"So that the Gospel may be preached amongst us here"



## FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Newsletter

December 2025



"We celebrate and share God's love by connecting people with God and each other through acceptance, worship, mission, community, and the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am Rev. Janet Brown, Pastor pastorjanetfhcc@gmail.com

Web Site: fhccucc.org

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(The latest newsletter is also available on the church website)

Dear Friends,

Did you blink? The season of Advent is upon us. This past Sunday we found hope in the Scriptures and prayed for more. This week we will seek peace, followed by joy, love and Christ on Christmas Eve. While it's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season, the shopping, wrapping, events and giving, let us



remember together this year that the true gift is a child born of love. Isaiah 9:6 reads, "A child has been born for us. We have been given a son who will be our ruler. His names will be Wonderful Advisor and Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace."

This is a busy month for us, as we worship, fellowship and share Advent together! Be sure to join us for the cookie swap (yum!), caroling and the annual Christmas Party. Wednesday worship will be early this month on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> as Christmas Eve Worship will be at 10 PM on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

I pray that this time of Advent will draw you in to a closer season with God and each other. May God give you in abundance the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Christ, this season and always!

# Pastor Janet

(617) 640-2061 (call/text)

PastorJanetFHCC@gmail.com

# December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	АА	Early Intervention AA				Church Cupboard 8:30-11:30
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Cookie Swap After Worship	AA	Early Intervention AA	Wednesday Worship 7:30	11	This N That 4H Club	Caroling 2pm followed by Christmas Party/Potluck
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
WORSHIP & COFFEE HOUR	АА	Early Intervention AA				Church Cupboard 8:30-11:30
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WORSHIP & COFFEE HOUR, Blue Christmas service 7pm	AA	Early Intervention AA	Christmas Eve Service 10pm	MERRY		
28	29	30	31			
WORSHIP & COFFEE HOUR	AA	AA				

#### **FHCC Christmas Events**

Mark your calendars. Any updates to events will appear on the church website "Christmas @ FHCC" page.

#### Dec. 6 – Cookie Swap after Church



Bring some cookies (homemade or made-elsewhere!) to share. Cookies/treats will be available for swapping, coffee hour refreshments, and for Soldier On Christmas gift bags

#### Dec. 13 – Christmas Caroling & Holiday Party



In the afternoon, we will visit & sing carols to shut-ins who could use some holiday songs. Meet at the church at 2pm. Caroling will be followed by a potluck dinner & Christmas party. A Yankee gift swap (\$10 MAX value) has always generated lots of fun!

#### Dec. 21 – Blue Christmas Worship, 7:00pm at the Church



This is a worship gathering that offers space for those who may find the holiday season difficult. Also known as "Longest Night" service, it is held on or near the winter solstice.

#### Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Worship, 10pm



Candlelight service at 10pm Christmas Eve.

#### The Month of December - Bernice's Giving Tree

During Advent, bring in a winter hat, gloves, mittens, scarf, or other warm accessories to share with our neighbors in need. These will decorate the Christmas tree in the sanctuary. It is named after the late long-time member Bernice Burton, who made enough hats & mittens to cover the entire tree each year.

#### **Visiting Betty & George**

Thank you Irvina & Mimi for sharing memories of your visit. On the fly they sang THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE to Betty & George, not realizing they were bringing joy to the other residents & staff of Westfield Gardens.

That's what GOD'S love is about





#### **Introducing Holly Elf**



On the first Sunday of Advent, Holly Elf delivered the first "Jolly Hat" honor to a person dedicated to serving their church. Congrats to the winner, our terrific music leader, Sean! Who will get a hat from Holly next?!

### Coming Soon: Wednesday Worship 2x a Month

The informal Wednesday worship services have proved quite popular. As a result, starting in January it will be held twice a month, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the sanctuary.

Since Christmas Eve is the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in December, the Wednesday worship will instead be held on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to come-as-they-are.



#### **Church Cupboard Update**

The community was very generous to the Church Cupboard in November, with many food collections by various groups.

In December, the Cupboard will be open on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 9-11am. Volunteers are always needed both during the open hours, and doing donation inventory tasks during the week.

Donations can be brought starting at 8:30am when the cupboard is open, or by appointment. Items especially needed can be found on the church website, on the "Church Cupboard" page.



# **Stewardship Reminder**

Please do not forget to return you 2026 pledge information. See Matt if you need a card, or for more information.

# Parish Cupboard Collection/Mission

Our relation with the Agawam/West Springfield Parish Cupboard is still ongoing. The collections are held the 2nd Sunday of the month.

All non-perishable, unexpired food items can be used. Cash/check donations are always welcome also. Items especially in need can be found on their latest wish list at <a href="https://theparishcupboard.org">https://theparishcupboard.org</a>.

# **?** Bible Trivia

Which 2 Gospels describe the birth of Jesus?

- A. Mark & John
- **B.** Luke & Mark
- **C.** Matthew & Luke
- **D.** John & Luke

(See the correct answer after the prayer requests)



- Families impacted by house fires, both locally (e.g. Holyoke) & globally (e.g. Hong Kong).
- All those experiencing personal challenges during the holiday season

"In HAPPY moments, PRAISE God. In DIFFICULT moments, SEEK God In QUIET moments, WORSHIP God In PAINFUL moments, TRUST God In EVERY moment, THANK God"

Please send any prayer concerns to include in future newsletters.

#### **Bible Trivia Answer**:

The correct answer: C

- The Book of Matthew 1:18-24, 2:1-21.
- The Book of Luke 1:26-37, 2:1-39