



## November Newsletter

### Sunday Worship November 6, 10:15 am

#### Guest Preacher Rev. Emily Brewer

Join us in welcoming the Reverend Emily Brewer to our pulpit. Rev. Brewer is the former Executive Director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, a member of New York City Presbytery, and a board member of the PNYC Young Adult Volunteer program, as well as being active in many social justice ministries within and beyond the PCUSA.

Remember to set your clocks back an hour if they don't reset automatically, as we return to Standard Time. And plan your travel route for any changes due to the New York City Marathon!

### Communion Service November 13

We will celebrate Communion on the second Sunday of November, when Pastor Thia returns from time off.

### Covid, RSV, and Flu Considerations

Covid cases are rising again in New York City. A case was reported by a member of our congregation who attended worship and our Halloween Coffee Hour last week. A case of flu was subsequently reported by another person who attended. RSV is also highly contagious and particularly dangerous for young children.

For these reasons, as the fall continues we once again encourage masks in worship and at any fellowship events. Masking is proven to slow transmission of airborne viruses. If not for your own sake, please consider masking to keep our vulnerable neighbors safer. We would also encourage those who are able to receive the bivalent Covid vaccine and flu shots to do so, as much for the greater health and welfare of the city as for ourselves.

Given the rise in Covid cases, rather than returning to a weekly coffee hour format, **we'll have a fellowship event once a month on the last Sunday of each month.** These events will center around an activity, rather than around food. We'll separate the food and drink to create a more comfortable environment for those who want to minimize health risks. We'll start on November 27 with an Advent wreath-making event (see below).

### Thanksgiving Pie Project Saturday, November 19, 11am–2pm

Join us in our kitchen and community space downstairs at Second Presbyterian Church to prepare pies to share with our unhoused and food insecure neighbors. We'll be donating the pies to Broadway Community for their annual Thanksgiving Day event. With multiple seatings throughout the day, hundreds of Upper West Siders who would not otherwise have a place to celebrate will receive a three-course Thanksgiving meal.

We'll be collaborating with the Alexander Robertson School, the Food Education Fund, and of course, Broadway Community. There are many ways to participate and a sign-up sheet is coming soon!

### **West Side Campaign Against Hunger Annual Turkey Challenge**

We'll be joining in the West Side Campaign Against Hunger annual Turkey Challenge. Stay tuned for more about our partnership with this important work in our neighborhood.

### **Advent Begins Sunday, November 27**

We'll be focusing on immigration this Advent and participating in work with the swelling refugee and asylum-seeking immigrants in the city.

### **Advent Wreath-making After Worship November 27**

We'll gather after worship in the Carnegie Library to make Advent Wreaths to take home and celebrate the light that is coming into the world.

### **Other Upcoming Events**

- **Midweek Advent services 11/30, 12/7, 14, & 21 6 pm**
- **Christmas programs are in the works**
- **Caroling dates to be determined**
- **Christmas Eve, Saturday, 12/24 5:30 pm**
- **Christmas Day Worship, Sunday 12/25 10:15 am**

### **Choir: Wednesdays at 7 pm**

Choir rehearsals take place on Wednesdays at 7 pm and Sundays 9:30 am. Lift your voice to God with the choir—all are welcome and you can schedule each week which rehearsal you'd like to attend.

### **In Our Prayers**

Maxine and her family

Virginia and her sisters, June and Joanne

Prayer group gathers online the last Wednesday of each month at noon. Send your prayer requests and feel free to join as you're able.

*Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer ...and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. —Ephesians 6:18*