

THE CORNERSTONE – DECEMBER 2021

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PASTOR'S PAGE

Listen...

With faint dry sound, like steps of passing ghosts,

The leaves, frost-crisp'd, break from the trees and fall.

(Adelaide Crapsey) from her poem "November Night."



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It's here, my pretties! Although you probably would know by the early darkening sky and the chilly mornings. It is the "quiet month" before Christmas. It is our "over the river and through the woods," Thanksgiving month.

Life at SCCW is not bleak and empty like the weather, but filled with many activities and opportunities to be blessed! We will be starting a Bible study which will run the four weeks of November (see inside for details). We will be setting the clocks BACK an hour on November 7th, so we can all get that extra hour of sleep to rejuvenate us for the coming month! The Taizé worship continues once a month. We will celebrate All Saints Day, Veterans/Armistice Day and, of course, Thanksgiving.

This is the season of gratitude and reflecting on the year thus far. The Jewish festival of Hanukkah begins on the Christian calendar day of Advent - Nov. 28th. But let's not rush into things or get ahead of ourselves. Each day is sufficient unto itself.

Jesus tells us, "This is why I tell you to never be worried about your life, for all that you need will be provided, such as food, water, clothing—everything your body needs. So, which one of you by worrying could add anything to your life? So above all, constantly seek God's kingdom and his righteousness, then all these less important things will be given to you abundantly. Refuse to worry about tomorrow, but deal with each challenge that comes your way, one day at a time. Tomorrow will take care of itself."

Matthew 6 ~ The Message AMEN! Let us be grateful!

...Pastor Bette



This **Prayer List** is provided to encourage you to keep these special people in your prayers during the week. **If you know an individual you would like added to this list, please talk with the person and get their permission** (*in some instances we know that this may not be possible*).

Eric Overlock by Patty	Susan Flaherty by Gayle	Jeanie Laverdiere
Larry Scott by Melody	Russ & Sandy Lufkin	Carol Strollo by Susan L.
Vicki & Bob Barrett's son Heath	Brian Hilt by Patty Ott	Melinda by Valerie
Beverly's sister Judy	Nola Metcalf by Melody	Wayne by Robin
January's friend Jareth	David Chase	Conner Greeman by Patty Ott
Brenda King's sister Barbara	Pat & Doug Libby family	Jane & Mark Waltz
Robin's daughter Melissa	Jackie Gushee by Tina	Jason Heath
Bob Smalley by Susan L.	Connie Heath	
Loraine Strout by Linda K.	Carol Verdini by Margaret	
Bill Cutting	Diane's brother Gilbert Dare	



Dec. 1 Kathy Lanphier
 Dec. 4 Debbie Collemer
 Dec. 6 Harlene Jordan
 Dec. 6 Jane Sprowl
 Dec. 8 Susie Overlock
 Dec. 12 Janet Andrews
 Dec. 12 Julie Lent Mercier
 Dec. 13 Patty Overlock
 Dec. 15 Bradley Miller
 Dec. 16 Diana Dare
 Dec. 19 Hope Creighton
 Dec. 23 James Lent
 Dec. 23 January Peavey
 Dec. 24 Bob Augustine

Dec. 12 Clinton & Kathy Lanphier
 Dec. 17 Leland & Valerie Boggs
 Dec. 20 Eric & Patty Overlock
 Dec. 31 Sterling & Carolyn Robinson





November 28th, the First Sunday in Advent was indeed a busy one. The Sanctuary was again beautifully decorated by Patty Overlock and the Deacons.



The First Sunday of Advent



Three generations at the lighting of the first Advent candle...precious baby girl Parker looks on as her Mom, Bridget, reads and Grandmother, Samantha, holds her.





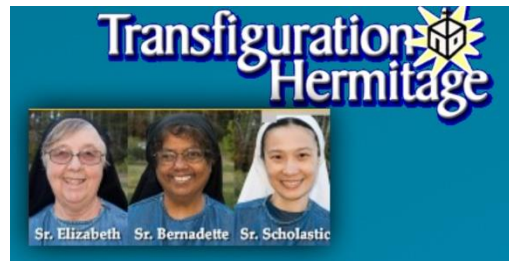
ADVENT MISSIONS

The Children's Clothing Exchange



One of this year's Advent missions is the CCE. There is a wooden Christmas tree at church where you can hang your donations. At the moment, their biggest clothing need is infant through the toddler years sizes 3-4-5, but any size Newborn through 14, boys or girls, is gratefully accepted. We will also be collecting new socks and underwear for the CCE. Please give seasonally. If you have any questions see Debbie Collemer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Preparing the clothing for distribution. A fun and rewarding experience. Come for a visit, check out the 'store'. See Debbie Collemer if you could offer a few hours to help her prepare the clothing.



Our second Advent mission is Transfiguration Hermitage located in Windsor, Maine. Sister Elizabeth delivered her message of hope to the congregation on Sunday Nov. 18th. Click [here](#) to listen to Sunday's full service. They are a small community of Sisters who are dedicated to a life of prayer for all people. They offer witness and opportunities of spiritual growth to others through retreats, workshops, courses, and spiritual direction. The Hermitage is a God-centered place of peace and solitude, where people of all faiths can seek the healing presence of the spirit. **Mission donation**

LADIES CIRCLE NEWS:

Our annual Holly Berry Fair was a success. We had a steady flow of visitors. Thanks to everyone who helped put it together and to those bakers for the delicious cookies and pastries. Also, a big thanks to those who donated to the grandma’s attic. Ladies Circle next business meeting is December 6 at 10:am. -Carole



The Ladies Circle will continue their basket raffle through December. Tickets will be available for purchase every Sunday. Winners will be notified after the drawing Dec. 6th.



CARING and SHARING SISTERS news...

We would like to thank everyone who generously donated to our Thanksgiving Pie fundraiser. We sincerely hope everyone enjoyed their pies and had a very happy Thanksgiving. A special thanks to all the bakers and those who donated ingredients to bake the pies. Another successful fundraiser for Caring & Sharing. We are currently on our winter break. Our next business meeting is March 2022. Happy & Safe holidays to all.



Thanksgiving Eve Service at the Warren Baptist Church

The Thanksgiving Eve service shared with the Warren Baptist Church has been a wonderful tradition. Rev. Bette and Pastor Welch both delivered heartwarming messages of thanksgiving and healing. The choir sang “Accept our Thanks” beautifully and in perfect harmony.



DECEMBER FOOD PANTRY SUGGESTED DONATIONS

- Dec. 5 Creamed Corn
- Dec. 12 Pancake Syrup
- Dec. 19 Baked Beans
- Dec. 26 Spaghetti Sauce

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

Wouldn't it be touching to not only get a Christmas card but to also get someone's favorite recipe inside that card?

When writing out your cards this season, include a favorite recipe. Share the love!



AIO ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Every fall, AIO launches our **Energy Assistance Program**. This year, our help is needed more than ever. Families struggle with rising costs from rent, fuel, electricity, food, childcare, and health care. Here along the Maine Coast, food insecurity and energy insecurity go hand-in-hand.

[This article from Children's Watch](#) captures the essence of the critical intersection between food and energy insecurity:

In "heat or eat" situations, families strive in vain for a safe balance between paying for food and paying for energy. When most of us think about poverty and hunger, our minds direct us to the bare kitchen table or the empty refrigerator. Few of us would also imagine the thermostat turned to "off" or an electricity shut-off notice arriving in the mail. The reality is that America's low-income families must constantly struggle to protect their children from multiple threats to their health and growth, of which energy insecurity can at times be the most immediately life-threatening.

Energy insecurity occurs when there is limited or uncertain access to enough home energy to sustain a healthy and safe life in the geographic area where a household is located. Moderately energy insecure families have received a letter threatening utility shut-off in the last year. Severely energy insecure families have experienced an actual utility shut-off, at least one day with no energy for heating or cooling, or have used a cooking stove as a heating source in the last year.

Providing energy assistance is expensive. There is no national energy bank to support our program. We help families in our community entirely from donations made to AIO by local individuals and businesses.

If you need help, please reach out to us:

AIO Food and Energy Assistance

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 113, Rockland, ME 04841

Location: 1A Gordon Drive, Rockland, ME 04841

Phone: (207) 596-1043

Email: email@aiofoodpantry.org

DECEMBER MEETINGS

- **Diaconate**
December 1, 6:30pm
- **Missions**
December 8, 12:00noon
- **Trustees**
December 9, 6:30 pm
- **Council Meeting**
December 16, 6:30 pm
- **Coffee Hour**
9-11am Every Tuesday
- **Children's Clothing Exchange: 9-11am Every Thursday & the First Saturday every month**

NOTICE FROM TREASURER:

As the year ends, I will be doing end of year finances. Please let me know if you want an end of year tax tithing letter. I will be doing them the first of January. Also, envelope boxes will be going out soon. If you don't want a box this year, please let me know. You may call me at 691-8089 or email me at treasurer.sccw@tds.net.

- Pat Weaver

Keep in mind. Council meets every other month. You are encouraged to attend. Next meeting Dec. 16, 2021.

Clerks and Committee heads: please continue to send in your meeting reports each month, every meeting, so they can be added to the bi-monthly council reports. Thank you.

From the office...

- Current office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- Newsletters are mailed and emailed once a month on or near the first of the month.
- Information to be put in the newsletter is due ON or BEFORE the 28th of each month.
- If you need a newsletter mailed to you, please contact the office. Each month there will be printed copies available as well.



Visited our website recently?

Everything you could possibly want to know is within its pages. We encourage you to visit often.

If you have information you would like to add please don't hesitate to contact the office.

www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org

We are also on Facebook

YEAR END REPORTS ARE DUE SOON

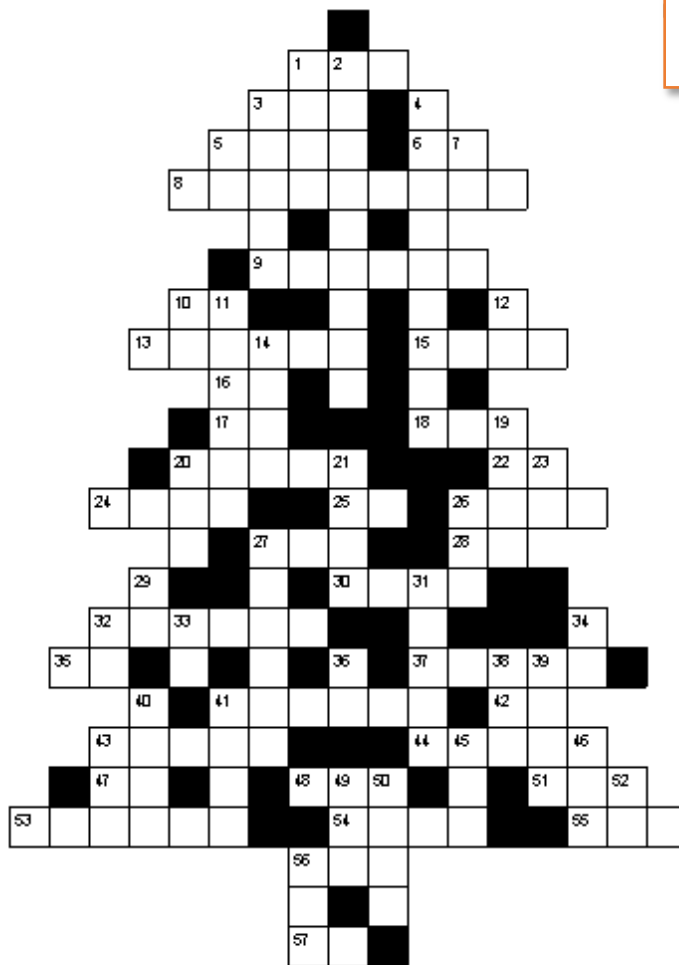
It's never too late to get your year end reports in. It takes time to prepare the annual meeting reports. It's greatly appreciated if you could email them to the office before JANUARY 17th.

Annual Meeting is Sunday January 23rd after services.



Date	Attendance	Offering
11/07	50	\$ 2381.00
11/14	44	1046.00
11/21	50	1058.00
11/28		

Enjoy a fun Christmas Crossword
with your coffee in the morning!



Across

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. President | 28. "...and ___earth peace, good will towards men." |
| 3. Observe | 30. Wiseman gift |
| 5. Discuss | 32. "And _____ him with all the heart" (two words) |
| 6. "And _____ shall reign over the house of Jacob..." | 35. "...what have we to ___ with thee, thou Jesus..." |
| 8. Flock watchers | 37. What the wisemen brought |
| 9. Satisfy | 41. Stepfather |
| 10. The great I _____ | 42. Either |
| 13. Mary's resting place | 43. More accurate. |
| 15. Mother of Jesus | 44. "And all went to be _____, every one into his own city." |
| 16. Negative | 47. "For unto you _____ born this day |
| 17. "_____ and search diligently for the young child" | 48. No room here |
| 18. Jesus is the _____ of God | 51. Consume |
| 20. The baby | 53. Singing Cherubs |
| 22. "...and shall be called the Son _____ of the Highest." | 54. Present decorations |
| 24. Destitute | 55. "For unto you is born, this _____ in the city..." |
| 25. "...and laid Him _____ a manger" | 56. Pro |
| 26. Bearded nanny | 57. Way to win in boxing |
| 27. "And she brought her first born _____." | |

Down

1. Jump
2. Birth city
3. Shepherds flock
4. The Holiday we observe
5. Brand of suger
7. Mr. McMahon
10. "Hee shall be born of Mary, _____Jerusalem..."
11. Baby's bed
12. Northwestern state
14. Hisses
19. Mid day
20. Happiness
21. What the angels did
23. "_____ la la la la la la la"
26. Jehovah
27. Redeemer
29. "His name was called Jesus, which was _____ named of the angel"
31. Illumination
32. "and it came _____ pass..."
33. "... and _____, the star which they saw in the east..."
34. "When _____ his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph,"
36. "Master what shall _____ do?"
38. Sly canine
39. Decorated pine
40. "...behold, there came _____ men from the east."
41. Not Gentiles
43. Parable of the _____ tree
45. Mary's transportation
46. Father
49. Broadcast TV network
50. Christmas carol
52. Instructor's helper
56. Inquire

