

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

- Prayer for ministries of Pastor Earl Kim, Bishop John Schol, D.S. Manuel Sardinas, and Rev. Franck Aguilh.
- Pray for First UMC of Montclair and its leadership.
- Remember these names in your prayer: Ricardo Coward, Nicole Peaks' mother, godparents James and Rochelle Stewart, her cousin April, Coco Kenny and her mother, Rob Lester's father Robert Lester, Gloria Foster's sister Hannah Wedderburn, Dan McGivern, and Langirene, Kennette, Keira, Christopher, Franckie Aguilh.

### Upcoming Small Group Meetings

- N.O.W. Prayer Group: Saturday, December 15, 9am

### Special Church Conference: Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7:30pm

Everyone is invited to this meeting to approve a couple of administrative matters. Please mark your calendar!

### Advent Bible Study

A special Bible study during the season of Advent will be on Wednesdays, Dec.5 to 26 at 7:30pm. You can join us either by coming to the church or by virtually getting connected via Zoom.

### Children's Choir & Classical Ensemble Caroling @ Van Dyk:

#### Sunday, December 9 @ 1pm

Christian Education Committee is bringing our children to Van Dyk to share the joy of the season! Come sing with us!

### Hanging of the Greens: Friday, Dec. 14, 7:30pm

Please come and join us in beautifying the sanctuary for the season!

### Christmas Tea Party: Saturday, Dec. 15, 3pm

Please come and join us for this fun tea party! There will be tea and refreshments, and Christmas carol singalong. Invite your friends! This is a freewill offering event.

## SHARING IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Today,  
December 2

10:00am: Sunday Worship.  
Rev. Earl Kim will deliver the message, "Interruption."  
Please join us for refreshments after the service.

11:30am: Christian Education  
Committee Meeting

11:30am: Youth School

11:45am: Adult Bible Study

Wednesday,  
December 5

7:30pm: Special Church Conference  
Advent Bible Study following the Conference

## WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

### Worship Team

- Liturgist: Hilda Taylor
- Reader: Joe Myers
- Children's Message: Christopher Sterling
- Children's Church: Dr. Leslie Lester & Emilie Pozo
- Ushers: Dr. Michael & Arlene Stewart
- Acolyte: Sarah Nwafor
- Counters: Nicole Peaks & Jasper Nwafor

### Readings

- Hebrew Bible Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4
- Psalter Lesson: Psalm 25:1-10
- Epistle Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11
- Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:1-6



LOVE FIRST.  
SERVE FIRST.

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONTCLAIR

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### December 2, 2018: First Sunday of Advent

**OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS**

We belong to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference  
of The United Methodist Church.

- Rev. John Schol, Bishop
- Rev. Manuel Sardinas, District Superintendent
- Rev. Earl Kim, Pastor
- Ken Rapp, Music Director
- Dr. Michael Stewart, Lay Leader

\* - If able, please stand where indicated.  
Bolder text - said in unison by all.  
LYRICS ON SCREEN

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal  
FWS - The Faith We Sing Songbook

**CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY**

\*Prelude *To Follow a Star – Lani Smith*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: The days are shorter and darkness comes early to our lives.

**All: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.**

Leader: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

**All: Lord, we seek your presence among us.**

Leader: Look closely! God is making us ready.

**All: Brighten our Spirits this day, and help us to receive your Good News.**

\*Opening Hymn *Come, Thou-Long Expected Jesus* UMH 196

Lighting the Advent Candle The Paredes Family

Responsive Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (v.1) UMH 211

**Opening Prayer**

Leader: Christ Jesus, come to us now. Enter our hearts and our lives once more, that we may pay heed to the signs all around us. Awaken us to the reality that time is precious. Make your ways known to us, and lead us in your truth. Stir your love in our hearts, that your church may be strengthened as we worship and work in your world. In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: Loving Creator, you call us to rejoice in your promise of the birth that is to come, but we are afraid. You invite us into a world where justice and righteousness prevail, but we turn away in fear. We long for an easy path into your promised world, but you warn us that there is no easy way. Birth new life within us, that we may abide in your perfect love – the love that casts out fear. Amen.**

*(Pausing for Silent Prayer and Confession...)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor: God's mercy and steadfast love endure, strengthening our hearts and overcoming our fears.

**All: God will remove every obstacle that keeps us from being the body of Christ. Amen.**

**Sharing Our Joys & Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Children's Message Jee Hei Park

Children from PreK to Grade 6 are dismissed to the Children's Room  
- please follow today's teachers, Dr. Leslie Lester and Ms. Emilie Pozo.

Responsive Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child* UMH 206

**CALLED TO THE WORD**

Hebrew Bible Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16 (p.738)

Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (p.204)

\*Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36 (p.85)

Sermon "Interruption" Rev. Earl Kim

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

**CALLED TO REMEMBER**

Hymn of Preparation *Let Us Break Bread* (vs.1-2) UMH 618

Holy Communion Screen & FWS 2257-b&c

Responsive Hymn *Wait for the Lord* Screen

**CALLED TO SHARE**

Offertory *Ye Watchers & Ye Holy Ones* – Wilbur Held

\*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD**

\*Closing Hymn *I Know Whom I Have Believed* UMH 714

\*Sending Forth Rev. Earl Kim

\*Circle of Blessing *Shalom to You* UMH 666

\*Postlude *The Praising Trumpet* – Steven Scott

**Today's Worship Team**

- Preacher: Rev. Earl Kim
- Music Director: Ken Rapp
- Liturgist: Sarah Kezengwa
- Reader: Vidal Guzman
- Children's Message: Jee Hei Park
- Children's Church: Dr. Leslie Lester & Emilie Pozo
- Acolyte: Kira Lindo
- Ushers: Hilda Taylor & Avrille Nicholls
- Advent Candle Liturgy: Jonnathan Paredes, Gaby Paredes, Emilie Pozo, Juan Diego Pozo, Jayden Paredes

**Our Mission Statement**

As members of the First United Methodist Church of Montclair, our mission is to love, encourage, and equip each other to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ; and by inviting, embracing, nurturing, and empowering ALL others, to raise up new disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Office Hours** Church office is open from Tuesdays to Fridays 9am-2pm. Rev. Kim is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30am-12:30pm, and available by phone or by appointment when he is not in the office.

**FUMC's Facebook page** Find First United Methodist Church of Montclair on Facebook! Please "like" the page so that you can be updated with the church's news and photos.

**Flowers for the Special Days** Birthdays, anniversaries – mark the special days in your life with a gift of flowers for the Altar.

**December Birthdays**

1	Langirene Aguilh	16	Amaka Nwafor
8	Donna Foster	19	Chika Nwafor
13	Marco Padilla	28	Wyclif Kezengwa
15	Clarence Pratt	29	Dewey Storms