

2011 Christmas Eve Family Service Information



This year at our Family Service on Christmas Eve (6:00 PM) we will present the Christmas story told and acted out by children and adults of all ages. We will watch as Mary and Joseph make their journey to Bethlehem, we will sing with the angels as they tell the good news and will experience Christmas in story and song. Will you help us tell the story?

We need folks of all ages! Children and youth from infant through high school, and adults of all ages are invited to participate. (We would ask that for children younger than 4, an adult participate with them.) We need cute little sheep, an Angel Choir, Mary, Joseph, narrators, shepherds, wise men...even evil King Herod! We need readers, actors willing to memorize a small part, even singers and instrumentalists to add to our worship and the telling of the Christmas story. Will you help us tell the story?

There will be two practices:

Saturday December 17, 11 AM – 2 PM (lunch will be provided)

Friday December 23, 4:00-5:30 PM

At the first practice, we will assign parts, get costumes, and practice the telling the story through our words and actions. We'll sing the carols. We'll have a lunch break, and then sing and act some more! At the second practice, we'll review everything and make sure we are ready for our most important task of telling the story!

If you are too shy to put on a Shepherd costume, you can help in other ways. We will need people to help with costumes (including sorting the costumes, washing them, fixing some, and perhaps sewing new if needed) and we need volunteers to prepare lunch on 12/17.

You can find a sign-up sheet on the church website (www.wallingfordpres.org). Sign-up sheets will also be sent home with all Sunday School children starting November 20. Deadline to sign-up is December 15. Questions? Call Liz Braden a 215-738-2227 or email her at music@wallingfordpres.org. We hope you will join us for this wonderful event!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Our Sunday morning worship will be a time for us to live in the tension of anticipating the celebration of the birth of Christ, while living in expectation of Christ's return. We will use the prophetic images of Isaiah and the

November 27

First Sunday of Advent

Worship 9:30AM and 11AM
Isaiah 64: 1-9, Mark 13: 24-37
"Tear Open the Heavens and
Come Down"

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December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship 9:30AM and 11AM
Isaiah 40: 1-11, Mark 1: 1-8
"Comfort, Comfort,
You My People"

Advent Festival/Hanging of the Greens

4-7:30PM

The entire Wallingford Presbyterian Church family is invited to celebrate Advent and help prepare the church building for Christmas at the Advent Festival! Adults and older children will be decorating the building (Hanging the Greens), while younger children will be making crafts and playing games. Then, we'll all share a pot luck dinner together, and end the night with a carol sing in the newly decorated sanctuary. Here's the schedule:

- * 4-6:15 pm – Decorating the church (for adults and children 9 and older)
- * 5:30-6:15 pm – Advent Festival with games and crafts (Children 10 and under)
- * 6:15-7 pm – Pot luck dinner (bring something to share when you come)
- * 7-7:30 pm – Carol Sing

It will be a joyful evening, and we need helpers of all ages. We hope you can join with us as we celebrate and prepare for our Lord's birth.

December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

Worship 9:30AM and 11AM
Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Messiah Sing, 7:00PM

Come and join the choir, guest organist Jeffrey DeVault, and special guest soloists as we sing the Christmas section of Handel's great work *Messiah*. Hear the prophecies of Isaiah sung with longing and joyful anticipation. Rejoice with the angels singing 'Glory to God in the highest!' Listen to the words of comfort, 'Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' Come and sing in your pew, and just sit back and listen to the glorious sounds of Christmas! You will not regret making the Messiah Sing part of your Advent celebration. Following the concert, there will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us – admission is free and all are welcome!

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December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship 9:30AM and 11AM
2 Samuel 7: 1-11, Luke 1: 46-55

"The Mighty One
Has Done Great Things"

Christmas Poetry, Carols, and Pot Luck Supper

4:00-6:30

Join Barrie Shepherd and Pastor Paul in a time of poetry, and singing carols as we remember the story of Christ's Nativity, and join in a shared feast of celebration.

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship

Family Christmas Eve Service
6:00PM

Come and experience the Christmas Story which will be presented by families from our congregation. We will sing familiar carols as we celebrate the birth of our Savior at this family friendly service.

Lessons, Candlelight & Carols
Contemporary English Version
9:00PM

Through special music, a contemporary reading of the familiar Christmas texts, joyful song, candlelight and community prayer we will prepare our hearts for Christmas!

Lessons, Candlelight & Carols
Traditional Text
11:00PM

In the time-familiar readings of the unfolding incarnation, in the light of candlelight, and the warmth of God's advent, we will welcome Christmas morning and Christ's coming.

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Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

One Service of Worship 10:00AM
We continue to celebrate the birth of our Savior through singing carols, a Christmas story, and sharing the peace of Christ.

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Sunday, January 1

First Sunday after Christmas

One Service of Worship 10:00AM