

# **PINECREST PRESBYTERIAN PRESS**

## **DECEMBER, 2018**



### **From the Pastor. . .**

**Dear Pinecrest Community,**

**The Advent season leading to Christmas begins this year on December 2.**

**In the world around us, this is a season of tinsel and dazzle. This is a season of red and green. Trees to trim. Gifts to be made or purchased and wrapped. Too much hurrying. Worrying.**

**Yet our journey to Bethlehem is a journey we look forward to traveling each year, as memories of Christmases past spill out and surprise us, sustain us. And the love and joy of this season surround us.**

**We can get lost in the tinsel, the dazzle, the trimming, the gifting. Yes. We can get lost on the journey to Bethlehem.**

**And so it is important that we gather together each Sunday in sacred space bedecked in purple, with candle light to guide our way. So that we can prepare Him room to be born in our hearts once again.**

**May your Advent journey include some quiet time for prayer and reflection. So that on Christmas Eve we are ready to welcome the Christ and sing together, *Joy to the World!***

**In Peace,**  
*Pastor Jackie*

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY GATHERING  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**10:30 AM WORSHIP**  
**11:30 AM LUNCH and CONVERSATION**  
**11:50 AM CRAFTS**  
**(three different ornaments & jingle bell necklaces)**  
**12:10 PM CAROL-SING**  
**12:30 PM All finished!!**



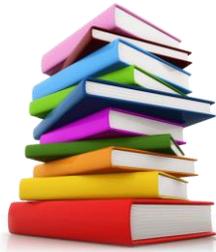
**The Incarnation is an amazing thing:  
that God so loved us  
that God wanted to better understand who we are  
and help us better understand Who God Is. . .**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT EDUCATION**

**Sunday School began on September 9. This year our theme is: "We Are Storytellers" and we will focus on the most important stories and figures in Hebrew Scriptures and in the New Testament. Mrs. Fairman, Ms. Abbatiello, Ms. Hinde, Mrs. Del Valle, and Mr. Stuart Lones and Mr. Stuart Lones, Jr. are our teachers.**

**As Presbyterians we know education is a lifelong journey. Our adult education events vary. There is a Tuesday morning Bible Class each week. This year other opportunities will be: Book Club, which meets monthly. And a study on Science and Religion, a class held BEFORE worship, 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM that will start in late January.**



### **BOOK CLUB LIST:**

September: **Becoming Wise**  
October: **The Paris Architect**  
November: **The Color Purple**  
December: **The Book of Qualities**  
January: **Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (Dai Sijie)**  
February: **Every Woman (Paulette Jiles)**  
March: **Little Fires Everywhere (Celeste Ng)**  
April: **A Gentleman in Moscow (Amor Towles)**  
May: **Florida (Lauren Groff)**  
June: **Warlight (Michael Ondaatje)**

### **MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

*Jesus' way is the way of powerlessness, of dependence, of passion. He who became a child, dependent on the love and care of Mary and Joseph and so many others, completes his earthly journey in total dependency.*

*He becomes a waiting God.*

*He waits, wondering what others will do.*

Henri Nouwen

### **SO: WHAT CAN WE DO?**

Mrs. Del Valle is already planning the Christmas party for those little friends of ours, children of migrant workers, who attend the pre-school in Homestead. Want to contribute to party snacks and treats? Want to go in person and help? **WANT TO BUY A GIFT?** December 18!! **CONTACT** Mrs. Del Valle or the church office.

We volunteer at the Chapman Partnership South in Homestead and serve lunch about every 5-6 weeks on a Saturday. Mrs. Schmidt is the contact person. Please volunteer to help! And we **ALWAYS** need **COOKIES**. We like to bring homemade cookies to share with the men, women and children who live at the Chapman Partnership. Bake them and drop off in church office. We'll freeze them until we need them! Next lunch will be: December 22.

**THE JOY GIFT OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED ON DECEMBER 16**

Our **CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING** will go to Puerto Rico to help where most needed

# Christmas Caroling! DEC 16

Interested in singing carols to our shut ins **AFTER WORSHIP?**  
Please sign up to sing for Nancy Lones, Carole Bell and Dottie Hunter!

## Christmas Eve 5:30 PM



This is a service for families and all who would like to spend Christmas Eve with children and welcome the Christ child.

Lots of beautiful music and candlelight!

**THE FATHER'S LOVE**

**ADVENT DEVOTIONS**

**Inspiration from Henri  
Nouwen**

**You are welcome to pick  
up a copy (one per  
family)!**

### BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

**DEC 8 Rust Potter**

**DEC 12 Gavin Wells**

**DEC 20 Dave Schmidt**

**DEC 22 Abraham Brovold**

**DEC 26 Daniel Lozano**



**Our Christmas season will end with  
a special service on Epiphany,  
Sunday, Jan 6**