



# PAL PRES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

PALISADES  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



## — REFLECTIONS —

*“The Light shines in the darkness, and  
darkness did not overcome it”*

*-John 1:5*

When the world appears to be falling apart, the Advent and Christmas texts remind us that with the coming birth of Jesus the old age is passing away and a new age is beginning.

So I have chosen a blessing written by Jan Richardson that speaks to the light that enters into our hearts and lives and challenges us to participate in healing God offers us when our worlds fall apart. May we accept the blessing given to us this Advent and Christmas season.

Angela

### Christmas Eve Services



5:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service

11:00 pm Service of Lessons and  
Carols

On Christmas Eve, we will have two services: the first at 5:30 PM and the second at 11:00 PM. Both will be candle light services and will feature music by our choir, a solo by David Sanders, as well as the singing of traditional carols.

### Where the Light Begins

by Jan Richardson:

Perhaps it does not begin.

Perhaps it is always.

Perhaps it takes a lifetime to open our eyes,

To learn to see what has forever shimmered in front of us---

The luminous line of the map

In the dark, the vigil flame

In the house of the heart,

The love so searing we cannot keep from singing,

From crying out in testimony and praise.

Perhaps this day will be the mountain over which the dawn  
breaks.

Perhaps we will turn our face toward it,

Toward what has been always.

Perhaps our eyes will finally open in ancient recognition,  
willingly dazzled, illuminated at last.

### **Annual Advent Wreath-Making and Potluck**

We will enjoy a potluck supper together, then make Advent Wreaths and sing Christmas Carols. Bring your own Wreath Form. The church will provide pine roping, candles and some decorations. Please bring a dish or dessert to share, and any additional decorations, greens/items from your yards to decorate the wreaths (holly, pine cones, evergreen cuttings, boxwood, bittersweet, etc.). All are welcome! Bring a friend!

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Bible Study Wednesdays 12:15 pm

- 2 Congregational meeting 11:00 am  
Advent Pot luck/wreath making 5:30 pm
- 5 Confirmation 5:30 pm  
Parent Group 7:00 pm
- 9 Deacons Meeting 11:00 am
- 11 Session 7:30 pm
- 12 Confirmation 5:30 pm
- 13 Hanging of the Greens 6:30 pm
- 19 Teen Group 5:30 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve 5:30 pm  
11:00 pm
- 26 No Confirmation/Teen Meeting



## Annual Appeal for Christmas Gifts

Gifts will be collected for children in Harlem hospitals and the surrounding neighborhoods. We need gifts for all ages, especially 8 to 12 year-olds. Good gift ideas include: toy cars and trucks, board and card games, and books. Stuffed animals will be provided by others. Drop off your gifts at the church before December 24. Gifts can be left unwrapped or may be wrapped with a note indicating the appropriate age and gender of the recipient.

## Hanging of the Greens

The Greening of the Church will take place on Thursday, Dec. 13th at 6:30 PM. All are welcome to come and help with this joyful work.



## Deacons Corner

It seems like the holiday season rolled in quickly, partly because Thanksgiving was early this year. In early November we had our Agape service to which we all brought in some food contributions for the potluck brunch. The Deacons plus Elders helped with the set-up, serving, and clean-up. It was a wonderful gathering and great Team work, thank you all! Remember to donate for poinsettias which will be distributed by the Deacons after they adorn the sanctuary for Christmas. If you know of anyone who suffered a loss or went through hardship otherwise, please let us know. Wishing everyone an exciting Advent time and most of all a Merry Christmas!

For rides to and/or from worship contact Margaret Allen, for casseroles contact Denise Cae Tilberis, for special prayers call Stephen van Dyk, and if a memorial service or any other event is being held at the church contact John Guzewich to help coordinate the service!

## Congregational Meeting:

There will be a congregational meeting of The Palisades Presbyterian Church to receive the slate of officers from the nominating committee. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary immediately following worship.

## Pledge Cards:

You can return your pledge cards any time by placing them in the offering plate or by bringing or mailing them to the church office. Your support is so valuable to the life and ministry of the Palisades Church.



## Parking Reminder

During the snow season, everyone must park on the church side of the street so that traffic can pass when the snow piles up.

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Articles due by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month \* Editor Jane Cowan \* [palpresny10964@gmail.com](mailto:palpresny10964@gmail.com)