

## Northminster Presbyterian Church

“Caring for all with  
God’s love and grace.”

315 E. Alvin Drive † Salinas CA 93906  
831-449-2717 † northminster.org



# Northminster News

Vol. XXVI, No. 12

December 2022

Dear friends,

On November 27, the new liturgical year started. It is the season of Advent, the season of preparation for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ, both as we celebrate the incarnation at Christmas, and as we anticipate the second coming. The first Sunday of Advent always looks at the coming eschatology (the second coming) of Christ, and warns us to “keep awake.” One of my favorite Advent hymns is “*Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us*,” set to J.S. Bach’s glorious tune, *Wachet Auf*. The Advent readings, as echoed by this great hymn, remind us to keep awake, to be alert, for we do not know when the second coming will be.

So what does that mean—keep awake? Does it really mean we shouldn’t sleep for the next who-knows-how-long? Of course not. It means to do the right things, to be living our lives “decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and

debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy, [the things we keep secret in the dark].” (Romans 13:13) Instead we...

- Pray continuously. (1 Thessalonians 5:16)
- Feed the hungry. (Romans 12:20)
- Visit the sick. (Matthew 25:36)
- Love everyone. (John 15:12)
- Welcome the stranger. (Matthew 25:35)

Most, if not all of you!, are living this out. Let us continue to do so. As we prepare for Christmas—putting up lights, hanging wreaths and garland, decorating the tree, baking cookies, buying and wrapping gifts—remember to also continue to serve the stranger and care for those in need, keeping in mind that that is what the incarnate God, Jesus the Christ, did in his brief time on this earth.

(Continued inside)

# CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

## Regular Events

### Sundays

- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School - Room 11
- 9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 10:00 am Worship Service - Sanctuary/Online
- 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship - Lobby

### Mondays

- 12:30 pm Senior Singers Rehearsal - Geneva Room

### Tuesdays

- 10:00 am Women's Bible Study - On break until Jan.

### Wednesdays

- 3:30 pm F.L.O.C.K. - Ministry Center
- 4:30 pm Children/Youth Handbells - Bell Room
- 5:30 pm Youth Connection - Geneva Room

### Thursdays

- 8:00 am Men's Breakfast Fellowship - Geneva Room
- 10:00 am Knitting Club - Library

## Other Events

### December

- 3 1:30 pm Jim Vincent - Celebration of Life
- 5 6:00 pm Board of Deacons Meeting
- 11 2:30 pm Senior Singers' Christmas Concert
- 11 6:00 pm SHARE Center Meal - 845 E. Laurel Dr.
- 12 Begin bringing wrapped Angel Tree gifts
- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 16 6:00 pm Preschool Christmas Program
- 17 11:00 am Angel Tree Party
- 19 6:30 pm Session Meeting (special date)
- 24 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
- 25 10:00 am Christmas Brunch, Carol Sing
- 25 6:00 pm SHARE Center Meal - 845 E. Laurel Dr.
- 26,27 Office, Daycare closed for holiday



Internet: [northminster.org](http://northminster.org)  
 Facebook: Northminster Presbyterian Church, Salinas  
 YouTube: Northminster Presbyterian - Salinas, CA  
 Venmo (donations) @northminsterpresbyterian-church

Do we have your email address?  
 Contact [micki@northminster.org](mailto:micki@northminster.org)

### December

- 5 Donovan Dominguez
- 7 Paula Banchemo
- 7 Lynne Sergius-Briscoe
- 9 Margaret McKey
- 11 Jim Strand
- 16 Janice Souza
- 18 Don Thomas
- 20 Fay Biddle
- 20 Lizabeth Sonico
- 24 Gahr Gardner
- 28 Jonnie Barrient



### January Early Birds

- 1 Tom DeLay
- 1 Chris Vivit
- 5 Rebekah Loder



## Anniversaries

### December

- 7 Gahr Gardner & Lynne Sergius-Briscoe. . . . 4<sup>th</sup>
- 26 **John & Susan West** . . . . . 53<sup>rd</sup>

### January Early Birds

No early birds - see full list next month!

\* If your name is missing from this list and you would like to add it, please contact the church office.

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(See Luke 2:1-16) 12-21-2001  
**HEY MARY, IT'S YOUR TURN TO CHECK THE SWADDLING CLOTH**

## From the Pastor continued

I leave you with this blessing, from Methodist Bishop Woodie White:

"Now, may God torment you—May God disturb you—May God keep before you—the hungry, the dying, the oppressed, the rejected. Then, may God give you the compassion to do the work you HAVE to do—and may you do your best—then—and only then—May God grant you peace—until we meet again. Amen."

Amen?  
See you in church!

Andy

P.S. Don't forget that our candlelight Christmas Eve service is Saturday, December 24, at 6:30 pm, and on Sunday morning, December 25 (yep, Christmas Day!) we will gather in the Ministry Center for brunch and carol singing. You're welcome to come in your pajamas!

## Christmas at Northminster



### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Saturday, December 24, 6:30 pm  
Celebrating the birth of a Savior

### **Christmas Brunch & Carol Sing**

Sunday, December 25, 10:00 am  
A schedule- and family-friendly gathering

## Serving Christ-in the Homeless

The SHARE (Salinas Housing Advancement Resources Education) Center is open and meeting the needs of the homeless and Northminster will continue to minister to them by providing and serving dinner



for our brothers and sisters on the **second and fourth Sundays, December 11 and Christmas, the 25th.** You can help by providing gifts of food for the meal and/or by helping to serve it. **Please bring items to the church by 4:00 pm or by 6:00 pm if bringing to/serving at the Center, 845 E. Laurel Drive.**

"Lord, we know you'll be coming through this line today. So help us to treat you well."

-Mary Wallis' prayer, serving the D.C. homeless

## Senior Singers Christmas Concert

**December 11, 2:30 pm, Northminster Sanctuary**

Enjoy music of the season with our favorite vintage voices, directed by our own Pastor Andy. Donations are welcome to help keep this great community choir going! See you there!



It's time to bless the children of prisoners with gifts given on behalf of their incarcerated parent(s)!! Through the Angel Tree program, simply pick an Angel off the tree in the narthex and purchase the gift noted. Return the wrapped gift to the church beginning December 12. The gifts and other goodies will be distributed at the Christmas party, Saturday, December 17, at 11:00 am. If you are able to help with the party, please contact coordinator Aimee Cuda by text message or by phone at 831-206-7303.

## Our Homebound Friends



Emma Price - Brookdale  
Ted Selvester - Unknown



(Some events have admission fees.  
Check with each organization.)

**Christmas with the Camerata Singers**

December 2, 7:30 pm, Northminster Sanctuary(\$20)  
December 3, 7:30 pm, Monterey First Pres., (\$25)  
December 4, 2:30 pm, Monterey First Pres., (\$25)

**Senior Singers Christmas Concert**

December 11, 2:30 pm, Northminster Sanctuary  
Donations welcome

**PG Pops Orchestra Concert**

December 10, 2:00 pm, Pacific Grove Middle School

**Hartnell College Community Orchestra Concert**

December 15, 7:30 pm, Hartnell College Main Stage

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**Worship Tech Crew**

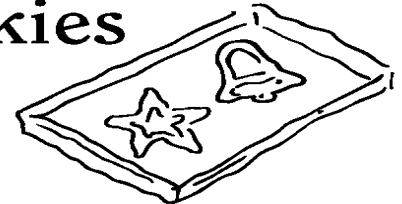
Worship Tech Director- Bill Lane  
Worship Tech Assistant Director - Nathan Emerson  
Lead Worship Tech - Tom Foliard  
Tech Crew - Dominic Vivit  
Apprentice Tech - Juliette Loder

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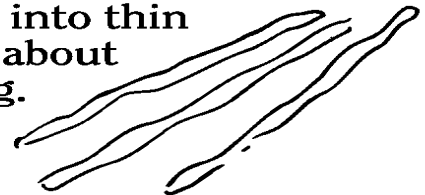
**Church Staff / Participants**

Pastor . . . . . Andy Rausch  
Organist/Choir Accompanist . . . . . Claire Vincent  
Director of Music . . . . . Dana Vivit  
Parish Associate . . . . . Bill Lane  
Daycare . . . . . Claire, Sue, Ruby, Iris, Jubilee,  
. . . . . Jessica, Ale, Esme, Jazmin  
Executive Assistant . . . . . Jackie Gash  
Bookkeeping . . . . . Sue Brockett  
Preschool/KinderPrep . . . . . Amanda Robles, Victoria Pajas  
Custodian . . . . . Jesse Perez  
Set Up Techs. . . . . Tom Foliard, Bob Hynes  
Grounds. . . . . Bob Hynes, Terry Heffington  
Church Secretary. . . . . Micki Brown

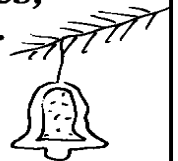
**Bake  
“Stained-Glass”  
Cookies**



1. Mix your favorite cutout cookie recipe.
2. Chill overnight.
3. On waxed paper, roll dough into thin ropes, about 6" long.



4. Shape ropes into holiday symbols – stars, bells, etc.
5. Crush hard candies to make 2 cups.
6. Place shapes on well-greased cookie sheets.
7. Fill the openings with hard candies.
8. Use a toothpick to poke a hole in the top of each if you want to hang them.
9. Bake for 8 minutes, or until candy melts.
10. Cool completely before removing from cookie sheet.



11. Tie a loop of thread through hole if desired.

