

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page" November 14, 2018



On occasion I have been privileged to meet with our Knitting Ministry to pray for our Prayer Shawl ministry. I thank Beth Fitzpatrick for the invitation to meet with our knitters and pray for this ministry and those who will receive a shawl. The last time I met with them, I shared the following prayer written by Janet Severi Bristow:

*May God's grace be upon [these] shawls...
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.
May [these] mantles be a safe haven...a sacred place of
security and well-being...
sustaining and embracing in good times
as well as difficult ones.
May [those] who receive [these] shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy,
graced with peace, and wrapped in love.
Blessed Be! [Amen.]*

We are grateful for this ministry and the knitters who knit these tangible reminders of God's loving presence as well as the faith-community we call Gettysburg Presbyterian Church.

Gratefully Yours,
Rev. Lou

If you are not familiar with this group, then here is a primer for you:

A small group of faithful knitters and crocheters has been meeting each month for several years to provide Comfort/Prayer Shawls for members and friends of GPC who are experiencing personal crises.

Our group has decided to place a number of shawls in the sanctuary for your use. Please take a shawl if you feel chilly in church and return it at the end of worship. If you know someone who is experiencing personal difficulties and might benefit from this ministry, please take a shawl as your expression of concern and to comfort the individual.

Thank you for your interest and your prayers. Please join us in this creative ministry. We meet the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Eisenhower Lounge. Contact Beth Fitzpatrick for further information. (717-334-4960 or bethieandbill@comcast.net.)

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Abundant Living; Cheerful Giving Stewardship 2019

Abundant life is not about what we have. It's not about what we get. It's not about what we claim. Ultimately, abundant life is about what we receive as a gift from the Lord and to live knowing we are stewards of the blessings of God.

It's not a sin to be rich (though it might be missing the point if we die rich). Furthermore, stewardship is not measured by what we have received, but by what we have given.

At the end of the day, perhaps that is how we know we have an abundant life—when we have shared our life with others. When we have enough of the blessings of God (mercy, peace, love, grace, wisdom, etc.) to share with others, and then actually do it; that's when we truly have abundant life.

Excerpts from "What Does it Mean to Have an Abundant Life? Some Thoughts on Prosperity" by Ed Stetzer, Christianity Today Website, March 18, 2015



Congratulations to Mike & Kathy Wark who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on November 16.

"Calendar of Giving"

The Calendar of Giving is an opportunity for our congregation to support numerous local organizations. Through this program, we identify local organizations that are in need of smaller donations. Each month, we will be collecting specific items for the identified organization.

For the month of:

November

We will be collecting items for

Office of Aging -

Home Delivered Meals

Program

Emergency Meal Supplies - peanut butter, pull-top cans of soup, crackers, individual fruit servings, individual cookie packs, individual cereal boxes, other non-perishable, single serve items.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Support: To hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking, or slipping

Support is something we all need. God gives us support through our Christian brothers and sisters. Let us all be sensitive to one another's needs and take the time to support each other through prayers, phone calls, friendly chats after church, and even visits. Also, remember that we have Stephen Ministers who are willing to give their support. For more information about Stephen Ministry, please contact Lou Nyiri at 717-334-1235, ext. 4.

"When I said, 'My foot is slipping,'
your love, O LORD, supported me" (Psalm 94:18)

NEED A RIDE?

If you are having trouble attending church services and/or church functions due to not having transportation, let the Deacons help you. We are only a phone call away.

The transportation Deacon from
Nov. - Dec. 9 is Ron Weigle at 717-476-4977.



Christmas Mission Fair December 2, 2018

It's that time of year when every child's mind turns to thoughts of...**GOLDFISH AND GAMES!** The 2018 Christmas Fair is just around the corner on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2** from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Bring the whole family for a light supper, games for all ages, silent auction, craft tables, coffee, tea & cocoa sales, prizes, and the opportunity to give gifts that have potential to change (and even save) lives. Gift cards in support of specific mission efforts make wonderful alternative gifts for that person who has everything!

If you cannot join us on the evening of Dec. 2, gifts can also be purchased in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings, December 2, 9, and 16.

MISSION: HONDURAS 2019

A gift through Mission: Honduras 2019 - Our church will once again participate in the medical/dental mission to Honduras. GPC members will once again have the opportunity to support or join with others from around the country to provide health care education to over 7,000 adults and children in rural Honduras. Through your contribution, you can help provide medicine, dental care, vitamins, etc. to the Honduran people.

- \$ 2 Anesthetic for 1 extraction
- \$ 5 Asthma medicine for 1 child for a week
- \$ 10 Antibiotics for 5 children
- \$ 15 Fluoride treatment for 20 children
- \$ 20 Filling material for 1 tooth
- \$ 50 Vitamins for 250 people
- \$ 75 Parasite treatment for 1,000 people
- \$ 150 Emergency transportation by taxi to the hospital



MISSION: SOUTH DAKOTA 2019

A two-year hiatus because of inadequate facilities has made us eager to return to this inspiring and grateful community! GPC members and friends will travel to the Cheyenne River Lakota Reservation in South Dakota to help repair homes for the Indian residents, provide education classes, offer a yard sale, a clothing give-away, and hold a Festival.

- \$ 3 Ice Scraper
- \$ 5 School Supplies
- \$ 10 Snow Shovel
- \$ 10 Bible Storybook
- \$ 15 Fan
- \$ 20 Blanket
- \$ 20 Tire Repair Kit
- \$ 50 Construction Supplies



HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Our Christmas Fair began in 1986 to support Heifer International, a self-help program which sends livestock to needy families in the U.S. and around the world. These families become self-sufficient through training and gifts of livestock to help them become responsible for their own food needs. Farmers who receive animals must commit to pass on the first born off-spring of that animal to a neighbor in need.

- Fish \$10, \$1 share
- Chick \$20 flock, \$3 each
- Ducks \$20 flock, \$3 each
- Bees \$30 package
- Rabbits \$60 trio, \$10 share
- Tree seedlings \$60, \$10 share
- Family Farm Care Package \$72
- Goats \$120 each, \$10 share
- Sheep \$120, \$10 share
- Pig \$120 each, \$10 share
- Llama \$150 each, \$20 share
- Water Buffalo \$250 each, \$25 share
- Cow \$500 each, \$50 share
- Launch a small business \$365



MEXICO 2019

Next summer, Pastor Dave will again lead a group to work with Accion Ministry in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. They'll live and work in a village where they'll do a construction project on a church or home, run a Vacation Bible School, and give out glasses to those in need. There are also opportunities to fellowship and worship with our Mexican brothers and sisters. Your donation will help to buy construction materials for our project!

- \$ 5 Markers/Crayons for Bible School
- \$ 12 Bag of cement
- \$ 15 10 Cinder blocks
- \$ 25 Mason helper for one day
- \$ 28 Cubic meter of sand
- \$ 28 Cubic meter of gravel
- \$ 30 Master Mason for one day
- \$ 35 Beam for home construction
- \$150 Ground transportation for 1 participant



ADAMS RESCUE MISSION



SERVING GOD BY SERVING OTHERS SINCE 1972! The Adams Rescue Mission exists to proclaim the passion of Jesus toward the hungry, homeless, abused, and addicted; to accelerate recovery and restoration to the least, last, lonely, and lost. Through the Thrift Store, Recycling Center, and your direct support, ARM provides safe lodging at its Men's Shelter and the Agape House for women and children. Help someone get back on their feet again by supporting this important outreach!
Thanks you for your support!

SEA ISLAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity is an international Christian organization in which volunteers build homes for low-income families. These families then provide their own labor and can purchase homes with no-interest mortgages. Members of our congregation travel to John's Island, South Carolina every April to participate in various building projects.

- \$ 5 Nails
- \$ 10 Construction supplies
- \$ 15 Light fixtures
- \$ 20 Gallon of paint
- \$ 25 Roofing shingles
- \$ 25 Sheet of plywood
- \$ 50 Window
- \$100 Door



SURVIVORS, INC

The mission of Survivors, Inc. is to provide assistance for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, to promote the sanctity and the safety of relationships, homes, and communities, and to provide comprehensive services and advocacy to those seeking lives free of violence.



Please give generously!

Reverse Advent

This advent season we are going to do something different. We are asking families to purchase one food item a day, according to a December calendar that will be on the CE Table along with a bag for the food items. Instead of receiving this Advent, we will be giving. Then return the bag on Sunday, December 23rd or Monday, December 24th. The food will be given to SCCAP.

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP November / December

November 18	5:30 - 7:15	Dinner & Car Chase
November 25	NO SHIP	THANKSGIVING
December 2	4:30 - 7:00	Christmas Fair

MidSHIP Schedule November / December

November 18	5:30 - 7:15	Dinner & Car Chase
November 22	NO MidSHIP	Small Group
November 25	NO MidSHIP	THANKSGIVING
November 28	NO MidSHIP	Small Group
December 1	10:00 - 2:00	Babysitting at GPC
December 2	4:30 - 7:00	Christmas Fair
December 5	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group

Mission Calendar

During the coming weeks we will be praying for the following missions during worship.

Please pray for them during the week, too!

- 11/18 **Jacques Merine** heads Source of Life Ministries, which runs an Orphanage in Haiti. They are hoping to expand into health ministries in the near future.
- 11/25 Persecuted Christians continue to suffer for their faith, especially in Asia & Africa.
- 12/2 Lend-A-Hand is a ministry of our Presbytery that sends groups to help disaster-stricken areas recover.

There will be a
congregational meeting
on **Sunday, Nov. 18**
At 10:30 a.m.
to elect church officers.

Please plan to attend!

Adult Elective Sunday School Class

Adult Sunday School in December will be a celebration of Christmas and the gift of our savior, Jesus Christ. On December 2 and 9, Lynne Graziano will facilitate discussion around the season: the moments and memories of Christmas past and present. By popular demand, Adam Boyer will join us on December 16 to once again accompany us for a Christmas sing-along. For those of you who missed it last year, mark your calendars now to prepare for the season by singing favorite hymns and carols. Hope to see you one or more Sundays in December in the MacAskill Room at 9:30 AM.

Light in the Midst of Darkness: A Worship Service for Those Who Find Celebrating Difficult

Sunday, December 16, 2018

3:00PM Sanctuary

Christmas and the holidays can be a bittersweet time of year for those who find themselves remembering persons and events that have been a part of their lives in the past, which are now changed or gone. As we enter into the season of the year with longer nights, we will gather to offer a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering and sharing our hurting places with God. Join us for this candle-lit time of music, scripture, stories, silent reflection and prayer.



**Tuesday,
November 20
at 7:00 p.m.**



**Trinity U.C.C.
60 East High St.
Gettysburg, PA**

Rev. Mark Englund-Kreiger (from Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian) will preach.
Come and give thanks!

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Holder family on the recent death of Jean.

GREENS NEEDED FOR ADVENT WREATHS

As you are trimming your bushes this fall, please save them and bringing those greens to the church in **black plastic bags** marked "Advent Wreath." You can leave them in Fellowship Hall or by the outside door between the Manse and the Sanctuary by the door into Fellowship Hall. These greens will be used for making Advent Wreaths on Sunday, November 18th and 25th in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars now to make an Advent Wreath for your family on November 18th or November 25th.



Trunk or Treat – Update

Our combined effort with Trinity United Church of Christ saw over 220 trick or treaters on October 31st. Every trick or treater received great goodies and an invitation that read "How a'bat hanging out with us at GPC!" The invitations included our address, service times and website. Two cars from GPC representing 3 of our member families participated in the event. We had a fun time partnering with Trinity UCC to bring body-of-Christ presence to our neighbors around the GPC facility. We thank Elder, Laura Pennings and the Outreach Team for creating a great invitation (if you didn't see it, then check out our GPC Facebook page).

Ushers Make Good Impressions

Could you serve GPC three or four Sundays a year? What if we told you it would be at a time when you are already in the church building? Can you smile and hand people a folded paper? If you said "yes" to any of those questions, then your opportunity is here! As an usher you can attend the service of your preference, participate in worship as usual and still help in this important way. Please add your name to a list of usher volunteers for next year. Fill out the form below and return in the offering plate or contact Rev. Lou Nyiri at 717-334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

Yes, please add my name to the usher volunteer list.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Preferred worship time: 8:15am _____ 11:00am _____

As our Christmas Gift to you, the GPC Mid-Ship group would like to offer you four hours of free babysitting



for your children ages 7 and under* on

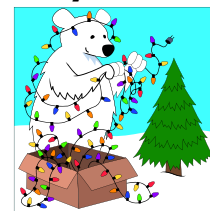
Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will play games, make a craft, have lunch and watch a Christmas movie while you have time to shop, eat lunch out, or take a much-needed nap!

*older siblings are welcome to come help

Please RSVP to Libby Crowe at (717) 476-0821 or mslibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org by November 26, 2018

We would welcome your help decorating the church for Advent on



Wednesday, NOVEMBER 28

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Please email Sheryl Suplee at svon347@aol.com or call (717) 337-3267 if you would like to volunteer.

COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, AND MUCH MORE FOR SALE AT THE CHRISTMAS FAIR ON DEC. 2nd!

This year we will again be selling packages of different kinds of coffee, types of tea, and organic hot cocoa mix will be available through the Presbyterian Coffee Project/Interfaith Coffee Program. Also for sale will be 5 kinds of chocolate bars and olive oil. These items are available through a program called Equal Exchange which provides fair trade opportunities through worker-based co-ops with small scale farmers.



Can't Catch Me - Christian Parents...In Partnership

Hi Gettysburg Parents! Please bring your children and join us in decorating a gingerbread Noah's Ark in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, November 27th at 4pm. All of the gingerbread and some decorating supplies will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own frostings/candy decorations. Our gingerbread creation will be entered in the 9th Annual Gingerbread Celebration, presented by the Adams County Arts Council, to be judged at the Grant Building, 2 Chambersburg Street in downtown Gettysburg. Please come by on Friday, November 30th from 1pm to 7pm and/or on Saturday, December 1st from 9am to 5pm, to vote for your favorites with quarters. Proceeds benefit educational programs for adults and children. Entries will be photographed for publicity purposes, but your decorations can be as fantastic or messy as your idea of fun dictates. We hope to see you there!



Poinsettias

Help us decorate the sanctuary at Christmas by ordering a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. The flowers will be used in the sanctuary December 23rd. You may pick up your plant(s) following evening worship on the 24th. The church office will be closed Tuesday & Wednesday, Dec. 25th & 26th. Those not picked up by noon on the 27th will be delivered to shut-ins. The 5-6 bloom 6 1/2" pot will cost \$9.50.

Please fill in the following form & send it with your check made payable to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church to: Mary Lou Seamens, 169 Hunters Trail, Gettysburg, PA. 17325

Orders MUST be in by Sunday, December 9th. We cannot accept orders after that date—No extensions.

Christmas Poinsettias 2018

Given by: _____
Phone #: _____
In Memory of: _____
In Honor of: _____
of plants you will pick up _____ # of plants to be delivered to shut-ins _____



Silent Auction For Christmas Fair Items Needed by Nov 16th

Everyone is getting excited about Christmas Fair! But what is this Silent Auction about? Once again this year we will be holding a Silent Auction of high quality Christmas Items benefitting GPC missions efforts the missions at the Christmas Fair. Bidding will begin on Sunday, November 18th and end as the Fair concludes on December 2nd. The highest bidder takes home the prize!

If you have an item you would like to offer, or know of a business that may be willing to donate, please contact Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258 or at tomkolmer@gmail.com. Some suggestions include Dinner for 6, a round of golf, movie passes and popcorn, Christmas wreath, gift certificate for massage, etc. Be creative in your ideas! Also, teens could offer childcare, snow shoveling, etc. We will then choose 10 of the items to use for the Silent Auction. All others will be included in the Christmas Mission Fair sales.

The Silent Auction is a big hit every year! We hope you will participate once again, either by donating an item or by bidding generously, knowing that your purchase directly supports our Missions efforts!

Extra Crafts for the Christmas Fair

Calling all crafters, calling all crafters! Do you love to make crafts for the holiday season? We are seeking donations of Christmas wreaths, toys, flower arrangements, paintings, needlework, or any other quality crafts you would be willing to donate for sale at the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 2nd. All proceeds from items sold at the craft tables will go to GPC mission projects for the upcoming year. Please, do not bring rummage sale or used household items, they will not be accepted for this event.

Contact Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258 or at tomkolmer@gmail.com if you have any questions. Please bring crafts to Fellowship Hall **BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, AT THE LATEST. THANKS!**

Baked Goods Needed for the Christmas Fair !!



All types of baked goods are needed for the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 2nd.

These items will be used for the bake sale and dinner desserts.

The baked goods can be placed in the church kitchen by Sunday morning, December 2nd.

Please mark 'BAKE SALE' on them. The Mission and Interpretation Team thanks you for your time and effort!

CHRISTMAS FAIR CHILDREN'S GAMES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We will have signup sheets in Fellowship Hall at the CE Table for volunteers to sign up for 30 min. blocks of time to help with games downstairs in the Education wing. Please stop by and sign up to help with one of fifteen games. We need help with all the games.

If you can help on Saturday, December 1st from 10-1 on Saturday to help set up the games in the Education Wing, please contact Cheryl at 334-1235, ext. 5 or email gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

Advent Schedule

December 2- First Sunday of Advent

8:15 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 4:30 p.m. Annual Christmas
 Mission Fair

December 9 -Second Sunday of Advent

8:15 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

December 16 -Third Sunday of Advent

8:15 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 3:00 p.m. Light in the Midst of
 Darkness: A Worship Service
 for Those Who Find
 Celebrating Difficult

December 16 -Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:15 and 11:00 a.m. "Lessons & Carols"
 9:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant

December 24- Christmas Eve Services

4:00 p.m. Traditional Worship and
 Birthday Party for Jesus
 (ages 2-Grade 2)
 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship
 7:00 p.m. Family Worship
 8:30 p.m. Traditional Worship

Candle-lighting and Carol singing at all services.
 Nursery care provided at each service.

***Come and Celebrate
 the Season with
 Joy and Hope!***



CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY

Every Christmas we celebrate God's greatest gift, Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life of service, was crucified, and rose from the dead to proclaim that nothing, not even sin and death, can separate us from God's living presence.

The Holy Spirit has given each of us unique gifts that God uses to help others see and experience Jesus' love. Many of us, however, have never unwrapped or discovered our spiritual gifts. That's why our congregation is offering the course, *Discovering God's Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts*.

Now you can sign up and embark with others on a journey of discovery and ministry in a weekend course developed by Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk, founder of the Stephen Series system of lay caring ministry and the author of many books, including the best-selling *Christian Caregiving--a Way of Life*.

This course is biblically based and answers questions such as these:

- To whom are spiritual gifts given?
- What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?
- How can I be sure that I have a particular spiritual gift?
- What does the Bible say about each spiritual gift?
- What is the difference between the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit?

We have scheduled a weekend retreat on January 18th evening and January 19th. The cost of materials is \$17. Look for a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Note from Dori Hjalmarson

Villa Gracia: The retreat center just outside of the capital city of Tegucigalpa has successfully come under the direction of the Presbyterian Women of Honduras, and we are less than \$4,000 from our fundraising goal. The center was purchased in part with a grant from the Birthday Offering of the Presbyterian Women of the PC(USA). I accompanied Honduran PW Vice-Moderator Nora Palma to the Church-wide Gathering in Louisville, as well as to Northwest Arkansas and to Tampa Bay, Florida, to network and learn about ministry partnerships and other camp and conference centers in those places. What a whirlwind trip, and so fruitful! Nora and I returned feeling inspired and energized about the possibilities at Villa Gracia. Since March, the retreat center has hosted more than two dozen groups, about a third from the PC(USA), about a third from other denominations in Honduras, and about a third from inside the Honduras Presbyterian Church. It has become a center of gathering, of learning, and of women's leadership. The Honduras Mission Network continues to raise funds to complete the purchase of the property and make needed renovations and upgrades, such as plumbing and furniture. If you would like to support this effort, please contact David Gill of Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center in Little Rock, Arkansas: ferncliff@gmail.com.

Migrant caravan

Major news this month has been the caravan of Honduran migrants making their way towards the U.S. We in Honduras have been saddened and pained to hear the characterization of migrants as dangerous criminal invaders, and of Honduras as a bleak and hopeless place. On a personal note, I ask you who know and love Honduras to humbly consider how you can encourage your family and friends to reconsider their presumptions about Hondurans, about Central America, and about migrants in general. The people migrating north are human beings, and I pray that their safety and dignity may be recognized and preserved. Politicians in both the United States and Honduras are attempting to make them something less than human.

Looking to future

I have been talking with several people in Honduras and the U.S. about the need to grow the Honduran church's capacity for partnership in mission. We have been inspired and challenged by the Honduras church's efforts to step up and participate financially in projects like Villa Gracia. We want to build on the success of some long-standing friendships, such as that of the West Chester, Pa.,-Honduras youth partnership, as an example of a covenant of equals. We want to foster sustainable models of mission. Alex Rodas and I have started developing some plans for workshop training of congregational youth leaders. We hope that you'll all join us in taking a look at your partnerships and considering how they can be more sustainable and more fulfilling for all the various parties involved in them.

This month we will complete the two-year cycle of theological education with Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana. The Honduras presbytery will be meeting with Tracey King-Ortega, and professors Nidia Fonseca and Karla Koll, to discuss possibilities for continuing the program into next year and beyond. Several students are already adapting the curriculum for use in their own congregations, and several students who began the program half-way through wish to complete the certificate. The presbytery is discussing how to make this partnership more economical and most beneficial to church leaders.

Personal

I'll be in the U.S. visiting family Dec. 18-Jan. 3.

This has been a wonderful year so far. Thank you for your prayers, presence, gifts and service. Thank you for your support and partnership in the Honduras mission.

In Christ,
Dori

We here at GPC pray for Dori because she is serving in a country rated by US News & World Report as "The most dangerous country in the world." This is due to drug cartels controlling almost all facets of daily life.

Jerry Cleaver, Missions

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church believes that God calls us to invite people to faith in Jesus Christ, and equip them to grow as His fully devoted followers. As disciples we:

- * study regularly
- * pray daily
- * witness boldly
- * live faithfully
- * serve passionately
- * give generously
- * worship weekly



**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Wednesday, November 21, 2018**

**November / December 2018
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| November 18 | Thanksgiving Sunday
Pledge Sunday
Mission Bright Star |
| November 25 | Jesus' Prayer for His Disciples - John 17:1-26 |
| December 2 | A Christmas Carol: Ghosts of Seasons Past
First Sunday in Advent
Communion
Christmas Fair |