



## FROM THE PASTOR

*"Joy to the world, the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing."*

- Hymn #179

We are so accustomed to the idea that the holidays are a way of celebrating the closing of the year that we miss the fact that the Christian Church follows a different calendar. December 31 is the last day of the year for most people, but as far as church goes, the last day of the year is November 29! What? Well, the commonly used Gregorian calendar was instituted in 1585, but was predicated by the Christian liturgical calendar by over 1,000 years (late 4<sup>th</sup> century)! The liturgical calendar year doesn't begin on January 1, but on the first Sunday of Advent. So for us this year, November 30.

The Christian year begins with the promise of Christ's coming, his "advent". We begin with John the Baptist calling out, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" just before Jesus arrives for baptism. There, the heavens opened and the dove of the Holy Spirit descended, anointing him as Messiah. God declared, "This is my beloved Son". Then, we go back in time to retell the story of Jesus' birth, his coming into the lives of Mary and Joseph, shepherds and wise men and eventually all believers.

Could there be a better way to begin the year? We begin by lighting candles of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. We move into Christmas singing carols, celebrating with family and friends, sharing the Good News of salvation for all people. It is a very good place to start, to begin the next year of our lives.

Along the way to Bethlehem this year, we will have the opportunity to come together for fellowship, food and learning on each of three special Wednesday evenings – December 3, 10 and 17. We'll gather in the Parish Hall for a light supper at 6:00 PM, followed by biblical study and discussion at 7:00 PM. We'll cover three themes: "The Prophecy", "The Journey" and, "The Birth". Do plan to be with us if you can. Begin your year with the sacred stories of the advent, the arrival of the Messiah. Set the tone, take the path of faith for the year to come.

Considering all the trouble and worry of our time, Lord knows, we do indeed need to find the right and good way forward.

So this is my Christmas wish for you – that you find yourself desiring a closer walk with God, opening your heart to Christ's call to follow in his way. May his boundless love be your guiding light throughout the year.

*"Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing."*

Peace and Blessings for a hope-filled Advent and a Merry Christmas.

- Rev Dave



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
IN KILLINGWORTH



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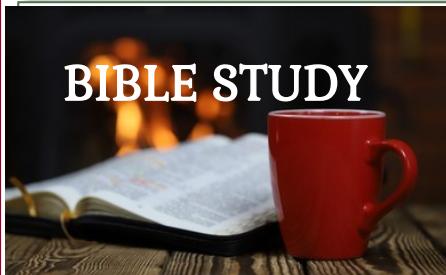
December Calendar



\*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=Z0NRZC9rN0FCOWhPMTNZMk9EMHgzZ09>

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



## Bright Spot in the Week

### Bible Study

**Wednesdays @ 7pm**  
**Parish Hall or Join Remote**

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=aIN4dTNTG1Yby9DUFVSV2RUMGN5UT09>

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



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

Thank you for your continued generosity!





## 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,

Hope you had a wonderful thanksgiving. Students were busy baking pumpkin bread on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and making advent wreaths on November 30th. I hope everyone will join in the nightly ritual of lighting an advent candle at dinner and reading a bible verse or devotion. The tradition is a great reminder of why we celebrate Christmas.

Students will also be busy making hygiene kits for the homeless at the Eddy Homeless shelter in Middletown.

We invite everyone to donate gift cards that support Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services (HKYFS) Holiday giving drive. Gifts cards will be collected until Dec 14<sup>th</sup> and can be dropped off in the office during office hours or to Christine Link. There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

The Christmas pageant will be on Sunday, December 21st. All in the community are invited to participate, so spread that word to your friends and families. We will also be looking for high school students to be readers.

Finally, as a reminder, there is no Sunday School on December 28th. Students are welcome in worship. Have wonderful Christmas and happy new year!!

Many Blessings,  
Christine Link  
[Christinelax@hotmail.com](mailto:Christinelax@hotmail.com)  
203-623-1663  
Volunteer Christian Education chairperson



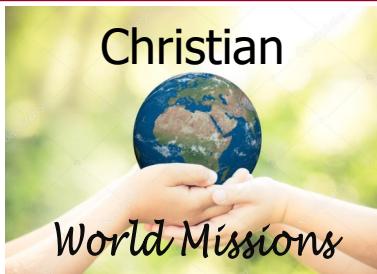
### Pumpkin Bread Making Day

Our Sunday school students rolled up their sleeves and baked delicious pumpkin bread to share with those who couldn't make it to church. A sweet way to spread love and community spirit!

# 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,  
Dec. 9th and Dec. 24th

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

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

**Always needed and appreciated:** Warm clothes, jackets, 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.



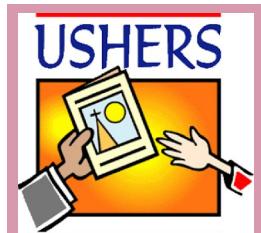
### Another Successful Harvest Dinner

As the aroma of a harvest dinner and the scent of freshly baked pies filled the hall, laughter and conversation echoed throughout the room. It wasn't just a dinner—it was a celebration of kindness and togetherness. The Harvest Dinner brought together over 130 community members for an evening of delicious food and heartfelt connection. Thanks to generous ticket donations, many families in need had a seat at the table. The event raised approximately \$1700 ensuring the spirit of giving continues beyond the evening.

**WEDNESDAY MEAL BEFORE BIBLE STUDY 6 PM**  
**BIBLE STUDY @7PM**

**December 3, 10, & 17**

Enjoy dinner first, then explore the prophecy, journey, and birth of Jesus. Discuss biblical accounts of Christmas and the traditions that have grown around them.



- Dec. 7 Leslie Judge
- Dec. 14 Sandy Allard
- Dec. 21 Gayle and Bill Van Huysen
- Dec. 24 Bill Van Huysen  
Gayle Van Huysen  
Leslie Judge
- Dec. 28 Gayle and Bill Van Huysen

# Red Poinsettias - December 15th

A TRADITIONAL POINSETTIA SUNDAY \* DECEMBER 14



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 7th for pickup on December 14th**

Make checks to: CCK Flower Committee.

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order your holiday red poinsettias for **December 14th** - \$11.00 per plant

Last date to order is Sunday, December 7th.

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. 14th  I will leave my plant for someone else to enjoy.

Please pick up plant(s) on Sunday, December 14th

### Happy Birthday!



Dec. 1 Christine Link	Dec. 12 Andrew Yahara
Dec. 8 William Burley	Dec. 13 Cynthia Sarris
Dec. 9 Haley Phelps	Dec. 27 Lara Hajek
Dec. 10 Emma Forster	Dec. 29 Ron Mones
Dec. 12 Debra Tyler	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](mailto:office@killingworthchurch.org) by the 15th of each



**The UCC Christmas Fund** On Sunday, December 21 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.



## Killingworth Nursery School

**Saturday, Dec. 13 @ 8:30 am**

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

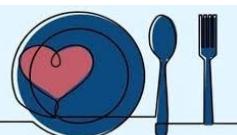
Enjoy pancakes & sausage plus a variety of baked goods, fruits, and beverages from the Breakfast Bar.

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.



**POINSETTIA SUNDAY DEC. 14TH**



## 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



AT THE CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH IN KILLNGWORTH

📍 273 Route 81, Killingworth, CT

📞 860-663-1789

Saturday, December 6 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

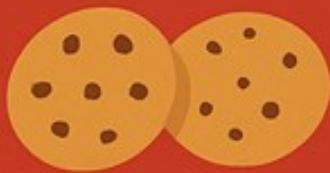


Silent Auction  
with visible bids



Delicious Lunch

Holiday Gifts,  
Wreaths & Arrangements



Cookie Sale

You are invited for an evening of *Music for Christmas* brought to you by the New England Chamber Choir. Sunday, December 7th at 4pm at the Congregational Church in Killingworth. Free Admission—Donations appreciated.

# New England Chamber Choir

Richard Wm. Donohue, Conductor

# Music For Christmas



Music of Brahms, Byrd, Donohue, Lassus, and more

**Sunday 7 December 2025 at 4 p.m.**

The Congregational Church in Killingworth  
273 Route 81, Killingworth, Connecticut

**Sunday 14 December 2025 at 4 p.m.**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
60 Church Street, Manchester, Connecticut

Each performance preceded by half an hour of instrumental music.

Free admission—donations appreciated [www.newenglandchamberchoir.org](http://www.newenglandchamberchoir.org)



# Christmas Concert

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>  
at 3pm**

**Congregational Church  
In Killingworth**

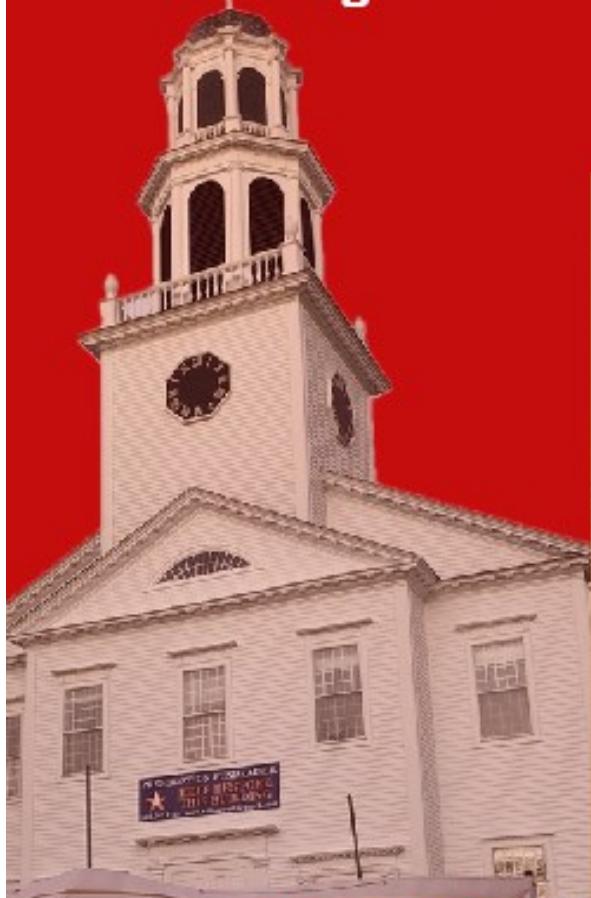


Featuring trio  
**“Anything Goes”**

**Playing a selection of Christmas,  
winter and topical songs.**

“Anything Goes” is a local trio featuring people who love music and like to share it. They specialize in making a connection with the folks in the audience and take the time to get to know them.

**Goodwill offering  
Reception to follow**



**273 Route 81- Killingworth, CT 860-663-1789**



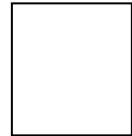
# December 2025

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC

Dec 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
		7pm - Boy Scouts	12pm - Cafe 6pm - Dinner & 6pm - Lions Club 7:30pm - AA	6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - AA		9am - Christmas
	7	8	9	10	11	12
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 4pm - NE Chamber		3pm - Eddy House 7pm - Boy Scouts	12pm - Cafe 6pm - Dinner & 7:30pm - AA	6:30pm - Trustees 7pm - AA		9am - KNS Santa
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Pointsettia Sunday 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 3pm - Anything		7pm - Boy Scouts	12pm - Cafe 6pm - Dinner & 7:30pm - AA	7pm - AA 7pm - Council		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Christmas 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship		7pm - Boy Scouts	12pm - Cafe 3pm - Eddy House 7pm - Christmas 7:30pm - AA	Christmas Day 7pm - AA		
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship		7pm - Boy Scouts	NEW YEARS EVE 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA			

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



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

Minister	Rev. Dave Hammett
Volunteer Musician	Joann Zamparo
Volunteer Director of Christian Ed	Christine Link
Office Manager	Maureen Alfiero
Sexton	Matt Link

**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@gmail.com](mailto:RevDaveCCK@gmail.com)



**KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966**

Deadline for the next issue is no later than  
**December 15, 2025**

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

# KERYGMA

**10 a.m. Worship**

**DECEMBER 2025**



**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
IN KILLINGWORTH**

**CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**DECEMBER 6TH**

