DECEMBER 18, 2022 – 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT: LOVE

Today is the 4th Sunday and final Sunday in the season of Advent and we will be lighting the candle of “Love.” Our Chancel Choir shares worship music, we celebrate a Reaffirmation of Baptism, and Pastor Benjamin preaches a sermon on Luke 1:39 – 58 entitled “God in Each Other.”

TODAY
KINSHIP TIME follows worship every Sunday. Join us for yummy food and delicious conversation.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR will sing at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. A final rehearsal follows worship today in the Chapel. Contact Andy DelMonte, Choral Director, at delmontemusic@yahoo.com.

YOUTH GROUP Holiday Party & Service Project, 3-5 pm, meet in Youth Lounge.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING & POTLUCK open to all. Didn’t sign up? Come anyway. Meet in the Fellowship Hall, at 5 p.m. Bring your family, enthusiasm, and a dish to share.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
DECORATE OUR TREE with warm gloves, scarves, and hats. Donations will be delivered to local homeless folk. Contact Joyce Cox at b-j-cox@att.net.

THE LONGEST NIGHT, a worship service to hold space for grief, Wed, Dec 21, at 6pm in Faith Chapel. Contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES…
4:00 – Child-Friendly Service with Participatory All-Ages Program
6:00 – Family-Friendly Service of Lessons & Carols (Handbell Ensemble)
8:30 – Traditional Service of Lessons & Carols (Chancel Choir)

COZY CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP Sunday, Dec 25, at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. Come in your comfy clothes and bring a warm thermos for this casual service with singing, praying, listening, and a little writing.

NEW YEARS’ WORSHIP service on Jan 1, the 1st Sunday after Christmas. A small ensemble shares music, we celebrate Holy Communion, and Pastor Benjamin preaches a sermon on Matthew 2:1–12 called “We Keep Seeking.”

ADVENT BOOK GROUP will continue meeting in the Chapel on Sundays, 9:30-10:15 am, on Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22 to discuss An Altar in the World by Barbara Brown Taylor. BYO book. Newcomers welcome. Contact Gina Scribner at kagscrib@gmail.com.

UPCOMING
UNLEARNING URGENCY a special program with Elena Larssen, Sat, Jan 7, 10 am – 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A day of reflection, conversation, laughter, and lunch. Cost is $30. Registration forms available on the rainbow lectern, in the church office or online. Contact Bobbie Johanson bjohnso@sonic.net.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION on Sun, Jan 8, 11-45 am -1:45 pm, in the Media Room. Please RSVP to the church office by Wed, Jan 4. Let us know if you require childcare or have any dietary
restrictions. Those who attend the class may decide whether to join the church later in the month. Contact office@uccseb.org or 707-823-2484.

**SAFE CHURCH POLICY TRAININGS** for Adult Volunteers, Jan 8, 12-1:30 pm in the Chapel, and for Youth Grades 6-12, Jan 8, 5-7 pm in the Youth Lounge. Contact Pastor Rachel pastorrachel@uccseb.org.

**NEXT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL** meeting is Wed, Jan 11, 6:00 - 8:30 pm in the Media Room. We will be discussing the 2022-23 budget, and anyone can attend to better understand the budget and ask questions. Budget discussion should be done by 7:00.

**ANNUAL MEETING** of the congregation is Sunday, January 29, at Noon in Memorial Hall and begins with a potluck lunch.

**CHILDREN**

**WONDERING CIRCLE** for children happens every week (except the 1st Sunday of the month). After the Children’s Message, children walk to Room 5 with trained and background-checked Adult Leaders for art, prayer, and singing. Contact Pastor Rachel at pastorrachel@uccseb.org or 707.318.1060.

**MUSIC & ARTS**

**MUSICAL ENSEMBLES** rehearse weekly. Contact Karna Roa, Handbell Ensemble Director, karnamarie@yahoo.com, or Andy DelMonte, Choral Director, at delmontemusic@yahoo.com.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FRIENDLY REMINDER** that if you are the last person to leave a room/building, please check to make sure that the lights are turned off, thermostats/fans are turned off or returned to their resting positions, and that buildings/rooms are locked securely. Let’s all be good stewards of our facilities.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Tuesday mornings, 9:30 am – Noon, to transport food from Redwood Empire Food Bank to Sebastopol Interchurch Food Pantry. Volunteer will need a pickup or van capable of accommodating a standard pallet. Contact Steve Beck at rottenappleranch@aol.com 707-479-3567.

**WEARING MASKS** is optional for worship services. We encourage everyone to get vaccinated. If you feel sick, test yourself and stay home. A mask-only section is available. Livestream worship is always available online.

**BULLETIN & WEEKLY EMAIL** content due in digital form to Joy Richards, Congregational Administrator, at office@uccseb.org by Noon on Wednesdays. February 2023 Salt + Light Newsletter deadline: January 16.

**THIS WEEK AT COMMUNITY CHURCH** – December 18-December 25

Today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Advent Book Group, Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Worship Service, Sanctuary &amp; Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Wondering Circle, Room 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:35 am</td>
<td>Children’s Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Kinship Time, Bell Tower Courtyard</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Group, Youth Lounge</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Christmas Caroling/Fellowship Hall</td>
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Monday  10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry, Fireside Room
Tuesday  9:00 am Grounds Team, Campus
          10:00 am Shower Outreach, Memorial Hall
Wednesday 10:00 am Staff Team, Fireside Room
          4:00 pm Handbell Ensemble, Sanctuary
          6:00 pm Longest Night Worship Service, Chapel
Thursday  6:30 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Friday   No Church Activities
Saturday 4:00 pm Child-Friendly Participatory Service, Sanctuary
          6:00 pm Family-Friendly Lesson & Carols, Sanctuary
          8:30 pm Traditional Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary
Next Sunday Christmas Day
          10:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary & Online
          11:30 am Kinship Time, Bell Tower Courtyard

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pledges</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Over/(Under)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Ministry</td>
<td>$327,656</td>
<td>$365,000</td>
<td>($37,344)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wider Mission</td>
<td>$ 30,673</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>($4,327)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Households Pledging</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>(19)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$358,329</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>($41,671)</td>
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**THANK YOU** to 3 households making new pledges and 24 households who increased their pledges in response to our Leadership Council’s special appeal.