

## OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

### Sunday, December 16

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Braren Library, RM 108

**8:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship, Chapel**

**9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Nursery, Office Area**

9:15 a.m. - Christian Fellowship, RM 103

**9:30-10:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**First Church Kids, Youth Hall**

9:30 a.m. - Faith Cafe, RM 104

**9:30 a.m. - UMW Bake Sale, F.H.**

**9:45 a.m. - Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary**

**11 a.m. - Traditional Worship, Sanctuary**

2 p.m. - Word Weavers, RM 103

**7 p.m. - Christmas Gala & Carol Sing,  
Sanctuary**

### Monday, December 17

7:15 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. - Early Care Center (M-F)

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Church Office (M-F)

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Artisans' World Marketplace (M-F)

10 a.m. - Women's Book Club, RM 104

4 p.m. - ECC Board Meeting, RM 104

6 p.m. - Farmers Market, RM 103

### Tuesday, December 18

10 a.m. - Staff Meeting, Y.H.

### Wednesday, December 19

4:30 p.m. - Children's Song Squad, Y.H.

5:30 p.m. - Youth Ensemble, Choir RM

5:30 p.m. - Praise Band Practice, Sanctuary

6:30-8 p.m. - Youth Group, Y.H.

### Thursday, December 20

12 p.m. - Men's Group, RM 104

**2 p.m. - Board of Trustees, RM 104**

6:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal, Choir RM

### Friday, December 21

### Saturday, December 22

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Artisans' World Marketplace

### Sunday, December 23

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Braren Library, RM 108

**8:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship, Chapel**

9:15 a.m. - Christian Fellowship, RM 103

**9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Nursery, Office Area**

**9:30 - 10:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**First Church Kids, Youth Hall**

9:30 a.m. - Faith Cafe, RM 104

**9:45 a.m. - Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary**

**11 a.m. - Traditional Worship, Sanctuary**



FIRST CHURCH

*Christmas Gala  
and Carol Sing*

TONIGHT ~ 7 p.m. | Sanctuary

FREE Admission      Zenith Garage | Valet Parking

December 16, 2018

# ADVENT

2018

## Sermon Series

# THE GIFT OF THE *Nutcracker*

## *Mountains and Mole Hills*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

104 South Pineapple Avenue Sarasota, FL

941.955.0935 | [www.firstsrq.com](http://www.firstsrq.com)

## MESSAGE AND SCRIPTURE

### THE ORDER OF WORSHIP Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 16, 2018

PRAISE SONG	Celebration Praise Band
WELCOME	Rev. Dr. Sam Wright, Senior Pastor
CHILDREN'S MOMENT	
LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLE	
PRAISE SONGS	
PRAYER	
GREETING ONE ANOTHER	
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS	Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries
OFFERING MUSIC	
GOSPEL READING	Matthew 1:18-21
THE MESSAGE	<i>Mountains and Mole Hills</i> Advent Series: <i>The Gift of the Nutcracker</i>
PRAISE SONG	
BLESSING	
REPEAT CHORUS	

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

4 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service & Children's Pageant  
7 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Service  
6:30 p.m. - Pre-service Music

Zenith Garage | Valet Parking | Nursery - Both Services

## REMINDERS & UPCOMING EVENTS

### AT THE MINISTRY TABLE

Service Opportunity: Poinsettia Delivery

### Service Opportunity - Deliver Poinsettias on December 25 or 26

Would you enjoy delivering poinsettias to our homebound church family? Pick up the poinsettias after the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service or on Wednesday, December 26, at 10 a.m. in the Office Lobby. You choose which delivery date is better for you – Christmas Day or Wednesday, December 26. **Sign up at the Ministry Table today or call the church office this week.** Special thanks to Marilyn Correa for organizing this annual project of First Church love.

### United Methodist Women Bake Sale TODAY | 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

The United Methodist Women invite you to have a merrier Merry Christmas by buying some Christmas Cookies and Goodies. Donations will go to the Missions of United Methodist Women and the General Board of Global Ministries.

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR CARITAS

**Urgent Need:** Male, Year-Round Resident to work in the Caritas Center one Monday a month from 9-11 a.m. For additional information, please contact Phil Johnson ([philj65@msn.com](mailto:philj65@msn.com)) immediately.

### STAFF APPRECIATION

As so many of you know and experience, the First Church Staff serves with caring professionalism in their myriad of weekday and Sunday responsibilities. **The Staff/Parish Committee invites you to express your appreciation of them with a Christmas love offering. Envelopes are in the pew pockets.** Please note "staff gift" on your check or envelope. Thank you for this gift and your other expressions of kindness to the staff throughout the year. ~ Staff-Parish Relations Committee ~

### Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, please use the Prayer Cards in the pew pockets. Prayer Cards can be placed in the offering plate or given to the Pastor. You may also send requests to Joyce Johnson ([jjohnson@firstsrq.com](mailto:jjohnson@firstsrq.com)) or Dr. Sam ([swright@firstsrq.com](mailto:swright@firstsrq.com)). Our Intercessory Prayer Group prays daily with prayers of joys, thanksgivings, and concerns.