

Advent Devotionals  
available in the Narthex

# Calendar of Advent Season Events

New Year's Day -Sunday  
One Service at 10:30 a.m.

## The Living Nativity Friday, December 2

This tradition began in our congregation some years ago and presents the story of Jesus' birth. It is acted out by church members on the east lawn (on 10th, between Ash and Walnut Streets.) and sidewalk accompanied by taped music, narration, and special lighting. Planned to coincide with the "Living Windows" in the downtown District, the Living Nativity will run every half hour from **6-8 p.m.** Refreshments will be served in Bethany Hall. Invite neighbors and friends!

## Women's Brunch Saturday, December 3

As a Christmas gift to all the women of the church, the Christian Women's Fellowship will provide a delightful morning of fellowship and delicious breakfast at **9 a.m.** Feel free to bring a friend! Please RSVP to church office by Nov. 28.

## STARS Light Tour & Luncheon

All who are 55+ are invited to two seasonal fellowship events:

A tour of Columbia's best Christmas lights will take place on Monday, **Dec. 5, 6:00-8:45 p.m.** via the church bus. A refreshment stop is planned. (RSVP required as bus seating is limited.) Pick-up at Lenoir is possible (talk to Carol or Jimmy).

A luncheon of soup, breads, and potluck snacks will be paired with a program to include music by the children of Mother's Day Out will be held Wednesday, **Dec. 14, 12:00 p.m.**

## Columbia Handbell Ensemble Concert - Friday, Dec. 9

Columbia's premier handbell ensemble will offer one of their holiday concerts in the sanctuary of First Christian Church. Several members are FCC members and promise a great program. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door or for \$7 in advance at (442-1149). **The concert begins at 7 p.m.**

## The Christmas Pageant & Tasting Party Sunday, December 11

A long standing tradition at FCC, this re-enactment and celebration of the Christmas story involves children, youth and adults in a joyous sharing of scripture and song. A "White Gifts" offering of non-perishable food will be received for a food pantry as a part of the service. A *Tasting Party* follows the pageant where everyone is invited to bring favorite holiday treats and big appetites!

The Pageant begins at **7:00 p.m.**

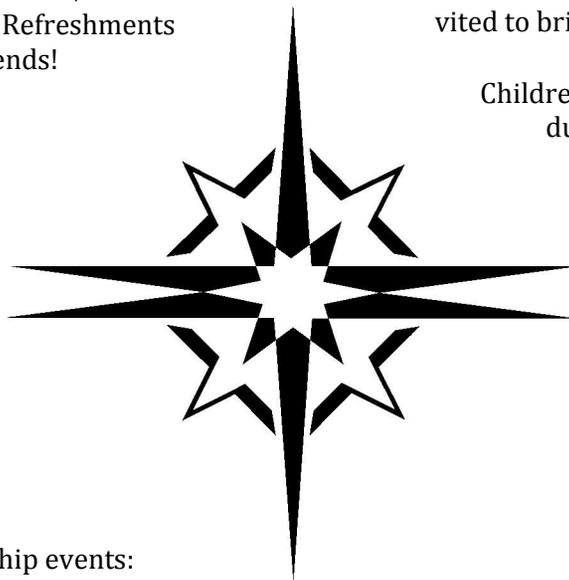
Children pre k - 5th participating will practice pageant songs during Children's Worship Nov. 27, Dec. 4, and 11.

## All Church Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 18

Everyone is invited to bring a little joy of Christmas to some of our older members through Christmas Caroling. We gather at church at **4:00 p.m.** and organize into groups to go out to community living environments and homes, some inside, others outside. By 6:30 we are headed back to church for a post-caroling supper and fellowship.

## Heifer Gifts - Sundays, December 4 & 11

The World Outreach Department makes available each Advent, the opportunity for unique gifts to be purchased through Heifer International. Give a gift that changes poverty and hunger in a far away place. Give a pig or cow, a rabbit or chicken. Want to know more? Go to [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) Then buy with us as a church, in the narthex on Sundays, Dec. 4 and 11. Gift cards available.



# WORSHIP

## ADVENT ONE - Hope - Nov. 27

### Hanging of the Greens

One of the traditions of the church is the annual "Hanging of the Greens" service held every year on the first Sunday of Advent. With the lighting of the first Advent candle, singing of hymns and carols, the hanging of the greens which adorn the Sanctuary, the decorating and lighting of the Chrismon tree, we will begin the season in worship. Both the early and late services will hang the greens.

## ADVENT TWO - Peace - Dec. 4

**"Fulfillment in bearing fruit"**  
based on Matthew 3:1-12

The Drennan Singers present music in both services.

## ADVENT THREE - Joy - Dec. 11

**"Fulfillment of the One"**  
based on Matthew 11:2-11

The beautiful poinsettias will adorn the Sanctuary.

## ADVENT FOUR - Love - Dec. 18

**"Fulfillment in Immanuel"**  
based on Matthew 1:18-25

The brass quartet will join organ and voice in the 10:30 service.

## Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24 7:00 p.m.

**"Fulfillment of light!"**

Lessons & Carols, Communion & Candlelight  
Featuring a Choral Cantata "LIGHT"

5 - 6 p.m. Sanctuary open for quiet meditation & communion

## Christmas Day - Dec. 25

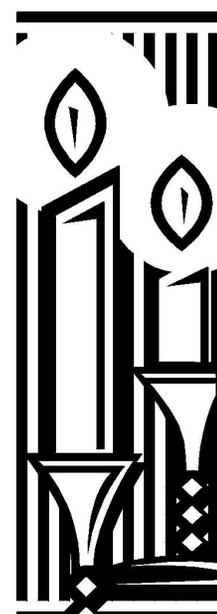
**"Fulfillment of WORD"**  
One Service at 10:30 a.m.  
(no Sunday School)



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2016



First Christian Church  
Columbia, MO