

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here.

December 9, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.

*But to all who received him,
who believed in his name,
he gave power to become
children of God,*

John 1:12

Getting Ready for Jesus

Becoming Born Again

John 1:6-13

First Presbyterian Church

1530 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020-5240

2nd Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan
December 9, 2018
Sanctuary - 11:00 A.M.

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

web: fpcoh.org

***Please stand if you are able.**

CCLI #1836693; CRL034941; CVL503735603

WELCOME & CALL TO REFLECTION

PRELUDE – *O Word of God Incarnate* Alec Wyton

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF PEACE

***HYMN – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* # 9**

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS Adapted from the Gelasian Sacramentary (c. 500)

**Stir up your power, Lord, and with great might come among us; and because
we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy
speedily help and deliver us: through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.**

A TIME OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***AWAY IN A MANGER (# 25, verse 3)**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there**

**ANTHEM – *Every Valley (Isaiah 40: 4,5)* John Ness Beck
Westminster Choir**

**And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

CHILDREN, REMAIN AT THE FRONT TO BE WITH PASTOR KENNEDY.

A SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM **Please see insert**

THE NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

SCRIPTURE READING – John 1:6-13 (New Testament, Page 91 in pew Bible)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD Kennedy M. McGowan

Getting Ready for Jesus
Becoming Born Again

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT – Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending** **# 6**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 – Once in Royal David's City Charles Callahan

***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 The Roman Missal

**God of hope and joy, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make
radiant the night of the waiting world. Let no vanity hinder us from the joy
which moves the hearts of those who seek him. May the darkness not blind us
to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find him. We ask
this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN – Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates** **# 8**

***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 – People, Look East!** Kristina Langlois

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

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Lay Reader – Ellen Yamrick

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The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God.

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Presbyterian Women’s annual bake sale TODAY.

Take your sweet tooth with you to the patio **this morning following the 11:00 a.m. worship service**, and please support the PW Bake Sale. There are many goodies for purchase. Proceeds will be used for our mission projects.

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

Church office e-mail: landerson@fpcoh.org

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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**

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 lobby we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

— OPPORTUNITIES —

The bulletin announcements serve as reminders of church activities.

**Please check our website: fpcoh.org
for the monthly newsletter and church calendar; and
our Facebook page: [facebook.com/fpcoh/](https://www.facebook.com/fpcoh/)
Church office e-mail: landerson@fpcoh.org**

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH —

WaumbaLand — (Sunday school for ages 4-10), **10:00 a.m.**, sanctuary/chapel.
Boy Scout Troop 420, December 11th, 7:00 p.m., 2nd floor of Education Building
Learning Center chapel — December 12th, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary
Early Learning Center chapel — December 12th, 11:00 a.m., West Wing
After Care chapel — December 14th, 4:00 p.m., sanctuary
Movie Night (*Home Alone*) — December 14th, 7:00 p.m., in the Pumpkin Patch

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —

A Time of Prayer, in the chapel —
Monday, December 10th: 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, December 14th: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

MEETINGS —

Staff meeting, December 10th, Noon, church office
Worship Team, December 10th, 6:00 p.m., chapel

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE — December 15th for January 2019 issue

PRESBYTERTIAN WOMEN —

Deborah Circle — December 10th, 11:30 a.m., chapel

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***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

***DEADLINE:
Noon, December 12th***

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 9 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Bell Choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m.
WaumbaLand – Sanctuary / Chapel 10:00 a.m.
WaumbaLand Worship – Baptism - 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.

Monday, December 10

A Time of Prayer – Chapel 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Deborah Circle – Chapel 11:30 a.m.
Staff Meeting — Church Office Noon
Worship Team – Chapel 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11

Boy Scout Troop 420 - 2nd floor of Education Building 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12

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

Thursday, December 13

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

Friday, December 14

A Time of Prayer - Chapel 9:00 a.m. – Noon
After Care Chapel - Sanctuary 4:00 p.m.
Movie Time – Pumpkin Patch 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Newsletter deadline

Sunday, December 16 – 3rd 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.
Word of God Bible Church – Sanctuary & Chapel 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

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 9** WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Worship - 11:00 a.m. — Baptism
Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale, Noon
- December 12** Noon - Deadline for Christmas Food & Angel Tree donations
- 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

DEADLINE: Noon, Wednesday, December 12

Please consider sharing Christmas with a child in need.

Gift tags are available in the narthex/lobby.

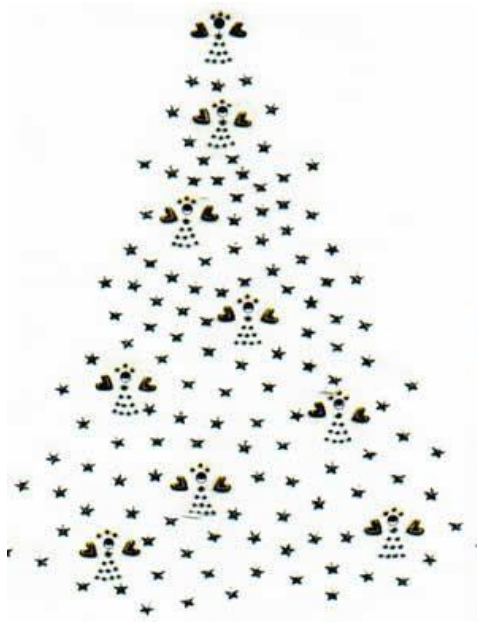
Take an “angel” from the display, then purchase a gift.

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

Return your UNWRAPPED gift

to the church December 12th.

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



When Pammy and I returned from school in the fall of my junior year, terrible news unfolded: our English teacher had become a born-again Christian.

Anne Lamott, Traveling Mercies

The trouble with born-again Christians is that they are a bigger pain the second time around.

Herb Caen, Columnist

People are not resistant to change. They make changes all the time. They are resistant to being changed.

Bill Owens

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

I am just a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world.

Mother Teresa

**Let the Stable Still Astonish; Let the stable still astonish;
Straw – dirt floor, dull eyes, Dusty flanks of donkeys, oxen;
Crumbling, crooked walls; No bed to carry that pain,
And then, the child, Rag-wrapped, laid to cry in a trough
Who would have chosen this?
Who would have said: “Yes,
Let the God of all the heavens and earth
Be born here, in this place?”
Who but the same God Who
stands in the darker, fouler rooms of our hearts and says,
“Yes, let the God of heaven and earth be born here –
in this place.**

Leslie Leyland Fields

**O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth**

O Holy Night, translation by John Sullivan Dwight

**My sweet Lord...are you not my mother and more than my mother?...
For when the hour of your delivery came you were placed on the hard bed
of the cross, and your nerves and all your veins were broken.**

**And truly it is no surprise that your veins burst when
in one day you gave birth to the whole world.**

Marguerite d'Oingt, 13th century French nun

**Comfort yourselves. It is not from yourselves that you should expect grace;
but, on the contrary, it is in expecting nothing from yourselves,
that you must hope for it.**

Blaise Pascal, French mathematician and theological thinker

A WORD FROM KENNEDY

THE ANGEL TREE IS ALMOST COMPLETE!!

After only one Sunday, out of 64 angels needed, 43 have already been claimed! That leaves **only seven more angels needed** for our partners at Hollywood Central, and **14 more for our own children at the Learning Centers**. As, Hollywood Central will need their presents by this Wednesday (December 12th), Alice Carlisle and her team are making those angels the primary focus. After those angel needs are filled, we'll move back toward the Learning Center Angel needs for which we have another week or so to fill. So, if you haven't yet become an angel, please go back today to the church lobby or narthex, and pick up your bag to put your gift in. If you pick up a **Hollywood Central child, please get your gift back to either the church or preschool office by noon this Wednesday**. The limit for a gift is \$25.00, and within that budget you can do a toy or clothing - or if you are a good bargain shopper, both! Let's do all that we can to make sure these 64 children have at least one present under the tree this Christmas!

Keep in mind, too, that we are also doing a food drive for Hollywood Central to help families in need provide for their children over the long Christmas break. Please also bring that food in this week by noon on Wednesday, as well.

THE LIGHT IS ALREADY COMING WITH THE 2018 CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN!

For centuries during this season before Christmas called Advent, we've lit candles and shared the light. And Christians set Christmas near the darkest day of the year to show how in Jesus, the light of God's love, broke into the darkness of our world as never before. Already, gifts are coming in to let that love shine through our annual Christmas giving campaign, including a commitment for a **\$5,000.00 match!** That means every dollar you give will be doubled!

\$25 become \$50! \$50 becomes \$100!! \$500 becomes a thousand!!! You get the idea. 😊

This year, your Christmas gifts will shine that light far and wide! First, over these last months, we have seen two disasters devastate parts of our nation. We saw Hurricane Michael subject the panhandle to stunning devastation and loss; and in California, we saw fires so intense that the town of Paradise, along with untold numbers of its citizens, was destroyed 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 towards supporting that recovery work in the Panhandle and California.**

Last year, when Irma struck Hollywood, 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 home's owners (a home that finally lost its license to operate last week). That tragedy led us to work 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 wanted to 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, as we work with our sister churches to address these crucial issues.**

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 help us sustain the work of this church in an increasingly challenging financial environment.

So 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. And 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 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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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 5 PM
(staff and worship meetings take up the rest of the day.)

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

Wednesday – 1 PM to 4 PM (preschool chapels and lunch take up the morning)

Friday – 10AM to Noon (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.