

"...she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spírít." ~Matthew 1:18 Shoprite Cards available after 9am and before 10:30am worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

1. Looking forward to seeing you this Sunday (December 5th) for **WORSHIP** at 9:00am and 10:30am. This Sunday is the **SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT** †

\*We will also stream both services at http://www.fumctr.com/onlineworship

2. Because of a bequest from Alta Tidball, our Trustees will be able to make significant improvements to the Thompson Hall area. These include upgrading the ceiling, lighting, paint, and carpet. As a result, TH will be unavailable through the end of the year. Please check the calendar for your new meeting location. Many thanks to the Tidball family!

Special Charge Conference for the Church Council <u>TONIGHT</u> at 7pm via Zoom

3. There will be a meeting with our **Bishop, John Schol**, for all laity in the Southern Region of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference on December 13 at 6:30pm via Zoom. If you are interested, contact Pastor Ed for the Zoom link.

4. Our **Diaper Drive** for The Maker's Place in Trenton will be THIS SUNDAY (12/5). Please bring your diapers (they especially need size 6) to worship on Sunday.

5. We are so happy to welcome Julie Kidd as our *Children's Christian Education Director* (beginning 12/1)! Julie's main focus will be to revive our Sunday School and re-establish our Vacation Bible School Ministry. Please pray for Julie, offer your help when you see her on Sundays, and spread the word that Sunday School will be back early next year!

6. **Do you like history?** Joseph Latshaw is looking for volunteers to help make exhibits for our glass showcase in the Education Wing. This will help convey First Church's rich history since 1828. If you're interested, contact Joseph at <u>rjl072001@gmail.com</u>

7. Advent Study with Pastor Ed...Advent through the Eyes of Joseph – STARTS TOMORROW & continues through December (1,8,15,22) at 10:00am AND 6:45pm. Meets in Sanctuary.

8. Thinking Ahead – Our **Christmas Eve Services** will be held at 5pm in the Family Life Center and at 7pm in the Sanctuary. We will be using real candles <sup>(2)</sup>

9. As we prepare for Jesus' arrival in this season of Advent, **there are so many people who still need to know the wonderful grace of Jesus.** Your regular giving to this ministry allows your church to continue and/or start up new outreach ministries (like Sunday School!) that will help people encounter the love of God on a daily basis. Also, in this season, please consider a special gift to First Church as we wrap-up & prepare for another year of life-changing ministry! Thank you <sup>(2)</sup>

Dec Birthdays
Candice Vesce (5)
Karen Van Gorder (5)
Karen Purcell (5)
Sonia Butler (8)
Dolores Fredrichs (8)
Dec Anniversaries
Dan & Pati Rubino (6)

Electronic Giving Address: www.fumctr.com/donate

**To Mail Your Offering** (thank you for the gift of a stamp!) ATTN: Financial Secretary, First UMC 129 Chestnut Street, Toms River, NJ 08753

In Person: We pass the plates/baskets during worship or you may drop off your offering to the office during the week.

I love you, **Pastor Ed** (cell: 609-617-5182)