

Announcements

Sunday, December 15, 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!



Sunday Night Middle and High School Youth Group Continues on Sunday, December 15th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm!

In a world that demands so much, is there anything better than an evening of faith, fun, and fellowship with your church family?

Current 5th-8th graders ... be in conversation with your family about the Great Escape (July 27th - Aug. 1st)! Deposits due Jan. 12th!

ATTENTION KIDS AND YOUTH CHOIR MEMBERS: THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH @ 4:30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL!!!

Meet at Old First at 4:30 p.m. for an evening of caroling, followed by a special Christmas dinner and celebration in the Parish Hall.

Remember to wear your favorite festive clothing!!!



Today We Light the Third Candle of Advent!

Today is the **Third Sunday in Advent**, the time in the life of our faith when we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of God's **joy**, 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 Continues 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!



"Service of Comfort & Hope" - Tuesday, December 17th @ 7:00 pm



Is Christmas a time when you remember friends, family, or loved ones who are no longer with us? A powerful way of honoring our losses is to bring our heartaches before God.

You are invited to join us for a very special **"Service of Comfort and Hope"** on **Tuesday, December 17th @ 7:00 pm** in the Parish Hall as we remember those no longer with us and share the hope, peace, and love of God with one another.

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).



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services at 5:30 pm AND 11:00 pm!!!

Please join us for **Christmas Eve worship** on **Tuesday, December 24th at 5:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.**

Each service will include 15 minutes of special music provided by the Kids and Youth Choirs (5:30 service) and the Sanctuary Choir (11:00 service).



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!

“The Wonder of a Name”

Key Scriptures:

“You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Luke 1:31-33

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

What does the name “Jesus” mean to you personally?

How does understanding the meaning of Jesus’ name impact your understanding for what he came to do? How has Jesus saved you?

What does the new name “Christian” reveal about you? How would you describe what the gift of salvation means to you personally?

Sunday, December 15th

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Worship - Third Sunday in Advent**

10:20 - 11:00 a.m. Church School
Preschool - 3rd Grade (Room 102)
4th - 8th Grade (Upstairs)

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Middle and High School Youth Group (Youth Room)

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

Monday, December 16th

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)

Tuesday, December 17th

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)

7:00 p.m. Service of Comfort and Hope (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, December 18th

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

**4:30 p.m. Kids and Youth Choir Rehearsals
and Caroling at Huntington Hospital**

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 19th

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (Lower Level - Room 11)
8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, December 20th

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)

Sunday, December 22nd

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Worship - Fourth Sunday in Advent
Celebrating the Baptism of Madeline Robbie Pizaro
Children and Youth Christmas Pageant**

10:20 - 11:00 a.m. Church School
Preschool - 3rd Grade (Room 102)
4th - 8th Grade (Upstairs)

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