



buzz



Advent at Waterford – “On the Road...”

By: Cindy Voth, Pastor of Community Life, for Worship Ministry Team

On November 29 we enter the season of Advent, the season of preparing and anticipating the arrival of Jesus. While every season of Advent feels significant, this year I find that this journey feels even more poignant and timely. In the midst of much pain, grief, and uncertainty we are invited to join the Magi on the road to finding the promised and celebrated Christ-child.

This year we will also walk this journey with other congregations who are part of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. Our theme is: “On the Road...” This theme conveys a sense of movement, or traveling from one point to another. Each week we will embark on the next leg of the journey toward Christ. In this season we will incorporate a number of special elements in our worship services, including things we do every year, such as the Advent Candles. Additionally this year we will also be including a dramatic biblical monologue each week which will hopefully guide us deeper into the scripture passage. See the chart below for the specific details for each week.

	Next leg of the journey...	Dramatic Monologue	Preacher
11/29	On the road to readiness	“The Day and Hour Unknown”	Neil
12/6	On the road to repentance	“John the Baptist Prepares the Way”	Cindy
12/13	On the road to restoration	“John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah”	Neil
12/20	On the road to revelation	“The Birth of Jesus Revealed”	Katie
12/27	On the road to rejoicing	“Jesus Presented in the Temple”	Neil
1/3	On the road to radiance	“The Magi Seek the Messiah”	Cindy

I invite us all to be in prayer for all who will be providing leadership to our worship services including those listed above as well as worship leaders, song leaders, pianists, those presenting the monologues, and those leading the children’s times.

May our journey of Advent be one of reflection, companionship, and anticipation as we join each other “On the Road” to Jesus.



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Special Services and Activities During Advent 2020

By Cindy Voth, Pastor of Community Life

As we move into the season of Advent we also desire to invite the congregation to mark your calendars and plan to participate in several special seasonal worship and fellowship gatherings and activities.

Advent Spirals – Just a reminder that you may stop by the church breezeway during office hours to pick up your copy of the Advent Spiral to use throughout this season. See the November 8 Buzz for additional information.

Outdoor Advent Spiral – An after-dark activity for the family during Advent on the church grounds near the pond. For information on how to walk the spiral, you may pick up a copy of the instructions in the church breezeway, or find them, along with daily Advent meditations and more resources, on the Waterford Advent webpage: waterfordchurch.org/resources/advent/

Longest Night Service – We will gather via Zoom on Monday, December 21 at 7 p.m. for a Longest Night Service. All are invited to this worship service to remember the promise of the coming Light that will not be overcome by any darkness. We will honor the presence of those for whom there may be sadness or pain or grief rather than “tidings of good cheer” as Christmas approaches. So this will be a service planned for all who live with grief, loss, pain, or despair on the darkest night of the year.

Christmas Eve Service – We invite all from WMC to drive to our church parking lot at 7 p.m. for our Christmas Eve Service. We will join in a service of “Lessons and Carols” broadcasted over our car radios, produced by College Mennonite Church. While we will be meeting in our church’s parking lot, we do so knowing (and celebrating) that we are joining others around Goshen as they will be listening to the same service while meeting in their churches’ parking lots. Our time together will conclude with singing “Silent Night.”

Christmas Morning Celebration –

- We will celebrate Christmas, the promised arrival of Jesus, in our morning worship on December 27. The morning will begin with the WMC Orchestra Christmas Medley at 9:15 a.m. The service will be live streamed at 9:30 a.m.
- Then, all are invited to a Joint Zoom Nurture Hour from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. During this hour we will have time to fellowship with each other in smaller breakout rooms before coming back as a large group to view together (over Zoom) the 2019 Children’s Christmas Musical – “Camel Lot.” This celebration will combine our two traditions of the Christmas Brunch and the Children’s Christmas Program.