

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

NEWS & NOTES

Christmas Eve Services. Celebrate the season with our two livestream Christmas Eve services and our Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 24. At 5pm, join us for a service filled with uplifting messages and modern music for all young in age and the young at heart. At 8pm, join our classic service of Lessons and Carols and enjoy traditions of song and scripture to warm the heart. Have candles ready at home to light as we sing *Silent Night*. And at 10pm we'll air a Christmas Concert of seasonal music. All services will be held online and can be streamed at www.akronfcc.org/live or on our Facebook (www.facebook.com/fccofakron) page. They'll all be available in both places for later viewing.

Church office closures. The church office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25 in observance on the Christmas holiday. Merry Christmas from our family to yours!

Boxing Day Trivia Fellowship Fun. Join Pastor Nanette and Steven from their home via zoom for a Christmas Trivia fellowship event for all ages on Boxing Day, Saturday December 26, from 6-7pm! In South Africa, this day is an extension of the Christmas holiday, a day filled with comfort, friends, family, and leftovers! This year many will be isolated, if you are – come and find community, join your church family online. Register for the event by visiting <https://bit.ly/CRSTTrivia> All are welcome!

Epiphany Sunday. Join us online for the first worship service of the new year on January 3, 2021 at 9:30 and 11am to celebrate the Light of the World! You can register to participate in Celebrate worship at 9:30am at <https://bit.ly/AkronFirstChurch> or watch the Festival worship live on our website www.akronfcc.org/live at 11am.

Family Faith Formation. Save the date for January 31, 2021 at 2pm for a Family Faith Formation on zoom. Register to attend at <https://bit.ly/famfaithformation> This virtual gathering will provide a space for First Church to thoughtfully consider the initiatives or approaches the church might take to help enrich the faith formation of our families with children. In the meantime, we encourage you to

consider any questions or ideas you may have so that we might discuss them together during the forum. We hope to see you there!

Save the date. Faith Enrichment classes will begin on January 13! We're holding two sessions each Wednesday. Join Rev. Antigone on Wednesday mornings on zoom at 10:45 am- register here: <https://bit.ly/WedAMFE>. Pastor Nanette is hosting the evening session on zoom at 7pm; you can

register here: <https://bit.ly/WedPMFE>. More information about the study topics can be found in [the Chronicle](#).

Christmas Offering. Please consider making a monetary donation which will be used to continue the Mason Ministry. Your donation will help provide funds for future purchases of instructional, educational, and/or computer programs that will benefit the learning experiences at Mason. Items to be purchased are determined by the Mason CLC staff and administration. If you would like to make a contribution, please make your check out to First Congregational Church of Akron with "Mason CLC" in the memo line or you can donate online at www.akronfcc.org/donate. Thank you!

Pots and Pans. Due to the challenges of COVID, it was necessary to suspend indefinitely our Pots and Pans ministry. As a result, we are unfortunately no longer able to accept donations of any items other than pots, pans and flatware. Please, no dishes, glassware, bowls, serving pieces, plasticware, utensils, small appliances or other miscellaneous items such as towels, sheets or decor. We appreciate your generosity and understanding as we adapt to pandemic restrictions.

Acme Community Cashback! We're reaching the end of the Acme Community Cashback season! If you shop at Acme through December 26, please send us your receipts. Every receipt counts! In 2019, we earned \$579. Please contact janis.worley@akronfcc.org if you have any questions.

IN SYMPATHY

First Church member, Pat Sites, passed away peacefully at home last Friday evening, December 11, 2020. We celebrate that she is now in the eternal rest of God's loving embrace. Pat and Jack's sons, Jim and Bill, plan to hold a memorial service in 2021 when it is safe to gather again.

IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

We offer daily prayers for all who are struggling in body, mind, or spirit in our world. Within our community we pray for Mildred A., Bill F., Barbara H., George K., Margaret P., Patty N., George K., Betty S., Trevor S., Art W., Mike V., Lynn V., Betty W., and Doug W.

If you would like a name added to our prayer list, please email kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org or speak with a pastor.

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