

**Welcome!**  
**We are so glad you are here.**

**December 2, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.**

# The Word of God

Getting Ready for the Coming

***The Word***

**John 1:1-11**

**The First Presbyterian Church**  
1530 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020-5240

**I<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan  
December 2, 2018  
Sanctuary - 11:00 A.M.

Director of Music: Jerry W. Myers  
Church Office: (954) 923-8209  
Fax: (954) 923-8200

web: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)

CCLI #1836693; CRL034941; CVL503735603

**\*Please stand if you are able. Please, no applause during the worship service**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE - Comfort Ye My People** ..... Robert Lau

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

**\*HYMN – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** ..... # 2

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS - (IN UNISON)** ..... Adapted from The Exeter Book, c. 950

**O just and faithful King, you can unlock the prison-house of fear and all that  
draws us away from You and let us out into the glorious freedom of your love....  
Open the gate of this prison, and lead us to your kingdom, which is our  
true home. Come now, high King of heaven. Come to us in flesh and bone...  
Seek us out, who are lost in the darkness....Impart to us all your everlasting  
joy, so that we, who are fashioned by your hands, may praise your glory. In  
your name we pray. Amen.**

**A TIME OF SILENCE**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD (# 63, verse 4)**

**Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way; and, when earthly things  
are past, bring our ransomed lives at last where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

**ANTHEM – An Advent Prayer** ..... Allen Pote  
Westminster Choir

**Come holy Jesus, Come to free us from our sin.  
Come holy Jesus, and make us pure within.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**THE NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise You for the radiance That from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.**

**SCRIPTURE READING – John 1:1-11** (New Testament, **Page 91** in pew Bible)

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD** ..... Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

**Getting Ready for the Coming**  
*The Word*

**THIS WE BELIEVE - (IN UNISON)** ..... John 8:12, NRSV  
**Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT – People, Look East** ..... **#12**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

*(Visitors, in the pew rack you will find a Guest Information card.  
Please complete the card, then place it in the offering plate.)*

**Offertory Anthem - Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming** ..... Michael Praetorius

**\*THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE – DOXOLOGY (#592)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*OFFERING OF PRAYER (in unison)** ..... Adapted from Columbanus, 543-615

**Lord, we pray that you may be a lamp for us in the darkness. Touch our souls and kindle a fire within them, that they may burn brightly and give light to our life, and in your grace and love free us from the darkness within us. May our bodies truly become your temple lit by your perpetual flame of love burning on the altars of our hearts. And may the light shining within us shine on our sisters and brothers that it may drive away the darkness of ignorance and sin from them also. Thus together let us be lights to the world, manifesting the bright beauty of your gospel to all around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**Congregational Response:**

**God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a Shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**\*POSTLUDE - Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers . . . . . Paul Manz**  
~ ~ ~

**web site at: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org) [facebook.com/fpcoh/](https://facebook.com/fpcoh/)**

**Church office e-mail: [landerson@fpcoh.org](mailto:landerson@fpcoh.org)**

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**Visitors, following worship please join us  
on the patio for refreshments.**

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**LAY READER – Dorothy Olive**

~ ~ ~

**The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Dorothy Olive  
in memory of Dorothy Dilworth and Emily Olive.**

~ ~ ~

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

It is our hope that you will encounter God as you worship with us. First Presbyterian Church is a family of faith committed to families, peacemaking, and mission. There are educational offerings for all ages, as well as fellowship groups for members and friends of the church. All are welcome. For information, visit us at our web site at: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)

**CHILD CARE** for infants is provided in the nursery, located in the Lobby of the church. Children's worship kits are also available for younger children. Please ask an usher for assistance. **Our children's Sunday school, *WaumbaLand*, gathers at 10am in the sanctuary (September through May).**

**FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**, in the narthex we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

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**OPPORTUNITIES**

**<The bulletin announcements serve as reminders of church activities.**

**Please check our website: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)  
for the monthly newsletter and church calendar.**

**Church office e-mail: [landerson@fpcoh.org](mailto:landerson@fpcoh.org) >**

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## **BOARD OF DEACONS —**

**A Deacons Fund offering will be received today.**

These gifts will go to help members of our church and community when they face financial distress, or to help folks in need who God places in our path. Please use the envelope provided in next week's bulletin.

Just a reminder, we continue to collect non-perishable food items, hygiene supplies and gently used or new sneakers and blue jeans for the Jubilee Center. You may place these items in the narthex area.

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH —**

**WaumbaLand — (Sunday school for ages 4-10), 10:00 a.m., sanctuary/chapel**

**Boy Scout Troop 420, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building**

**Learning Center chapel — December 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary**

**Early Learning Center chapel — December 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m., West Wing**

**After Care chapel — December 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m., sanctuary**

## **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —**

**A Time of Prayer, in the chapel**

**Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

## **MEETING —**

**Staff Meeting – December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 a.m., Church Office**

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN —**

**Circle I — December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., chapel**

**Koinonia Circle — December 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m., in the home of Kathy Meyer**

**CALLING ALL BAKERS —** Time to pull out your favorite cookie recipes and bake a batch or two for the **Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale which is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please label your baked goodies so we know what they are. Bring your sweet tooth with you **following the 11:00 a.m. worship service** on Sunday, December 9, and please support the PW Bake Sale. There will be many goodies for purchase. Proceeds will be used for our mission projects.

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### **KENNEDY'S SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Here are the unscheduled times this week where I am available for y'all to come by for a visit!

**Sunday** – WaumbaLand, worship, blog posting and audio editing take up the day.

**Monday** – 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 2 to 4 PM (The midday is taken up with staff meeting)

**Tuesday** – 10 to 11:30 and 2 to 4 (Preschool walkaround and Rotary takes up the midday)

**Wednesday** – 12 PM to 4 PM (preschool chapels and lunch take up the morning)

**Friday** - 10 to 12 (the rest of the day is taken up with sermon writing  
and WaumbaLand preparation.)

Please try to call beforehand so I can put the kettle on, and to make sure that the schedule hasn't unexpectedly changed for a hospital visit or some other concern.

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## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, December 2 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Bell Choir rehearsal ..... 9:30 a.m.  
WaumbaLand – Sanctuary / Chapel ..... 10:00 a.m.  
WaumbaLand Worship – Sanctuary ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Westminster Choir rehearsal..... 10:00 a.m.  
Worship – Communion - Sanctuary ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Word of God Bible Church – Sanctuary & Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

### **Monday, December 3**

A Time of Prayer – Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m. – Noon  
Staff Meeting — Church Office ..... Noon

### **Tuesday, December 4**

Circle I – Chapel ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Boy Scout Troop 420 - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building ..... 7:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, December 5**

Learning Center Chapel - Sanctuary ..... 10:30 a.m.

### **Thursday, December 6**

Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **Friday, December 7**

A Time of Prayer - Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m. – Noon  
After Care Chapel - Sanctuary ..... 4:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 8**

Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel ..... 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
Koinonia Circle – in the home of Kathy Meyer ..... 10:30 a.m.

### **Sunday, December 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Bell Choir rehearsal ..... 9:30 a.m.  
WaumbaLand – Sanctuary / Chapel ..... 10:00 a.m.  
WaumbaLand Worship – Sanctuary ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Westminster Choir rehearsal..... 10:00 a.m.  
Worship – Sanctuary ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Presbyterian Women’s Bake Sale – Patio ..... following 11:00 a.m. worship  
Word of God Bible Church – Sanctuary & Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

## A WORD FROM KENNEDY

### SHINING THE LIGHT NEAR AND FAR THE 2018 CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

For centuries during this season before Christmas called Advent, we've lit candles and shared the light. We set the birth of Jesus during the darkest days of the year, but not because Jesus was born then. Christians set the festival then to show how in Jesus, the light of God's love breaks into the darkness of our world as never before.

And in our Christmas campaign, your church's leaders have selected ways that God will use your gifts to shine the light of God's love into dark places as near as our front door, and as far away as the other side of the nation. First, over these last months, we have seen two disasters devastate parts of our nation. We saw another hurricane ravage our state, this time subjecting the panhandle to stunning devastation and loss. And in California, we witnessed fires so intense that an entire town, along with many of its citizens, went up in flames in a matter of hours. In both places, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has already been at work, and will be at work for years, engaging in long-term recovery from these awful events. This year, **25% of your gift will go toward supporting that recovery work in the Panhandle and California.**

Last year, when Irma struck, we saw 14 seniors lose their lives at a nursing home here in Hollywood. At the time, three of our members were staying there! Those lives were lost not due to the storm, but due to the neglect of the owners of that home. That tragedy led us - in conjunction with our sister congregations in the organization Bold Justice - to successfully push the State Attorney's office to start spot inspections of nursing homes, shining light into places and situations that would rather stay in the dark. And now the congregations of Bold Justice have voted to add to this on-going work, ways to bring the light of change to those caught in the darkness of mental illness. **25% of your gift will go to support the work of Bold Justice.**

At the heart of shining that light into darkness always lies the core ministries that God has given us here. This year, **50% of your gift will go to support and sustain those ministries:** such as our new children's program, WaumbaLand, that has reached so many new families; and to help us sustain the work of this church in an increasingly challenging financial environment.

And this year, a member of this congregation, has committed to double every dollar up to \$5,000.00 given to this Christmas campaign. So, if you give \$25.00, that becomes \$50.00; if you give \$50.00, that becomes \$100.00; and, if you give \$125.00, that becomes \$250.00! Please give generously, so that in this season of Advent and Christmas, God can shine the light of Jesus' love through us like never before!



## **HELP US SHINE THE LIGHT ON SUNDAY MORNING**

On Sunday morning, we never know what dark places people might be wrestling with as they walk through our doors. We need folks who will shine the light of God's love by intentionally welcoming and connecting these folks. While certainly everyone has a role to play in this work, as the old adage goes: if it is everyone's job, it usually turns out to be no-one's job. So, we are looking for people who would be part of a Sunday morning welcome team. This work would involve a training of about one hour that would help you more effectively welcome and connect our guests in worship to this church community, and then being engaged at least one Sunday a month on our worship welcome hospitality team. Please sign up on the insert in the bulletin today and look for more information on a training that will be held sometime in December.

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**For human beings, the more powerful need is not for sex per se  
but for relationship, intimacy, acceptance, and affirmation.**

*Rollo May, Psychiatrist in his book, Love and Will*

**Life is relationships; the rest is just details.**

*Gary Smalley*

**Relationships – not facts and reason – are the key to reality. By  
entering those relationships, knowledge of reality is unlocked.**

*Parker Palmer*

**God does not need the Creation in order to have something  
to love because within himself love happens.**

*Frederick Buechner*

**“God is love,” as scripture says, and that means the revelation is in the  
relationship. “God is love” means God is known devotionally not dogmatically.**

**“God is love” does not clear up old mysteries, it discloses new mystery.**

**“God is love” is not a truth we can master; it is only one to which we can  
surrender. Faith is being grasped by the power of love.**

*William Sloan Coffin, Preacher*

**People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light from within.**

*Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, Writer and Researcher*

**Truly, it is in the darkness that one finds the light,  
so when we are in sorrow, then this light is nearest to us.**

*Meister Eckhart, Medieval German Mystic*

**Thy light alone—  
Gives grace and truth to life's unquiet dream.**

*Percy Bysshe Shelley, Poet*

**It is not our movement to God, but God's movement to us. It is heaven interrupting our world....the descent of the divine light among human beings not only to shine on, to illuminate, to purify and to warm them, but, through grace, to make them also shine with a light not of this world.**

*Hans Urs Von Balthasar, Theologian*



**Helping provide food  
to families in need at  
Hollywood Central Elementary.**

**You may also give a gift certificate  
to purchase a turkey or ham.**

**NO CASH PLEASE!**

**HCE collects more food at Christmas, as  
the children are out of school for 2 weeks.  
They also like to provide the kids with enough for  
breakfast, lunch and some dinners for that time.**

Gravy    Packaged/Boxed mashed potatoes    Cranberry sauce

Boxed stuffing    Mac and Cheese    Green Beans    Corn

Cookies/Pudding/Apple Sauce for dessert    Pasta    Sauce

Cereals/ Pop Tarts/ Cereal Bars/Oatmeal---Any Breakfast Items

Peanut Butter    Jelly    Spaghetti O's    Canned Black Beans    Rice

**Anything anyone wants to donate is appreciated.**

**DEADLINE:  
DECEMBER 9TH**

**Church Evolution Team's  
HOSPITALITY TEAM**

**I am interested in becoming part of the  
Hospitality Team.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place the completed form in the offering plate.  
Someone will be in touch with you.**

## 2018 Holiday Schedule

- December 2      WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m. — Communion
- December 9      WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m. — Baptism  
                      Deadline for Christmas Food & Angel Tree donations  
                      Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale, Noon
- December 16     WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m.
- December 19     Learning Centers' Christmas Pageant  
                      (call 954-922-8558 for details.)
- December 23     WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m.
- December 24     Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:30 p.m.
- December 25     Merry Christmas!!  
                      *And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in  
                      bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was  
                      no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:7*
- December 30     WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m.
- January 6, 2019 WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
                      Worship - 11:00 a.m. — Communion  
                      Take down Christmas decorations /Multicultural Christmas lunch following  
                      worship

# ANGEL TREE

Now through December 9th

Please consider sharing Christmas with a child in need.

**Gift tags are available in the narthex/lobby.**

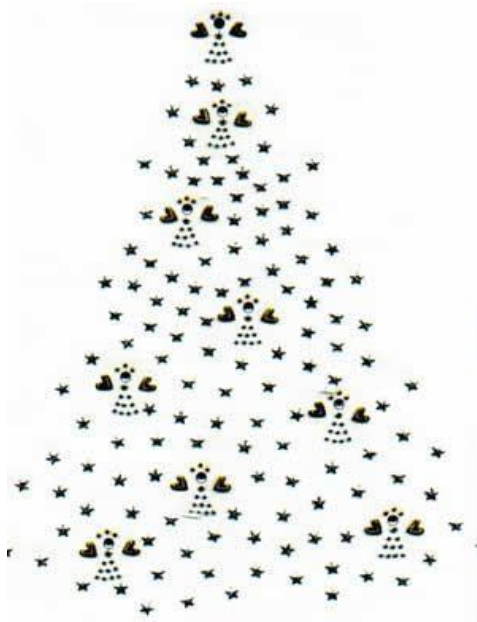
**Take an “angel” from the display, then purchase a gift.**

**The price per gift per child should be around/at least \$25.00.**

Return your **UNWRAPPED** gift

to the church December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Help make a child's Christmas special!!!!



## THANK YOU!!