

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

JOIN US
this Season



- THANK YOU -
for supporting
our **37th Annual**
Christmas Tree Sale!

Enjoy your tree's first ornament
decorated by our Church School children.



ADVENT SUNDAYS

Each Sunday between Thanksgiving and Christmas, we count down the weeks until our Christmas Eve celebration. We have two morning services at 8:00 and 10:00. We provide Nursery Care at the 10:00 service.

We lift weekly themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love as we journey toward Bethlehem. Our Chancel Choir helps us celebrate the season on December 11. Our Handbell Choir and Children's Choir share joyful songs on December 18. Experience all the beauty of the season as we worship together.



WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT VESPER SERVICES

Each Wednesday evening at 6:30, we offer a mid-week candlelit Advent Communion Vesper Service, open to everyone. The services are 30-minutes long and held on November 30, December 7, 14, and 21.

We use scripture, prayer, and a Christmas carol to create a calm and peaceful space amidst the hurry and busy-ness of the season. Pastor Scott tells the story behind the writing of a different carol each week and the service concludes with a simple sharing of Communion.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00, 7:00, & 9:00

We have three candlelight services on Christmas Eve. While they all involve festive carols of the season and the telling of the story of Jesus' birth - each one is unique. Plan to experience the rich joy of the coming of God's Son into the world!

5:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant

Led by our 8th grade Confirmation Class, this worship service for the young, and young at heart, is a wonderful celebration of Christmas joy for the whole family. We will join Mary and Joseph as they journey toward Bethlehem and encounter angel messengers with the shepherds as they discover a child wrapped in swaddling cloth, laying in a manger.

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7:00 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols
With sacred text and Christmas carols, this service tells the story of salvation beginning in Old Testament prophecy and continuing through the gospel proclamation. A beautiful and inspiring narrative with our Chancel Choir leading the way in song. This is a classic and meaningful service with all the joy of the season brought forward; "O come let us adore him! Christ the Lord".

9:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion
Our late service includes the story of Jesus' birth, singing beloved Christmas carols, and adds an essential element of Jesus' ministry as we break bread together and celebrate Communion. What could be more meaningful on a Christmas Eve than sharing the Sacrament with one another and with Christ in the beauty of our Sanctuary.

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portucc.org