

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL
A United Church of Christ (UCC)
Member Congregation

Gathered in 1760
Norfolk, Connecticut



A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Saturday, December 24th, 2011
10 PM

A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24th, 2011 - 10 PM

SPECIAL MUSIC *Carol Selections*
Nancy Herzig, flute; Corey Bush, guitar

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP - Hillary Kelsey

Leader: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: **Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain shall be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.**

Leader: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

People: **He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.**

***CAROL 132** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (Pilgrim Hymnal)

LIGHT OF SERVICE - UCC: Veterans of the Cross & Emergency Fund

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE - The Vergo Family

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - All are welcome to partake. In the sharing of the bread, please hold, so we may take it together. In the sharing of the cup, please partake when served. Grape juice, not wine, is served.

Special Music *Christmas Communion Song* – Ray and Callaway

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Consecration and Service

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison): Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FIRST READING Luke 1:26-35 - Stan Civco

CAROL 131 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (Pilgrim Hymnal)
Please remain seated.

SECOND READING Luke 2:1-7 - Julia Green

SPECIAL MUSIC *All My Heart Again Rejoices* - Ebeling, arr. Tucker

THIRD READING Luke 2:8-20 - Nels White

CAROL 116 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (Pilgrim Hymnal)
Please remain seated.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

SILENT REFLECTION

DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory *Whence is This Goodly Fragrance Flowing?* - arr. Willcocks

***Doxology** (Pilgrim Hymnal 515) Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Night of Silence* - D. Kantor

The Choir will sing three verses of the anthem, after which the congregation is invited to join the choir in singing *Silent Night, Holy Night*. During the Anthem, worship leaders will carry the flame into the congregation. Please dip only the unlighted candles.

***CAROL 138** *Silent Night, Holy Night* (Pilgrim Hymnal)

Please carry the lighted candles with you as you follow the choir out onto the steps of the church. If you wish, extinguished candles may be deposited in baskets in the narthex.

BENEDICTION

****Those who wish to remain seated may do so.***

SENIOR DEACON – Julie Green

MISSION PLATE OFFERINGS
Please make checks payable to
“Church of Christ”

12/11 Simply Smiles - \$274
12/18 Min. Disc. Fund - \$545
12/24 Food Pantry, 5pm
12/24 Veterans of the Cross, 10pm
12/25 Veterans of the Cross, 10am

NAME TAGS - If you don't have a name tag, please contact the office. Temporary name tags are available as you enter the church.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - THANK YOU!

I would very much like to thank Liz Allyn and the Sunday School teachers for their assistance with rehearsing last week's Pageant. To all of you who participated in the Pageant, your talent and willingness to do your best was truly evident to all those in attendance. Thanks to you all for a meaningful, moving performance. A Merry Christmas! – Tina Wignall

THE MITTEN TREE - The 25 pairs of homemade, knitted mittens were distributed as follows: 10 pairs to the folks picking up their Thanksgiving food baskets; 6 pairs to the YMCA Shelter, Winsted; and 10 pairs to the *Open Door* Soup Kitchen, Winsted. Those receiving mittens from Church of Christ were delighted to receive such a joyful present! To those of you who knitted them MANY THANKS! Because of you, cold hands and hearts will be warmer this winter. Thank you for taking the time, as well as donating the yarn, to contribute to this ministry. - Lyn Patrick

NEWS FOR THE PEWS

Sunday 12/25 - Christmas Day

10am Worship
8pm AA Meeting

Tuesday 12/27

8:30am Yoga

Thursday 12/29

8:30am Yoga

Sunday 1/1 - New Year's Day

10am Worship at Winchester Center
Congregational Church

2:30pm FREE Zumba Class

8pm AA Meeting

Tuesday 1/3

8:30am Yoga

Wednesday 1/4

10am Meadowbrook Book Discussion

Thursday 1/5

8:30am Yoga

Saturday 1/7

9am Zumba

Sunday 1/8

10am Worship
10am Sunday School
12-5pm YAHOO Mtg.
12-5pm Giv2 Mtg.
1pm Confirmation
8pm AA Meeting

Thursday 1/10

8:30am Yoga

SUNDAY SCHOOL will resume on January 8th. We wish all of you a very Joyous Christmas! - Tina Wignall

FUN-RAISING CLASSES

FREE ZUMBA CLASS

Sunday, 1/1 - New Year's Day, 2:30PM

Chris Royer is doing a **free Zumba** class on Sunday 1/1, at 2:30 in the Chapel. Donations of non-perishable food for the Food Pantry will be accepted in lieu of a fee. Classes resume Saturday, 1/7 at 9am. Regular rate is \$10; half-price for kids and seniors. Happy Holidays!!

DANCE FITNESS, YOGA & ZUMBA

Will resume in the New Year!

NOTE: All classes are held on a weekly basis, unless otherwise noted.

Donation: \$10 per class
\$5 Students and Seniors
For all levels!

GIV-2 (Grades 7-12)

1/8 - Giv2 rescheduled! We will leave our parking lot at 12:00 and head to Torrington United Congregational Church for lunch - followed by a few hours of painting of the Open Door Soup Kitchen. We will return to the church by 5:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

NO MEETINGS 12/25 & 1/1

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

If you missed the show, or would like to see it again, photos of the 12/10 evening performance may be seen on the church's website at: norfolkctucc.org.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Christmas Eve, Sat. 12/24

5PM - Lessons & Carols
10PM - Candlelight Service

Christmas & New Year's*

10AM - Sunday Worship

Worship with Winchester Center Church

Please note that we are trying something new this year in light of the fact that both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Sundays. On Christmas Day, Sunday 12/25, we will welcome the Rev. Jackie Hall, pastor of Winchester Center Church as our preacher. We will also host members of Winchester Center Church as our guests.

***On New Year's Day, Sunday 1/1**, Pastor Erick will be the guest preacher at Winchester Center Church, and our entire congregation is invited to worship at Winchester Center. Sunday School resumes 1/8/2012.

****PLEASE NOTE****

Our Sunday morning worship on 1/1 will NOT be here in Norfolk. It will take place at Winchester Center Church!

MANY THANKS to those of you who participated and attended our church's production of *A Christmas Carol*. We hope it was a blessing to one and all.

**“MOVE BEYOND THE PLATE”
THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

Your Missions Committee is working to expand our outreach activities, to “Move Beyond the Plate.” Here are examples of projects the committee is working on:

- Supporting an overseas work camp trip to Soteni International or Mekele Blind School. The committee voted to organize such a trip for 2014.
- Arranging regular visits to Open Door in Winsted &/or FISH in Torrington one day per month.
- An adult work camp trip to Boston within the next year.

If you would like to help organize these projects or participate in one or more, or if you have other ideas for outreach initiatives, please contact Missions chair Tom Vergo at 379-3461 or at thomasvergo01@earthlink.net.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

(860) 435-4747

habitatforhumanitynwc@gmail.com

● Interested in working to build a decent, affordable home in Norfolk? Please contact Habitat by 12/31/2011.
●Volunteers are needed to help at the current North Canaan build. No experience necessary! Please contact Heather at Habitat to help a family's dream of owning a house turn into a reality.

PLEDGE REMINDER

Please remember to pay your remaining 2011 operating pledge balance. If you are unsure of what your balance is, please contact the church office. In order for the 2011 budget to be in balance, all pledges

must be paid in full. If you will be unable to pay any portion of your balance, please speak to Pastor Erick as soon as possible, so Trustees may make adjustments accordingly. If you have not yet received a 2012 pledge card, but wish to, please contact the church office. Thank you!

2011 PLEDGES

Pledgers: 90
Pledges Made: \$126,750

2012 PLEDGES-TO-DATE

Pledgers: 65
Pledges Made: \$87,478

2012 PLEDGE ENVELOPES

For those who requested pledge envelopes for 2012, they are available at the entrance to the church. Please note that envelope number may have changed.

THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS are given in honor or memory of:

- Their Grandparents by Dennis and Pam Collins
- Arthur and Hazel Smith by the Strumolo Family
- Her Parents by Lyn Patrick
- Karen Davidson and Kenneth Satherlie by the Satherlie Family
- Helen Turner by Daughters, Craig Carr, Marlene Kwast and Sue Dooley and Their Families
- Jeffrey Tardiff by Michael Subklew and Rudy Molina
- David E. Case by Dan, Deb, Jake, Luke and Noah Green
- Their Parents by Tom and Elizabeth Vergo
- All of Their Grandparents by Tina, Erick, Elias, Ellie and Olivia Olsen

THE ADVENT WREATHS are given in memory of:

- Their Grandparents, the Moller, Anderson, Wellman and Wolff Families by Eric and Sue Anderson
- Karen Satherlie Davidson and Kenneth Satherlie by Their Family
- Their Parents, Elinor and Wesley Bruey & Mildred and John Gabelmann by Janice and Carl Gabelmann
- Their Parents, Mary and Philip Galu & Fred and Maude Diggle, Jr. by Phyllis and Fred Diggle & Family
- Their Parents, Edward and Eve Van de Water & Robert and Else Thew by John and Eve Thew
- Carol Scism by Her Sister Phyllis White

THE CHRISTMAS SWAG was provided by Great Mountain Forest. Thank you to Russell Russ, Wayne Jenkins, and Jody Bronson. The swag was made by Wayne Jenkins.

WE PRAY FOR - Bob Bachman, Border Family, Mary Bottum, Tess Braun, Laura Byers, Ky Byrne, Dorothy Card, Joe Chakalis, Family of Roy Coulter, Davida Foy Crabtree, Frank Creamer, Peter Dakers, Family of Margaret Derwin, Carole DeVoe, Holly Durstin-Olson, Nancy Eckel, Jen Emory, Ayasha Diane Fitzgibbons, Stefanie Gouey, John Harris, Bob Hawkins, Joanne Hitchcock, Family of Sandy Hoyoe, Jeanette Hudson, Joan Ingersoll, Sheldon Innocent, Bill Kelsey, Richard Kelsey, Zach Kelsey, Doug Macdonald, Al Marciano, Nelly Molina, Jean O'Connor, Sue Olsen, Kathy Paulers, Ron Peterson, Diana Peyre, George Phelan, Jerry Reginatto, Brad Reynolds, Blake Roy, Evelyn Sellstone,

Bill & Marge Servidio, Kirk & Cindy Sinclair, Dorothy Smith, Ernie Smith, Arthur Smith, Ryan Sterba, Louise & Robert Tangarone, Hannah Taylor, Ann Thew, Sue Ellen Thomas, the Rev. Howie Tobak and Saugatuck Congregational Church in Westport, Sheila Uhl, Richard Waldron, Dennis Watlington, Dawn Weaver, Wilbur Family, Noel Williamson.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR - Steve Allen, Bryan Amantea, Lane Berg, Smith Conway, Chris Goodall, Will Kelsey, Stephanie McGowan, Silvio Melo, Dave Morales, Tony Peterson, Jay Sullivan, Matthew and Marcy Werner, Stephen Whalen, Wesley Williamson, and all men and women serving in the military.

Rev. Erick R. Olsen, Pastor

Elizabeth Allyn
Minister of Music

Christina Wignall - Director of Christian Education

The Rev. Bruce Anderson
Pastor Emeritus

Kate Persons
Trustee Chair

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One Candle is Lit

Words: M. Parrott
Music: W. Kirkpatrick



1. Come sure - ly Lord Je - sus as__ dawn fol - lows
2. Come quick - ly sha - lom, teach us__ how to pre -
3. Come, fes - tive - ly__ sing while a - wait - ing the
4. Come, wan der where li - on and lamb gent - ly
5. Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God with us ring



night, our__ hearts long to greet you, as__ ros - es, the light. Sal -
pare for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to care. Our
birth, join__ an - gels in danc - ing from heav - en to earth. Wave
play, where e - vil is ban - ished and faith takes the day, a
clear, and__ signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear. The



va - tion, draw near us, our__ vi - sion en - gage.
spir - its are rest - less till__ sin and war cease.
ban - ners of__ good news, lift__ high thank ful praise. One__
babe in a__ man - ger to__ fool the world's eyes.
Word once made flesh, yet the__ Word ev - ver near.



can - dle is lit for
the__ hope of the age.
the__ reign of God's peace.
the__ joy of these days.
God's lov - ing sur - prise.
the__ Christ birth - day here.