



# Congregational Crier!



November 28, 2021  
Page 1

**Middlebury Congregational Church**  
203-758-2671 • [www.middleburyucc.org](http://www.middleburyucc.org)

1242 Whittemore Rd.  
Middlebury CT 06762

## WELCOME FRIENDS & VISITORS!

We are glad you are with us in person or virtual worship as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. If you would like more information on the Church, please call the church office.

**Large print Bulletins** are available. If you would like one, please ask an usher.



**Accessible restrooms**, equipped with baby changing stations, are located on the Upper Level and may be easily accessed using the elevator. The elevator entrance is located through the exit door in the front of the sanctuary on the left.



**Childcare** for infants through preschool age children is available in the Storytelling Room which is in the upper level Sunday School wing. If you need assistance finding the nursery, please ask an usher.

Although we pray for all who serve in the military, we are individually praying for the following in the military services stateside or overseas: Jeff Blake, Jake Brown, Tyler Kamide, Cameron O'Bar.



## HEARING ASSISTANCE



We now have headphones to assist you in hearing the service. So, if you don't want to miss a word of the lovely music, the announcements, the readings, or the sermon please let John DiCorpo know and he will set you up with a pair.

## Online streaming

We are Live Streaming the Sunday Service on YouTube via a link on the Church's Website [www.middleburyucc.org](http://www.middleburyucc.org). The link will bring you to our YouTube page where you can view the streaming service along with past services.

*If you do not want to appear in the video please choose a pew downstairs in the last 5 rows. Also, during the 'Prayers on Behalf of the Congregation' you may not want to mention last names.*

### TODAY

Sun., Nov. 28      **10:00 am**      **Worship**  
*First Sunday of Advent*

### NEXT WEEK

Tues., Nov. 30	12:00 pm	AA (A)
	7:30 pm	AA (A)
Thurs., Dec. 1	8:00 pm	Stewardship (Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Diaconate (CR)
	7:00 pm	Scouts Troop 5 (A) & 6 (SR) Troop Comm. Mtg. (BT)
	10:30 am	AA (A)
Sat., Dec. 4	10:30 am	AA (A)
	4:00 pm	Town Tree Lighting on The Green followed by Cocoa with Santa
Sun., Dec. 5	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>

## Advent & Christmas Eve Services - Invitation to Participate

As we prepare to celebrate the joy of Christ's birth, you are warmly invited to be a part of upcoming services by either lighting advent candles and/or reading at the Christmas Eve church services. Multiple people can join to light advent candles on the Sundays listed below so if you'd like to do it with a partner, let us know.

- Lighting Advent Candles - December 5th, 12th, 19th
- Christmas Eve Service Readers - 5:00 pm or 11:00 pm service

If interested, please e-mail Pastor Katrina.



## Dealing with Holiday Stress: How to Stay OK on the Road More Travelled

*The holidays can be a time of tremendous stress for people. This presentation will focus on easy techniques for dealing with that stress. The presentation itself is designed to be relaxing and everyone should be able to go home already breathing a bit easier. All are welcome.*

**Tuesday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00-8:30pm**

In the Social Room

*Please wear a mask*

### MISSION PROJECTS

**Star Tree:** Stars are available in the sanctuary today on the multiplication table (early for Black Friday shopping!) and are full of the bright hopes of many children. Through our Covenant to Care program, we have agreed to provide gifts to 60 children at Christmas in the Wellmore program in Waterbury. Ages for these children range from newborns to teenagers, but they all have one thing in common: this will probably be the only gift the children receive this Christmas. Please pick a star, purchase the requested gift(s) (at a cost of no more than \$35 per gift), and place the wrapped gift(s) with the star attached to the outside under the tree in the sanctuary (or the office) before December 16th at 10:00 am. You are more than welcome to choose more than one star! Stars for family members are grouped together and by color on the list.

**Vegetables for the Middlebury Food Bank:** The Middlebury Food Bank has asked for people to donate onion, potatoes, carrots, squash, and other vegetables that don't require refrigeration to supplement the canned goods that are regularly donated. You can bring vegetables on Sundays, and volunteers will make sure to bring them to the Middlebury Food Bank.

**Sock-It-To . . . Homelessness!:** We are collecting socks through the winter months, to be donated to GWIM, for the homeless. We are collecting new or gently used socks for all ages and all sizes. We will accept mismatched socks you may have at home, but please match them up as best you can to make a pair before you donate them. You will find a basket on the Multiplication table where you can put your donations.

### **Christmas Baskets**

We are sponsoring three local families (the same families we sponsored for Thanksgiving) and providing them with a Christmas dinner! To help make this family's holiday a little better, sign up to donate something (you are more than welcome to take more than one item) on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. As with other sign-ups, if you can't sign up in person, let Jeanine know and she will help you! We need to have all donations in by December 20th.

### Mark Your Calendar!



<b>Dec. 4</b>	Town Tree Lighting @ 4:00 Followed by Cocoa with Santa
<b>Dec. 7</b>	<b>Presentation</b> – Dealing with Holiday Stress: How to Stay OK on the Road More Travelled
<b>Dec. 16</b>	Star Tree gifts due in the office <i>no later than 10:00am</i>
<b>Dec. 20</b>	Christmas Basket Donations due in the office <i>no later than 10:00am</i>
<b>Dec. 19</b>	Christmas Pageant during Worship service
<b>Dec. 24</b>	5:00 & 11:00 Christmas Eve Services
<b>Dec. 25</b>	Christmas Day ~ Office Closed
<b>Dec. 27</b>	Office Closed