

Announcements

Sunday, December 1, 2019



If you are a first-time guest or returning visitor to our church family, please allow us to extend a special welcome to you. We offer an invitation for you to join us in the Parish Hall after worship for coffee, tea, cookies, and a chance to learn more about Old First.

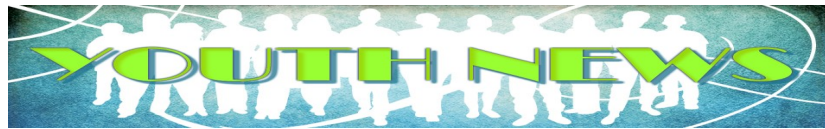
Please take this opportunity to be greeted by our members and be introduced to our Pastor, Matthew Means. We thank you for visiting us today and welcome you to our family of faith!

Get Connected to Your Church Family at Old First!



With so many exciting opportunities for us to gather together in worship, fellowship, and service; now more than ever, it is important to “stay connected” to and with Old First! We share information about our ministries by phone, email, and through our website and Facebook page.

If you are not receiving these communication from Old First, please contact the church office **TODAY** and provide us with your information! We look forward to getting ... and **staying** ... connected with you!



REMINDER: NO YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT (DEC. 1ST)!

Our Sunday evening Youth Group is the perfect time and place for ALL 6th-12th grade students to share their faith journey together!

Mark your calendars for an AMAZING NIGHT of fun and excitement during our Third Annual Christmas Lock-In Friday, December 6th - Saturday, December 7th!!!

Kids & Youth Choir and Youth Club Continue December 4th!

Whether you have sung in the choir in the past or not, if you are in 1st-8th grade, then this is the place for you to be on Wednesday nights!

5:00 - 5:30 pm Kids' Choir (Grades 1st - 3rd)
5:30 - 6:00 pm Youth Choir (Grades 4th - 8th)

**** Please do not leave children unattended on Wednesday nights!***



Today We Light the First Candle of Advent!

Today is the **First Sunday in Advent**, the time in the life of our faith when we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of God's **hope**, given in Jesus Christ. As we worship each week around the themes of God's **hope, peace, love, and joy**, may each service assure us of the Spirit of God present among us as we prepare to welcome Christ in our lives!

Annual Advent Study Begins TODAY in the Fiske Room!

Please join us each Sunday throughout the season of Advent as we share our weekly Advent Study together! Make your way to the Fiske Room following worship as we discuss **Ed Robb and Rob Renfroe's, "The Wonder of Christmas."** Books are available from Pastor Means, but are not necessary to participate!



Mission Donations During Advent Worship:

Each week during the season of Advent, we are collecting items in support of ongoing mission ministries at Old First.

Help us fill the table by donating **any non-perishable food item** for the Helping Hand food pantry as well as items to stock **blessing bags for those experiencing homelessness** (small first aid kits, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouth wash, warm socks, travel size tissue, baby wipes).



Annual PW Christmas Luncheon Is THIS WEEK!!!

The PW Christmas Luncheon is **THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th, beginning at 11:30**. This special holiday event features a delicious meal, warm fellowship, fantastic entertainment, and so much more! The event is **\$20 per person** and reservations are required by contacting **Marge Sammis at (631) 871-9410** as soon as possible! See you there everyone!

The Mitten Tree Is Ready For Your Donations!

During the season of Advent, our Church School students are once again sponsoring a “Mitten Tree” ... now available in the hallway outside the back entrance of the Sanctuary.

Let's fill this tree with hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves for local children in need! On behalf of our young disciples, thank you in advance for your faithful and generous support!



Meet the Challenge: Invite a Friend to Church!!!

The number one way people find their way into a new church is through the invitation of friends, family, or loved ones! As the Christmas season approaches, why not answer the challenge by inviting someone to join you?!?! Just think how a simple invitation changes lives through God's hope, peace, joy, & love!

Sermon Notes for Sunday, December 1st

First Sunday in Advent

“The Wonder of a Star”

Key Scripture:

“Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem ... They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. They were overwhelmed with joy.”

Matthew 2:7-8, 9-10

What does the word “wonder” mean to you?

Who or what causes you to wonder - to be amazed or inspired?

As we begin this season of preparation for the Christ child, in what ways are you experiencing a longing for “something more?”

If we choose to be like the magi, who had eyes to see, courage to follow, and humility to worship God ... then how may we prepare our hearts to make this choice during the Advent and Christmas seasons?

Sunday, December 1st

10:00 a.m. **Worship - First Sunday in Advent and Communion**

11:30 a.m. **“Wonder of Christmas” Advent Study (Fiske Room)**

6:15 - 8:45 p.m. AA (Lower Level - Room 10)

Monday, December 2nd

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Gentle Bends (Room 102)

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Adult Children of Alcoholics (Room 102)

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. NA Meeting (Lower Level - Room 10)

7:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting (Room 101)

Tuesday, December 3rd

9:30 a.m. PW Meeting — **All Are Welcome!** (Fiske Room)

10:00 a.m. Budget & Stewardship Committee (Library)

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (Lower Level - Room 11)

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. AA Meeting (Lower Level - Room 10)

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. NA Business Meeting (Lower Level - Room 10)

7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting (Room 101)

Wednesday, December 4th

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Gentle Bends (Room 102)

11:30 a.m. **Presbyterian Women Christmas Luncheon (Parish Hall)**

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Kids Choir Rehearsal

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

7:00 - 9:15 p.m. AA Meeting (Lower Level - Room 10)

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 32 (Gym)

Thursday, December 5th

9:30 a.m. PW / Circle 4 Quilting (Room 101)

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (Lower Level - Room 11)

5:00 - 9:30 p.m. Giant Steps (Room 102)

8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, December 6th

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Room 101)

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (Lower Level - Room 11)

8:00 p.m. Middle and High School Youth Group Lock-In (Youth Room)

Sunday, December 8th

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Worship - Second Sunday in Advent
Baptism of Autumn Lee Stockell / Bible Presentation / Legacy Giving**

10:20 - 11:00 a.m. Church School

Preschool - 3rd Grade (Room 102)

4th - 8th Grade (Upstairs)

11:30 a.m. Legacy Giving Luncheon (Parish Hall)

6:15 - 8:45 p.m. AA (Lower Level - Room 10)