

## Announcements

**Sunday, December 22, 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.

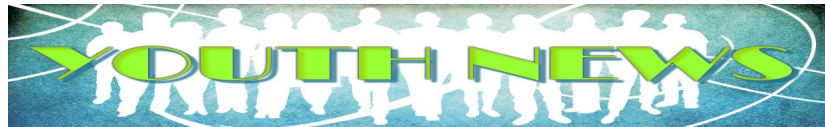
Please take this opportunity to be greeted by our members and be introduced to our Pastor, Matthew Means. We thank you for visiting us today and welcome you to our family of faith!

### 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!



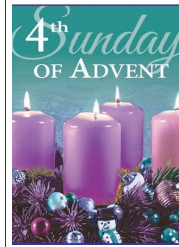
### OUR WEEKLY SUNDAY NIGHT MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP CONTINUES SUNDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> FROM 5:00 - 7:00 PM!

*Have a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and here's to next year bringing even more amazing opportunities for us to gather in faith, fun, and fellowship as we continue to grow together in Christ!*

**Reminder to all current 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students ... please use the next few weeks to make final plans with your families about the Great Escape from July 27<sup>th</sup> - August 1<sup>st</sup>! Deposit is due January 12<sup>th</sup>!**

### ATTENTION KIDS AND YOUTH CHOIR MEMBERS: NO REHEARSALS UNTIL WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>!

Thank you for all of your hard work to close out December with Christmas caroling and Christmas Eve worship! See you next year!

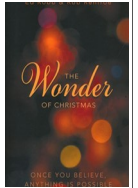


### Today We Light the Fourth Candle of Advent!

Today is the **Fourth Sunday in Advent**, the time in the life of our faith when we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of God's **love**, 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 Concludes in the Fiske Room!

Please join us following worship as we wrap up the season of Advent with our **final week** of this year's Advent study! Make your way to the Fiske Room for a discussion of **Ed Robb and Rob Renfroe's, "The Wonder of Christmas."** Books are available from Pastor Means, but are not necessary to participate!



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

Please join us for **Christmas Eve worship** on **Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** 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).



### 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).



### 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!

### It's Almost Time for Potluck and BINGO!!!

Mark your calendars and make plans to join your church family on **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** for a potluck dinner and BINGO night with our Deacons! **Potluck** begins at **5:00 pm** (bring your favorite dish to share!) with **BINGO** at **6:00 pm!**

The cost is **\$8 per person** or **\$25 per family**, with all proceeds supporting Deacon's ministry! Don't miss out! And be sure to **invite friends and family of all ages** to join us! See you for great fellowship in the New Year!



*Worship Notes for Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>*

*Fourth Sunday in Advent*

*Today, we bear witness to the miraculous story of God's love, born among us as we remember the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!*

*In what places ... themes ... people ... or events do you most easily place yourself in this story?*

*What does your place in the story mean to you and your faith?*

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*Sharing in today's telling of the Christmas story through the Annual Children and Youth Christmas Pageant are ...*

*Mackenzie Alexander*

*Jake Amend*

*Caleigh Camarata*

*Liva Camarata*

*Nova Camarata*

*Je'Talia Cambry*

*Lauren Dopico*

*Michaela Dopico*

*Felicity George*

*AbbeyRose Goldman*

*Cassidy Goldman*

*Evie Goldman*

*Alyssa Gonzalez*

*Jordan Gonzalez*

*Amalia Heinz*

*Eric Heinz*

*Spencer Lapp*

*Steven Lapp*

*Briahna Means*

*Lyla Means*

*Nolan Means*

*Lilly Polak*

*Miller Polak*

*Alexa Schirripa*

*Special thanks to the many students and parents who helped create the scenery for today's Christmas pageant!*

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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***

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

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

**Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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 24<sup>th</sup>**

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

***5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship***  
with special music at 5:15 p.m. (Kids and Youth Choirs)

***11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship***  
with special music at 10:45 p.m. (Sanctuary Choir)

**Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

***Merry Christmas!***

*Church Office Closed / No Activities in Building*

**Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

***Merry Christmas!***

*Church Office Closed / No Activities in Building*

**Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. ***Worship  
First Sunday after Christmas  
"Service of Lessons and Carols"***

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