



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CANDLE OF LOVE
FAMILY SUNDAY**

Worship Service – 9:00 & 10:30 am

Prepare Your Eyes to See Emmanuel!
Reverend Dr. Gregory J. Hopwood

Calendar for Sunday, December 18, 2016

9:00 am Chapel Worship
10:00 am Prayer in the Chapel
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
(Infant and toddler care provided)
11:45 am Fellowship
Noon Junior Choir rehearsal

Memorial Flowers

Poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary given
in memory of loved ones.

Greeter: Claire Atwater

Ushers: Diane Deminski, Steve Gates, Linell
Nester, Joe D'Agostino, Linda Byam, &
Bonnie Mullen (captain)

Coffee Hour Hosts: Linell & Michael Nester



The Church Herald

FIRST PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Rev. Dr. Gregory Hopwood, Pastor
One Church Street, PO Box M, Wakefield, MA 01880-0301 (781)245-1539/1644
www.FPCCWakefield.org

CHRISTMAS EVE, 2016

5:00 PM

Family Service and Children's Pageant
Music by the Junior Choir

11:00 PM

Carols, Candlelight, and Communion
Service of Lessons and Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

CHRISTMAS DAY

FAMILY SUNDAY

Worship Service – 10:30 am

Sermon

Reverend Dr. Gregory J. Hopwood

Calendar for Sunday, December 25, 2016

10:00 am Prayer in the Chapel
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
(Infant and toddler care provided)
11:45 am Fellowship

Memorial Flowers

The flowers will be given in memory of Agnes M.
Morrison from the trust fund given in her name.

Greeters: The Diolosa Family

Ushers: Diane Deminski, Linell Nester, Steve
Gates, Richard Jackson, Joe D'Agostino, &
Bonnie Mullen (captain)

Coffee Hour Hosts: Ruth Ross and friends



Please Keep in Prayer

Prayers for healing:

Peter Barden (recovering from surgery), MaryAnn Doherty (Benchmark in Woburn), Russell Fanjoy (recovering from ankle surgery), Domenic Mercurio, Warren Reeves (Bear Hill), Jean Sabatula (home), Dick Sullivan, Stephen Taylor, Angelique Toroni

Please continue to keep in your prayers:

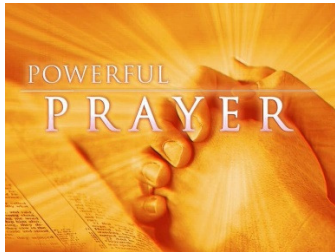
The Hodgson Family as they grieve the passing of Pam's aunt, Frances Panosian, Robert Blaser (Bob's dad), Stephen Donovan, Ed Foley, the Laboy family, John Oliphant, Jan Martin (residing at Sunrise in Lynnfield), Richard Pratt, Peter Rearick's Parents: Dan and Nancy, Albert Simkins, Janice and Irene Whitehead,

Our missionaries around the globe:

The Sturgeons, The Rideouts, The Mindlings, and The Soderbergs.



If you know of someone who could benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please contact the church office.



Prayer is the most powerful tool!

If you would like our First Parish Prayer Team praying for your needs, please fill out a prayer request. You will find the prayer cards in the back of the Sanctuary on the Williams Table. Our Prayer Box is also there to drop in your prayer request. They will be gathered up by the Prayer Team each week, and they will pray for your needs.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

	Chapel	Sanctuary	Total
December 4	21	93	114
December 11	29	100	129

SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 4	attendance not taken
December 11	attendance not taken



Don't Miss this...
Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 pm
Our annual *Messiah* Sing
in the sanctuary

Come join us and hear *Messiah* performed by a professional orchestra, soloists and our audience/chorus! We'd love to have you sing along (scores will be available) or just come & listen. Join us afterwards for a reception hosted by the Music Committee.

Don Hodgkins, Director of Music Ministries

JOIN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS!

The Sanctuary Choir would welcome any "booster voices" to help make our Christmas music that much more inspiring. This is a great opportunity for anyone who likes to sing but can't quite commit to choir "full time." You only need to attend 2 rehearsals, **Dec. 14 & 21, 7:30 - 9 pm**, in the Choir Room, then join us for the services on Dec. 18 and Christmas Eve at 11:00 pm. Hope you can join us!



December 24th at 5 pm
**Children's Christmas Eve
Pageant
Preparation**

**Calling all angels, kings, shepherds
and lambs**

**Rachel Hatheway will be in the
Vestry after church to sign you up if
you would like to have a part to help
tell the story about the greatest gift
ever given...**

**Also, adults are needed to help direct
the children the evening of the
presentation.**

INVITATION FOR THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH

As has been our tradition for many years, the prelude for the 5 pm Family Service on Christmas Eve will be presented by our youth members. Children/youth are welcome to play a Christmas carol on either the piano or their own instrument; I will provide accompaniment if they would like, or they can do it as a solo. Musicians at any level are welcome. Please see me (or call the church office) to sign up by Sunday, December 18, so I can plan the prelude in time for the order of worship.

Don Hodgkins, Director of Music Ministries
Donhodg@aol.com

**Thank you to helpers for the Community
Dinner & Creche set-up**

Thank you to all the people who volunteered their time and services, donated money, and donated goods to help make another successful community dinner. This year we served about 100 guests and delivered 17 dinners to church members who couldn't get out. I would like to thank Pastor Greg as well for his kind words to our guests and for saying grace.

I would also like to thank Tom King, Joe D'Agostino and Frank Brown for their help in assembling the Crèche. And thanks, as well, to all of those who helped carry the figures out to the Crèche.

Thank you again,
Steve Gates

**UPDATE FROM THE NOMINATING
COMMITTEE**

We would like to thank all of you who have offered to help our church in filling so many of the 19 committees that we have available each year.

That being said, we are still reaching out to others who maybe haven't had a chance to speak to one of us or haven't decided yet where they could help.

One of the most crucial positions is that of the TREASURER of our church. That would, of course, need to be someone who has some financial background. Hopefully there is someone who would be able to take on this position.

We also have openings on other various committees. I will be in the vestry following worship for as many Sundays as it takes to help fill these positions. Please come and at least talk to me to see what might work for you and your schedule in supporting our church. If we don't have a position that will work for you, then at least you tried.

God Bless

Linda D'Agostino, Chair of Nominating Committee

Early Reminder to Committee Chairs: The deadline for Annual Report submissions will be January 15. Please start thinking about your report now!



Poinsettia Sign-Up

Our sanctuary will be beautified on **Christmas Sunday, December 18** with poinsettias, due to the generosity of our church family who give donations to purchase these beautiful flowers in memory of loved ones. **Contributions will be received through this Wednesday, December 14.** After that date, any names received cannot be listed in the worship bulletin. *Please do not remove poinsettias from the sanctuary.* The plants will be distributed by the Flower Committee, members of our Diaconate and other volunteers.

I/We wish to contribute memorial poinsettias in memory of:

Amount enclosed: \$_____

Donor:

Please enclose \$4 for each name (Mr. & Mrs. counts as two names). Make check payable to "First Parish Congregational Church." Checks may be mailed to: PO Box M, Wakefield, MA 01880-0301 or left in the church office. Linda D'Agostino will also be in the vestry after church on December 4 and 11 to receive your contributions.



JANUARY



BIRTHDAYS

- 2 – Heather Livingston, Benjamin Parish
- 3 – Heather Hulse, Robert MacDonald
- 4 – John Applin
- 6 – Paula Maxwell
- 7 – Trefina Fox
- 8 – Joyce Langone
- 10 – Thomas Martin
- 11 – Herold Doherty, Joanne King
- 12 – John McKeown
- 13 – Joyce Ou
- 15 – Thomas Callaghan, John Sarno
- 16 – Joanne Frey, Connie Mpontsikaris
- 19 – Ethel Wallace
- 20 – Linda Byam
- 22 – Matthew Jackson, Anderson Illanes, Carol Callan
- 24 – Janet Martin
- 26 – Benjamin Bossi
- 27 – Madison Albushies, Sofia Bacci
- 28 – Amber Hansen, Ryan Pollock, Merylyn Trubiano,
- 29 – Brynne Curley

