

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Concord, California

December 2024



Christmas Giving Tree Thank You



Thank you to those of you who participated in our Christmas Giving Tree ministry this year by providing wrapped Christmas presents and/or grocery gift cards for four needy families. We contributed to two families selected by Hope Solutions and two families selected by Humanity Way. Hope Solutions and Humanity are local ministries that we regularly support.

Sing Joy – Our Christmas Concert on December 1



We hope you did not miss our Christmas Concert, "Sing Joy" on December 1. This was a joint presentation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. It was an extraordinary musical program featuring the combined church choirs, a full orchestra, and several prominent vocalists from the local area. A reception followed the program. Photos from the presentations appear below, and you can view the concert video by clicking here. <https://tinyurl.com/Dec1-concert>

Christmas Wishes to All



God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;
the warmth of Christmas, which is love;
the radiance of Christmas, which is purity;
the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;
the belief in Christmas, which is truth;
the **all** of Christmas, which is **Christ**.

~ Wilda English

Christmas Offering – Intervarsity Christian Fellowship



Our Christmas Offering this year will benefit the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship chapter at Diablo Valley College. Its director is Julie Hamiter, who has visited us in the past and will be visiting us again soon. Three of the student leaders spoke at the service this past Sunday.

This ministry creates a welcoming community for students by reaching out to international students, creating friendships, providing social activities, Bible studies, and field trips, and helping with transportation needs.

Special Christmas envelopes for your donations may be found in the pew racks, the narthex, and the choir loft. Please give above and beyond your regular pledge. You may contribute by cash, check, or by using Zelle. Indicate “Christmas Offering” on the envelope or check or in the comment space on your Zelle submission. The deadline for giving is Tuesday, December 31. Contact: Ann Johnson for more information.

Christmas Calendar at FPCC



Dec 24 7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25	Christmas Day – No Service
Dec 31	Last Day for Christmas Offering



The following Elders and Deacons were elected at the Congregational Meeting on December 8. New Elders: Josh Maitland and Angela Salinas. (3-year terms); Returning Elders: Jon Myers, David Stearns, and Jim Whitfield (3-year terms). New Deacon: Maria Salinas (3-year term); Returning Deacon: Wayne Matzen (3-year term). Trustee: Josh Maitland (3-year term).



Rev. Dr. Carol Antablin Miles
 Rebecca Chase, CLP
 Lisa Justice, Student Pastor
 Darryl McCollum, CLP
 DeVonn Stamos, CLP
 Andrew Cardiasmenos
 Robin Stearns
 Linde Weber
 Harold Lund

David Dowell

FPCC Staff

Transitional Pastor
 Commissioned Pastor for Community Care
 Seminarian in Residence & Church Administrator
 Commissioned Pastor for Outreach
 Commissioned Pastor for Urban Ministries
 Director, Music & Worship
 Preschool Director
 Financial and Human Resources Specialist
 Custodian & Night Watchman

Editor, First Press and Express

Editor’s Note:

First Press is a publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Concord, California, printed several times each year.

Christmas at FPCC

Our Decorated Sanctuary



Christmas Concert with St Andrews Presbyterian



O Come Let Us
Adore Him

