

James W. Leavitt, M.Div., Interim Pastor

Please join us as we prepare to celebrate the Birth of Jesus during this  
**2022 ADVENT SEASON**

**Advent**

The calendar has come around once again to the last month of the year. And what a year it has been between world events, from the invasion of Ukraine to the droughts, floods, hurricanes, and more natural disasters, to civil unrest and an election cycle where we were bombarded with messages about how terrible things would be if the person's opponent from the other party were to win. And I cannot forget about the impact that inflation has had on so many, not just in this country, but around the world.

It is into such a time as this that Christians look forward to the arrival of the Christ child at Christmas, for we believe that Jesus came bringing Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love for all, and these are our themes for Advent. As we prepare for the arrival, let me share a verse for each attribute from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Hope: "Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you." (Psalm 33:22)

Peace: "Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other." (Psalm 85:10)

Joy: "But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you." Psalm 5:11

Love: "For the mountains may depart and the hill be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you." (Isaiah 54:10)

Wishing you all the hope, peace, joy, and love of this Advent and Christmas season.

Blessings to all,

*Pastor Jim*

**The Holly Fair Is Back!**

**Saturday, December 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Come to Fellowship Hall for: Home baked goodies – Handmade items – Attic treasures – Gently used jewelry – "Good Goods" table – Luncheon will be available

*Shutters decorated by local artists!*

Plus: Artwork by Carol Ahearn -- Pampered Chef kitchen products – Tupperware products – Paper Flamingo handmade invitations and cards – Tyler Can's handmade items

**Westwood Ringers' Christmas Concert**

**Saturday, December 17 at 4:00 p.m.**

Join us in Fellowship Hall for an hour of festive handbell music for the whole family as we ring in Christmas!

**"Rejoice! A Christmas Cantata"**

**Sunday, December 18 at 10:00 a.m.**

Performed by the Chancel Choir during the worship service

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**Saturday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m.**

With the Westwood Ringers and Chancel Choir

**Christmas Worship Service**

**Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.**

With the Christmas Band and Chancel Choir

**White Socks for the Homeless**

The homeless are always in need of new socks – for warmth, for comfort, and for good health. During this Advent season, we are collecting new white athletic (crew) socks for men and/or women. Please consider donating some socks at the church on Sundays 9:30-11:30 a.m. or on Christmas Eve 6:00-7:30 p.m. And maybe invite a friend to do the same!

**Sunday Family Worship Services at 10:00 a.m.**

Join us for coffee and fellowship following worship. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Services are live-streamed and recorded, and are available through our website: [www.fbcwestwood.org](http://www.fbcwestwood.org)



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