

Northminster This Week

November 27, 2022

—schedule—

SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. **Nursery** - Birth to Preschool, Room 312
Worship - Sanctuary — children, youth and adults worshipping together

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. **Pickleball** - Gym
7:00 p.m. **Various Life Groups** - Contact church office
Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY

- 9:00 a.m. **Women's Bible Study** - Room 118
5:00 p.m. **Pickleball** - Gym

WEDNESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. **Staff Meeting** - Gathering Place
5:00 p.m. **Christmas Handbell Rehearsal** - Room 115
6:00 p.m. **Christmas Choir Rehearsal** - Room 115
7:00 p.m. **Middle School Youth** - Trinity Room

THURSDAY

- 6:00 p.m. **Worship Team Rehearsal** - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. **Jos' Bible Study** - Room 118

FRIDAY

- 7:00 p.m. **The Chosen Viewing** - Room 118

SATURDAY

- 2:00 p.m. **Pickleball** - Gym



—news & notes—

The Ultimate Christmas Playlist



Advent

Long ago, church leaders established the four Sundays leading up to Christmas as the season of Advent. The word itself means coming, or arrival, so the Advent season is when we anticipate the first arrival of Jesus as if we were present before he was even born. We also anticipate his second coming, even though we know not the date of his return. The theme for this year's Advent sermon series, which begins today, is *The Ultimate Christmas Playlist*. We will be retelling the Christmas story through five different songs found in the Bible. You can look them up for yourself: Isaiah's Song of Prophecy (Isaiah 9:2-7); Mary's Song of Praise (Luke 1:46-55); Zechariah's Song of Pardon (Luke 1:67-80); Simeon's Song of Promise (Luke 2:29-32); Angel's Song of Peace (Luke 2:14).

Faith Formation Takes a Break Today

Because of the holiday weekend, our faith formation hour will take a recess today. In addition, rather than kids' pullout time during the sermon, families will be able to join in the full experience of worship, including the lighting of the Advent candle.

Designate a Poinsettia

One of our Christmas traditions continues to be the opportunity to dedicate poinsettias in the front of the sanctuary to loved ones in memorial or in honor. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia (\$13), sign up in the lobby or contact the church office (309.691.6322 or office@northminster.us). We purchased plants from EPIC of Peoria: Serving People with Disabilities.

Giving Tree

One of the great ways to move OUT and show God's agape love, is to share our abundance with those in need. Each year, Northminster helps *The Center for Youth and Family Solutions*, by purchasing Christmas gifts for those they serve. Here is the process:



1. Sign up for one or more individuals.
 - Choose a tag from the tree in the lobby
 - Choose an individual online: tiny.cc/Tree2022
2. Purchase some gifts listed on the tag (you do not need to purchase all of them)
3. Place items in gift sack – **do not wrap**
4. Securely attach a tag from the tree or with the ID number (i.e. ID: 1A XC/PP)
5. Bring gifts to the church on Sunday morning or to the church office Monday-Friday, 8-4

Gifts need to be returned by Monday, December 5th. If you would like to have someone shop for you or if you would be willing to shop for someone, contact Karen Ring (karenkayring@gmail.com; 309.231.1001).

Thursday Night Bible Study

On December 1st, we will begin a new short Advent series called "A Witness to the Light" about John the Baptist. John is an enigmatic figure in the New Testament; though many know of him, we often don't focus much on him. But his story appears in all four gospels and his ministry shapes the way we understand the ministry of Jesus. Maybe most importantly, John's story is closely tied to our understanding of the significance of the incarnation and frequently it accompanies our telling of the Christmas story. John is the ultimate Advent figure, waiting, anticipating and announcing the coming of the Light of the World. In learning more about John's role, message and legacy, we'll be challenged to think through OUR role in pointing to the Messiah, celebrating His first Advent and anticipating His second. All are welcome to join – Thursdays at 7:00pm on December 1st, 8th, and 15th, in Room 118. Zoom option available. Contact Jos (joss@northminster.us) for more info.

New Member's Class

Two to three times each year we offer our Starting Point class for those interested in finding out more about Northminster as well as for those wishing to become Northminster Covenant Partners. The next class is scheduled to meet on Sunday, December 4th, 10:10am – 2:30pm. Lunch is included. Let us know if you need nursery and/or childcare. RSVP to Kathie Rollins (kathieandsteve@sbcglobal.net).

First Wednesday Fellowship Night

December 7th, 5:30-7:00pm

Join us for the opening of the "Advent Box." Games, songs and fellowship for all ages. Dinner will be served until 6:15pm and will include meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, and cookies. Reservations can be made by either filling out the red cards included in the Sunday announcements or by calling the church office at 309.691.6322.) Suggested donation: \$6.00/person/\$20.00 family. Interested in helping to set up, serve, or clean up? We would love to have you! Call or text Tina Vandermyde (309.696.3852).

