

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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Portland, CT 06480-1104
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December 2019

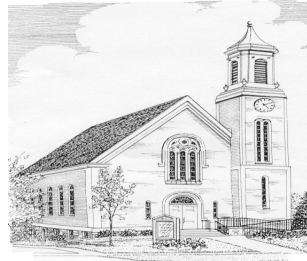
Belfry Chimes

First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Portland, Connecticut

The Belfry Chimes



December 2019
Newsletter

The First Congregational Church
554 Main Street
Portland, Connecticut 06480

The Reverend Jane E. Hawken

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Please look us up on Facebook,

The First Congregational Church of Portland, CT

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ORGANIST

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OFFICE MANAGER

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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CHURCH SEXTON

Ann Labby

NURSERY SCHOOL

(860) 342-1111

Nursery School Email address

1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com

FELLOWSHIP HALL (860) 342-1111

Welcoming Statement

We, The First Congregational Church of Portland, Connecticut, are an Open and Affirming church.

With God's grace, we continue to be a congregation that includes persons of every race, ethnicity, age, family configuration, marital status, mental and physical ability, economic status, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation. All are welcome to share in the life, sacraments, missions, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our community of faith.

THE BUILDING IS ACCESSIBLE.

Assistive Hearing Devices available.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE.

- 12/1 The First Sunday of Advent, New Member Sunday, Deck the Halls**
9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship, Communion, Church School, Pass-It-On Food Cart
Worship Assistant: George Law
Communion Presenters: Karen Rettich, Mike Enright, Nancy Johnson, George Law, Cari Klick
Deacon: Faith Fraulino
Ushers: The Fraulinos
11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour:** Board of Christian Education
- 12/8 The Second Sunday of Advent**
9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School
Worship Assistant: Karen Rettich
Deacon: Megan Ettlinger
Ushers: Maria Mundo and Kathy Flood
11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour:** Board of Christian Education
- 12/11 7:00 p.m. Christmas Calm Worship Service**
- 12/15 The Third Sunday of Advent**
9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship, Pageant
Worship Assistant: Connie Wache
Deacon: Sharon Kandro
Ushers:
11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour:** Board of Christian Education
- 12/22 The Fourth Sunday of Advent**
9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School
Worship Assistant: Karen Rettich
Deacon: Sharon Kandro
Ushers:
11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour:** Board of Christian Education
- 12/24 Christmas Eve**
4:00 p.m. **Family Service of Lessons and Carols**
- 12/24 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols**
- 12/29 9:30 a.m. Ecumenical Worship at Trinity Episcopal Church**

The church office will be closed from December 24-January 1.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY COOKIE SALE

Saturday, December 14
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Your help is needed to make this annual event a successful fundraiser for the church.

How can you help?

Make several dozen Christmas cookies and package them half dozen to a bag.

Please label your contributions clearly: name of cookie, if it has nuts what kind, gluten free, and any other important allergy information.

Being creative with your packaging helps sell!

Donate Christmas related items to be used in a variety of ways. Look for the Cookie Sale Contribution Box in the fellowship hall at the end of November. (Items needed by Sunday, December 8th.)

Note: Your cookie contributions can be dropped off at the church until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 13th or Saturday morning, December 14th between 8:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

Thank you in advance for contributing to this popular community event and helping your church out at the same time.

Remember to come and shop!

Pass-It-On Food Cart

On the first Sunday of every month we take a collection of non-perishable food items for the Portland Food Bank. Please bring any canned, packaged or bagged grocery item to donate to the food pantry.

Items to consider donating are individually packaged foods such as crackers or juice boxes that can fit in children's lunch boxes. Paper products, cleaning supplies and personal care items are also good choices.

Volunteers Needed!

The Board of Deacons is looking for our church members and friends to **host a Coffee Hour and/or to Usher** on Sunday morning. There are sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall and we would love to see your name on them. We are so appreciative to those who fill in the blank. Consider yourself blessed when you help out your church in this way.

Flowers Needed for Sunday Services

As we begin the new year, please consider dedicating flowers in honor of, in memory of, or in celebration of someone or something special at the Sunday worship services. You can make a dedication by contacting the Flower Committee representatives for each month. Their name and contact information is posted on the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. You may use the sign-up poster in Fellowship Hall or call the church office. You may take your flowers home following the service.

Winter Storm Cancellations

During the winter season, if there is a snow or ice storm warning or in process, please turn to: Channel 3-WFSB at www.wfsb.com; or WVIT at www.nbcconnecticut.com for Sunday worship or church event cancellations.



Christmas Flower Dedications

The Flower Committee will place a large Poinsettia on the communion table for Christmas. This is your opportunity to put a dedication for your loved ones; in loving memory or in celebration and honor in the December 22 and Christmas Eve Bulletins, and to help out the Portland Food Bank as well.



Members of the Flower Committee will be available Sunday, December 1, 8, & 15 after the service to collect your dedication form and payment. Dedications are \$10 each. Thank you!



December Gratitude Journal ~ A SPECIAL THANK YOU To:

- ~ **The Board of Stewardship** for their work on the "The Future is So Bright" 2020 Campaign and **all who pledged** to support the church.
- ~ **The Church School classes and all who donated** socks and gloves for the Portland Food Bank and **those who collected for UNICEF.**
- ~ **The Flower Committee** for their work on the Advent and Christmas decorations.
- ~ **All who contributed** to the Hawkwing Christmas project and **Jan Poet and Karen Faass** for delivering the items.
- ~ **The Nursery School** children for making the frosty snowflake and icicle ornaments for the Mission Christmas Tree.
- ~ **Mike Wache** for all his efforts maintaining the Memorial Garden and winterizing the water system.
- ~ **Norm Rossignol** for his electrical repair on the kitchen lighting.
- ~ **The Board of Missions** for their work on the Christmas Giving Tree and **all who provided** items for the local families in need.
- ~ **Phyllis Clark** for overseeing the Red Cross blood drive, **all who contributed refreshments, volunteered to clean-up,** and all who **"donated a pint."**
- ~ **The Board of Facilities Management** and **all who assisted** at the fall cleanup with their leaf raking assistance.
- ~ **All who have contributed** canned goods and supplies for the Food Bank.
- ~ **The Membership Committee** for planning and cooking for the Harvest dinner.
- ~ **The Board of Missions and those who have participated in "Pray-It-Forward."**
- ~ **All who purchased bricks** for the paved area by the monument in the Memorial Garden, **Connie Wache** for overseeing the project and **Thompson Landscape** for the installation.

Each month in the Gratitude Journal we publish the names of those who help the church in a variety of ways. As you read the article, please pause and think about how different church life and the sense of community that the church provides would be if we did not have so many of you stepping up to assist the church in this way. We truly appreciate your efforts.

Baptism

On November 10, Alexandra Mae McGrath was baptized. She is the daughter of Dina Burghardt and Andrew McGrath. Blessings to Alexandra and her parents.



Winter Coat Drive Saturday, December 14 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

The Senior High Fellowship is organizing a COAT DRIVE at the First Congregational Church, on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 from 10:00-12:00 noon.

We are collecting new and clean, gently used coats, jackets, hats, mittens, scarves and boots for children and adults to benefit the Portland Food Bank. There is a specified need for men's and women's jackets and coats in extra-large sizes. Any questions please contact the church office at 860-342-3244. The clothing items can be dropped off in the first floor conference room.

Prayers for the People

During November, the following people were remembered in our prayers: Laurie Peterson, Gilbert Lawrence Emma France, Rita Richter, Michaela Sweeney, Eva Karas, Michael Yalenezian, Ann Hale, Martin Moon, Steven Winakor, Tracy Johnston, Marge Tacey, Ralph Bonanno, Mark Vetrano, Eleanor Rodrigue, and the families and friends of Susan Wilcox, Eddie Mugg, Tom Fanning, and Pastor James E. Woods

A Thank You from the Red Cross

Thank you so much for hosting the blood drive on Friday, November 15! It was a huge success and we exceeded our goal that day. All and all we had 37 people register to donate, 4 deferrals and because we had the Power Red Cell donations that count for 2, we ended up with 37 good pints!! Those 37 pints can help 111 patients in need.



**American
Red Cross**

Collecting over goal right before the holidays start is such an awesome accomplishment.

**Christmas Calm
A Service of Music, Reflection
and Remembrance
Wednesday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.**



All are welcome to come to this simple service, which features a quiet observance of Christmas. The focus will be on seeking God's comfort and peace amidst the busyness and stress of the season.

This service is also intended for those who do not feel like participating in holiday revelry due to a personal loss, crisis or hardship.

Readings, prayers, hymns and harp music played by Kasha will be featured. Also, there will be a time of remembrance including the lighting of candles for those who are missing a loved one.



**Christmas Eve Worship Schedule
4:00 p.m. Family Service of Lessons and Carols
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols**

All are invited to attend these services. The offering taken at the Christmas Eve services will go to the Portland Fuel Bank.

Sunday, December 29

There will not be a service or Church School at First Congregational Church. The Sunday morning Lessons & Carols service will be held at Trinity Church, 345 Main St. Portland at 9:30 a.m.

**Important Reminder from the
Church Office**

Attention Board and Committee Chairs: Annual Reports are due in the church office by Thursday, January 2.
Thank you, Margaret



Dear Friends,

It seems as though retailers and radio stations play Christmas songs earlier and earlier each year. While we could bemoan such an early onslaught of holiday tunes, maybe we should set aside our *bah humbug umbrage*, and sing or hum along with the next holiday melody we hear. (Although use your good judgment with the likes of "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer.")

Secular or sacred, tacky or transcendent, Christmas music more often than not lifts our moods and puts us in the "Christmas spirit." Moreover, many Christmas carols touch us deep within and evoke cherished memories of long ago.

It's our pleasure to lead Christmas caroling with the residents at Portland Care and Rehabilitation Center on December 15 at 2:30 p.m. Please feel free to join in the festivities and share some holiday cheer.

Earlier that day during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship service on December 15, the church school children will present their annual Christmas Pageant with a focus on the Christmas carol classic "The Little Drummer Boy."

Following the pageant, our service will continue and as part of the sermon, I invite you to share a brief memory of why a Christmas carol is particularly meaningful to you. If you would rather have me read your recollection than you present it yourself, just give or send me a copy by December 11.

December 15 marks the Third Sunday of Advent when we light the Candle of Joy. It will be a fitting day to commemorate this year's 300th anniversary of Isaac Watts writing his immortal words to the hymn "Joy to the World."

We look forward to experiencing joy when hearing from bell ringers and choir members this month, and our Christmas Eve services at 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. will feature the nativity story in word and song.

As tradition holds, we will not have a worship service nor church school at our church on December 29, but we will join with other Portland churches to welcome the Christ Child and sing the songs of the Christmas story at Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main Street in Portland, at 9:30 a.m.

When I say "we," I am overstating things a bit since I won't be at the service. That day my mother turns 90 years old, and our entire family will have gathered in Florida from our country's north, south, east and west in order to celebrate this milestone.

This month, as you celebrate Christmas along with any special occasions or milestones, do so with a song in your heart. David and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the blessings of the season. Together, let us all sing and proclaim:



*Joy to the world; the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her king:
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.*

Christmas blessings,

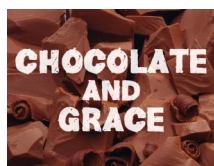
Rev. Jane Hawken

Church Christmas Card to Benefit the Portland Food Bank

Do you want a simple, yet meaningful way to say Merry Christmas to your church family and friends? During Advent there is a beautiful Christmas card in the narthex for anyone to sign. Write a simple greeting for all to enjoy and then place a monetary donation into the decorated tin. You will save on the cost of cards and postage and at the same time be making a donation to the Portland Food Bank.



Annual Chocolate Fest Workshop Wednesday, January 8, 2020 7:00 p.m.



Are you craving something sweet? Looking for something that really satisfies? You need nothing else but a little bit of CHOCOLATE! What is your

pleasure? Is it dark chocolate or milk chocolate, candy bars or truffles? Whatever your favorite might be, when you indulge in its sweet mouth-watering taste and it melts on your tongue, it can't help but warm your spirit and make you feel loved and relaxed. Therefore, your life should be filled with chocolate.

It was Forrest Gump who said "My momma always said, "Life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." This is so true because our lives are filled with bitter nuggets of pain, as well as, sweet morsels of joy. Some days are dark & lumpy; others are light and smooth. Whatever the shape, flavor & texture of our days, and however our lives are packaged, we can savor the rich indulgence of God's endless supply of grace in Christ! He wraps us in His love and fills us with the sweet filling of faith in our Savior.

On this evening when we prepare for our annual Chocolate Fest won't you please grace us with your presence? You will be able to choose how you would like to contribute from a variety of tasks that are waiting to be done. There is always something simple to do. **If you are craving chocolate and grace this is the place to be!**

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

Each December our church receives the Christmas Fund offering administered by the United Church of Christ, our national denomination. This fund provides pension and health premium supplementation to lower-income retired church workers, emergency assistance to clergy or lay church employees in need, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to hundreds of annuitants; administered by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ. We will receive donations for the Christmas Fund on December 22. Please make gifts payable to First Congregational Church earmarked "Christmas Fund."

★
THE CHRISTMAS FUND
for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

23rd ANNUAL MID-WINTER CHOCOLATE FEST



Saturday, February 1, 2020

1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

(Snow Date, February 2)

The world of Chocolate is once again happening in our church thanks in advance to the help we always receive from so many women, men & youth who volunteer each year. We seem to be growing bigger and better with many of our faithful customers returning to celebrate chocolate with us. Let us spread the LOVE for chocolate together.

SO HOW WILL YOU HELP?

1. **SET-UP-SUNDAY, 1/26 after Annual Meeting.** Help is needed to move tables and chairs. All help appreciated.
2. **WORK THE EVENT! Waitresses or waiters always needed!** Car parkers, dish washers, people to work at the booths, greeter. Sign the board in the Fellowship Hall or speak to Nancy.
3. **DONATIONS** of craft or gift items most appreciated.
4. **THEMED GIFT BASKET** donations always needed. Come up with your own theme or contribute items to someone else's.
5. **BAKE SALE DONATIONS** – Chocolate and/or non-chocolate. **Best sellers:** Cookies, Pies, Breads.
Feel free to be creative with packaging!
6. **CANDY DONATIONS** Fudge and other new creations would add so much to this booth. Sugar free candy anyone?
7. Come to our scheduled **WORKSHOP:**
Wednesday, January 8, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
8. **COME AND ENJOY THE FESTIVAL!**
9. And if you still can't help in any of these areas, monetary donations are always very much appreciated.

GET INVOLVED! It's fun!

QUESTIONS? Ask Nancy Johnson- 860 342-4098 or email her at nlj1952@comcast.net.

Chocolate Fest Notes!

A gift that keeps on giving! The Women's Fellowship would love to recycle your unwanted Christmas presents and new or hardly ever used gift items that you may have received. Look for the decorated box in the fellowship hall after the holidays for your contributions. These will be used to help create baskets. And yes, we will take that box of Chocolates off your hands.

Jewelry needed! This section of the chocolate fest is always popular so if you have used necklaces, bracelets, earrings, pins, etc. or new ones you may have bought and will never use, we have a special place for them. Look for the basket in the fellowship hall for your contributions. The earlier we get them the better.

With heartfelt thanks to all~ Nancy

Baskets appreciated! Now is the time to start thinking about what type of basket you will contribute to our 23rd annual festival. Please let Nancy Johnson know what your pleasure is. She can be reached at 860 342-4098 or email her at nlj1952@comcast.net.

So far, we have the following:

Car Cleaning – Robin Richardson & Sharon Bergman
Poppin' Good Fun – Robin Richardson
Here Comes Peter Cottontail – Nancy Johnson
For the Greater Good – Faith Fraulino
Super Bowl Basket – Margaret Stewart
The British are Coming – Jan Poet

Anyone up to doing a Chocolate Lovers Basket? Other ideas include: Tea, Coffee, Children's Activity, Bird Lovers, Kitchen Comfort, Picnic, the possibilities are endless!

Our Financial Picture as of October 31, 2019

Pledges for October were \$9,207

Cash Balance \$19,268

Major Maintenance balance is \$6,653

Building Insurance quarterly \$3,398

Our Church's Wider Mission 3rd quarter \$773

A-1 Quality Rooter Service paid \$810 to diagnose and correct plumbing problem.

Prayer Shawl Ministry News!

We have a great group of women who gather on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. to knit and enjoy fellowship together. This is a wonderful ministry that we offer to our church members and beyond.



These shawls are meant for anyone who may be in need of comfort, love, and healing. What our hands and hearts create allows others to encounter God's love in a tangible way. Our shawls are gifts of love and our work and the care we put into them link us to God's grace.

When shawls are finished, we place our hands upon them and bless them before they are given away. We recently have purchased labels that will be sewn on signifying that they are from our church. Our ministry is growing as we have been approached to share some of our shawls with Hartford Hospital, which we plan to do throughout the year.

We would love to have more knitters, but if that is not something you can do, perhaps you could donate money towards the cost of the yarn. Checks should be made out to The Women's Fellowship and given to Nancy Johnson, President or Faith Fraulino, Treasurer.

Your thoughtfulness will be very much appreciated.

AMAZING GRACE FOR WOMEN

DATE: Saturday, March 21, 2020

PLACE: Guest House Retreat and Conference Center, Chester, CT

TYPE: Women's Day Retreat

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8

The Bible explicitly says that grace is a gift from God. It is the unmerited, loving favor and graciousness of our Creator. And do we have a gift for you. We will celebrate the grace of friendship at a one-day retreat which you will not want to miss. Give yourself a Christmas gift this year by registering for this special day which will include a delicious luncheon buffet at a cost of \$30 per person.

Details can be found in the Women's Fellowship booklet, but don't delay as space is somewhat limited. Contact Karen Rettich (karen.rettich@yahoo.com) as soon as you know you would like to attend.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MARCH 1, 2020!

**PLEASE JOIN US
EPIPHANY DINNER PLANNED FOR JANUARY 4, 2020**

Please join us for a festive evening to celebrate the Twelfth Day of Christmas. This is one of our most popular fellowship events, and a great way to start the new year.



ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE EPIPHANY DINNER, a fun filled dinner with something for all ages. The past two years' dinners have been rousing successes, resulting in numerous requests to repeat what has now become a holiday tradition for our church.

WHO: Everyone is invited !! All ages !!
WHAT: Epiphany Dinner (a festive celebration of the Twelfth Day of Christmas, an evening of fun, food, and fellowship)
WHEN: Saturday, January 4, 2020; 5:30 p.m.
WHERE: Portland Congregational Church Fellowship Hall

Each table will have a host, who will be responsible for decorating the table. Dinner will be prepared by the Dinner Committee; guests will be asked to contribute an appetizer, a salad or a dessert.

The Information/Sign-up poster is located in the Fellowship Hall. Parents, please be certain to include children's names and ages; each child will receive a gift as part of the evening's festivities.

Table hosts are needed, as well as volunteers to assist with dinner preparation and clean up.

For more information, contact Jeannette Hodge.

Board of Missions The Giving Tree



The tradition of helping the Portland Food Bank and its leader, Ruth Maio, provide Christmas to many needy Portland families, continues this holiday season.

Our Giving Tree will be set up in the sanctuary the Sunday after Thanksgiving on December 1. If you would like to participate, please take a tag off the tree and replace the tag with an ornament made by the First Church Nursery School children. Record the tag number and your name on the clipboard located by the tree. The tag will tell you the age and gender of the person as well as a suggested toy or size of clothing. (Please note ~ there is also a family number on the reverse side; this number is needed by Ruth in order to coordinate the gifts ~ this is for her use only.)

You may take as many tags as you wish; however, all gifts are due back at the church, and placed under the tree, by Sunday, December 15 in order for the Food Bank to distribute the items in time for Christmas. Please remember to attach the tag to the outside of the unwrapped gift.

Your time and kindness are sincerely appreciated in helping to make a joyous Christmas for those in need.

December Birthdays

1 Isabel Grzegorek
 2 Jean Kelsey
 2 Marc Sweeney
 3 Linda Yohe
 4 Karen Faass
 5 Linda Cunningham
 5 Olivia Buggie
 6 Eric Smith
 8 Susan Glover
 10 Mary Certo
 11 Nolan O'Connor
 12 Faith Lee
 13 David Labbadia
 13 Ford Lyman
 13 Anabelle Bardo
 13 Daniel Charpentier
 15 Michelle Pellin
 15 Gregory Rettich
 16 Connie Wache
 16 Rachel Osak
 16 Ryan Osak
 17 Benjamin Foley
 17 Grace Walters
 18 Kelsey Zajac
 20 Robyn Rossignol
 20 Thomas McCabe
 21 Justin Spooner
 22 Raymond Lavoy
 22 Michael Wache
 22 Jonah Winakor
 23 Ada Hill
 24 Amy Spooner
 25 Kristen Dimock
 26 Karen Mazza
 28 Nicholas Lee
 29 Cooper Rettich
 29 Carolyn MacKay
 29 James Ruitto
 31 Laurie Butterworth



Board of Christian Education

“The most wonderful time of the year” is here and the Board of Christian Education is especially thankful to our congregation and their support this year.

We hope that this season brings love and joy into every home. Thank you to all who help with our many programs, your time and talents are priceless!

Children’s Hospital Gifts

The Church School students are collecting items to be donated to the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center so the children will have fun things to do while receiving treatment. Books, crayons, coloring books, activity books, card games etc. are good choices. There is a collection box in Fellowship Hall through December 15 for any donation you want to make. Thanks so much.

Thank You

We all had a great time at the UNICEF Carnival. Thank you to all who joined us for the Baked Potato Lunch on October 27. It was so delicious and fun. Thank you to all who helped and participated.

UNICEF donations should be returned to the church. Thank you to all who participated.

The Christmas Pageant

“The Little Drummer Boy” will be presented for our annual pageant on December 15. If your child would like to participate please contact Ann Labby as soon as possible. We will have one rehearsal on Saturday, December 14 from 10:00 to noon. The children and adults helping with the pageant are asked to arrive at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the pageant. On Pageant Sunday, the infant/toddler room will be open, but not staffed, if anyone needs a quiet place to take their child. Please join us following the pageant for refreshments.

Pageant Rehearsal is scheduled for

December 14 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the sanctuary- please plan to attend if participating in the pageant.

December 15 – Pageant Sunday

The Board of Christian Education is asking the congregation to bring in a plate of cookies to share after the Pageant on Sunday, December 15. The Board of Christian Education will provide beverages.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING FA LA LA LA LA

On December 15 at 2:30 p.m. we are going Christmas Caroling at the Portland Care and Rehabilitation Center.

Just meet us there at 2:15 and bring your family and some friends. This is really fun and cheers up people. You can wear any fun Christmas hat that you might have.

A HUGE Thank You!

Thank you so much to the Church School Teachers, helpers and CE Board Members. Your time and dedication is invaluable to the Christian Education of our children.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS

The youth fellowship groups are enjoying this important aspect of growing in our faith together. If you would like more information about youth fellowship please contact Ann Labby at labbyannm@gmail.com

Candle Lighters/Bell Ringers for December

If you are in 1st grade and above and would like to be a bell ringer/candle lighter Just let me know. Ann Labby

December 1 Sean Fitzgibbons

December 8 Emma France

December 15 Noah MacDonald

December 22 Lily Otero

December Church School Schedule

December 1 (week 1) Deck The Halls: Following Church School the students will decorate cookies and do festive arts & crafts projects. We will have Christmas music to get us in the Christmas Spirit.

December 8 (week 2) regular classes

December 15 Pageant Sunday

December 22 (week 4) regular classes

December 29 No Church School

December Christian Education Calendar

December 1 – “Deck the Halls”

December 14 – Pageant rehearsal 10:00am to noon

December 15 – Pageant during 10:00 worship service

December 29 – No Church School