

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**A CALLED BUSINESS MEETING** will be held Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30pm. Copies of the proposed 2018 Budget and the 2018 Nominating Committee Report are located in the Narthex on the information shelves.

**WE ARE INVITED** to be Salvation Army Bell Ringers this holiday season. Bell ringers are needed through Dec 23 for 2-hour shifts. There will be no bell ringing on ANY Sundays. Please call the Salvation Army if interested: 642-3443.

**PRAISING GOD AND THANKING ALL OF YOU:** I wish to thank everyone for the uplifting prayers, cards, telephone calls, and warm thoughts I received during my surgery and recovery. Through God's great mercy and grace, I am now cancer free. I am humbled to be a part of the fellowship of GPBC. —In Christ's love, Al West

**G.U.E.S.T. UPDATE:** There will be NO volunteer training December 10th. The next volunteer training will be in January. GPBC will host G.U.E.S.T. January 8-15 and February 12-19. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please call Pauline Littell at 804-815-8030.

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## Advent Wreath Lighting (2nd Sunday in Advent)

Deacon: Jimmy Diggs

**Deacon:** Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

**Congregation:** How does this happen?

**Deacon:** God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

**All:** *"Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of the prophets and forsake our sins, so that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer."*

**Deacon:** A reading from the prophet Malachi: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts," (**Malachi 3:1**)

**Congregation:** We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, then lit one candle. Today, on the second Sunday of Advent, we light the candles of **HOPE** and **PEACE**.

**FIRST and SECOND candles are lit. (PINK and 1 PURPLE)**

**Deacon:** Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus.

**All:** The Way of the Lord is being prepared in our hearts. May every valley be filled and every mountain and hill be made low. May the crooked paths be made straight and the rough ways smooth. When our Lord comes, may all of us then see the salvation of God. Amen.

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