



Little Brown Church of Sunol

United Church of Christ – Congregational

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December 2017

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December-January Calendar

Sunday, December 3, 10:30 a.m. ... First Sunday of Advent -- we will decorate the church

Thursday, December 7 ... 20th anniversary, Pastor Mary's ordination in Alameda

Sunday, December 17, 9:30 a.m. ... Church Council meets in Babbitt Hall

Sunday, December 17 ... New confirmands join LBC; also, Adopt-a-Family gifts due at church;

Sunday, December 24, 10:30 a.m. ... Daytime Christmas Eve service

Sunday, January 7 ... Take down Christmas decorations after worship

Monday, January 29, 4 p.m. ... LBC prepares dinner at Fremont homeless shelter

Christmas Season

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. After polling the congregation and much discussion, the Church Council decided that the Christmas Eve service this year will be held at our regular worship time of 10:30 a.m. (If you would like to also attend worship that evening, please check the calendars for nearby churches, including Niles Discovery Church and our other sister UCC churches.)

Also, on December 3, the first Sunday in Advent, we will decorate the church. Please plan to stay after worship and help out.

Adopt-a-Family

As always, members of Little Brown Church will provide gifts for low-income families with children who attend Sunol Glen School. If you are interested in helping, please let Barbara Egbert or David Dogan know. (You can reply to this newsletter, as well.) Along with people to shop for gifts, we will need donations for food. If you want to participate but won't have time to

shop, let Barbara know how many children you are willing to help and she will find a surrogate shopper for you. Typically, each child gets a practical gift and a fun gift in line with their desires.

Gifts should be purchased, wrapped, and brought to the church on Sunday, December 17. Each item should be labeled to identify the family member who will receive the gift. For example, if you are shopping for 10-year-old Girl 3 in Family B, the gift should be labeled "Family B, Child 3, girl, age 10." That way we can be certain each present gets into the proper hands. (Only Pastor Mary knows the actual names of the recipients.)

We provide each family with a box of groceries. Gift cards for grocery stores are also welcome.

Update from Council Chairman Allen Cook

As Little Brown Church council chairman and moderator, I have a few updates for this month's newsletter:

Our next scheduled church council meeting is set for Sunday, December 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Babbitt Hall.

Council action items:

A) Get an estimate for a wood storage shed to replace the metal one on parsonage's rear deck.

Status: We are reviewing the idea of installing a shed on church land north of Kirk House. Costco sells an 8-by-12-foot wooden storage shed kit, manufactured by Oakridge, for \$1,499.99. Additional costs will include estimates for assembling the kit and the cost of preparing the site and pouring a concrete pad.

B) Get an estimate to replace the linoleum floor in Babbitt Hall.

Status: Susan Ewing-Haley is arranging for a flooring company to provide a price quote for installing new linoleum flooring.

C) Light tower for stained glass window illumination.

Status: Kevin Matlock and John Rigter have recently installed electrical conduit, an electrical outlet, and a timer in preparation for erecting a light tower before Christmas.

D) Courtyard fountain motor defective.

Status: Fountain drained. No further action to date

**Thank you all,
Allen Cook**

Next shelter dinner: January 29

We have three dates lined up so far in 2018 to provide the evening meal at Fremont's Sunrise Village homeless shelter. Please let Robin Spindler know if you can help. Menu ideas are also welcome. Many thanks to everyone who helped in 2017!

So far, we have committed to cooking on these dates:

- Monday, January 29, 2018
- Tuesday, April 17, 2018
- Tuesday, June 19, 2018

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LITTLE BROWN CHURCH OF SUNOL

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