



St. John's  
United Church of Christ

1513 West Street  
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Hello all, here is my report for November 21– December 18, 2016:

### **Major Events**

November 25 Marriage of Sandra and Jerry Bailey  
November 29, December 6 & 13 Advent Progressive Dinners  
December 6 Cub Scout Emergency Leadership Meeting  
December 10 Morning with Santa  
December 18 Choir cantata, budget meeting, and Troop 309 Christmas Party

### **Cub Scouts**

Due to an unforeseen family situation Steven Fojtik had to resign as incoming cubmaster. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. We will not have new leadership in place for recharter by the end of December. Bob Ray and I are working with the district on relaunching Pack 309 later in 2017.

### **Confirmation Class**

Camp is one of the great experiences that you can only get when your church has a sense of connectivity to the wider church. Our youth get a chance to spend Super Bowl weekend at Slumber Falls. Council has agreed to pay their registration of \$100 each. For their confirmation journey they need Bibles to work with. The Guild has picked up the cost and presented the confirmands with their Bibles on December 11.

### **Souper Bowl of Caring and Scout Sunday**

In 2015 Souper Bowl was on actual Super Bowl Sunday with Scout Sunday pushed to the following week. In 2016 Scout Sunday was on Super Bowl Sunday with the Souper Bowl pushed to the following week. So for 2017 it would make sense to keep the alternating going and have Souper Bowl on Feb 5 and Scout Sunday on Feb 12.

Alternatively, I suggest to have both events on the same day. Scout Sunday consists of the boys participating in the service with greeting, presenting flags, reading, and praying. Souper Bowl really happens after church more than during the service.

A third point for consideration is that I am not going to be here on either Sunday. On Feb 5 I will be at Slumber falls leading confirmation camp and on Feb 12 I will be in Germany. My dad is turning 70 on February 9th and my niece has a birthday on the 14th. So I would like to fly out Feb 8-15.

Our supply preacher for Feb 5 will be Rev. Jenny Veres-Schrecengost from St. John's UMC in Richmond again. I made her aware that both themes are competing for her Sunday. But the truth is here son is a cubscout and I think she could combine the two themes beautifully.

Come and worship with us:  
Sunday at 10:00 a. m.

Visit us online:  
[www.stjohnsitedchurchofchrist.org](http://www.stjohnsitedchurchofchrist.org)



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Our supply preacher for Feb 12 will be Rev. Marilyn S. Fiddmont. She is a Vice President for the Southwest Zone of the Christian Church Foundation. That means she works for the financial ministry of our sister denomination, the Disciples of Christ. I suggested she go with a stewardship theme for her Sunday.

### Christmas Parties

Unfortunately the Women's Guild had to cancel their Christmas Party. I hope that our progressive dinner series has provided a sense of fellowship so that the guild members can still feel the spirit of the season.

Family ministry had its inaugural Christmas party at Jay's Café on December 7<sup>th</sup>. I had a chance to thank them for the services they provide.

### Musical Advent

Besides the tastes and smells, it is the sounds that make the season merry and bright. On the second and the fourth Sunday of advent respectively we had the chance to enjoy very special musical performances. On December 4<sup>th</sup> we had a German Advent Concert following our bilingual service. On December 18<sup>th</sup> our own choir presented their cantata. For weeks they had pulled double-shifts getting ready for this most wonderful performance.

### Looking Ahead

- December 24 Christmas Eve Service is at 6pm.
- December 25 Christmas Day falls on a Sunday and we will have no service.
- December 31 Brotherhood Game Night
- January 3 7pm City Council Prayer
- January 8 Houston Association Council
- January 9-12 Seminar Week at Houston Graduate School of Theology
- January 16 Church Council Meeting
- January 18 6:30 pm Ecumenical Service for Christian Unity at Christ Church Cathedral
- January 19 6:30pm Brotherhood Chili Supper
- January 22 Congregational Meeting
- February 5 Rev. Jenny Veres-Schrecengost preaching
- February 12 Rev. Marilyn S. Fiddmont preaching

Blessings

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