

Advent Service Calendar

Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation. We look back at our faith ancestors who waited for God. While the world celebrates Christmas from November on, Christians live in the in between time, looking back with joy remembering God breaking into the world in the form of a helpless infant to reveal a grace beyond our imagination which helps us to look forward in hope to the fulfillment of God's kingdom, a time when there will be no more crying or pain because the former things have passed away. No matter the reason, gifts, including acts of service, should always be given to honor the recipient, and not ourselves.



Sunday, December 1

Start with gratitude! In a public space of your home, create a list of gifts you already have. Add to it anytime!

Monday, December 2

Phone a Friend Monday: Call someone who you know is grieving. Tell them that you are praying for them during this season and invite them to the Longest Night Service at SMPC on Sunday, December 15.

Tuesday, December 3

Take 15 minutes to Google "Haiti News 2019" and look through at least four sources about the misrule in Haiti. With your household, write a prayer for SMPC's friends in Bayonnais, Haiti. Please consider turning this prayer in to Rev. Jessica by sliding it under her office door.

Wednesday, December 4

Sign up to shop for supplies for the Center of Hope breakfast www.smpchome.org/community.

Thursday, December 5

Volunteer to record a chapter of a book in the public domain by visiting www.librivox.org.

Friday, December 6

Go through your gently-used items and decide what can be passed along to a new owner.

Hint: Urban Ministries is often in need of items for warmth.

Saturday, December 7

Build a "Thank You Basket." Fill it with items to give to community helpers that you interact with throughout the season *mail deliverers, waste collectors, nurses, etc.*

Sunday, December 8

Participate in the Alternative Gift Market. Buy gifts for family or friends or take the time to read about our partners in ministry in our community and world.

Monday, December 9

Phone a Friend Monday:
Call a friend you have lost touch with and catch up.

Tuesday, December 10

Read about Loaves & Fishes at loavesandfishes.org. Decide as a household how you will contribute to this ministry.

Wednesday, December 11

Clean up a public space, like a nearby playground.

Thursday, December 12

Leave encouraging notes in books at a library or bookstore.

Examples: "You are valuable." "You matter," etc.

Friday, December 13

Thank a teacher. If you don't have a teacher in your life, contact Kay Dano, x2havfun@earthlink.net for the name of a teacher at one of the schools where SMPC sends tutors.

Saturday, December 14

Offer to keep someone's child(ren) so they can get some errands done.

Sunday, December 15

Call someone and sing them a Christmas Carol.

Monday, December 16

Phone a Friend Monday: Surprise a relative who enjoys talking on the phone. Set aside 30 minutes to chat.

Tuesday, December 17

Leave an encouraging comment on the internet.

Wednesday, December 18

Take a stack of sticky notes and a marker with you wherever you go today and leave compliments for strangers, coworkers, or loved ones.

Thursday, December 19

Volunteer to spend an hour at an assisted living facility.

Hint: Brightmore and Legacy Heights have partnered with our church in the past.

Friday, December 20

Let someone go in front of you in line.

Saturday, December 21

Write a thank you note to someone who has made a difference in your life.

Sunday, December 22

Volunteer to collect the Spoon It Up Offering for the men's shelter or plan with your household to donate to this ministry.

Monday, December 23

Phone a Friend Monday: Call one of your local government representatives and express your hope for an issue that matters to you.

Tuesday, December 24

Worship!



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