



THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

November 30, 2014
First Sunday of Advent

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div., Vicar

Visit us at <http://www.saintcs.org>

Calendar

Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday of Advent

- Eucharist Service, 8 and 10:15
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- NO Pageant rehearsal, 9:30 am
- NO Sunday School, 10 a.m.

Monday, December 1

- NO Yoga with Miriam, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, December 2

- Women's Bible Study, 10 a.m. with babysitting.
- Group Spiritual Direction, 3:30-4:30
- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.
- NO Yoga with Miriam, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3

- Group Spiritual Direction, 7-8 p.m.

Thursday, December 4

- Group Spiritual Direction, 11-12 noon

Saturday, December 6

- Rhythms of Grace, 2-3 p.m.

Sunday, December 7

- Healing Team will be at the 10:15 service

Happy New Year! In the liturgical calendar of the church November 30 is the beginning of a new church year that starts with the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is a season of waiting for the birth of Christ marked by anticipation and longing for his presence in our lives. He is the greatest gift God has given us. I hope and pray that you will participate in this very short season before the celebration of Christmas. Miriam

Hello Sunday School Families ~ No Sunday School this week because of Thanksgiving. BUT we will have some fun activities for the children if they cannot sit through the entire service. The older kids will be outside decorating for Christmas, helping with our closet clean out or assisting the younger kids with activities. We'll make bird feeder pinecones, paint the windows in the foyer with holiday scenes and make snowflakes to decorate the classrooms. Join us! Danielle LeClair

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
187 East Road Hampstead, NH 03841

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News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Spiritual Direction Open Enrollment

This past September, St. Christopher's started a new program called Small Group Spiritual Direction which was to last approximately 12 weeks. So many people signed up for the new program that we currently have three small Spiritual Direction groups, with several people on a waiting list. The three current groups will be wrapping up their sessions soon, and the next round of Spiritual Direction Groups will begin in early February. Sign-up sheets will be on the round table in the vestibule with first priority to those on the waiting list or who have not been part of Spiritual Direction yet. The deadline for signing up will be January 18, 2015. If you have any question, please see Ken Swenson, Wayne Trombly or Barbara Hughes.

Can't make one of our Christmas Services?

When your younger children are just too wiggly to last through a Sunday service, or your older children are just too tired to wake-up on Sunday morning, you have another option. On the first Saturday of every month at 2 p.m., (morning teenage time), a small group meets for Rhythms of Grace. Rhythms of Grace is a sensory friendly service originally intended for those with autism, learning



and other challenges and their families but ALL are welcome. One of the things I love is that our small group sits on the floor in front of the altar and hears Miriam tell a story from the Bible.

No chairs, no altar, no rails- nothing between Miriam and the families! For our December 6 service, join us as we unwrap (literally) the Story of the Nativity: Hear the story of Jesus' birth (Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20); Decorate Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus to take home; Make Christmas bells; Discover what animals were in the manger; Toss snowballs;

Have you invited a friend to come to church with you?

A personal invitation is the best way, bar none, to grow a congregation and bless a friend's life.

Almighty God,
give us grace to
cast away the
works of
darkness, and put
on the armor of
light,

How in the time
of this mortal life
in which your
Son Jesus Christ
came to visit us
in great humility;

That in the last
day, when he
shall come again
in his glorious
majesty to judge
both the living
and the dead, we
may rise to the
life immortal;

Through him
who lives and
reigns with you
and the Holy
Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.

Amen.

Celebrate the Eucharist. Some of our regular families cannot attend, so come try it out! [Lori Parrillo](#)

EfM (Education for Ministry) is coming back in January!



Ann Gerns

This awesome program of adult education has taken a break at St. Christopher's, but mentor Ann Gerns announces its return in January, better

than ever! All baptized Christians are called to be active participants in the ministry of the church. Through prayer, reflection and study, participants in the [EfM Program](#) move toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom and the ways in which we can meet our personal baptismal call to ministry. The study topics include the Old Testament (Year One), the New Testament (Year Two), early church history & theology (Year Three) and recent Christian

history & theology (Year Four). Printed materials about the program are available in the vestibule, and at the program website: www.sewanee.edu/EFM. This program is not the same as Group Spiritual Direction, please don't be confused. There is a tuition charge for EfM, but no one should be held back for lack of funds—please speak to Miriam if that is the case.

The Rockingham Choral Society (RCS) will present a Holiday Concert featuring C.P.E. Bach's [Magnificat](#). RCS is pleased to present this beautiful setting of the Magnificat on the 300th anniversary of the birth of C.P.E. Bach. The concerts will be held Saturday, December 6th at

7:30 p.m., First Parish Church, 218 Central Ave., Dover, NH; Sunday, December 7th at 3:30 ; and Tuesday, December 9th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 187 East Road, Hampstead, NH. General admission is \$15 at the door, senior and students, \$12 at the door. Or [purchase discounted tickets online](#).



There will also be a traditional audience participation of several familiar carols. Rockingham Choral Society, now in its 56th year, is under the direction of Andrew Gaydos, and accompanied by Jeannie Goodwin, a well-known pianist in the area. Members of RCS come from many different communities in the area including Exeter, Hampton, Dover, Hampstead and North Hampton. For more information and tickets, please visit their [website](#).

Prayers of the People

Please pray for **Arthur Mueller, Matty O'Leary; Greta and Jim; Nancy Hollinrake**; for **Linda**, who has been diagnosed with cancer; for **Ryan**; for Corinne Dodge's friend, **Mariellen**; for **William Friel**; for **Carol Sienkiewicz**; for Jeff and Katie Waymouth's daughter, **Ginny** and family; for **Jacqueline Parent**, for strength and peace; for Jean Porter's grand-nephew **Tyler**, for **Cheri** and her husband **Walt**, friends of Jennifer and Robert Aiken; for **Rosalie Papoutsy**; for Natalie Gallo's brother, **Lorin Bielski**; for Mark and Ingrid Chapman's son **Eric** who with God's grace is in safe hands.

Serving in the Military: Please pray for **Michael Carr**; for Del Dooling's cousins, **Daniel Canfield, Matthew and Sandra Maloy**, and for **Paul Gagne**.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: **Arthur and Carolyn Mueller; Joe, Michelle, Logan, and Matthew O'Leary; Eric, Susan, Christopher, Brian, and Kevin Nyberg; Julia Nye, Kim and Chelsea Peters, and Michaela Blodeau**.

Attendance

Tuesday, 11/18, 8, WBS
11/20, Thursday, 12

11/23, Sunday, 8 a.m., 34; 10:15 a.m., 73

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

- ☆ Christmas Eve Family Service and Children's Pageant - 4:30 p.m.
- ☆ Christmas Eve, Eucharist Celebration at 9 p.m.
- ☆ Christmas Day - one service at 9 a.m.

Rockingham Choral Society

Andrew Gaydos
Director

Magnificat

C.P.E. Bach

and selected traditional Carols

**Saturday, December 6th
7:30PM**

**First Parish Church
218 Central Ave., Dover, NH**

**Sunday, December 7th 3:00PM
Christ Church
43 Pine St., Exeter, NH**

**Tuesday, December 9th 7:30PM
St. Christopher's Episcopal
Church
187 East Rd., Hampstead NH**

General Admission \$15.00 at the door

Senior and Students \$12.00 at the door

Discounted advance General admission tickets available online

www.rockinghamchoralsociety.org

Group rates available - call 603-968-9676



For tickets

Rockingham Choral Society is a registered 501(c)3 charity