

# Newsletter

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF ELMHURST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## PASTOR'S + CORNER

REV. TRACI SMITH

### Five Spiritual Practices for Advent

The Spiritual gift of Advent is the gift of waiting for the incarnation. The incarnation is God, wrapped up in flesh, as a baby boy, come down to earth. What does it mean for God to become one of us? What does it mean for God to give up all of God's power to be born as a baby? These are the questions we ask ourselves during Advent. I encourage you to find a spiritual practice that will nurture you this Advent Season. Here are a few:

**1. The spiritual practice of giving.** Perhaps you'll want to help us *fill the stable by bringing in diapers or food to be given to our partner ministries. Maybe you'll want to give financially to ministries that mean a lot to you and your family.*

**2. The spiritual practice of hospitality.** Invite Mary and Joseph to come to your house! Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/EPCMaryAndJoseph> — It's a simple practice, to receive Mary and Joseph and send them on their way. This practice is a reminder of the journey we all take as we seek to follow God. It's also a reminder of what it means to be a gracious host. Who might come to visit you this year?

**3. The practice of prayer** — I think the d365 devotionals are a great place to start. Visit [www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org) for more!

I encourage you to look within the pages of this newsletter and find ways to connect to God at EPC this Advent. We have so many opportunities!

May all the Advent values be with you this year: hope, peace, joy, and love.

With gratitude,

Pastor Traci

## Traveling With Mary and Joseph



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## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

We will be passing out order envelopes the next several Sundays.

Kindly check the boxes for your color preference, total, how you would like your contribution listed, and if you prefer to pick up your plant this year or donate it for deacon delivery.

**ORDER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 12TH**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT PAULA RECKLEY  
(630) 212-5842**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AT ELMHURST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?



## DECEMBER 2022



### TRAVELING WITH MARY & JOSEPH

This Advent season, Mary and Joseph are doing some traveling. Sign up to bring them to your house! Once you receive them, take a photo, and remember their journey to Bethlehem. Then pass it along to the next person signed up!



### FILL THE STABLE

Help us fill the stable all December. We're collecting specific items to deliver to the Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry and our sister church in Chicago. For more information, see page 5.



### HOLIDAY WITH HEARTS

We are partnering with Erie House to provide children with gifts this Christmas. Take a tag off the giving tree at church and return your unwrapped gift with the tag attached by December 4th.



WE ARE HIRING! | INTERESTED? VISIT [EPC@ELMHURSTCHURCH.ORG/ABOUT-US/JOB-OPENINGS/](https://epc@elmhurstchurch.org/about-us/job-openings/)

# Fill the Stable



Accepting Donation Through

## December 2022

Please donate diapers and non-perishable food items.

These items will be delivered to:

Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry & New Deliverance in Roseland/Chicago

**Drop-off Location:**

**Stable in the Nelson White Room**

367 Spring Road,  
Elmhurst, IL  
60126

**Elmhurst Presbyterian Church**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AT ELMHURST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?



## HEADING INTO THE NEW YEAR...



### CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Bring your loved ones as we gather together to celebrate Christmas. Service starts at 10:30 AM. There will be no live stream provided for this service.



### NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

Join us in worship as we welcome the new year and all its blessings! Service begins at 10:30 AM. There will be no livestream provided for this service.



### EPIPHANY SERVICE

All are welcome as we celebrate Epiphany this new year on Sunday, January 8th. Service starts at 10:30 AM.

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AT ELMHURST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?



## DECEMBER 2022



### COOKIE BAKE & EXCHANGE

Join us on Saturday, December 10th at 1 PM for a delicious evening filled with cookies! Bring your family recipes and ingredients to bake them. We will then split them up amongst everyone to bring home. **Bring cookie containers!**



### FESTIVE FAMILY NIGHTS AT EPC!

Bring the whole family and help us spread holiday cheer on Wednesday, December 14th at 6 PM. We will be decorating Christmas cookies for shut ins. A dinner of pizza, veggies, and beverages will also be served!



### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Sunday, December 18th we will be hosting our annual EPC Christmas Pageant. All are welcome as we listen to the story of Jesus' birth. Interested in participating? Contact the church office by phone or email.



### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

All are welcome as we celebrate this Christmas Eve in a candlelight service. Worship will be held on Saturday, December 24th at 5 PM.

WE ARE HIRING! | INTERESTED? VISIT [EPC@ELMHURSTCHURCH.ORG](mailto:EPC@ELMHURSTCHURCH.ORG)/ABOUT-US/JOB-OPENINGS/