

## November 18, 2021 Pastor's Report

**November 24 - Thanksgiving Eve 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service at First United Church of Christ at Main and S. Forest. Pastor Tom's family from First United Methodist Church was all down with the COVID so I opted to have Thanksgiving Eve here.**

**Come early: after 6:00 if you want to make an Advent Wreath. Helen is getting a booklet with prayers to do at home when the family is together at one meal when the candle/ candles can be lit and a prayer or sharing can take place. It is done in simplicity. Heather Furtaw is cutting the branches for use; Hope Fair and Darlene Furtaw are assisting in the making of the wreaths. Any ribbon dropped off will be used by the participants. The idea is to get families to share about their day, at table, when they light a candle. Those with little children might consider Dollar Store battery candles.**

**Saturday after Thanksgiving - 10-Noon drop in to make an Advent Wreath - Note that we already had this in the Newsletter prior to knowing about our hosting Thanksgiving Eve.**

**December 5 after Worship - - - 11:00 speaker regarding Senior Living, Assisted Living, Nursing Homes, Home Care. She will speak for 10-15 minutes then address your questions and concerns. Write down your questions to be ready - - -**

### **December 12 - Jazz Worship**

*By the way, did everyone note the difference with the on-line **Worship**, Tyler really did it up well with the screen share.*

December 19 - - - 'Jesse Tree' experience instead of sermon  
The Jesse Tree is the family tree of Jesus and the volunteers will tell us about one of the ancestry people of Jesus. It could be 7 volunteers with each doing two characters, or if other's come forward as many as 14 taking part. There is a little script available for each but participants can add their own take and then have a pic or art something to depict their person. The gathered really liked when we did something on this order for Palm Sunday so I thought I'd give it a go.

These objects/ pics of their person can be posted somehow. *Maybe a creative person has an idea.* Because of cameras, I'm wondering if we can put the Crib Set under the Altar on a platform that could fit between the wood slats, and the Advent Wreath maybe on that round table that was used before.

### **ADVENT WREATHS**

Heather Furtaw will assist with getting the branches for Advent Wreaths, Darlene Furtaw will assist with making wreath and bows, and Hope also. We have two opportunities of making wreaths. The expectation is that having a wreath at home will encourage families to pray and share at least once a day.

**Price and Tyler were happy with how worship went off on Sunday and they should be. Several on-liners made comments, so now we need to give a greater push to invite their donations. I am uncomfortable with that and would love for another to do that at the beginning with the welcome.**

I expect that letters of thanks went out to those who donated to our auction from other places. The auction was fun, Glen and his runners, Kim and her group, wow, talk about team work. It was a fun experience and it brought in almost \$2000.

**At 11:00 Wednesday the COM - Committee on Ministry interviewed Traci Bartell a MID, Member in Discernment since 2012 and in seminary for 7 years.**

“A person seeking to become a MID must be an active member of the local church through which he or she begins this process for a minimum of one year. The Covenant of Discernment between the candidate, his or her local church, and the Commission Ministry is to be a minimum of one year, and is **not to exceed seven years**. A person may be ordainable pending a call up to five years.”

-UCC Manual On Ministry

The Ecclesiastical Council for Traci Bartell will be on January 2, 2022 at 2:00 per zoom meeting. Pastors from each of the churches in the Eastern Association of the Michigan Conference are to participate as well as two delegates from each local church. The Association will send this information so that it can be put into our Newsletter.

Please remember to pray for those on our “In Our Thoughts and Prayers” and also those we listed as our Saints earlier in the month.

**Respectfully Submitted, Pastor KatieD+**

“Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.  
-T.S. Eliot