



# Congregational Crier!



December 5, 2021  
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**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 Second Sunday of Advent. We remind you that all believers are welcome to share the Lord's Supper. We ask that you hold the bread and the cup until you are invited to partake together signifying our unity in Christ. 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., Dec. 5      **10:00 am**      **Worship**  
*Second Sunday of Advent*

## NEXT WEEK

Mon., Dec. 6	5:30 pm	Mission Board (CR)
Tues., Dec. 7	12:00 pm	AA (A)
	7:30 pm	AA (A)
Wed., Dec. 8	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts (SR)
Thurs., Dec. 9	7:00 pm	Scouts Troop 5 (A) & 6 (SR)
	10:30 am	AA (A)
Sat., Dec. 11	10:30 am	AA (A)
Sun., Dec. 12	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>

*Third Sunday of Advent*

## Christmas Pageant

Our annual Christmas Pageant is back! It will be held on Sunday, December 19th during the worship service. We are looking for volunteers of all ages to participate in various roles and also as readers and singers. We will not be having the traditional choir due to covid safety, but rather having small groups or soloists sing some of our favorite hymns (also available for sign up!). Rehearsal will be Saturday, 12/18 from 10am-12pm.

If you'd like to participate, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F48AAAF2FA7FC1-christmas> or email Valerie Beard ([valeriebeard86@gmail.com](mailto:valeriebeard86@gmail.com)) for more information.

## Advent Wreath Craft

As a way to create some intergenerational fun, we have created an easy wreath making craft open to both kids and adults. Kits are available in the Social Hall. Please take one, and enjoy the quick craft and accompanying weekly prayers, good for all ages!



## 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:** All of the stars have flown off the Star Tree! Thank you to all of you who took a star or stars. Just a reminder that your purchased gift(a) should cost no more than \$35 per gift. This makes it fair to everyone especially family members. Your gift(s) are due on **Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> no later than 10:00am**. Please place the wrapped gift(s) with the star attached to the outside under the tree in the sanctuary or the office.

**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 Christmas dinner and a small Christmas gift! To help make this family's holiday a little better, sign up to donate something on the sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer outside the kitchen. You are more than welcome to take more than one item. 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!



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