

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 20: Sunday School, 9 am

Sunday, November 20: Adult Sunday School, 9 am in SWR

**Sunday, November 20: Celebration Service, 9 am in the
Youth Chapel**

**Sunday, November 20: Live Worship Service, 10 am in the
Sanctuary**

Live stream available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/PiratesoftheColumbia>

**Sunday, November 20: Decorating of the church, right after the 10
am Worship Service**

**Wednesday, November 23: Pastor Mark's Bible Study In Person or
on Zoom , 11 am**

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/96778398043>

**Sunday, November 27: All- Church Tri-City American Americans
Game, Puck drop at 4:05 pm**

**Saturday, December 3: KFUMC Bus will be in the Downtown
Kennewick Hometown Holiday Parade, 10 am (more information
to come)**

**Sunday, December 4: Holly Daze Encore in between and after the
two Worship Services.**

**Sunday, December 18: Children and Youth's Christmas Pageant, 10
am**

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve Services, 4 & 7 pm

Believe it or not Thanksgiving is coming up next week. As much as we are all looking forward to celebrating with friends and family, Thanksgiving has for years in our family meant that the Sunday after Thanksgiving begins the season of Advent and the anticipation of Christmas!

The word “advent” derives from the Latin “adventus”, meaning “coming.” During its earliest observances, Advent was 40 days of repentance, fasting and prayer as new believers prepared for their baptisms. Oftentimes, these baptisms took place on the day of Epiphany--which is a day remembering the Magi’s visit to baby Jesus; it was a celebration of Jesus’ incarnation on Earth. But Advent is not merely a time of waiting to celebrate an event that happened in the past. It is also an anticipation of the fullness of Christ to be made real in us... here and now... today. It is not just a time to wait for Jesus coming, but a time to anticipate Jesus’ “comings”... not just remembering that Jesus was born in a manger years ago, but that Jesus is born in us today!

During this season of Advent, we will decorate the sanctuary with holiday decorations that have traditional and spiritual meaning during the season

(Join us Sunday, after the 10 am worship service to help decorate!) Because we are having so many special services and celebrations to mark the season, we will be combining the 9 am and 10 am worship services during Advent so we can all experience the excitement and celebration during the season. (The 9 am service will resume in January.)

I hope it is a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration for you, your friends and family next Thursday, and I hope that you will join us as we gather together during the season of Advent and celebrate that “God is with us” not only in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, but also in the birth of Jesus in our hearts!

Pastor Mark

Decorating for Advent

Join us **after the 10 am Worship Service on Sunday, November 20th** to decorate the Sanctuary with the traditional Advent seasonal decor.

Christmas Pageant News

We are having a Christmas Pageant this year! It will be during the **10:00 AM service on December 18th with a dress rehearsal on December 17th at 10:00 AM.** If your child wants to participate, we have parts to fit everyone's needs. Please call the church office or email starlite@kennewickfirst.com for more information. You can also inquire with Jackson McMurray (Pageant Director), Sierra Hogg (Assistant), or Starlite Buchholz.

Holly Daze Encore

Did you miss the Holly Daze Bazaar in October? Do you need gifts or baked items for the holidays? Holly Daze Encore will return on the first **Sunday of December, the 4th, in between and after the two church services.** This is a special sale just for church members and friends. United Women of Faith (previously United Methodist Women) use the profits from the October and December events to fund local, national, and international missions. Congregational support of this bazaar will help fund youth activities, camperships, Grace Kitchen, and Grace Clinic, to name just a few. Thank you to those who help United Women of Faith in this endeavor.

Thursday Evening Music Gatherings

Do you play an instrument? Do you like to sing? Beginning next Thursday evening at 6:30 pm in the Youth Chapel we will be once again inviting anyone that wants to come and learn some new songs (or play some familiar ones) to play together in a fun light hearted time of music and fun. Feel free to bring your guitar, bass or Kazu, and join us for a fun time together