



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6565 E. BROADWAY • TUCSON, ARIZONA 85710

December 2020

KIVA NEWSLETTER



A Word From Our Pastor...



Advent is the Church season that celebrates the coming of Immanuel, God-With-Us. The four Sundays prior to Christmas are used in the Church to help us prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, into

our world and lives. This year it began on Sunday, November 29th.

Often when people are preparing for the birth of a baby they “nest.”

They create a space in their home, their life, for this new life that will be with them. Typically we prepare a nursery, or a space in room.

In Advent, we create a space in our life, in our heart, mind, soul. We make sure there is room for God in our lives. There are fun Advent calendars that you can open each day of December filled with treats of chocolate or toys or devotional message. At Christ Presbyterian Tucson, we prepare by helping to fill the cupboards and shelves of the Food Bank of the eastside Interfaith Community Food Bank (ICS). ICS is a wonderful organization in Tucson that helps Pima County residents who find themselves in need, in many ways. During the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays, they increase their giving of food to folks in the community and by the end of the year their shelves tend to be quite empty. Each year, we fill those shelves with thousands of pounds of canned and boxed food that they can use into the new year.

We have found that preparing for Jesus coming into our lives by reaching out and helping others is the perfect way to “nest,” and celebrate the season of Advent.

We hope you'll join us in this effort. We'll collect all of your non-perishable food donations until Sunday, December 27th, when we will dedicate them in worship and get them to the eastside ICS Food Bank.

If you are worshipping with us only on-line, you can drop them off at the church most any time, but especially by Sunday, December 27. Call Stella in the church office to arrange your drop-off. You can place your donation under the Christmas tree. If it's easier, you can also write a special check to CPC for this project.

Peace in our journey,
Pastor Steve Melde

Sunday Worship

Advent and Christmas Celebrations

8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning Worship Continues

In addition to in-person (as possible), we broadcast our services:

www.cpctucsonaz.org

www.Facebook.com/ChristPresbyterianTucson

www.YouTube.com/CPCTucsonAZ

During Advent, our Sunday morning worship experiences will feature a “live” interview with Shema Israel, reporting from Bethlehem, Israel. He will introduce us to some “folks” who encountered the Holy Family and found their lives changed because of it.

Shema Israel is actually from Deuteronomy 6 and means “Hear O Israel.”

November 29: First Sunday of Advent

“Meet the Donkey”

December 6: Second Sunday of Advent and the Celebration of Communion

“Meet the Census Taker”

December 13: Third Sunday of Advent

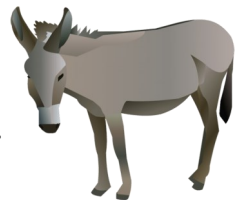
“Meet the Innkeeper’s Teen”

December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Meet the Midwife”

December 27: The Sunday after Christmas

The music and celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ continues.





Christmas Eve

December 24:

5 p.m. “Zoom to the Manger”

This service will feature some Zoom gatherings of those at the Manger who will retell the story of Jesus’ birth. Julie McCrea and the band will lead us with the music of Christmas.

9 p.m. Traditional Lessons and Carols “untraditionally”

This service will feature the traditional scripture readings and some of our virtual choir recordings and some live music by soloists. Luke Diamond and Susan Simpson will lead us with the sounds of Christmas, sometimes in an un-traditional way.



2-4 Youth Fellowship

Our 2-4 Youth Fellowship (6th-12th Graders) will only meet on Sunday, December 13th. We are planning a trip to Zoo Lights at the Tucson Zoo, with an entry time of 5:30 p.m. Youth must pre-register so that we can purchase tickets ahead of time. Parents will drop off and Pick up at the Zoo. Please contact Pastor Steve right away to sign up for your ticket.





SundayFunDay



Thanks for your patience as we and the Safety team figure out when to resume in-person Sunday Funday School. Until then, we will continue to provide it through Zoom on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Contact me if you need the Zoom meeting information. Thank you for your on-going giving to the children and youth of CPC!

Robin Gilbert, Director of Children's Education

Dear CPC Family and Friends,



Thank you all so much for the positive thoughts, prayers, cards and calls my mom, Norma Hall, received for her Halloween birthday. She was touched by each and every one. We celebrated all day with fun and family.

Mom misses you all and thinks of you often. She watches the 8:30 a.m. Sunday service each week. Thank you again for all the Love!

Susan Wells



CPC Office in December

As we continue a phased re-opening of our campus, we are asking you to help keep our office staff safe. If it's at all possible, please call ahead of time and let us know that you are coming to the office and what help you will need. This way we can take care of some of it ahead of time. We will be asking you to wear a mask and hand sanitize as you come in. The office space is small, so we are continuing trying to avoid crowds.

Thank you for understanding and helping to keep your staff safe.

Stewardship and Finance Page

December concludes our 2020 Annual Stewardship Theme: Vision 2020. And though it was kind of a blurry year, we remained clear in our Vision to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in ways that would help us all grow in our faith and reach out in mission throughout the community and world.

We encourage you to get all of your giving that you want recorded in 2020 into the church office no later than **Wednesday, December 30st** at noon. Because of the IRS tax rules, your giving must be in by then so it can be recorded as a part of your 2020 giving.

We thank all who have already submitted their Estimate of Giving pledge for the 2021 Annual Stewardship Campaign, “Blessed be the Tie that Binds.” We will continue to honor that tie of faith that binds us together as a Church family and calls us to spread the Word of God in ways that will invite people into a relationship with God through Jesus the Savior, as well as deepening ours.





If you have not yet submitted a pledge we encourage you to do so now. If you are unable to make a pledge, just let us know. We know these are extra challenging times and trust that you will give as you are able throughout the coming year. Call the church office and we can send you a pledge card (or you can call the bookkeeper, Robin Plemmons, in the office and let her know of your pledge).

Gifts of cash are always welcome on Sundays through the offering. Gifts through checks can be sent to the church office. You can use your bank's bill-pay. You can use our online giving resources. Check the website, www.cpctucsonaz.org, and click the red donate button to set up your account, or use our app (call the church office for details), or use our Text-To-Give (520-729-4665). You can transfer stock, use your RMD, or contact our Bookkeeper in the office for other ways to support the budget that allows us to fulfill all of our mission and ministry throughout the year.

Thank you for joining together to make all of this possible through our church family.

Your Stewardship and Finance Team

Christ Presbyterian Church presents

The 2020 Virtual Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, December 5, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Join us for a jam-packed hour of fellowship,
fun, reflection, and music designed to prepare
our hearts and minds for Christmas.

**For connection details, go to:
www.cpctucsonaz.org/JAMS**

Or join our live WATCH PARTY in the
CPC Sanctuary by 9:00 a.m.
(Be sure to wear your mask and be socially
distanced!)

Stay for the Craft Fair
at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

FREE EVENT, OPEN TO ALL, SHARE THIS INVITE!

See you at the Jam!

Hosted by Laura Manning and Julie McCrea

Music by CPC band, Phil Mendoza, Julie McCrea,

Greg Robinson, Steve Melde, Susan Simpson

Greetings from our hostesses and servers. Christmas thoughts from Abbey Beck



Christ Presbyterian Church Annual Christmas Craft Sale *We'll be Gnome for Christmas!*

Christ Presbyterian Fellowship Hall
6565 E Broadway Blvd

Friday, December 4, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, December 6, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Discover a vast array of handcrafted and sewn items including holiday masks. Pick up annual favorites: home baked cookies, wrapped Hershey bars. Look for two new Raffle items. Three varieties of cookies can be preordered by the pound by calling 520-237-6304. Orders larger than 10 wrapped Hershey Bars should be placed in advance by calling 520-271-6678,

This fundraising sale by this Crafts Group of Presbyterian Women of CPC, benefit the following missions and ministries: Menaul School, Menaul Historical Library, Interfaith Community Services, Frontero de Cristo, Presbyterian Campus Ministry, Community Food Bank, Kellond School, CPC Needy Family, Ronald McDonald House Primavera, Haven Totes Inc, TMM Family, Sister Jose, Meals on Wheels, CPC Mission Trip

Please wear a mask. We will provide hand-sanitizer, a socially-distanced shopping experience, and of course, Christmas music for your listening pleasure!

General Questions Call: 520-271-6678

To see photos, visit:

CPC Website: www.cpctucsonaz.org Facebook:

@ChristPresbyterianTucson



Haven Totes - Kellond & Hudlow Schools

Good News! (I'm sure you would like to hear some)
CPC took over our Tote food that we had planned to use in March through August and it's almost all used! The family count at the Haven Tote Food Pantry is up and over 80 families. More families are asking for help with food. It has been challenging to find those in need when children are working online.

CPC volunteers are helping at the Food Pantry with bagging individual items like applesauce and breakfast bars, restocking and organizing canned goods and staples, rescuing food from designated grocery stores and prepping for Christmas in the Pantry. If you are interested in helping, contact Janis Parks through the church office.



Partner churches and Haven Totes, INC have come together to provide shoes, socks, sweatshirts, literature books, and school supplies for each child up to the age of 15. As of this writing, that's 210 children in 85 families! These are families that are mostly from the eastside of Tucson, our neighbors. Each family will also get food items for a nice Christmas dinner and gift card to purchase meat of their choice. Great blessings we are able to give these families.

We are hoping that with the New Year, more families in need will find their way to the Haven Tote Food Pantry.

Thank you CPC for your continued support of **OUR** neighborhood children and families!



Congregational Care



Connections Ministry

Our Compassion Connections Team, at their November meeting, decided that we will not be able to prepare cookie plates to deliver to our VIPP for Christmas this year. With the COVID spikes we thought it too risky. Instead, we will deliver a small artificial Christmas tree. We will do this as a NO CONTACT delivery. The Safety Team has not given us the green light to resume visitation yet so we are doing our best to stay connected and remind our VIPP that they are loved, prayed for, and not ever forgotten.

As we begin our journey through Advent into Christmas, perhaps we can view the pandemic as a time to help us slow down, soak in the wonder of the season, keeping things simple, be filled with compassion and show empathy for the brokenhearted, come to the quiet to keep full awareness of God's presence, maintain a humble heart and be a blessing to others, reflect, choose a way of thoughtful giving, and let your heart sing. For He is the bread of life, the light, Immanuel! God is with us!

Please stay safe, remain vigilant, and be well. We all continue prayers for an end to this pandemic and pray for those who have lost loved ones, and those who have experienced this terrible virus. Merry Christmas to each and every one of you! May 2021 bring peace, happiness and a world without COVID 19.

If you would like to contact me, please leave a message with the church office, 886-5535 and I will return your call, call my cell phone, or send me an email, cpc.congcare@gmail.com. Reminder: If you have an emergency or crisis situation, please contact Pastor Melde at the church office or on his cell.

Blessings,

Debby Anderson

Nominating Update

I want to take this time to thank the members of Nominating Committee:

Tracie Couzens, Bart Kimball, Donna Kuehn , Jill O'Rourke, Marian Rogerson and Pastor Steve Melde.

All positions are filled for the Class of 2022.

I want to thank all the members who accepted and those who prayerfully declined. You made our job this year easy. We only had one meeting and it all came together.

Elders:

Adult Ed.: Ann Larrabee

Nominating Team: Fred Hubbard

B&G: Bob Howell

Mission: Janis Parks

Outreach/Com.: Elaine Murphy

Vision: Julie McCrea

Teen: Tommy Cullop, Leah Harroun
(1 Year)

Clerk of Session: Doug Thompson

Deacons:

Cards of Caring: Nancy Hummel

Helping Hands: Dawn Custis

Memorial Reception: Laura Manning

Prayer Chain: Laura Thompson

Sunday Fellowship: Marian Rogerson

Compassion Connection: Janet Rowe

Blessings and Peace to all!!

Doug Thompson, Nominating Chair

Dear CPC Family,

It has been a joy to work as your bookkeeper these past 3 years. I have felt blessed to be part of the CPC staff and church family.

My husband Rob and I will start a new adventure in January of 2021. We will be moving to North Carolina to be closer to our children and siblings residing in Virginia, Tennessee, and South Carolina. Therefore, I will be retiring and my last day as CPC's bookkeeper will be December 31, 2020.

I will miss being a part of this wonderful family, but look forward to discovering God's plans for our future.

Shalom,

Robin Plemmons, CPC Bookkeeper



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Did you know??

All women of the CPC congregation are members of Presbyterian Women and are invited to participate in Bible study and learn about local, national and international mission service projects.

Bible Study for 2020 - 2021

The 2020 - 2021 Bible Study is ***Into the Light— Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*** by P. Lynn Miller. All women are invited to participate. The Bible Study meets on the first Friday of the month.

There will be no meeting in December!

The next meeting is Friday, January 8, 2021, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. in Room E/F. The meeting will also be broadcasted live online.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED.

Lesson #4 is "Lamenting Death"

Thank you to all who support the Women's projects!

Hermosillo Mexican Children's Hospital: Plastic caps are no longer being collected.

Ronald McDonald House: Please hold all pop tabs, disinfectant wipes, and chemo caps until further notice. These items will be accepted after the COVID-19 virus subsides.

Lions Club Glasses: Lenses, frames and any glasses ARE being accepted.

BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will meet on Tuesday December 8, 1:00 p.m. on Skype to talk about the current book selection, ***In The Bleak Midwinter: A Clare Ferguson/ Russ Van Alstyne Mystery*** by Julia Spencer-Fleming.

It's a cold, snowy December in the upstate New York town of Millers Kill, and newly ordained Clare Fergusson is on thin ice as the first female priest of its small Episcopal church. The ancient regime running the parish covertly demands that she prove herself as a leader. However, her blunt manner, honed by years as an army pilot, is meeting with a chilly reception from some members of her congregation and Chief of Police Russ Van Alstyne, in particular, doesn't know what to make of her, or how to address "a lady priest" for that matter.

The last thing she needs is trouble, but that is exactly what she finds. When a newborn baby is abandoned on the church stairs and a young mother is brutally murdered, Clare has to pick her way through the secrets and silence that shadow that town like the ever-present Adirondack mountains. As the days dwindle down and the attraction between the avowed priest and the married police chief grows, Clare will need all her faith, tenacity, and courage to stand fast against a killer's icy heart.

In the Bleak Midwinter is one of the most outstanding Malice Domestic winners the contest has seen. The compelling atmosphere-the kind of very cold and snowy winter that is typical of upstate New York-will make you reach for another sweater. The characters are fully and believably drawn and you will feel like they are your old friends and find yourself rooting for them every step of the way.



December Flea Market News

As has become our tradition during the month of December, there will not be a 2nd Hand Weekend to collect and process donations. December is the month the flea market volunteers set aside to be with our families and friends as we prepare for the celebration of our Savior's birth.

2nd Hand Weekend resumes on January 9 & 10. If you have any large donation question before that date, please contact Vera Bare 520-981-1710. For general questions, contact Pam Cullop at 520-271-6678.

May God bless each of you this holy season.

How Will I Get Through the Holidays?

In the month of December, Pastor Steve will lead an on-line Zoom discussion group of the book, **How Will I get Through the Holidays**, by James E. Miller. This wonderful, easy to read, small book will give those who are grieving the loss of a loved one an opportunity to talk with others who are grieving and share ideas of surviving the holidays without your loved one.

Contact Pastor Melde for the Zoom ID link:
PastorSteveMelde@gmail.com or call the church office.

All gatherings on-line are 7-8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 1
Thursday, December 10
Tuesdays, December 15, 22, 29

Each week we will discuss three of the 12 strategies that Miller presents, and then on the 29th we will check in with each other to see how the holiday went.

Coloring Page



Fellowship and Fun

Men's Breakfast

Men of all ages are invited to join us each Third Wednesday in CPC's Fellowship Hall when Pastor Steve will provide breakfast.

We will be studying the Bible to learn how to be better men of faith.

The next breakfast will be December 16, 7:30 a.m.
Masks are still required except when eating.



Casa Maria Sandwich Making

Tuesday, December 22, 8:30 a.m.

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen is an organization that has been providing hundreds of meals daily since 1981 to Tucson's hungry women, men, and children.

CPC Casa Maria Sandwich Making Ministry meets every fourth Tuesday of the month to put together one hundred lunches.

Each lunch includes two sandwiches, fruit and cookies.

If you would like to provide sandwiches (meat and cheese) please bring them to Fellowship Hall before (they can be kept in the freezer) the fourth Tuesday of the month or by 8:30 the morning of. If you would like to help put the lunches together, contact Cindy at ridingsc@comcast.net.

Our December Birthdays!

4 Connor Cech
4 Susan Hein
4 Janet Rowe
5 Neil Nordbrock
7 Katelyn Murphy
7 Blanche Lenhart
9 Keith Marshall
10 Jean Buchman
11 Sagan Friskey
14 Nicole Melde
16 Andrew Compton
17 Peggy Wetzel
19 Bob Mielbeck
20 Joyce Mooney
20 Sheri Goddard
20 Lucy Stretch
21 Bill Street
22 Chris Crowder
22 Laura Manning
23 Christine McCleery
23 Vicki Flewelling
24 Dave Koch
26 Kenna Hopkins
27 Donnie Luther
27 Bob Mentzer
29 Carol St. Amant
30 Emily Beck
30 Steve Melde
30 Susan Simpson

*Happy
Birthday!*



If we've missed your
birthday, please let us
know.



CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6565 E. BROADWAY • TUCSON, ARIZONA 85710

Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) & Presbytery de Cristo

The Rev. Steven P. Melde, Pastor

(PastorSteveMelde@gmail.com)

Debby Anderson, Coordinator of Congregational Care

(anderson9575@msn.com)

Robin Gilbert, Director of Children's Christian Ed

(robbert77@juno.com)

Luke Diamond, Director of Music

(La24diamondcpc@gmail.com)

Susan Simpson, Accompanist

(susanannsimpson@hotmail.com)

Lon Bothwell, Facility Manager

Bookkeeper

(bookkeeper@cpctucsonaz.org)

Stella Lopez, Office Manager

(office@cpctucsonaz.org)



Deadlines

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9 a.m.—3 p.m.

(Closed for lunch 12 —1 p.m.)

Phone: 520-886-5535

Fax: 520-886-5686

www.cpctucsonaz.org

KIVA January 2021 Issue
articles due by 12 p.m. on
Monday December 14, 2020.

**Weekly Bulletins and Friday
News, requests for flyers or
inserts**

Please submit your articles and
requests by **Wednesday at
noon!**



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