

FROM THE PASTOR



***"The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world."***

*John 1:9, 12*

There's an ancient Chinese tale (there are similar versions of Jewish and Ethiopian origin) that tells of a father challenging his three sons with a task in order to see which of them is the wisest and thus, worthy of his inheritance. He gives each of them a coin of the same value and charges them to invest it any way they wish with the goal of filling an empty room as much as possible. The first son purchases straw and fills the room knee deep. The second son purchases feathers and fills the room waste deep. The third and wisest son spends the least amount of money and purchases only a match and a candle. With this he fills the room completely with light.

The opening verses of the Gospel of John (1:1-5) proclaim that,

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."*

The Gospel of John calls Jesus, "The Light of the World". Into the world's darkness the Light came and was not overcome. Indeed, in the darkest of days, even crucifixion and death, God's Light in Christ prevailed. Jesus rose to life, victorious. Easter is the reason we celebrate Christmas. Had Jesus not risen, we would have no reason to remember his birth.

The origin of the tradition of Christmas lights comes from Christ's victory over sin and death, God's saving love in Jesus shining for all the world. The four weeks of Advent, "Hope – Peace – Love – Joy" anticipate this. We live these holy-days in expectation of the darkness being overcome.

Emerging now from nearly two years of the darkness of Covid-19, we are hopeful that we are at last in the final days of the pandemic. Having experienced numerous setbacks and surges, heartaches and losses, we are cautiously optimistic. Will we remove our masks for Christmas Eve? Will we be able to sing the carols? We sure hope so.

The world can be a dark and difficult place. There are many uncertainties in life. But Christmas comes. When the days are the shortest and the nights are the longest we make the bold proclamation and share the blessed assurance that Jesus is still the Light of the World. Here we find our hope, peace, love and joy. We string the lights, tell the Bethlehem story once again and the darkness doesn't stand a chance.

Happy Holy-Days, Merry Christmas,

Rev. Dave

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**PAGE 1**

From the Pastor

**PAGE 2**

Worship

Bible Study

Christmas Eve Worship

Usher Schedule

**PAGE 3**

Sunday School Corner

Children's Mission

Christmas Pageant

Pumpkin Bread

**PAGE 4**

Christmas Fair

Gifts to the Church

UCC Christmas Fund

Campus Clean-up

**PAGE 5**

Eddy Shelter

Mitten Tree

Nominating Committee

Epiphany

**PAGE 6**

Poinsettias

Happy Birthday

**PAGE 7**

December Calendar

*December*



**Christmas Eve Worship**

**December 24, 7:00 p.m.**

The community is invited to our Christmas Eve Service.



**SUNDAY WORSHIP  
10 A.M.**

Let us worship together.

**The Sanctuary is open. Masks and distancing are required.  
We will continue to worship via Facebook Live and Zoom**

Watch from the church Facebook page. Visit [www.facebook.com/watch](http://www.facebook.com/watch) and search Killingworth Congregational Church or join worship on Zoom.

Follow this link or go to Zoom.us and add the meeting ID and passcode found below.

**ONLINE LINK:**

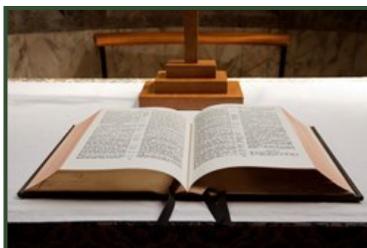
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85257775429?pwd=bml0Q1BPVTZ2dEtkeklUek5RQ042Zz09>

**BY PHONE:** 929 205 6099

**OR GO TO ZOOM DIRECTLY:**

Meeting ID: 852 5777 5429

Password: 068550



**Bright Spot in the Week  
Bible Study**

Wednesdays on Facebook // 7pm

Each Wednesday evening, Rev Dave hosts a live Bible study broadcast focused on the scriptures for the coming Sunday's worship service. You'll be able to ask questions, make comments, and share prayer requests.

Prefer to watch via Zoom? Let us know in advance and you will receive a Zoom link.



**USHER  
SCHEDULE**

- Dec. 5 Leslie Judge
- Dec. 12 Len and Janet Summa
- Dec. 19 Board of Ushers
- Dec. 24 Len and Janet Summa
- Dec. 26 Board of Ushers



## Sunday School Corner

*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

### Children's Fall Mission Projects



Kids Coat Drive      and      Book Drive

Collection bins will be in the sanctuary.



~ HK Youth and Family Services is helping children in our community stay warm. Please donate new or gently used coats.

~ Donate new or gently used books for the local organization, Read to Grow. Their vision is that every family will understand the critical importance of early childhood literacy and will take an active role in their child's reading development. All children in Connecticut will have books of their own.



### Christmas Pageant Worship December 19, 10:00 a.m.

The children will recreate the traditional Christmas story during worship on December 19th as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. 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.



**Pumpkin Bread  
2021  
A delicious  
tradition**





### **Christmas Gifts to Our Church**

For the entire month of December, blue envelopes labeled, “My Christmas Gift” will be in the pew racks. Our church struggles each year to keep our balanced budget through the hard work of our leaders and the generosity of our members. Why not make an extra gift to our wonderful church as a response to what our church has meant to you this year? Or maybe put a little something extra in the envelope every week as a beautiful gesture of Advent? Thank you for your continued generosity to our church.

### **The UCC Christmas Fund (formerly Veterans of the Cross) December 24**

The UCC Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund 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 in situations of critical financial need for retired pastors, church secretaries, custodians and Christian educators. For over 116 years, this offering has helped those who served our churches so well. We will take a collection on December 24th.



How many leaves did folks rake up? Piles! And the grounds look terrific! Thank you to everyone who came out to help.

# MISSIONS: THE EDDY SHELTER

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

Hebrews 13:16

## Eddy Shelter Dinners Tuesday, December 14th

The Missions Committee delivers a meal to the Eddy Shelter, a 30+ bed emergency homeless shelter for men and women located in Middletown, each 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Contributions such as desserts, breads, and sides (salad, soup, veggies, casseroles) are always gratefully accepted to accompany these meals. Bottled water and "grab and go" foods (Protein/Granola Bars, Fruit, Packaged Nuts, Cheese Sticks, etc.) will joyfully be accepted. Contact Paulie Lally at 860-663-2315 to offer donations or to help deliver the meal.

Clothing is NO LONGER being accepted at this time, however, towels, bedding, and toiletries (full size) are always needed.  
New socks are always needed.



## Mitten Tree in the Parish Hall

A tree is set up in the Parish Hall ready to be decorated with NEW mittens, hats, gloves or scarves. Adult sizes will be taken up to the Eddy Shelter and children's sizes will go to HKYFS through the Sunday School mission project. Let's fill the tree and the boxes underneath so others may stay warm this winter.

## 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:

Cindy Vogt, Cheryl Fine, and Paulie Lally.  
Thank you.

## What Would You Bring?



The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." When the Magi approached the child Jesus, new understandings came to them and to all about who Christ would be a messiah for the entire world. It remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

If you could bring a gift to the Christ child, what would you bring? Send in your answers to the church office by December 15th and we will print your responses in the January edition. First names only will be used.

# Red Poinsettias - December 12

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.

\$10.00 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 6th**

Make checks to: CCK Flower Committee.

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order your holiday red poinsettias for pick up on December 12th - \$10.00 per plant

Last date to order is **Sunday, December 6th.**

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 / leave* my plants on Sunday, December 12th. (circle one)



## Happy Birthday

Dec. 1	Christine Link	Dec. 12	Andrew Yahara
Dec. 2	Carrie Jordan	Dec. 13	Cynthia Vogt
Dec. 4	Sandy Laporto	Dec. 17	Anne Nord
Dec. 8	William Burley	Dec. 21	Jude Houpert
Dec. 9	Haley Phelps	Dec. 22	Nicholas Stegman
Dec. 9	William Hammond	Dec. 27	Lara Hajek
Dec. 9	Maci Albrecht	Dec. 29	Christine Etlinger
Dec. 10	Emma Forster	Dec. 29	Ron Mones
Dec. 12	Debra Tyler	Dec. 31	Lena Rimmer



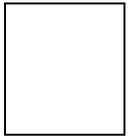
# December 2021

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC

Dec 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)

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

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



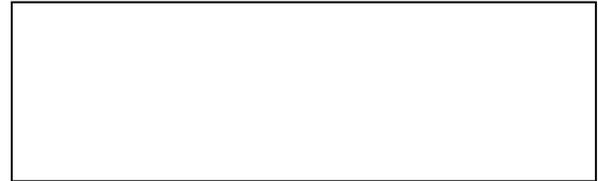
\*\*\* STAFF \*\*\*

Minister  
Musician  
Office Manager

Rev. Dave Hammett  
Joann Zamparo  
Maureen Alfiero

**Church Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday, 8am—3pm  
Thursday 8am –2pm  
860/663-1789



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

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

**Rev Dave email:** [Pastor.cck@gmail.com](mailto:Pastor.cck@gmail.com)

**KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966**

**Deadline** for the next issue is no later than  
**December 15, 2021**

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

# KERYGMA

**10 a.m. Worship**

## December 2021



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
IN KILLINGWORTH

**CHRISTMAS FAIR**  
**Saturday, Dec. 4th**



**Christmas Eve**  
**Worship**  
**7pm**