



NEWSLETTER

November 23, 2009

CHILDREN & MINISTRY'S MESSAGE

The Ministry of Children and Youth invites you to join us this Sunday, November 29 for our Advent Workshop. What a wonderful way for our church family to gather and ready ourselves for celebrating Jesus' birth! With secular Christmas already bombarding us in stores and on the radio, the Advent Workshop helps us to center ourselves for the season and teach the Christmas story to our children.

This year's theme is Christmas Legends and Traditions. The children will learn stories surrounding our Christmas traditions. Why do we put Christmas balls on our Christmas trees? Legend has it, a young boy having nothing to bring to the new baby Jesus juggled balls for him and thus we hang Christmas balls on our trees. What is the legend of the candy cane? The Christmas spider? We invite you to tell us a favorite Advent/Christmas tradition your family has enjoyed over the years. A booklet will be compiled, and we will make sure all who contribute will receive a copy. Please mail or e-mail marty.lacey@glenridgecong.org with your address and your family's tradition.

On Sunday, the children will work on crafts upstairs, while the adults work on Advent wreaths and evergreen door wreaths in Robinson Hall. The Hanging of the Greens sponsored by Parish Life will take place at the same time in the sanctuary. At the end of the afternoon everyone will gather for a potluck dinner. Families please bring a main dish (serving 8-10) and singles bring a side dish. The Ministry of Children and Youth will provide beverages, salad and dessert. Following dinner our favorite carols will be sung. It's a wonderful event for all ages to enjoy and a great opportunity for young people to learn the Christmas story and Carols.

3:00pm crafts, wreath making, decorate sanctuary
5:30 pot luck dinner
6:30 carol sing

For the past 17 years we have participated (and I have led the singing of carols) in this wonderful program. The first room decorated for Christmas in our house is the sun room. It is adorned by all the craft projects our four children have created at Advent Workshop: paper plate poinsettias, felt Wise men, pine cone Christmas trees, soda bottle nativity scenes, cellophane "stained glass" bells, clothespin angels

Come, begin your own family Advent Workshop tradition or continue the tradition. Wishing you grace, peace, and love this Advent season, *Cyndi Stinson*

Please call the church office to make reservations. This event is \$25 per family or \$10 per adult.

November 29, 2009
1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:15am Chapel/Communion Service
10:15am Worship/Church School

The Rev. Dr. Joseph David Stinson, Preaching
The Rev. Cynthia F. Reynolds, Presiding
"My Word Will Not Pass Away" Luke 21:25-26



Child Care for the very young provided.
11:30am Fellowship

Greeting you this week will be the O'Grady Family and the Curtin Family. The ushers will be Ken Underwood,

Paul Brewster, Elizabeth Brewster, Samantha Finneran and Jim O'Brien. The Acolyte will be Chaz Burnett. The Videographer will be Bob Hayes. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, Debbie Cusick and Mendy Overmyer. Bob and Joan Hayes will deliver the flowers.

The attendance last week was 9 in the 8:15am service and 129 in the 10:15am service

✦ IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ✦

- ◇ *At home:* Bob Kansky, James Hollander, Tom Horton, Lauren Smith, Lorraine Rieder, Susan Booth, Karen Augis, Phyllis Domenic, Madeline Edgar, Scott Spoerl, Sandra Lefkovits, Mary Keller, Bob Runge, Jim O'Brien, Walter Williams, Jack Cusick and Barbara Underwood.
- ◇ *In extended care facilities:* Bill Luddecke (Mountainside), Ed Warren (Stuart FL), Lacelle Stites, Art and Marilea Schlobohm (Green Hill), Betty Bishop (Juniper Village, Chatham), Don Olson (Job Haines), Robert Martin Schaeberle (Ridge at River Woods, Exeter, NH), Peg Carr Waters (North Carolina), Lucy Force (Sunrise, Woodcliff Lake).

Friends & family of our church: Ryan Munson, Eloy & Ofelia Hernandez, Andrei Padlowski, JC Egbert, Alison Krien, Stephen Strickland, Len Calvin, Andrea Row, Neil Connaghan, Bob Sherman, Helen Brabham, George Boltnew, Georgianna Booth, Agnes Joy Busk, Anna Withington, Jill Reintjes, Dan Glitzer, Sue Potter, Merrill Roberts, Joan and Frank Lytle, Barbara Acosta, Claire Meeker Xenikakis, Thomas Bright, Jim O'Brien, Sr., Amanda Oliver, Jean and Barry Frere, Jim Marturano, Elizabeth Knox, Gilda Oliver, Pat and Betty Vigliotti, Paula Newman, Frank Pescatore, Mary Embree, Jeff Glock, Bill Phillips, and UCC Missionaries Jon and Dawn Barnes in South Africa and Back Bay Mission in Biloxi. The men and women of the Armed Forces serving overseas in harm's way.



TAIZÉ SERVICE OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

Sunday, November 29 – 10:15 A.M.

You won't want to miss this very beautiful service of prayer and meditation. Join us as we enter the season of Advent, the time of preparation, and begin a new church year. The Taizé service is a lovely, candlelit service with scripture, meditative silence, healing prayer, and simple chants and songs. During the service we will be learning a special canon, which we will sing together as a Benediction response each Sunday during Advent. Through singing simple chants, the mind is quieted and the heart is opened as the song becomes prayer. - Tom Mustachio

NEWSLETTER NOW DIGITAL

Last week was the final week for 4th class delivery of the newsletter. We have now moved to e-mail or 1st class delivery. We want as many to receive it electronically as possible. Do we have your e-address? Please send an email to info@glenridgecong.org. Also please let the church office know what your preference of delivery is. If you still want a copy mailed to you and can afford \$20 per year for postage, we will appreciate it. There will also be printed copies at the church Clark Street Action Table each week and posted on our website.

ADULT EDUCATION

Life's journey constantly changes. The Ministry of Adult Education is the committee of our church that brings interesting and thought provoking opportunities for learning. Be it the Lenten series, prayer and meditation groups, Bible study groups, or discussions on music, architecture, history or Islam, Adult Ed is the place to be if you have ideas, love to learn and want to bring that passion to the congregation. Help us to form a creative and powerful educational ministry within your congregation by volunteering to serve on Adult Education this year.

To volunteer or to find out more about these important ministries please contact Courtney Bartlett at 973-743-6469 or cbartlett@bartlett-research.com.

Welcome Christmas! A Holiday Music Celebration

Chorus – Children's Choirs – Piano – Handbells
Organ – Brass – Percussion

Carols for All!
Share the Magic of the Season

Sunday, December 13, 3:00pm

Suggested Donation \$20

CONGRATULATIONS

To Barbara and Ken Underwood on their 50th wedding anniversary this Saturday, Nov. 28th.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Our sympathy to Michael and Tyra Brown on the death of Michael's father, Timothy M. Brown, this past week in North Carolina.

WOMEN'S ASSN. CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We will gather at the church on Wednesday, December 9 for a Christmas luncheon from 11:00 to 1:00. We will have the opportunity to write Christmas cards for out of town friends as well as do a small Christmas craft. Come enjoy each other's company as we celebrate the season. For more information contact Ann Waugh 973-429-0245

PLEDGES

Please help the church and the volunteers of the Ministry of Stewardship by making your pledge as promptly and as generously as you are able. Any questions, please contact the chair, Gordon Hunziker. We have received 98 pledges to date for a total of \$338,000.

A THANK YOU

A thank you to Joanne and Tom Meeker for putting together the beautiful cornucopia that was on the communion table this past Sunday...

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Mr. Stinson's Sunday class starts the Gospel of Luke November 29 at 9:00am. Join us!

PUMPKIN PIES

40 families qualified for the minister's offer of a pumpkin pie for 2010 pledges increased a minimum of \$250. Fortunately Katie Bodell came forward to help him. The two made 20 pies to get to people before Thanksgiving. The remainder will be available prior to Christmas!

AND ALSO THANK YOU

Thanks to the 15 volunteers who helped last Saturday at the Bethel Love Food Pantry for the Thanksgiving food distribution. Also thanks to our neighbors who contributed 95 turkeys at the Rotary Club Food Drive.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The *Longest Night* service will be at 5pm on Dec. 20th in the chapel. This is a quieter, meditative service for persons who don't quite feel up to the frivolity of the season. Bell Sunday is Dec. 20th at 10:15am. Bring a bell and a friend to church that morning! There will be three Christmas Eve services: 4:30; 8:00 and 11:00pm. On Dec. 27th, we'll gather in Robinson Hall for breakfast at 9am and a carol service at 10am.

THE NEXT WEEK AT GRCC

SUNDAY 11/29	1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:15am	Chapel with communion
9:00am	Bible Study
9:15am	Chancel Choir
10:15am	Worship/Church School
11:30am	Fellowship/YPS Coffee Sale
11:30am	New Member Class #3
3:00pm	Advent Workshop
MONDAY 11/30	
7:00pm	Yoga
TUESDAY 12/01	
3:00pm	Confirmation
8:00pm	AA
WEDNESDAY 12/02	
3:15pm	Children's Choirs
4:15pm	Chapel Bellsingers
8:00pm	Ministry of Worship
THURSDAY 12/03	
3:00pm	SCEEP
3:30pm	Bethel Love
FRIDAY 12/04	
8:00pm	Craft Fair Setup
SATURDAY 12/05	
9:00am-5:00pm	Craft Fair
SUNDAY 12/06	2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:15am	Chapel with communion
9:00am	Bible Study
9:15am	Chancel Choir
10:15am	Worship /Church School
11:30am	Fellowship
11:30am	New Members Join
7:00pm	YPS