

This week at FPC

December 6-12, 2023

I Like Advent – Thoughts from the Transitional Pastor

This is one of my favorite times of the year. We are waiting, hoping, watching, and more. Although you would not know if from the secular displays of trees and lights, Christmas isn't here yet. We're anticipating the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Even in worship this Sunday we'll sing Christmas carols and celebrate Jesus' coming, but he is not here yet! It is still time to light candles, mark time, watch and wait.

Waiting is hard. It was hard for me as a child as I looked below the tree and saw only a few wrapped presents that had arrived

in the mail. I knew one box was from my Aunt and it would be clothes. (I didn't want more clothes, I wanted toys.) I had told Santa what I wanted and he would not be coming until Christmas Eve after I fell asleep.

I think we need Advent to teach us patience. Often God does not answer our prayers immediately and sometimes a different and better answer comes years later. So wait with me, and pray for patience, there may even be surprises along the way to Bethlehem and Christmas Day.

Walk



December 10th 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Music Sunday Service

Worship to include the String Ensemble, Handbell Choir, Chancel Choir, Leslie Athanason, Kosumo Morishita, and participation by the Youth Group.



Monthly Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30 a.m.
Join us for fellowship, food and faith!
Wolfy's Restaurant, Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala



2023 Advent Devotional Series

Prepare Your Heart for Christ's Birth



Copy this link to sign up for weekly Advent prayer from American Bible Society

https://share.americanbible.org/lp/Advent?utm_source=12-3-b&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=rkd-advent&utm_content=sign-up-button



Merry Christmas

Be our guest after worship
For a Christmas Lunch
Sunday, December 17th
In Fellowship Hall

PRAYER LIST

Bill Blackwell (brother of Mary Kauffman)
Tania Blackwell
Andy Carlisle
Ella Charnley (recent fall)
Shirley Cochran
Billy Davis (grandson-in-law of David Demarest, cancer diagnosis)
Mina DiGeronimo
Bob Dillinger (Uncle of Wendie Moore)
Ruth Fraser
Joe Glenn (friend of Mary Kauffman)
Sharon Grier (mother of Lee Anne Drake)
Dorothy Halliwell (sister-in-law of Pat Interdonato)
Bill and Barbara Harrel
Robert Interdonato (son of Pat, in the hospital)
Andrea Mogg Jacque
Victoria Johnson (great-granddaughter of Christine)
Lloyd Kauffman (husband of Mary)
Lanier Lance (sister of Bill Tucker)
Jimmy Kelly (broken hip, son of Janice)

Celine Mack
The Martin family (Judith, Jason, Nadia, Lisa and Lukas)
Chris and Peyton McLoney Brown
Ron McMillin
Gloria Miller
Jodi Miller (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)
Bruce Moore (recent procedure)
The Peek family (on the death of Albert)
Fritz Rain (friend of Marybeth Olson)
Rod Reimer (former member, recovering)
John and Ruthanne Reiss (on the death of their son Erik)
Frank Roberts
Michael Rou (cousin of Dr. David Albright)
Janie Scott
Bob and Renee Timmer
Barbara Tortora and TheTortora family
Ann VanDenburgh
Robert Webber (brother of Ginny Miller)
William Wright

This Week's Daily Bible Readings					
God's Saving word: Joy			Saturday	Dec. 9	Jeremiah 33:1-13
Wednesday	Dec. 6	Zephaniah 1:1-18	Sunday	Dec. 10	Jeremiah 33:14-26
Thursday	Dec. 7	Zephaniah 2:1-15	Monday	Dec. 11	Isaiah 9:2-7
Friday	Dec. 8	Zephaniah 3:1-20	Tuesday	Dec. 12	Isaiah 12:1-6