

2020 December Newsletter Rochester United Methodist Church



An Advent Message of Hope from Pastor Pam Brokaw

As we began the Advent Season of hope and expectation, I find myself dreaming about a much different year to come. It is a joyful prospect!

2020 has seen us gently care for one another as we have worshipped outside and on-line. We've served take away meals, created on-line worship with the South Sound Co-Op of Churches, held church meetings on Zoom and Bible Study, too. We have done this to keep one another and our community safe.

We will do this for a while longer, but hope for a vanquished virus and vaccines is growing. After eight long months, the dark cloud is lifting, the light of a new time is coming. I pray that next Christmas (and much sooner) we will again gather in-doors. In the meantime, we will continue to worship safely outdoors and online.

Worship and ministry will be hopeful, joyful and reflect the deep faith of our community of believers. We will hang the Sanctuary greens and messages will be recorded and shared on Facebook and YouTube. We will hold two outdoor Sunday worship services in Rochester, a late afternoon tree lighting and Christmas Eve worship, too. This newsletter has a full calendar of many ways to prayerfully and gratefully experience this Advent Season while doing no harm. We will do this together out of love.

Let us prepare to welcome Christ, the light of the world!

Blessings,
Pastor Pam



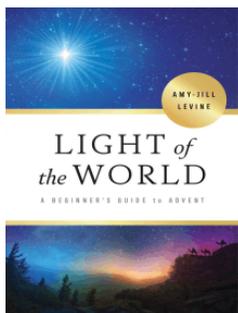
Advent Meaning and Opportunity

Ways to be Involved in December at Rochester United Methodist Church

Meaning of Advent



Advent is the season of four weeks that includes four Sundays. The name Advent comes from the Latin *adventus* that means “coming.” This year, the first Sunday of Advent is November 29. This begins a time in which the community of faith prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ.



This weekly on-line Bible Study is a four-week reflection on the ***Light of the World*** book by Amy Jill Levine. Copies of the book are available on Amazon. You can still join in the scripture discussions without the book. The Zoom link is <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/949722591> Join Pastor Pam and Pastor Sunday of Tumwater UMC. Book study begins Nov. 30.

Advent Weekly Bible Study with 2 Pastors and a Bible



First and Third Sundays from 2 – 3 p.m. RUMC is providing free take-away Sunday dinners. Call the church at **360-273-5000** to reserve a meal (s). Delivery is available. Donations accepted but not required. We are serving up hot meals both Sunday afternoons. December meals are on the 6th and the 20th.

First and Third Sunday Take Away Dinners



RUMC is partnering with ROOF Community Services to provide gifts to families in need this Christmas. You can adopt a family, provide new and unwrapped gifts, gift cards or make a financial contribution to ROOF. For information call the church at **360-273-5000** or contact ROOF at **360-273-6375** or www.ROOFCommunityServices.org

Operation Santa with ROOF