

CALENDAR

Office Hours: 8:15am – noon, Monday-Thursday

Sunday, December 3

9:15am

10:30am

12:30-5pm

4pm

1st Sunday in Advent

Sunday School

Worship

Korean Church

The Hanging of the Greens, followed by Potluck

Monday, December 4

Tuesday, December 5

11am

7pm

Silver Sneakers

Deacons, Personnel, B&G, and S&F/Session

Wednesday, December 6

6pm

6:45pm

7:30pm

7:30pm

Midweek Meal

“Simple Church” Wednesday Worship in FH

Music Ministry Meeting in the Chancel

New Life Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 7

11am

Silver Sneakers

Friday, December 8

Saturday, December 9

Sunday, December 10

9:15am

10:30am

11:45am

12:30-5pm

4pm

2nd Sunday in Advent

Sunday School

Worship

Action Committee Meeting

Korean Church

Little Bits of Christmas

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Prayers for Others: Jane Lobitz (recurrence of breast cancer), Mary Long, Todd Biever, Kathleen Wilkinson, Jeanne Walker, Raymond Austin, Theresa Samuels, Laura Hagemann, Donald and Marion DeJong, Josh Peterson, and Mabel Schneider.

Thank you to the Ron Johnson family for lighting our Advent candles today.

Poinsettias to beautify our sanctuary during Advent and Christmas may be ordered through Elizabeth Swee. The cost is \$10 per plant, and they may be placed in honor or in memory of a loved one, or to the Glory of God. Please place your order **by today**. Checks should be made payable to Elizabeth. Thank you.

The Hanging of the Greens: Come join us **this afternoon at 4pm** to decorate the church for Christmas, and there will be activities for children as well. Stay for the potluck supper afterwards.

Thanksgiving Eve offerings from our combined worship service with Bethesda Lutheran Church totaled \$73, and will be given to of Churches United for the Homeless.

Thank you to our church friends for celebrating with us at our 60th wedding anniversary party on Sunday! —*Jim and Marlys Winter*

Nametags: Please remember to wear your church nametag for worship services and fellowship. If you need a nametag, please contact the office. For visitors, temporary adhesive-back nametags are available on the table in the narthex.

Wednesday Worship and Meal: If you know of someone who isn't able to go to church on Sunday mornings, please invite them to attend our "Simple Church" worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:45pm.

Menu: Chili, cornbread, oranges, milk, and ice cream sundaes.

Little Bits of Christmas – Sunday, Dec. 10 at 4pm. Please come for the fun, the music and the laughter! The choirs from First Congregational UCC and FPCM will set the tone, with drama, jokes, stories, and audience participation to follow. Contests will include "Awesome Christmas Sweater" and musical song quiz, treats included. Bring a canned meat item to help resupply the food pantry if you wish. This is a "not for profit event" – just for your well-being and enrichment of life!

Circle One will meet on **Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 11:30am** at Snap Dragon Restaurant. We will discuss Lesson 4 of our Study Guide, *Cloud of Witnesses* by Melissa Bane Sevier: “In Community with God’s Messengers”. The lesson takes us on a tour of angelic messengers in the Bible, and reminds us that *we never know when an encounter may bring us God’s messages of love and support*. Our discussion leader will be Kathleen Wilkinson.

Children’s Advent Service: Come and enjoy the Children’s Advent Service on **Sunday, Dec. 17** at 10:30am.

Donations For Cooper House Residents

Once again we are asking for donations of hygiene products for residents at the Cooper House for Christmas, These items include shampoo, soap or body wash, deodorant, razors, shaving cream and lotion. There will be a box in Fellowship Hall to collect the items and they need to be in by **Sunday, December 17**.

The Cooper House is a housing unit for the chronically homeless in Fargo. We now have 4 females and 38 males, some who just moved in and many who have been there a number of years. The residents have been living in shelters or on the street before moving into the Cooper House and are dealing with physical or mental illness or addiction and usually all of the above. Christmas is a very difficult time for the residents as it reminds them of the things in their lives they don’t have anymore. Most are estranged from their families and most have lost many friends over the years.

The residents were very excited about our donations last year and many expressed their gratitude. For the majority of the residents this was the only Christmas present they received. One of the most important things we can do for them is to show that people do care about them and the donations are an expression of our love for them. If you have any questions about donations you can contact Bonnie Erickson at 218-233-4861. Thank you for your participation!

The Christmas Joy Offering is received in the season of Advent and Christmas. This Offering provides financial assistance to individuals and families who have dedicated their lives to the church, and supports leadership development and education for students attending Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. We will receive the offering **December 24**.