

Advent Calendar 2018

North Congregational Church

Pass it On! God is Love! This is our theme for the year at North Church, and at Christmas it finds very particular and important meaning. As we begin the season of Advent, we are charged to prepare our hearts and lives once again for the coming of Emmanuel, God with us, the light of the world.

During the four Sundays of Advent, beginning December 2nd, North Church will prepare with scripture, special music, and special traditions, including communion, the children's Christmas pageant, a Christmas cantata, and the Living Christmas Card by our Sunday School. In addition, we'll be remembering Jesus' own experience of extreme need at his birth by collecting hats, mittens, socks, and groceries for our neighbors in need here in southeastern Michigan.



In all that we say and do this Advent, let's pass on the grace-filled, reconciling, compassionate love of God that our world needs so much. In this brochure, you'll find details of the season; I encourage you to plan to be part of it, and to invite family, friends, and neighbors to come and join in our Advent season of renewal and love.

Pass it on! God is Love!

Rev. Dr. Mary E. Biedron

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Monday, December 24th, 7:30 p.m.

Welcome the Christ Child in a service of song, scripture, and candle lighting, followed by a festive reception in Fellowship Hall with cookies and punch, and an opportunity to share Christmas wishes with friends old and new. As always, the youth of North Church will read the scriptures and light candles as we celebrate the coming of the Light of the World.

WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 30th, 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a more informal morning of Christmas carols and friendship in the Plymouth/Bradford Room!

THE LIVING CHRISTMAS CARDS

Advent Sundays following worship

At the end of the worship services in Advent, the children of our Sunday School will offer scenes from the Christmas story in the Link for everyone to enjoy! Bring your camera for this long-standing North Church tradition!

CHRISTMAS CARD GREETINGS

Bring one copy of your Christmas card to the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall, and hand in a check for the postage saved by not mailing cards to your North Church friends. We'll donate all the Christmas Card funds to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen to feed the needy in this season.

Advent begins on Sunday, December 2nd

Advent - 2018

December 2 - First Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion, Sunday School,
Lighting of the First Advent Candle
Message: **“God is Love: Keep Alert!”**
Living Christmas Card: *“No Room at the Inn,”*
by the Sunday School children
- 11:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – Sanctuary



December 9 - Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Children’s Christmas Pageant,
Sunday School, High School Class
following the Pageant,
Lighting of the Second Advent Candle
Message: **“God is Love: Expectant Waiting”**
Living Christmas Card: *“Angels Appear to the
Shepherds,”* by the Sunday School children
- 11:30 a.m. Christmas Craft Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Craft Workshop



December 16 - Third Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, High School Class
Lighting of the Third Advent Candle
Message: **“God is Love: Sing Praise
and Let it be Known!”**
Living Christmas Card: *“Herod and
the Wise Men,”* by the Sunday School children



December 23 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School,
High School Class
Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle
Message: **“God is Love: The One Who Brings Peace”**
Living Christmas Card: *“Behold the Christ Child,”* by
the Sunday School children
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Rehearsal - Youth



December 24 - Monday Evening

- 7:30 p.m. **CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**
Lighting of the Christ Candle
Message: **“Pass it On! God is Love!”**
Christmas Eve Fellowship and Reception



December 30 - Sunday

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Christmas Carols in Plymouth/Bradford
Room, No Child Care
Message: **“Pass it On: In My Father’s House”**

January 6, 2019 - Epiphany Sunday

- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion, Sunday School
Message: **“Pass it On: Seeking to Find”**



*Remember to invite your friends and neighbors
to join in this special season at North Church.*