



The Christian Messenger, November 27, 2024



### We're REALLY Thinking 'Bout Christmas Now

And for your thinking about the season, here's what you need to know about Advent and Christmas at First Christian Church of Hannibal.

Advent begins this year this Sunday, December 1. On our Advent wreath, we'll light the candle of **HOPE**.

On Friday, December 6, from 5 to 8 pm, our sanctuary will be open for the **HHMC Hannibal Church Tour**. We'll share the beauty of our church in its holiday dress and offer light refreshments to our visitors. For more info about the tour, see the [Facebook event page](#). (And if you FB, click "Going" to boost it, thanks!)

On Sunday, December 8, in morning worship we'll light the candle of **PEACE**. That evening we'll share our Advent dinner, beginning with wassail and visiting at 5:30 pm. Our Fellowship Committee provides the meal. The program will be **Christmas Open Mic**. Have a holiday song or poem to share? Let Stephanie Himmel know at 573-795-8415 or [himmelfam5@outlook.com](mailto:himmelfam5@outlook.com)

Sunday, December 15, the candle of **JOY** will be lit as we enjoy **Christmas Music Sunday!** The Bethany Bell Choir will make the handbells ring, Brandon Himmel will doubtless wow us with a special or two, and we'll lift our voices together in carols and songs.

Sunday, December 22, the light of **LOVE** will shine.

Our **Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve** service will be at 5 pm on Tuesday, December 24. (Please note this change to an earlier time than in years past!)

That's our schedule for the season; what about our worship theme? Inspired by Mary's song of praise in the first chapter of Luke, we will **"Magnify the Lord!"** Sometimes God appears in and through what seems small and of little significance, so we'll get our magnifying glasses out and seek God in those places. On the Sundays of Advent, Doug will invite us to "Magnify the Women," "Magnify the Empty Places," "Magnify the Mess," and "Magnify the Manger." On Sunday, December 29, Stephanie will invite us to journey "Beyond the Manger."

May our days be merry and bright as we prepare to welcome Jesus!

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### **Dear Outreach Committee and Outreach Dreamers**

Wednesday, December 4 at 11 am, our Disciples Outreach/Caring and Sharing Committee will meet in the parlor to assess 2024 activities and offerings, and look forward to 2025 Outreach opportunities! Come!

Shirley Collier

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### **Poinsettia Donations**

We have permanent poinsettias for the sanctuary now, but we still welcome donations of symbolic poinsettias in memory or honor of whomever you would like to name. The donations go to the Mary Jane Gregory Memorial fund for decorations and furnishings for the sanctuary. Please share the names you would like to list with our church office at churchsecretary1101@gmail.com or 573-221-0783.

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### **Toys for Tots Elves Needed**

Stephanie Cooper shares: "We're looking for volunteers to help families shop for their children at our Toys for Tots annual campaign. If you can donate an hour (or more!) please consider signing up to help. The distribution dates in Hannibal are December 10-11, 9am to 5pm. Thank you and Merry Christmas from Toys for Tots!"

Elves may sign up [here](#).

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### Thanksgiving office hours this week

The office will be closed on Thursday, Thanksgiving day, 11/28 as well as Friday, 11/29.

**Happy Thanksgiving.**

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### Happy Birthday!

#### November

27 Tracy Woollen

30 Debbie Markert

#### December

2 Josylyn Dunn, Pake Zerbonia

4 Darla Motley

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### Happy Anniversary!

#### November

28 Lynn & Sue Kilpatrick

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### This Week's Events

**Women's Bible Study**, Monday, 11/2 at 5:30 pm, parlor

**Pinky Pals**, Tuesday, 11/3 at 6 pm, parlor

**Disciples Women Ministries**, Wednesday, 12/4 at 1 pm, parlor



## Advent and Christmas Calendaring

**Historic Church Tour:** Friday, December 6 from 5 to 8 pm, sanctuary

**Advent Dinner and Christmas Open Mic:** Sunday, December 8 at 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

**Christmas Music Sunday,** December 15, 10:30 am, sanctuary

**WEeCare Christmas Program,** Tuesday, December 17 at 6 pm, sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion,** Tuesday, December 24, 5 pm, sanctuary

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## Serving & Giving Opportunities

# F.A.C.E.

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## Serving in the Lord's House: December 1, 2024

\*If you cannot serve in your allotted spot, please find a replacement and contact the church office with their name.

Offertory Prayer: Sherri Robison

Greeters: Lent Johnson & Sandra Ahlum

Communion Prayer: Debra Wasowicz

Ushers: Rickey Alexander & Lori Coones

Call to Worship: Dick Motley

Sound: Ralph Fredd

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Henry & Debra  
Wasowicz

Video: Barry Casey

Hospitality: Sherry Ingram

Serving Deacons: Janet, Alice, Peyton Dunn;  
Mel Gordon & Sandy Conn

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Global Ministries (DOC & UCC) Weekly Prayer Request

Lord, teach us to pray...

**Weekly Global Prayer Concerns:**

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# Have something for an upcoming newsletter?

Send in photos of FCC family and events! Upcoming events? Announcements to share with the FCC family?

Contact the church office!



## **First Christian Church**

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