



## *"Let there be peace on earth"*



***"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."***

- Isaiah 9:6

Bethlehem is located five miles south of Jerusalem. Its actual name today is, "Beit Lahm", an Arabic, not Jewish, form of the name. That's because it is located in the West Bank which is in the State of Palestine that also includes the Gaza strip along the Mediterranean coast. Palestine is considered "occupied territories" because Israel claimed the regions for itself after the 1967 Six-Day War. It's complicated. Two different religions and cultures have claimed the same "Holy Land" for centuries, believing they alone have divine and eternal rights of ownership through God's covenant with Abraham. This makes for terrible neighbors. Bethlehem, so much the focus of our Christmas season, is near the boundary and is fortified with tall graffiti-covered concrete walls and barbed wire.

### ***"O Little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie."***

It bears remembering that Bethlehem didn't actually lie in stillness in the time when Jesus was born, either. It was occupied by the army of the Roman Empire and people suffered greatly under violent foreign rule. There are parallels. It was into a world of conflict that Jesus was born, "the Son was given".

The vision of the prophet Isaiah was for a day free of war, the arrival of God's Messiah who would be the Prince of Peace. The fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in Jesus Christ is our reason for celebrating this season.

Of course, not all people believe in Christmas. The truth of God in Jesus is a precious gift, one we believe can bring the world the hope, peace, love and joy it has yearned for so long. It is the belief that there is a better way to live, the way of God's love for all people. This is the central truth and proclamation of Christmas. It is the bright star leading the way, the new birth.

This means you and I have an incredibly important message to share with the world this Christmas, a message of real peace on earth. As we sing: *"Let it begin with me."*

So send the Christmas cards, sing the carols, decorate the tree, hold a candle on Christmas Eve and proclaim the Good News that the Prince of Peace has come. Now as much as ever, it matters greatly that we do what we can to bear Christ's light and hope to the world.

***"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not prevail against it."***

-John 1:5

Peace and Blessings,  
Rev Dave



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*O Come let us adore Him!*



## Please Join Us

**Worship each Sunday at 10 am. Christmas Eve 10am & 7pm**

\*Watch from the church Facebook page, YouTube, or Zoom.

\*Search for: The Congregational Church in Killingworth UCC.

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84538336049?pwd=ZONRZC9rNOFCOWhPMTNzMk9EMHgzZz09>

**Dial:** 929 205 6099

**Meeting ID:** 845 3833 6049

**Password:** 500345

*Please call the church office if you have any issues or questions.*

## Bible Study



**Bright Spot in the Week  
Bible Study**

Wednesdays on Facebook // 7pm

Each Wednesday, Rev. Dave hosts a live Bible study broadcast 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 Bible study through Facebook or Zoom.

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

Online link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81262507891?pwd=aIN4dTNITG1Yby9DUFVSV2RUMGN5UT09>

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



## Christmas Giving



Use the QR Code that helps connect you quickly and safely to our *Giving* link.

- Open the QR reader application or the camera on your smartphone
- Point it at the QR code.



## 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,

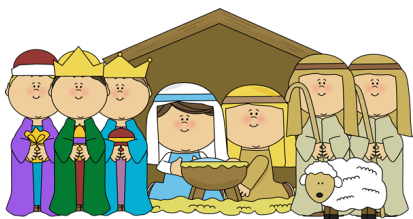
The Season of Advent marks the beginning of a new church year. It is a season of longing, waiting, promise, and preparation. Students will be busy with school concerts, holidays, and other special activities and their time at church can provide a quiet time amid this eventful time of year. This year the Advent focus passages include powerful visions of hope and peace, seen through the eyes of the prophet Isaiah, Mary, and Joseph. Hope you can join us each week in Sunday school and for our Christmas pageant on December 17th at 10am.

Mark your calendar: Advent wreath workshop - Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> during Sunday school

No Sunday school on Sunday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> or Sunday Dec 31<sup>st</sup>



Our Sunday School students make pumpkin bread and deliver them to special folks in the community.



**Christmas Pageant Worship December 17, 10:00 a.m.**

**Pageant Rehearsal during Sunday School, December 10**

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. If you have a child who would like to participate in the pageant, the rehearsal this year will be during Sunday School on December 10. 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.



### The UCC Christmas Fund (formerly Veterans of the Cross)

On Sunday, December 24 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 10a & 7p

Begin Christmas Eve with our traditional 10am worship service followed by our **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.

### Eddy Shelter Dinners Tuesdays, December 12 & 24

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

**This month, Missions will bring the Christmas meal.**

**Contributions** 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/Granola Bars, Fruit, Packaged Nuts, Cheese Sticks.

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



*Do not be afraid!  
I bring you good news  
that will cause great joy for all the people. (Luke 2:10)*



**Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee has begun the process of preparing a slate of nominees for our church leadership to be voted on at the February annual meeting. If you would like to suggest a name (maybe even your own) for any of the church leadership positions, please just leave a note in the Nominating Committee mail box in the Parish Hall. You do NOT need to contact your suggestion – the Nominating Committee at this point just wants ideas and they will approach folks to determine their availability or interest. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee:

Jo Ann Bennett, Sharyn Drapala, and Rob Rimmer. Thank you.



**AllThingsKillingworth.com**

Searching for something local? Visit a new town website to find what you're looking for. We will be submitting church events here all year long.



**Final Exhibit of Sandy Smith Oil Paintings  
at Killingworth Library**

The Killingworth Library will host a final exhibit and sale of oil paintings by local artist Sandy Smith in December. This is a bittersweet event, as Sandy and her husband Charlie prepare to move from their long-time home in Killingworth. Sandy is a prolific artist, whose works have touched and inspired community members for decades.

Many examples of her work are on continuous display at the Killingworth Library, including originally designed and

hand-sewn quilts, and dolls depicting historical women from town.

The current exhibit – Sandy's last at the Killingworth Library – will feature paintings on various topics, ranging through the many years of her career. Every work will be for sale, and proceeds will benefit the Killingworth Library.

Picture & Info taken from press release by Killingworth Library



- Dec. 3 Sandy Allard
- Dec. 10 Bill & Gayle Van Huysen
- Dec. 17 Board of Ushers
- Dec. 24 Board of Ushers
- Dec. 31 Board of Ushers





# CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Congregational Church in Killingworth  
273 Route 81, Killingworth

**Saturday, December 2**

**9am – 3pm**

**Fresh and Artificial Wreaths**

**Silent Auction Items**

**Gift Giving & Christmas Items**

**Large Assortment of Cookies**

**Free Children's Crafts**

**Visit St. Nick 10-12**

**Enjoy Lunch at our**

**Christmas Cafe**

**Served from**

**11am – 2:00pm**

*Proceeds benefit the general fund.*



# Red Poinsettias - December 10th

A TRADITION IN THIS CHURCH FOR MANY YEARS



Poinsettias will be available through the Flower Committee. The plants in 6-1/2" pots are locally grown and 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).

Last day to order is **Sunday, December 3rd**

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

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order your holiday red poinsettias for pick up on December 10th - \$11.00 per plant

Last date to order is **Sunday, December 3rd.**

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. 10th      \_\_\_\_\_ I will leave my plant for someone else to enjoy.



*December*  
BIRTHDAYS

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		





### *A little blessing!*

Welcome

Walter Matthew Albrecht

Born November 13, 2023

To Matthew and Lauren Albrecht

Weighted 7 lbs 10 oz / 20"



**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](mailto:office@killingworthchurch.org) by the 15th of each month.



## Altar Flowers

### Flowers for the Altar

Each week, you have an opportunity to provide flowers for the altar. They may be given in honor of or in memory of someone you love. The name of the person who is being honored or memorialized will appear in the weekly announcements. It is a lovely way to bring that special someone to our church family's attention.

Please contact the church office with the date you will provide flowers.



COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

### The Senior Community Luncheon

The Estuary Luncheon is in the Parish Hall each Wednesday at 12pm. Join us for a hot, nutritious lunch. Call in your lunch reservations to the reservation line at 860-388-1611, x216, **before 11:00 A.M** the day prior to when you wish to have lunch.

*Killingworth Library*



### **December Events at the Killingworth Library**

Check the Calendar on our website, [killingworthlibrary.org](http://killingworthlibrary.org), for details on all programs and registration information or call the library at 860-663-2000.

### **December Events at Killingworth Library**

**Holiday Letter Writing Social** – Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, noon-6:00pm. Our monthly Letter Writing Social is back again.

**Craft a Book Ornament** – Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Picture a clear globe ornament, featuring your favorite book titles!

**Pajama Storytime** – Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Come dressed to cuddle and bring your favorite stuffed animal!

**LEGO STEM Club** – Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:45pm. Calling all future engineers!

**American Girl Club** – Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:45pm. Join us with your favorite doll (it doesn't have to be an American Girl doll.)

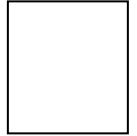
**The library will be closed** on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> through Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas holiday, as well as Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for the New Year holiday.



# December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	27	28	29	30	1	2
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	9am - KNS	9am - KNS 7pm - Boy Scouts	9am - KNS 12pm - Cafe Luncheon 6:30pm - Lions Club 7pm - Bible Study FB	9am - KNS 7pm - AA	9am - KNS	9am - Christmas Fair 7:30pm - AA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	9am - KNS	9am - KNS 3pm - Eddy Shelter 7pm - Boy Scouts	9am - KNS 12pm - Cafe Luncheon 7pm - Bible Study FB	9am - KNS 7pm - AA 7pm - Council	9am - KNS	9am - KNS Santa 7:30pm - AA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Poinsettia Sunday 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	9am - KNS	9am - KNS 7pm - Boy Scouts	9am - KNS 12pm - Cafe Luncheon 7pm - Bible Study FB	9am - KNS 6:30pm - Trustees 7pm - AA	9am - KNS	9am - KNS Santa 7:30pm - AA
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Christmas Pageant 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship	9am - KNS	9am - KNS 7pm - Boy Scouts	9am - KNS 12pm - Cafe Luncheon 7pm - Bible Study FB	9am - KNS	9am - KNS	9am - KNS Santa 7:30pm - AA
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Christmas Eve Eddy House Meal 10am - Worship / 7pm - Worship	Christmas Day 9am - KNS	8:30am - Mens Group 12pm - Cafe Luncheon 7pm - Bible Study FB	9am - KNS	9am - KNS	9am - KNS	9am - KNS Santa 7:30pm - AA
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship						

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  
Michael Michaud



**Church Office Hours:**

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



**Website:** [www.killingworthchurch.org](http://www.killingworthchurch.org)

**Email address:** [office@killingworthchurch.org](mailto:office@killingworthchurch.org)

**Rev Dave email:** [RevDavecck@zohomail.com](mailto:RevDavecck@zohomail.com)



**KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966**  
**Deadline** for the next issue is no later than  
**December 15, 2023**

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

# KERYGMA

**10 a.m. Worship**

**December  
2023**



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
IN KILLINGWORTH

**Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday,**  
**December 2nd**



*Christmas Eve Worship*  
**10 am & 7 pm**