



From Pastor Merry...

The holiday season is upon us. As many churches do, we have carried on the tradition of lighting the Advent candles and reading scripture passages to remind us of the hope, peace, joy, love, and adoration we anticipate in the Messiah's arrival. Please take time to think about and experience each of these attitudes with your loved ones during this time of waiting (Advent).

Hope: *Think of something for which you have to wait – finishing your education – finding a new job – a vacation, etc. In the waiting time, think about what God may be trying to teach you as you wait. Knowing that God has things planned for you – plans to take care of you and give you a hopeful future – settle into the waiting with Him and read Jeremiah 29:11-13.*

Peace: *Turn to a news report on TV, in a podcast, or in a news app. Every time you see or hear of a person in need of peace, press pause and pray for them. Ask God to send them prosperity, family and friends to love them, as well as His peace. Imagine the difference your prayers might make on their lives! Read John 14:25-27 to remind yourselves of the gift Jesus left each of His followers – His peace so that we would never feel abandoned or alone.*

Joy: *Turn on some Christmas music and sing. I mean really sing! Offer up your singing as praise to God for this season of waiting. Praise Him with great joy as you remember our Savior's birth and the song of the angels who shared the news with some shepherds who were tending their flocks. Read Luke 2:1-14 slowly as you picture the scenes that led to the angels singing.*

Love: *Wait expectantly as Christmas approaches. Ready your soul with the same love and devotion you are giving to your baking, gift-wrapping, and party plans. Set aside time to love God and love people the way that Jesus modeled this kind of love for us. Read John 15:12-17 and be reminded of His expectation – that we love as He loved.*

Adoration: *Open your eyes to see – really see - the world God created. It is a world full of wonders. Look at your own body and marvel at how all its parts are meant to work together. Read Genesis 1 and remember that God declared everything He created “very good” – and, that includes you! O come, let us adore Him, Park Ridge.*

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us...” (John 1:14)



Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 10-Ladies cookie exchange @ 10:00 am

*Sunday, December 11-Christmas concert @ 7:00 pm
Featuring: Tapestry with Joyce Jarvis & friends*

Saturday, December 24 @ 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

*Sunday, December 25 @ 9:30 am Christmas Morning continental
breakfast and devotional service*

Wednesday, December 28-No mid-week studies



Ladies Cookie Exchange
December 10 @ 10 am, at the church
Bring cookies to exchange and cookies to
share. The number of sharing cookies you
bring is the number of cookies you will bring
home. Invite your friends.
Refreshments will be served.



Christmas Concert with Tapestry
December 11 at 7 pm
At Park Ridge
Enjoy an evening of traditional and
non-traditional carols,



COAT DRIVE



Over 500 coats were collected and delivered to the Open Door Mission!

Thank you to everyone who donated coats!

Many bags of cookies, with invitations to our Christmas events, were handed out to people who donated coats. Thank you to the cookie bakers!

The teens were served a hot breakfast in the morning, after sleeping in the boxes overnight. Thank you to those who served them the breakfast! Thank you to the leaders and teens who made this event possible!

