

THE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH IN
KILLINGWORTH,
UCC



Kerygma

VOL. LIX ISSUE 11 DECEMBER 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN AND PEACE ON EARTH



AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE

The angels' song – Luke 2:14

Writing this article for the December Kerygma two weeks before Thanksgiving reminds me that we have a busy church with a lot going on and that this sometimes requires planning ahead. I'm a big fan of keeping the stress level as low as possible, for the well being of the church and for my own health, too. It's good not to let things pile up too much.

Lord knows, we have plenty of stress to deal with even before we get to church! Personal, national and global concerns are on all of our minds these days. We could use some hope, peace, joy and love. So maybe this is the perfect time for the holidays, these *holy days* to come. After all, this is that special season where more people are more likely to focus on the things in life that matter most. Finding and sharing “peace on earth” is at the heart and soul of our faith and certainly what we hope to experience even more fully as the holidays unfold.

The place where we worship is called a “sanctuary”, a fitting description as it reminds us that we have this sacred space a bit apart from the cares and demands of the world where we can breathe in the Spirit, let go of our worries and fears for the moment and find encouragement for the road ahead, light for our path. Someone once told me that going to church is like filling up your car's gas tank – it gets you through the week. I can relate to that.

There will be three extra special opportunities for us to fill our tanks and find our way this holiday season. The Advent themes, “Hope, Peace, Joy and Love”, will be our guide as we explore the Christmas story and the meaning behind it all. On the Wednesday evenings of Advent (Dec. 4, 11 and 18), we'll get together at 6:00 PM for a meal in the Parish Hall, followed by Bible study in the sanctuary. The format will be similar to what we enjoyed during the season of Lent earlier this year, but the focus will be all about Christmas, the biblical accounts and some of the traditions that have grown around them. It can be a wonderful way for you to find some peace in this busy season.

Journeying together in faith, we find our way. Life is filled with uncertainties and more than enough to be concerned about, but in and through it all there is the blessed assurance that God is good all the time, and that trusting in the love of God we know in Christ, come what may, life can be good, too. There is peace in this.

May the gift of God's goodness and love in your life become all the more obvious this holiday season and may you know Christ's peace and in it, find your hope.

Peace and Blessings for Joyous Holy Days,
-Rev. Dave



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December Calendar



Sundays @ 10 a.m.

**Worship In-Person, Zoom
or Facebook**

*Go to Facebook.com and search for:

Killingworth Congregational Church **OR**

*Go to Zoom.us and add the meeting ID and passcode found below.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84538336049?pwd=ZONRZC9rN0FCOWhPMTNZMk9EMHgZz09>

Dial: 929 205 6099 **Meeting ID:** 845 3833 6049 **Password:** 500345



Parish Hall

or

Join Remote

Wednesdays @ 7pm

Bright Spot in the Week

Bible Study

Each Wednesday, Rev. Dave hosts a live Bible study broadcast from church focused on the scriptures for the coming Sunday's worship service.

You can ask questions, make comments, and share prayer requests.

Each study will be followed by prayer.

Join in-person or watch through Facebook or Zoom.

Zoom Link to join the meeting: You can sign in 10 minutes early.

Online Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81262507891?pwd=aIN4dTNIg1Yby9DUFVSV2RUMGN5UT09>

Phone: 929-205-6099 **Meeting ID:** 885 6894 8592 **Passcode:** 476067



Dinner at 6pm & Bible Study at 7pm

December 4, 11, & 18

Begin with dinner then explore the meaning of the Christmas story. Discuss biblical accounts of Christmas and the traditions that have grown around them.



Sunday School Corner

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

Romans 8:14

Hello Sunday School Students and Families,

The Holidays are almost upon us, and we will be looking to make the Holidays a little brighter in our community. Hope you can help spread joy by participating.

1. The Sunday School "adopted" a family through the HK Youth and Family services **Holiday giving program**. The family has 4 children. They have a list of 4 toys/gifts and also a coat, outfit and shoes for each. Hoping we can cover all the items for this family! Items are due by Sunday, **Dec 8th** or at the very latest, Dec 12th to my house.

2. I made a sign-up genius to make it a little more organized. Everyone in the congregation is invited to participate.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A4AA5AD2AA64-53126080-holiday#/>



3. Missions Committee is asking for donations of hats, mittens, gloves, socks for the **Eddy Shelter** in Middletown.

Lessons this month will focus on advent.

December 1st, students will make advent wreaths in Sunday school.

The Christmas pageant will be December 15th. Please invite your friends and family. (Arrive by 9:40 am to get into costume). High school readers are needed. Please let me know if your student can read.

Merry Christmas!

Christine Link

Christinelax@hotmail.com

Joy to the World



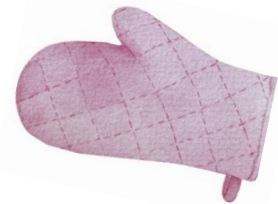
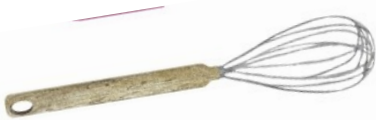
Christmas Pageant Worship December 15, 10:00 a.m.

The children will recreate the traditional Christmas story during worship as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. The service will also include many Christmas carols. Costumes will be provided. After the Christmas Pageant worship, we will celebrate with a birthday cake for Jesus. Let the gift of a Christ-centered Christmas season become one of your family's treasured traditions. Don't forget to invite family, friends, and neighbors to this delightful worship service. Questions? Contact Christine Link.



Sunday, November 24th was a day filled with the delicious smells of fresh baked pumpkin bread and the outdoor sounds of rakes, crunching leaves, and lots of laughter.

Thank you to everyone who baked pumpkin bread and delivered them in handmade decorated bags to members of our community. And **thank you** to everyone who raked and bagged leaves. A lot of hard work went into making our church campus look amazing once again, free of leaves and fallen branches.





The Joy of Giving



Use the QR Code to connect quickly and safely to our Giving link.

CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSIONS

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'
 Luke 3:11



Eddy House Dinners
Tuesdays, December 3 & 17
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

The Eddy House is a 30+ bed emergency homeless shelter for men and women of Middlesex County.

Every other Tuesday, contributions to the monthly meals such as desserts, breads, and sides (salad, soup, veggies, casseroles) are always gratefully accepted.

Always needed and appreciated: Socks, Twin sheets, comforters, bottled water and "grab and go" foods like protein bars, granola bars, fruit, nuts, cheese sticks.

Contact Paulie Lally 860-663-2315 to offer donations or to help deliver the meal.

"The world's hunger is getting ridiculous, There is more fruit in rich man's shampoo than in a poor man's plate." -unknown

Missions Needs Your Help with Meals

We need folks who can donate food, prepare food, and deliver everything to Middletown. Food donations can be bottled water, frozen foods, desserts, side or main dishes. Food prep will be on Tuesdays at 2pm the day of the meal. Please contact Karen Gagliardi 860-663-3866 to discuss how you can help. **Thank you!**



Dec. 1 Board of Ushers

Dec. 8 Leslie Judge
 Paulie Lally

Dec. 15 Gayle Van Huysen
 Bill Van Huysen

Dec. 22 Board of Ushers

Dec. 29 Gayle Van Huysen
 Bill Van Huysen



The UCC Christmas Fund (formerly Veterans of the Cross)

On Sunday, December 22 we will receive the offering that is collected each year for those across our country who have retired from church jobs without adequate pensions. The mission of the

UCC Christmas Fund is to provide assistance dollars in situations of critical need, while preserving the dignity of those who receive the aid.

Christmas Gifts to Our Church

Christmas Gifts to Our Church



Christmas is a time to give gifts to those you love. What better love is there than for our wonderful church? Each of us has received so much all year long from our church; take

some time to see if you might be able to give a little more back. Envelopes labeled, "My Christmas Gift" will be in the pews for the entire month of December. Use them once or put something extra in each Sunday. Thank you for your continued generosity to our church.



Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7pm

Join us for **Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols at 7pm**. Rediscover the awe of Christmas through the reading of scripture and the beautiful voices of our congregation singing the traditional carols. We will end the service with the lighting of candles as we sing *Silent Night*. Bring your family and friends.



**POINSETTIA
SUNDAY
DEC. 15TH**



Breakfast with Santa

Killingworth Nursery School

**Saturday, Dec. 14
@ 8:30 am**

Killingworth Nursery School is celebrating the holiday season with their annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus.

Enjoy pancakes & sausage plus a variety of baked goods, fruits, and beverages from the Breakfast Bar. Kids can have their pictures taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus and make fun crafts. The raffle table is filled with themed baskets, gift cards, and more! Adult Breakfast \$10; Child Breakfast (under 10 yrs. old) \$5. Tickets available at the door.

See you there!



**Killingworth Café
A Senior Community
Luncheon**

Come to the church hall each Wednesday at 12pm for a hot, nutritious lunch.

Call in your lunch reservations to 860-388-1611, x216, **before 11:00 A.M** the day prior to when you wish to have lunch.

Suggested donation is \$3 per meal.

Hosted by The Estuary Center of Old Saybrook



CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Congregational Church in Killingworth
273 Route 81, Killingworth

Saturday, December 7
9am – 3pm

Fresh and Artificial Wreaths

Silent Auction Items

Gift Giving & Christmas Items

Large Assortment of Cookies

Free Children's Crafts

**Enjoy Lunch at our
Christmas Cafe
Served from
11am – 2:00pm**



Proceeds benefit the general fund.

Red Poinsettias - December 15th

A TRADITIONAL POINSETTIA SUNDAY



Poinsettias will be available for purchase through the Flower Committee. The plants in 6-1/2" pots may be designated as memorials or specials.

\$11.00 per plant.

Use the sheet below to order. If you have any questions, please call the church office (860-663-1789).

Order by December 8th for pickup on December 15th

Make checks to: **CCK Flower Committee.**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order your holiday red poinsettias for pick up on December 8th - \$11.00 per plant

Last date to order is **Sunday, December 8th.**

Mail orders to : The Congregational Church, 273 Rt 81, Killingworth, CT 06419

GIVEN BY: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR WITH LOVE TO: _____

Number of Plants Ordered _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

____ I will take my plant on Dec. 15th ____ I will leave my plant for someone else to enjoy.



Dec. 1 Christine Link	Dec. 12 Andrew Yahara
Dec. 8 William Burley	Dec. 13 Cynthia Vogt
Dec. 9 Haley Phelps	Dec. 27 Lara Hajek
Dec. 10 Emma Forster	Dec. 29 Ron Mones
	Dec. 31 Lena Rimmer

Are you celebrating a special date or event in your life?


Please share it with us so we may give thanks to God
and celebrate with you.

Email your notice to office@killingworthchurch.org by the 15th of each month.

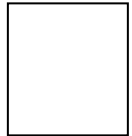


December 2024

Dec 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	2	3 3pm - Eddy House	4 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA	5 7pm - AA	6	7 9am - Christmas
8 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	9	10	11 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA	12 7pm - AA 7pm - Council	13	14 8:30am - KNS
15 Christ. Pageant Poinsettia Sunday 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	16	17 3pm - Eddy House	18 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA	19 6:30pm - Trustees 7pm - AA	20	21
22 UCC Christmas 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	23	24 Christmas Eve 12pm - Eddy 7pm - Christmas	25 Christmas Day 7:30pm - AA 	26 7pm - AA	27	28
29 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	30	31 New Year's Eve	1	2	3	4

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC
273 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419



*** STAFF ***

Minister
Volunteer Musician
Volunteer Director of Christian Ed
Office Manager
Sexton

Rev. Dave Hammett
Joann Zamparo
Christine Link
Maureen Alfiero
Todd Godfrey



Church Office Hours:
Tuesday - Thursday 8am—12pm
Extended hours by appointment
860/663-1789



Website: www.killingworthchurch.org
Email address: office@killingworthchurch.org
Rev Dave email: CCKPastor@gmail.com



KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966
Deadline for the next issue is no later than
December 15, 2024

If you do not wish to continue receiving the Kerygma, please email or call the office.

KERYGMA

10 a.m. Worship

December 2024



**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
IN KILLINGWORTH**



Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 7th