

# FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UCC

*Growing Faith + Sharing Love + Grounding Lives*



*Merry Christmas*

## We are an Open & Affirming Church

*First Parish of Westwood affirms the dignity and worth of every person regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental ability, family structure, education level, economic circumstance and faith or religious tradition.*

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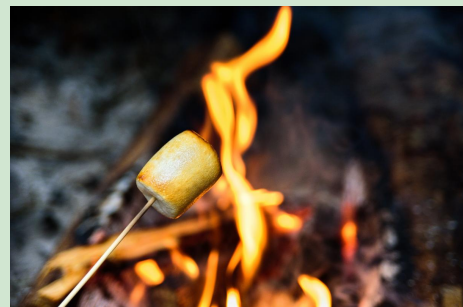
December 22, 2021

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### Christmas Eve Services

#### Campfire Christmas and Virtual Lessons and Carols

The first service on Christmas Eve will be at 5 PM, an in-person family-oriented worship service we are calling **Campfire Christmas**, designed as a more informal gathering that will be outside and shorter. This service will include a few Christmas carols to sing, a family-friendly reading of the Christmas story, an opportunity to end our service in candlelight, and, of course, a campfire with marshmallows to roast and carols to sing.



**NOTE:** Please be sure to dress warmly. Even though the service will be held outside, we encourage people wear masks.

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Our second **Christmas Eve** service will be fully virtual and pre-recorded, posted to Facebook and YouTube around noon on December 24th to view at a time convenient to you. This service will be a full **Lessons and Carols** service, with readers for the various scriptures, a lighting of the Advent wreath, music from the choir and guest musicians, words for the Christmas carols so you can sing at home, a short sermon from Pastor JT, and an opportunity to end our service in candlelight.



by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittmany | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

## December 26 – 1st Sunday After Christmas

There will be no in person worship on Sunday, December 26th, the 1st Sunday after Christmas. We are offering a self-guided at-home worship service. [Click here](#) for the Worship Guide.

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## First Parish is a supported charity on AmazonSmile!

You can now support First Parish of Westwood when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) at no extra cost to you. Simply go to your Amazon account; on the bar on the left - go to **Programs and Features** to find AmazonSmile. There you can choose the charity of your choice (hopefully First Parish of Westwood). 1/2% of your purchase amount will come to First Parish.

## Electronic Giving - So Easy!

As many of you know, First Parish uses Vanco to implement our electronic giving. It is safe, reliable and flexible and it provides the church with a reliable monthly cash flow. It also helps to avoid the year end rush to find out how much is outstanding on your pledge!

During the month of December, we will be introducing laminated cards in the pews so electronic givers can put a card in the offering plate to indicate they give electronically. If you are not currently an electronic giver, please indicate on your pledge card if you would like to start. The Assistant Treasurer, Barb Delisle,





## Important Dates at a Glance

### December

- Friday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services
- 5PM - In person, outdoor Campfire Christmas
- 2nd service online - Lessons & Carols
- Saturday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
- Sunday, Dec. 26 - Self guided, at home worship. There will be no in person worship.
- Monday - Friday, Dec. 27 - 31 - Office Closed

### January (2022)

- Saturday, Jan. 1 - New Year's Day
- Sunday, Jan. 2 - Return to in-person worship

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## COVID Protocols

### COVID Protocols:

\*\*\*\*We are continuing to open windows in the sanctuary during Sunday services as long as temperatures allow. We have blankets available for anyone who needs one. We also encourage people to dress warmly as we head into late fall/winter.\*\*\*\*

Everyone who attends in-person worship should wear a mask and will be asked to sign-in upon arrival. Should it be too cold to have windows open during service, seating in pews will be spaced. The balcony is also available to anyone who would like to be seated there.

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### Office Hours

The office will be closed the week of December 27th.

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STAY CONNECTED

