



# PREPARING FOR ADVENT

## ADVENT IS COMING!

### Advent Book Study

Looking for ideas on how to have a Christmas with less stuff and more meaning? Join us as we use the book *Advent Conspiracy: Making Christmas Meaningful (Again)* to dive into four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts - Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All - to help us substitute consumption with compassion and focus on Jesus' birth. We will meet on Mondays for four weeks (Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18). Join us from 2 - 3 p.m. in the Conference Room or from 6- 7 p.m. on Zoom. [Email Pastor Nicole to sign up!](#)

### Advent Wreath Workshop & Crèche Piece Pick-up on Sunday, Dec. 3

Join us after worship on Sunday, Dec. 3 in Social Hall as we prepare for the arrival of the Advent season. **Lunch will be served!** Click [here](#) to:

- Sign up to make an Advent wreath with evergreens and candles to take home and enjoy through the season
- Pick up your next (or first) nativity scene figure to put together at home
- Sign up to be part of an Advent service by lighting the weekly Advent candles or participating in another way.

Adding a figure to your own crèche (miniature nativity) is a long-standing tradition here at First Pres. If you're new, we know which piece to start you on. If you've done this before, we've kept track of which ones you have and which one is next for you.

### Advent Devotional Emails

This year we will be sharing the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) resource called "United in Hope," which showcases the multicultural richness that exists in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This devotional features the writings of many leaders who serve in our communities of faith. The welcome below comes from Stephanie Vazquez, Manager of Global Language Resources for the PC (USA).

If you received the daily devotional offerings in the seasons of Advent and Lent last year, you will automatically be added to this year's list. If you **have not** received them in the past, but would like to start now, please [email Megan Huber](#) to sign up. Similarly, if you have received the devotional offerings in the past, but want to be removed from the distribution list, please [email Megan](#). (Clicking "unsubscribe" on the emails removes you from all church emails, not just this kind!).

*The Advent season is a time of reflection and anticipation, a period of spiritual preparation leading up to Christmas. It is a time when many of us seek to deepen our connection with our faith, our values, and our sense of community. This devotional serves as a bridge that connects us to one another and reminds us that, in the Advent season and always, our differences are not obstacles but God's gifts that enrich the tapestry of our shared experiences. In Advent, we all can come together in joy, love and above all, hope.*

*In the Advent spirit, let us commit to embrace and celebrate the God-given diversity that surrounds us as we read, reflect on, and participate in the "United in Hope" devotional. In doing so, may we rekindle the spirit of unity and inclusivity that this season embodies. Together, we can make this Advent a time of deeper understanding, greater empathy, and boundless love.*

*May this devotional be a beacon of light that guides us through the season and reminds us of the beauty in our world's diverse traditions.*

We hope you'll join us this Advent in receiving this abundant gift of broad-reaching voices and experiences!