "How Lovely Are the Messengers" - Felix Mendelssohn

**Hymns:** 196 — "Prepare the Way, O Zion" 82—"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Sunday Seminar: (9:30am, Johnston Hall)—"The Spirituality of the Enneagram" led by Susan Rupp.

Living in the Word: (9:30am, Parlor)—Advent I: Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 3:1-6, "How do we remain hopeful in difficult times? Stories of faith," led by Ernest Krug.

10:45am Worship in the Sanctuary

**Organ:** "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," BWV 659—J.S. Bach; "Prelude on 'HYFRYDOL'" —Ralph Vaughan Williams

**Introit (Junior Choir):** "Light of Hope, Light of Peace" —Mark Patterson

**Anthems (Chancel Choir):** "How Lovely Are the Messengers" —Felix Mendelssohn; "Lost in the Night" —arr. F. Melius Christiansen; "A Rose Touched by the Sun's Warm Rays" —Jean Berger

**Hymns:** 196 — "Prepare the Way, O Zion" 82—"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

### Heartfelt Thanks

Thank you to all who have made a pledge to support Third Church in the year ahead. Your generosity and commitment are greatly appreciated. As of this week, we have reached 67% of our pledge goal and 60% of our participation goal - a strong start!

If you have not yet made a pledge, don't worry, it's not too late! You can still participate by:

- Mailing your completed card to the church office
- Pledging online at [bit.ly/pledgetothirdchurch](http://bit.ly/pledgetothirdchurch)
- Sending a confidential email to Business Administrator Carol Foster at [cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org)

Every contribution matters, and no pledge is too small (or too great!). Thank you for sharing your gifts with us. You

can still get an "I Pledged Today" sticker by contacting Rachel Norton.

### Christmas Basket Sign-Ups

We still have about 5 families waiting to be adopted to receive a Christmas basket. Please come by the Christmas basket table on Sunday to sign up to purchase, pack, and deliver a Christmas basket for local families from schools #3 and #35 and RAIHN graduates. Monetary donations can also be made to purchase gift cards that accompany each basket. We are also collecting girls' and boys' underwear, socks, and tights, and all sizes mittens and hats for the children from both schools and RAIHN. For more information, please feel free to contact Meg Bishop at [margo2587@aol.com](mailto:margo2587@aol.com) or 864-423-7069.

### Thursday Voices

**Thursday November 29, 12:00pm, Johnston Hall**

"Advent Hymns," led by John Wilkinson.

### Help Decorate the Sanctuary and Chapel

**Saturday December 1, 10:00am -12:00pm**

In preparation for the first Sunday of Advent, we will be decorating our worship spaces this Saturday. Join us!

Questions? Contact Jenny Bay, [jcbay@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jcbay@rochester.rr.com) or 732-6148.

### Monday Night Yoga

**Monday December 3, 6:30pm, Johnston Hall**

Join us for this free class! All levels welcome.

### Presbyterian Youth Triennium

**Sunday December 2, 10:00am**

#### **Youth Lounge**

Parents and all current 9-12 grade teens interested in attending in Triennium 2019 (July 16-20) are encouraged to attend this information meeting. Come hear about our Presbytery delegation details. For more information contact Jane Carden, [jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org).

### Advent Wreath Making

**Sunday December 2**

Join the Congregational Fellowship Committee for our annual Advent Wreath making event during coffee hour following the 10:45am service. If you have last year's wreath form and/or candle cups, please do bring them to re-use! We will have devotional resources available for you to use at home with your wreath each week.

### Olive Oil Sale

**Coffee Hour, December 2**

The Outreach Committee and One World Goods are offering Palestinian fair trade olive products during coffee

fellowship on December 2. Be sure to come and check out the olive oil and other Palestinian foods from One World Goods! And, we expect to have a good supply of the ever-popular infused olive oils, great for gift-giving! All items will be sold at cost to benefit the farmers of the Canaan Fair Trade Association in the West Bank.

## Advent Retreat

***Saturday December 8, 9:00am – 12:00pm***

“Your Story and the Christmas Story,” led by Lynette Sparks and John Wilkinson.

In our Year of Stories, we will use this time together to explore our own stories and how they connect to the story of Jesus' birth. In small and large groups, using scripture, music, poetry and prose, join us to help prepare your heart (and our world) for the coming of this good news.

In order to help in our preparation for food and materials, please RSVP to the church office by December 4: 271-6513 or [cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org).

## Exploring Membership Luncheon

***Sunday December 9, 12:00pm in Johnston Hall***

If you are new to Third Church and would like to know more about us, or are interested in exploring membership, we invite you to join us at our next Exploring Membership Luncheon on Sunday, December 9 at 12:00pm. You can bring all your questions, get to know our pastoral staff, and meet other folks new to this place. Our conversation is informal, and emphasizes the many 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 can be arranged at another mutually convenient time. To RSVP or learn more, contact Lynette Sparks (271-6537, ext. 106 or [lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org)).

## Holiday Handbell Concert

***Sunday December 9, 4:00pm***

***ROC SALT Center (corner of Ashland and Averill)***

Come and hear the Third Church Ringers, Celebration Ringers, Covenant Ringers, and Junior High Ringers in concert. Enjoy an hour of holiday selections, both sacred and secular, in the beautiful sanctuary of the ROC Salt Center. Hosted by the Friends of Historic Calvary St. Andrews, the concert is free of charge; donations will be accepted to support this historic space.

Street parking is available; you may also part at Postler & Jaeckle, corner of South Avenue and Averill.

## Advent Living Waters Service

***Monday December 10, 7:00pm***

***ROC SALT Center (corner of Ashland and Averill)***

A service of contemplation and preparation featuring prayers and music. Music by the Third Church ensemble and the Celebration Ringers.

Following the service, brief tours of the center will be available.

## Special Music

### ***Sunday December 16, 10:45am Service***

The Chancel Choir, Soloists and Orchestra will offer the sparkling and brilliant Baroque masterpiece Gloria in D, RV 589 by Italian master Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Featured soloists include Heather Holmquest, Megan Graves and Caroline Nielson. Additionally, as Prelude that morning, Assistant Organist Alden Wright will be joined by the orchestra in the Organ Concerto in F, Op. 4, No. 4 by George Frideric Handel. Two Baroque gems to inspire us as we continue our advent preparation for the birth of the Christ Child.

Support for Special Music presentations is provided in part by the Lois V. Parker Special Music Fund. A Special Music Offering will also be received that morning to fully fund this presentation.

## Dining Room Ministry Christmas Team Forming

### ***Saturday December 22, 10:00am–1:00pm***

Hunger doesn't take a holiday and neither should we. And so we are forming our annual Christmas Team for serving a hot meal to our hungry neighbors on the Saturday before Christmas. You do not need to have had experience with DRM in the past to volunteer for this meal. We welcome experienced and inexperienced alike. Please consider joining us as we prepare a hot ham dinner for our guests in the Celebration. Contact Nancy Adams at 314-3783 or [nancycadams@hotmail.com](mailto:nancycadams@hotmail.com).

## Join Us—Intergenerational Mission Trip

### ***February 17-23, 2019***

This trip to south Texas will take place during February break, and the mission is to assist our neighbors whose lives were upended by Hurricane Harvey. It is being jointly sponsored by the Outreach and Youth Committees. An information session is scheduled for Sunday December 16 at 4:00pm. For more specifics, contact Lynette Sparks at [lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org) or 271-6537 ext. 106.

## Nativity Sign-Up

Attention all youth, grades 7-12!

It's time to think about Nativity! This year's walk-through and dress rehearsals will be combined again on Sunday December 23, with dinner served in between. We need YOU to play a special role in this year's Nativity - each and every one of you make this a meaningful experience for all of those present in worship. All roles available - Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, etc - [sign up here](#) by Sunday, December 2. If you have any questions, contact Mary Ann, [mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org).

## Christmas Decorations

If you would like to make a donation to help support the cost of our Christmas decorations, please send your check to the church office marked "Christmas Flowers" and note clearly the names that should be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

I would like this gift to be:

- In loving memory of:
- In honor of:
- In celebration of:
- A donation from:

The deadline is Friday, December 14.

## Church Business Administrator Position

Third Church is seeking applicants for the position of church business administrator. The position description is available [here](#). Please share with any who might be interested and contact John Wilkinson for further information.

## Volunteers Needed at the South Wedge Food Program

### ***ROC SALT Center***

**Weekly opportunity:** "Picker-Upper." This volunteer is available Tuesday or Thursday mornings to pick up bread and meat from the FoodLink warehouse at 1999 Mt. Read Blvd. Must have a vehicle (the bigger the better) and be able to help another volunteer load bread and meat at the warehouse and drive it back to the Center. Time Commitment: Two hours once a week on a Tuesday or Thursday morning.

### **One-time opportunities:**

- Christmas basket giveaway on Tuesday, December 11: Preparation 9:00am-12:00pm; Giveaway 1:00pm-3:00pm
- Sorting food contributions from Episcopal Home collection on Thursday, December 13, 9:30am-12:00pm

To volunteer, contact Katie Jo Suddaby at [southwedgefoodrochester@gmail.com](mailto:southwedgefoodrochester@gmail.com).

## Outreach Featured Story

Click [here](#) to read our latest story, "[Arts and Enrichment](#)"

## Tutors Needed

It's not too late to become a tutor! We are still looking for a few more tutors to fill substitution spots and to work with those approaching middle school in fifth and sixth grades at School #35. If you are interested, contact School #35 Tutoring Coordinator Melanie Jones at [mjones@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:mjones@thirdpresbyterian.org).

## Volunteer for Our Latest Habitat Build

Volunteers are welcome for the current Flower City Habitat for Humanity house building at 179 Whitney St. Third Church is a member of the Harvest Home Coalition which is sponsoring this construction. The work is suited to the volunteer's skills, so any one (over the age of 16) can participate. Volunteer slots can be for 3 hours or for all day, Tuesdays through Saturdays. Sign up is easy on line at this link: [Thrivent & Harvest Home Faith Build Volunteer Campaign for Flower City Habitat for Humanity](#).

Just click the green "Volunteer" button and pick a day and time slot. Better yet, sign up with a "buddy" from Third Church. You will be working with Habitat construction staff and members of other congregations. Questions? Contact Tom Gillett at [tdgillett@frontiernet.net](mailto:tdgillett@frontiernet.net).

## Food Cupboard Needs Your Support Once Again!

Thank you to everyone who faithfully brought jars of peanut butter for our Food Cupboard. Our shelves are well stocked again. We would appreciate your continuing help with **BOXES OF CEREAL**.

## Name Tags

The most recent name tag order has arrived. Please pick yours up in the church office. If you would like to order a name tag, please contact the church office. Cost is \$10.50. We will place orders several times a year.

## A Window Returns

When you're next in the Sanctuary, you'll see one of our stained glass windows has been repaired and reinstalled. *Nativity*, second in from the narthex on the Arnold Park side, is now structurally sound and newly polished. We are grateful to all who donated to the James P. Chisholm Stained Glass Fund, which enabled this restoration. Another window will be restored next year, and we will all have the opportunity to support that effort through the Chisholm Fund once again.

## Help Us Build Community on Social Media

Calling all Facebook friends! If you haven't yet, please like and follow the Third Presbyterian Church Facebook page and also join the Third Church Community Facebook group. Because Facebook is such a powerful tool for ministry in the digital age, we are launching a more intentional presence on the platform to reach more people. Now you have more opportunities to engage, reflect, and share than ever before. Updates to Third Church's Twitter and Instagram feeds will be next. Join us online!

Find Us on Twitter  and Instagram 

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

## Third Church Has Mobile and Online Giving

Donating to Third Church is easy and convenient on our website or your mobile device. Visit [bit.ly/givetothirdchurch](http://bit.ly/givetothirdchurch) to give online.

On your mobile device, download the Give+ app, search for Third Presbyterian Church, and follow the instructions to make one-time or recurring gifts toward your pledge or special funds.

## Presbytery of Genesee Valley Newsletter

Click [here](#) to view the **November 2018** newsletter from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.

## Your Holiday Shopping Can Help Third Church

Amazon Associates is a program which pays referral fees to Third Church when a customer accesses Amazon through our website. Go to [www.thirdpresbyterian.org](http://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. This allows you to support Third Church at no additional cost to you. Note that, unlike Amazon Smile, this program only works if you click through the Third Church website first, but the extra effort is worth it because Associates creates more income than Smile does.

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