

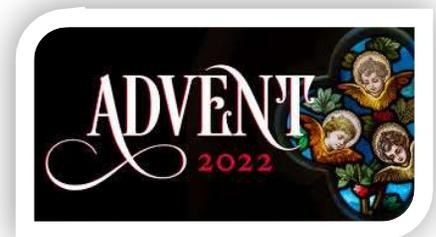


## Message from Rev. Jenni Leslie

### Advent Greetings!

Advent is upon us again! From our Candle Lighting liturgy: "Advent means "coming." It is a time of longing, watching, and praying for God's healing, transformative presence to be ever more vibrantly present in the world. This Advent season, we focus on that key phrase in the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come." \* *From the Salt Project*

What might you be longing for this year? Maybe you're longing for your health to return, a loved one's health? Maybe you're longing for direction in a wandering life? Maybe you are longing for the pandemic to be over and life to return to safety, good health, a new "normal"? Maybe you are longing for job security? Maybe you're longing for your voice to return, literally or figuratively? Maybe you are longing for your life to be made new again this Advent/Christmas?



What might you be watching for this year? Maybe you're watching the Middle East and hoping for peace in Iran, Syria, Palestine? Maybe you are watching your bank account dwindle and wonder how you might make ends meet in the new year? Maybe you are watching a loved one's health go downhill and watching for their death to come? Maybe you are watching your grandchildren grow and learn and are amazed at how love grows? Maybe you are watching for signs of new life?

What might you be praying for this year? Maybe you are praying for healing and wholeness for Indigenous communities in Canada and throughout the world? Maybe you are praying for your family as it weathers another storm? Maybe you are praying for your neighbours in Carlington who are struggling with the high price of groceries? Maybe you are praying for a member of your family's healing? Maybe you are praying for your own healing? Maybe you are praying for renewed hope?

This is a season for longing, watching, and praying; an Advent of Christ's coming to show us the way to healing, wholeness, peace and hope. This is our yearly reminder of the amazing thing that God has done - sent Jesus to be among us. Jesus, also known as Wonderful Counsellor, Prince of

Peace, Mighty God, Eternal Protector. Jesus, who came to live among us, to teach us, to love us, to live in us.

May we remember that we are never alone this Advent, or anytime of the year: God is with us, we are not alone.

**The New Creed**

We are not alone,  
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God’s presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.



May this Advent for you be filled with wonder, longing, prayer and the love of God. May it be so for all of us and the world.

**Advent Blessings,**  
**Jenni**

**Kitchissippi United Church Council**

As we pause once again at this time of year to reflect on our circumstances, we can’t help but feel more fortunate than much of the world which faces hardship such as war, hunger, illness and catastrophic climate events. We are still in the midst of a world health situation, along with everyone else, but are fortunate to have received the benefits of vaccination, support, and education on how to best manage the pandemic going forward.

On the home front Kitchissippi has benefited from the technology of live streaming for our worship services, which has enhanced our ability for our church family to remain connected. Moreover, whether in person or through technology, we have been able to continue our circle and committee meetings and to further our outreach, faith formation, and other programs throughout the year.

As our fall theme of Hospitality reflects, we have been focused on looking beyond ourselves, to welcome the stranger and open our



hearts to all, just as the Messiah modeled for us so long ago. We will be welcoming Illuminee and her family here to Ottawa after waiting in hope for 3+ years. They will be here for the beginning of the third week in Advent in which we celebrate joy; what joy there will be! And as Advent tells us, we are watching and waiting in anticipation of the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

As always, the birth of the Christ child brings us the hope, love, peace and joy which pass human understanding. May these blessings of Christmas shine through the veil of the pandemic or whatever you may be facing, and remain with you and yours every day, all year long.

Ian MacGregor, Chair

Denise Bonomo, Vice Chair

## Faith Formation

**Advent already! So soon? No wonder scripture tells us to keep awake, be ready!**



As we search for lights, candles, wreaths, and gifts, we invite you to join us in searching also for the hope, peace, joy, and love we so often speak of in the weeks leading to Christmas. To this we are adding the idea of Imagination, imagining what hope, peace, joy, and love might look like in other places, other times. Let's envision a more peaceful, hopeful, joyful, loving world that we build together, with God's help.

The link below takes you to our opening video for the season of Advent: "Make Something Beautiful." We found the message and imagery moving and uplifting.

I love the idea of us as part of a great Dawn Chorus welcoming God on Christmas Day. Please share this link and video with others as an invitation to join with us in-person or online, at any time: <https://youtu.be/8CVagCTcigE>



The bird ornament images in the video are part of the Dawn Chorus devotional we have for families as part of this year's Advent kits. We have digital and printed copies available for the congregation upon request, too! This devotional is delicious...ok, weird word, but really, it's a feast of ideas to read, with surprising relevance of bird-themed Advent ideas! It has simple weekly wonderings and family candle lighting options for your home. We'll also tuck in some craft materials, sweet treats, and wee gifts from recent theme weeks. I hope to have a few extra available for those who might like to share with young families they know. We will be having Advent kit bags available for pickup and delivery this week. If your address has changed, please let me know!

Pageant! Back to our Intergenerational, Interactive Pageant!

Does your family want roles in-person or pre-recorded? Speaking or tableaux? We have opportunities for each but need to hear from you soon to get costumes and scripts assembled. Pageant rehearsal will be the morning of Saturday Dec 17th, and Pageant itself on Sunday the 18th.

Other Advent activities we hope to set up are another make and bake session during Sunday school. We're also open to another zoom evening fireside with devotional, trivia, and bedtime story, so watch for updates in our special Faith Formation newsletter for families.

You can sign up for it or see archives here: <https://bit.ly/KUC-kidsnews-archive>

For Christmastide, we have a Christmas Eve service with candlelight and the interactive Godly Play story, plus a couple of beautiful surprises to help us see God's love in everyone! Christmas morning, we welcome everyone for a service of lessons and carols. Perhaps we'll see and hear you at The Twelfth Night/Epiphany Eve Wassail!



<https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2019/11/26/be-ready-salts-lectionary-commentary-for-advent-week-one>

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Diana Brushey

## Advent and Christmas Services

**Advent 1** – Sunday, November 27 at 10 AM (Baptism)

**Advent 2** – Sunday, December 4 at 10 AM (Communion/Flowers for Pastoral Care)

**Contemplative Service** – Tuesday, December 6 at 7 PM

**Advent 3** – Sunday, December 11 at 10 AM (White Gift/Mitten Tree)

**Advent 4** – Sunday, December 18 at 10 AM (Pageant)

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – December 24 at 7 PM

**Christmas Day** – Sunday, December 25 at 10 AM (Lay led)

**Twelfth Night/Epiphany Eve Wassail** –Thursday, January 5 at 6 PM

## UCW Christmas luncheon is back!



### Women's Christmas Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday, December 7 at 12:00 PM in the Hall. We hope you will be able to join us for good food and fellowship. All women of the congregation are welcome. The food is always plentiful and delicious.

## Pastoral Care

**Sunday, December 4**

**Flowers for Pastoral Care Circle**

The Pastoral Care Circle continues to visit with friends and members in need of support and fellowship. On Sunday, December 4 we will be bringing Christmas plants to our members who cannot get out to church and we need your help in delivering these plants. At coffee hour,



you can find the names of the intended recipients attached to the plants.

If you could deliver one or two plants to someone you know or someone who lives near you, that would be appreciated. With your help we will bring joy to the hearts of our church family members. Please speak with Donna Horner, Donna Kricorissian, Frank Chapman or Rev. Jenni after church if you have any questions.

## Kitchissippi's Christmas Outreach

### ADVENT OUTREACH 2022

The Outreach Circle has worn 2 hats this year, especially recently. We have thankfully increased our numbers wearing our Refugee hats, excitedly awaiting the arrival of Illuminee, her daughters Kenta (20), Chekina (12) and son Yan Owen (13) on December 6th! You will have read and heard about their arrival. Do let us know if you can offer additional help. Refugee Fund envelopes are in the church!



**Advent Outreach** will be somewhat simpler this year, we hope still very effective and we welcome your support. Given lingering Covid-19, flu season and limited human resources, we are not doing hampers, instead we're giving **grocery cards** and **some gift cards** to families we are able to help at Christmas. They will be delivered before mid-December to enable them to do their own grocery shopping.

**December 11 - White Gift Sunday** and **Minwaashin Lodge winter woollies** (Mitts, hats and scarves) **collection**. Specially marked White Gift envelopes are available in the church. These are for donations to cover the cost of small gifts for Kimberlane and Hampton residential care homes. We've supported happily them at Christmas for many years. The same envelopes may also serve to top up donations of new warm winter hats, mitts, socks for the families at Minwaashin Lodge. In the past few years, we've collected lots via an outdoor toss through the wooden Christmas Tree and we will gratefully accept financial and new woolly donations indoors on December 11 and December 18. Woollies can be placed on the Christmas tree in the Sanctuary.

### DONATION info shown below:

Donations for White Gifts and any other donations to the church can be made three ways:

- 1) By cheque mailed to or dropped off at the church mailbox. Feel free to use your offering envelopes. Indicate on the envelope or cheque: **"Refugee Fund" or "Christmas Outreach"**.
- 2) By Interac E-Transfer from your bank account (see more details below on how to do this). Transfer amount to [donations@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:donations@kitchissippiuc.com) and include a note indicating donation to **"Refugee Fund" or "Christmas Outreach"**.
- 3) Via Canada Helps. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/Kitchissippi-United-Church/Donation-to-Kitchissippi-United-Church> and specify **"Christmas Outreach"**

*\*For options 1 and 2 your donation will be included in your annual charitable receipt from Kitchissippi United Church. For option 3 you will receive an immediate charitable receipt from Canada Helps.*

We thank you for supporting our refugee and outreach initiatives throughout the year, and especially in Advent.

KUC Refugee-Outreach Circle

## Christmas Trees for Sale – Y Service Club



Christmas Trees from the Ottawa Y Service Club. With two lots to serve you- The Taggart Family Y at 180 Argyle Ave. and Calvin Christian Reformed Church, 1475 Merivale Rd. We sell Nova Scotia Balsam firs, from 4 – 8 feet high.

Proceeds support several local and international projects:  
The Kibera YMCA primary school in Nairobi. Roll Back Malaria,  
The Carlington Community Chaplaincy, community development work in Maypen – Jamaica and Bujumbura- Burundi plus local Y programs and more.....

Lots open on the three weekends leading up to Christmas.

December 3-4, December 10-11 and December 17-18. Hours of operation are Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Information: Contact [ysevice@primus.ca](mailto:ysevice@primus.ca)

## COVID Update – November 2022

The Ontario Ministry of Health, and Ottawa Public Health are seeking the help of all residents to curb the spread of Flu, RSV and Covid which are causing significant respiratory disease in children and putting paediatric hospitals into crisis.

Christ is very clear that we are to protect our community's most vulnerable, especially children. With this in mind, the KUC's Reopening Circle is asking that all congregants and visitors practice the following preventive health measures.

1. When you are ill, please do not attend in-person church services and gatherings. Live streaming and Zoom options are available.
2. Follow Ottawa Public Health recommendations about Flu and Covid vaccinations to protect yourself, your family and neighbours.
3. Although not mandatory, we request that you wear a mask during church services and gatherings, unless eating or drinking. Wear your mask when selecting food items from a buffet. Clean hands before using communal serving utensils. For shared meals it is preferred that people be seated at small, distanced tables.
4. Use the air filters provided in the Board Room, Parlour and Chapel, if you are meeting with others in these spaces. In the Sanctuary and Hall wear layers of clothing for comfort, as a couple of windows will be opened slightly to insure adequate ventilation.
5. Vinyl screens will continue to separate singing choir members from speakers on the platform at the front of the sanctuary. Choir members and the Director of Music will continue to assess their comfort level with unmasked singing in the choir loft.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU – PLEASE REACH OUT

**Kitchissippi United Church**

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Join us on Sunday morning  
in person or via Livestream  
on Kitchissippi's YouTube  
Channel

[https://www.youtube.com/  
channel/UCwATU1r0zB1PII  
aRmr2teVA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwATU1r0zB1PIIaRmr2teVA)

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