

Volume 74, No. 46

November 16, 2011

Simply the Season **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

at

First & Calvary Presbyterian Church

Worship Schedule

Traditional Service ~ 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. ~ Sanctuary

November 27

*Looking Back
to the Future*

Mark 13:32-37

December 4

An Invitation To Dance

Mark 1:1-8;
Isaiah 40:1-11

December 11

Good News

Isaiah 61:1-4,
8-11

December 18

Believe It or Not

Luke 1:26-38

Contemporary Service ~ 11:00 a.m. ~ Multi-Purpose Room

November 27

Keeping Watch

Mark 13:32-37

December 4

*Are We Prepared
for (Christ)mas?*

Isaiah 40:1-11

December 11

The Story of Light

Offered by

The Praise Choir and
Orchestra of First & Calvary

December 18

The Mary in Us All!

Luke 1:26-55

Special Holiday Services

December 24

Family Service
5:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

*The Christmas
Story*

An interactive retelling of
the Christmas story
from scripture.

December 24

Communion Service
7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

*The Hopes and Fears of
All
the Years*

Luke 2:8-20

December 24

Candlelighting Service
11:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

*The Hopes and Fears of
All
the Years*

Luke 2:8-20

December 25

One Service Only
10:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

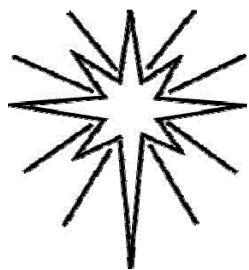
Merry Christmas
John: 1:1-14

January 1

One Service Only
10:00 a.m.
Multi-Purpose Room

*Dressed Up
For the New Year*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3



2011 Advent Season

at First & Calvary Presbyterian Church



Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 27 ~ 1st Sunday in Advent

8:30* & 11:00 a.m.*—**Traditional Service**/Sanctuary
Sacrament of The Lord's how Supper
11:00 a.m.*—**Contemporary Service**/Multi-Purpose Room
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Saturday, December 3

5:30 p.m.—**McClung Class** and **Hardin Class Social**/
Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m.—**Little Bacon Class Social**/Susie Chrisney Home

Sunday, December 4 ~ 2nd Sunday in Advent

8:30* & 11:00 a.m.*—**Traditional Service**/Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.*—**Contemporary Service**/Multi-Purpose Room
2:30-4:30 p.m.*—*Celebrate, While We Wait*

Saturday, December 10

5:30 p.m.*—**Branches Class** and **Crossways Class Social**/
Ryan & Faith Giedd Home

Sunday, December 11 ~ 3rd Sunday in Advent

8:30* & 11:00 a.m.*—**Traditional Service**/Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.*—**Contemporary Service**/Multi-Purpose Room
5:00 p.m.—**March Fellowship Class Social**/Room 015
5:00 p.m.—**49er's Class Social**/Reception Room

Sunday, December 18 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent

8:30* & 11:00 a.m.*—**Traditional Service**/Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.*—**Contemporary Service**/Multi-Purpose Room
5:00 p.m.*—**79th Annual Candlelight Musical**/Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 20

7:00 p.m.*—**A Celtic Christmas Celebration**/Sanctuary

Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m.—**Christmas Eve Family Service**/Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.*—**Christmas Eve Communion Service**/Sanctuary
11:00 p.m.—**Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service**/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

10:00 a.m.—**Traditional Service**/Sanctuary [One Service Only]
11:00 a.m.—**Christmas Dinner for Those Alone**/N. Atrium

Sunday, January 1

10:00 a.m.—**Contemporary Service**/Multi-Purpose Room
[One Service Only]

*Childcare provided

Special Holiday Schedule

Sunday, December 25

[One Service Only ~ Sanctuary]
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday, January 1

[One Service Only ~ Multi-Purpose Room]
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

December 25 and January 1 Sunday School

There will be no Sunday school



Carols in the Atrium

Sunday, December 4, 11, 18

9:30-9:45 & 10:45-11:00 a.m.

Enjoy Christmas carols and musical selections in the Atrium offered by various artists from the congregation directly following 8:30 a.m. worship and prior to the 11:00 a.m. worship services.



Celebrate, While We Wait...

Sunday, December 4

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.



Celebrate, While We Wait is an all-church event which helps us prepare our hearts and church for the coming of the Christ Child. The afternoon offers a variety of ways to respond to the story of Jesus' birth through music, designing cards, making ornaments for the tree, and more. Don't miss this year's musical, *Arrest These Merry Gentlemen!*, made up of an intergenerational cast of all ages, including the Joyful Singers, the Junior Choir, and the Middle School Choir!

Childcare is provided for infants.

**ARREST
THESE MERRY
GENTLEMEN**





First & Calvary Musical Offerings

Presents
**The Mid-America Singers
in Concert**

Tuesday, December 6
7:30 p.m. in the North Atrium



“The Story of Light”

Sunday, December 11
11:00 a.m.
in the Multi-Purpose Room



A celebration of Advent offered by the
Praise Choir and Orchestra of First & Calvary.

79th Annual Candlelight Musical Service

Sunday, December 18,
5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

During this service, sounds of the Advent and Christmas Season will be presented in the Sanctuary by the choral and hand bell instrumental ensembles of First & Calvary. This has been a Christmas worship tradition in Springfield for 78 years. Childcare is provided. Following the service, the Membership Care Committee will provide refreshments in the North Atrium. Doors open at 4:15 p.m.



A Celtic Christmas Celebration

Tuesday, December 20,
7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Come join members of the First & Calvary Music Program with musicians from the Springfield area for “A Celtic Christmas Celebration”, featuring ten instrumentalists, eight vocalists, and the Boys Choir of Springfield under the direction of Mark Lawley. Selections will include traditional Christmas music from Ireland, Scotland, and England, as well as traditional and contemporary Christmas classics from the United States. The worship service will take place in the First & Calvary Sanctuary and is free and open to the public.

Christmas Dinner For Those Alone

Sunday, December 25

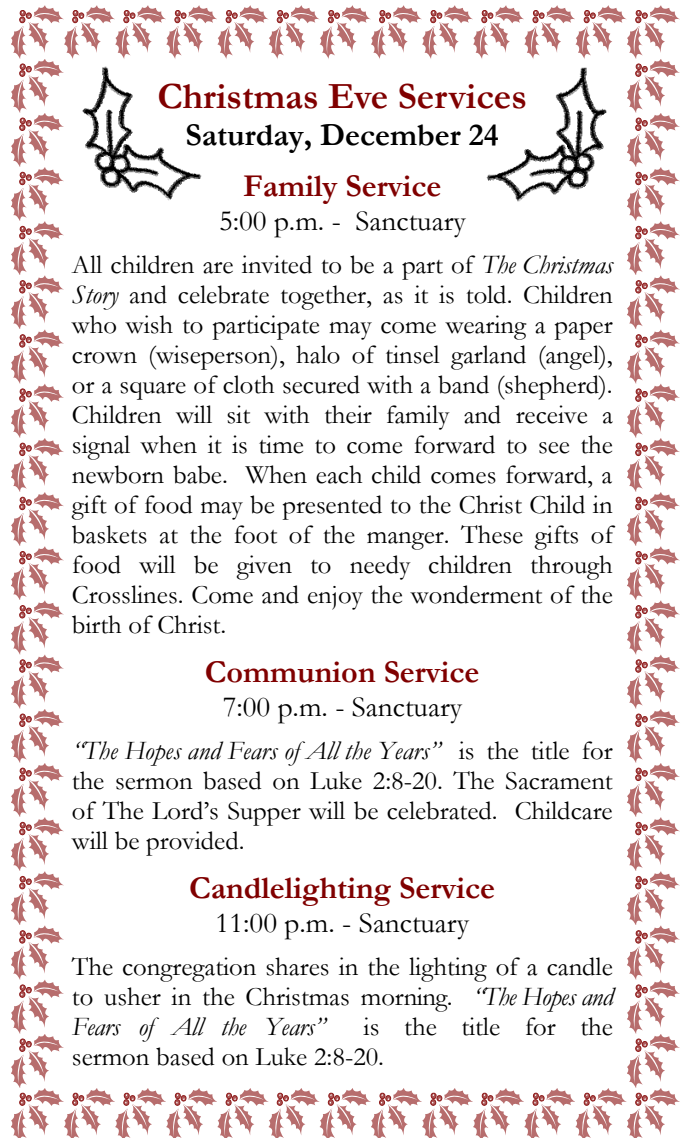


A special Christmas tradition at First & Calvary is the Christmas Dinner for Those Alone. Dinner will be served at the church on Christmas Day for people who happen to be alone. The church will provide a full Christmas meal. Congregation members and friends will serve as the cooks, hosts, and servers. Please call the church office to volunteer.

**There is no charge, but reservations are required
and can be made by calling 885-9620.**

Family Advent Devotional Books

Simple Christmas,
our 2011 Advent Devotional book is available at the
Welcome Center and at entrances to the worship centers.



Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, December 24

Family Service
5:00 p.m. - Sanctuary



All children are invited to be a part of *The Christmas Story* and celebrate together, as it is told. Children who wish to participate may come wearing a paper crown (wise person), halo of tinsel garland (angel), or a square of cloth secured with a band (shepherd). Children will sit with their family and receive a signal when it is time to come forward to see the newborn babe. When each child comes forward, a gift of food may be presented to the Christ Child in baskets at the foot of the manger. These gifts of food will be given to needy children through Crosslines. Come and enjoy the wonderment of the birth of Christ.

Communion Service
7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

“*The Hopes and Fears of All the Years*” is the title for the sermon based on Luke 2:8-20. The Sacrament of The Lord’s Supper will be celebrated. Childcare will be provided.

Candlelighting Service
11:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

The congregation shares in the lighting of a candle to usher in the Christmas morning. “*The Hopes and Fears of All the Years*” is the title for the sermon based on Luke 2:8-20.

THE JOY OF CHRIST MAS

IT'S CROSSLINES TOYSTORE TIME!

We are busy with the preparations to make our families' experiences joyful. All around us are community neighbors who desire to do the same for their families, but are not able to do so for a variety of reasons.

We have the opportunity to provide gifts to boys between the ages of 8-12. Please drop your **unwrapped gifts** in the receptacles located near the entrances and the Fellowship Hall/Atrium areas of the church by **Friday, December 16**. The most-requested items are electronics, personal grooming items, cameras, tools and games.

If you prefer to let someone else do the shopping, you may make your check payable to First & Calvary with the notation line denoting Crosslines Toystore and drop it in the collection plate or in the church office.

The *First & Calvary* "Family Christmas Tree"



The

First and Calvary

"Family" Christmas Tree

will return to the MPR on the
first Sunday in Advent (November 27).

This beautiful tree is filled with ornaments that have been donated by First & Calvary families. We know there are many families that are not represented by an ornament on the tree. Please consider adding yours this year. Mark the ornament with your family name and place it beneath the tree. A member of the Praise Team will place it on the tree for everyone to enjoy this year and for many years to come.



Stratman Library Highlights

Once again we are happy to have Betsy Kurtz's nativity collection return to the Stratman Library, along with others offered by various First & Calvary members. The display will hallmark on Sunday morning, December 4, at an Open House and remain on display through Christmas Sunday, December 25. Please join us for cookies and punch between 8:30 a.m. and Noon on Sunday, December 4.

Books featuring Advent and Christmas materials will be on display throughout December as well.



Online @ First and Calvary
www.firstandcalvary.org

First & Calvary Presbyterian Church

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Congregational Care: Gary Elmer

CE Director/Adult Ministries: Terri Blackmon

Children's Ministry: Erika O'Bryant

College Ministry: Heather Blair

Youth Ministry: Rob Howard

Director of Music: Sheila Grisham Pippin

Director of Contemporary Service: Sharon Reed

Organist: Jim Davidson

Bell Choirs: Lori Stewart

Joyful Singers: Brenda Shannon

Media Coordinator: Larry Quackenbush

Church Administrator: Jeannette Gibbons

Building & Grounds Supervisor: Charlie Brown