



We Welcome Our Guests to Ankeny First! At today's worship service we pray that you will sense a new and energized connection with the presence of God as we worship through singing, praying, learning, and experiencing together. We invite you to tear off the Connect Card, fill it out and drop it in the offering baskets.

Worshipping at Ankeny First

Children are always welcome in worship, and "Worship Bags" containing children's activities are available for them to use. Childcare is provided on Sunday mornings for infants and toddlers, as well as Sunday School for children ages 3 and up. Just ask an usher for assistance in finding the nursery or Sunday School rooms. A "Wee Care" Room is located in the balcony of the Uptown Sanctuary, so little ones can play while parents watch and listen to worship.

Special Needs At our Uptown location, large print hymnals and bulletins, and wireless hearing aids are available—ask an usher for assistance.

Fellowship You are all invited to Fellowship Time! **Uptown:** Between the three Sunday services in Fellowship Hall. **Faith Chapel:** Between both services. **Christian Life Center:** Between both services. **Spirit Alive:** Before worship.

Communion The first weekend of each month.

Worship	Sunday School
Uptown: 206 SW Walnut St ~ 964-4249	Uptown:
Saturdays 5:00pm ~ Spirit Alive	9:45: 3yr old –8th grade
Sundays 8:30am ~ Traditional	11:00: 3yr old –5th grade
9:45am ~ Relaxed Contemporary	9:45: Seekers (adult)
11:00am ~ New Traditions	9:45: Alpha & Omega (adult)
Christian Life Center: 710 NE 36th St ~ 289-9153	9:45: Disciple's Dojo (adult)
Wednesdays 6:15pm ~ Casual	Christian Life Center:
Saturdays 7:15pm ~ "The Road"	9:00: 3yr old –8th grade
Sundays 9:00am & 10:45am ~ Contemporary	10:45: 3yr old –5th grade
Faith Chapel: 7384 NW 16th St ~ 289-2171	Faith Chapel:
Sundays 9:00am ~ Traditional	10:30am ~ 3yr old-3rd grade
10:30am ~ Casual	

Nursery available at all Sunday services.

At Ankeny First, we are intentional in keeping our Membership covenant to uphold the United Methodist Church by our PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS:

PRAYERS: The following are some of our joys and concerns:

Hospitals: **Methodist:** Lowell Smith **Lutheran:** Dwight Brown **Legacy (Waukee):** Howard Twidt

Discharged: Linda Baker, Jen Charlson, Judy Lukenbill

Altar rose (CLC): In celebration of the birth of Evelyn Kay Wall, daughter of Andrew & Lindsey Wall, on December 10.

Sympathy to: ♦ Rudy Diaz on the death of her brother, Frank Speck, on Dec. 10. ♦ Nancy Myers on the death of her father, Ned Stout, on December 15.

PRESENCE: The following are attendance figures from last week:

WORSHIP (Wednesdays@First)13 (The Road)42 (Sat)35 (8:30)189 (9:45)142 (11:00)198 (CLC-9:00)306 (CLC-10:45)189 (FC-9:00)60 (FC-10:30)49 Total = 1,223

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Uptown)116 (FC)6 (CLC)181 Total = 303

GIFTS: Last week's offering for Christ's work here and around the world:

Operating Budget \$39,520.39 Capital Campaign \$6,702.23 Mission \$6,248.56 Other \$183.08

Find us on the web at www.AnkenyFirst.org.

Adult Study

Alpha—Essentials of Christianity Looking for a way to make new connections? Mark your calendars for the launch of a new Alpha session with a "Come and See" event at the Christian Life Center on Wednesday, **January 13**. We will gather for a meal at 5:30. Invite someone you know to come along too. At Alpha, guests are invited to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting while making great connections to other guests and the Alpha team. Each week, enjoy a meal and a live talk by Pastor Scott Hibben followed by small group discussions. Alpha is for everyone! Come and check out Alpha on January 13!

New Session of Disciple 1 Bible Study Whether you are a new Christian, or have been a believer for many years, the Disciple Bible Study program is designed for everyone who wants to develop their understanding of the Bible and of what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ. You are invited to join the latest Disciple 1 course Thursdays beginning **January 14** from 6:30-8:30pm at the Christian Life Center in room 106/107. Cost is \$40 for the manual. Register at www.ankenyfirst.org/disciple-1.htm.

General News

Called to Lead Event This new event for ALL church group leaders, whether part of a cluster, committee, or small group, has a two-part purpose: To show our appreciation because you gift our church and community with your time and talents, and to share the vision of how we all can grow in discipleship and succeed in bringing God's kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven. The **Called to Lead** event begins with a "thank you meal," followed by important training with a guest keynote speaker and subsequent presentations by our pastors and staff. The event is offered on two nights. Choose the time that works best for you: **January 7 from 6:30–8:30pm at the CLC OR January 11 from 6:30–8:30pm at the Uptown location.** You may have already received an individual invitation and made your reservation for this event, but if not, consider this your invitation. RSVP to Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFirst.org or Jacque.Coulson@AnkenyFirst.org, by January 3. Childcare provided upon request.

Year-End Financial Contributions For a 2015 income tax deduction of your contributions, please ensure contributions are postmarked **by the end of the day on December 31, 2015 or delivered to the Uptown Church Office by noon on December 31, 2015.** Questions? Contact Alicia Ver Huel, AFUMC Financial Officer at 964-4249 or alicia.verhuel@ankenyfirst.org.

Wednesdays@First Our Uptown Wednesday night meal, Soul Food Café, is taking a Christmas break. It will resume on **January 6**. If you still want fellowship, food, and worship on Wednesday nights, join us at the Christian Life Center. This Wednesday, **December 23**, worship includes classic carols and hot chocolate too! Don't miss it...meal begins at 5:45pm and worship begins at 6:15pm.

Holiday Hours Our offices will be closed beginning at noon on December 24 thru December 25, as well as at noon on December 31 thru January 1. Additionally, the CLC office will have limited hours Dec. 28-Dec. 30.

Thanks! New Horizons Adult Day Center would like to thank our church family for your on-going support. We are able to receive the entire amount of matching funds from Modern Woodmen. We could not exist without the love and support in so many ways from this family of faith. God bless each of you! ~Vicki Engh

Prayer Requests

- Please keep this confidential to pastors and church staff only.
- Please put this on our public prayer chain.

- I would like to speak with a pastor or someone from our Christian Care Ministry about this request.

Hospital Notices

Name _____

Hospital _____

Date _____

Ministry Opportunities

- I would like to help with childcare during the support group meetings for foster and adoptive families.
- I would like more information about the new session of Disciple 1 Bible Study.
- I would like more information about the new session of Alpha.

- I can be an Uptown Parking Lot Host

Dec. 23: ___ 7:00pm

Dec. 24: ___ 3:00pm (children's service)

___ 5:00pm ___ 7:00pm

___ 9:00pm ___ 11:00pm

- I can provide Christmas Eve Hospitality at Uptown in the following way:

Greeter Usher

Dec. 24: ___ 3:00pm (children's service)

___ 11:00pm

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Faith Chapel: 9:00 10:30

Christian Life Center: 9:00 10:45

Wednesdays@First

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Names and grades of children in attendance: _____

I am a:

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Guest less than 6 months

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I would like more information about becoming a member.

Week of December 19/20.

Ways to Serve at Christmas

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Calling Youth Piano Students At the 3:00 Children's Service at the uptown site on Christmas Eve, youth piano students are invited to play a song for the Prelude & Offertory music. (It MUST be sacred...no "Jingle Bells!") If you are interested please contact Jan Boehm at Jan.Boehm@AnkenyFirst.org.

Mitten Boxes and Wish Trees Are Out Find these at our worship locations where you can give to those in need this Christmas season! Have all items returned to designated locations by Monday, December 21.

In Mission

Childcare Volunteers Needed The CLC will be hosting a support group for adoptive and foster families the first Monday of the month. This group will meet beginning January 4 from 6:30-8:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help with childcare. If you are interested in helping support these families in this way, please fill out the connect card or contact Traci Schermerhorn at traci@ankenyfirst.org or 515.289.9153.

Mission of the Month In the month of December, we are collecting disposable diapers for Bidwell Riverside Center in Des Moines. Let's see how many we can collect! *To have your ideas of mission focus considered as a Mission of the Month, please ask for an application at The Connect.*

Bidwell-Riverside Workday Our last day in 2015 to serve at Bidwell as a group will be on Wednesday, Dec. 30, in the AFTERNOON. Several people have asked for an afternoon time so they can help so we have arranged one! Plan to meet at the north uptown parking lot at 1:00pm to carpool. We will be back at the church by 5:00pm. At the end of the month the need is usually greater, so be prepared for a large group of grocery shoppers. For those who are able, we may also have shelves to stock.

Pop Tabs, Soup Labels & Box Tops! Did you know that the United Methodist Women collect pop tabs (for Ronald McDonald House), Campbell Soup Labels for Education, and Box Tops for Education? All of these items are donated to Bidwell and other missions and are used to purchase items needed for education and various activities. Look for the new three drawer box on the table by the Uptown office which is ready for your donations. Thank you!



Welcome

Uptown Campus ~ Traditional Worship December 20, 2015 ~ 8:30am

PRELUDE "Glory of Immanuel" [Nesbitt] Anne Marie & Melody Webb

WELCOME / *CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP Worship Leader: Rev. Angie Loomis

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" #238

*OPENING PRAYER/WORDS OF PARDON & ASSURANCE

ANTHEM "Of the Father's Love Begotten" [arr. Shackley]

Chancel Choir with Daria Schmidt, alto clarinet

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Angels Sang at Bethlehem" [M. Prins] Praise Ringers

*DOXOLOGY / *PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SONG OF REFLECTION "Silent Night" [arr. Foster] Alec Lloyd

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:8-18

SERMON: "Awakening" Rev. Scott Hibben

*HYMN OF SENDING "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #224

*BENEDICTION / POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able.*

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Ushers: Betty Arnold, John & Dorothy Barnhart, Darrell Krei

Greeters: Matt & Heidi Heilskov, Bill & Connie Funk

Organist: Mark Shultz Tech Support: Brett Pike, Caleb Webb

Acolytes: Confirmation Students Chancel Choir Director: Melody Webb

Chancel Choir Accompanist: Christine Stone Praise Ringers Director: Elaine Oursler

Advent Candle Lighters: Gregg & Cathy Leaders

Our Mission:

To be an open and inviting community of faith through which God grows deeply committed Christians.

Our Vision:

Reach WITH the love of Christ.

Grow IN the love of Christ.

Serve THROUGH the love of Christ.



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Uptown: 8:30 9:45 11:00 Sat. 5:00

Faith Chapel: 9:00 10:30

Christian Life Center: 9:00 10:45

Wednesdays@First

Please update the following:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Names and grades of children in attendance: _____

I am a:

First Time Guest Member/Friend

Guest less than 6 months

How did you hear about Ankeny

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I would like more information about becoming a member.

Week of December 19/20.

Ways to Serve at Christmas

Christmas Eve Hospitality On December 24, we are still in need of Uptown worship and hospitality support. We especially need ushers and greeters at the 3:00pm and 11:00pm services, and parking lot hosts at all Uptown services. Sign-up by using the Connect Card in your bulletins, or by emailing Melody.Webb@AnkenyFirst.org. Please consider serving this Christmas Eve and letting the Light of Christ shine through your warm hospitality!

Calling Youth Piano Students At the 3:00 Children's Service at the uptown site on Christmas Eve, youth piano students are invited to play a song for the Prelude & Offertory music. (It MUST be sacred...no "Jingle Bells!") If you are interested please contact Jan Boehm at Jan.Boehm@AnkenyFirst.org.

Mitten Boxes and Wish Trees Are Out Find these at our worship locations where you can give to those in need this Christmas season! Have all items returned to designated locations by Monday, December 21.

In Mission

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Welcome

Uptown ~ Relaxed Contemporary Worship December 20, 2015 ~ 9:45am

GATHERING SONG / WELCOME

*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

*PRAISE SONGS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

CHILDREN'S TIME

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Silent Night" [arr. Foster] Alec Lloyd

DOXOLOGY

SONG OF REFLECTION

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:8-18

SERMON

"Awakening" Rev. Scott Hibben

*SONG OF SENDING

**Please stand if you are able.*

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Ushers: Head Ushers: Jon Vandervort, Rod Sharar

Greeters: Tony Rhoads, Kevin & Lois Scholbrock

Worship Leader: Rev. Angie Loomis **Tech Support:** Paul Moss, David Green

Advent Candle Lighters: Chris & Ashley Williams

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Serve THROUGH the love of Christ.

UPTOWN CAMPUS: 206 SW Walnut Street
FAITH CHAPEL: 7384 NW 16th Street
CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER: 710 NE 36th Street



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Wednesdays@First

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State _____ Zip _____

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Welcome

Christian Life Center Contemporary Worship December 20, 2015 ~ 9:00am & 10:45am

*PRAISE

PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

CHILDREN'S TIME

OFFERING OF OURSELVES

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:11-14

SERMON

"Awakening"

Rev. John Wagner

*CLOSING SONG

**Please stand if you are able.*

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

Advent Candle Lighters:

(9:00) Tony & Tracy Arbogast

(10:45) Andrew & Lindsey Wall & family

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Wednesdays@First

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State _____ Zip _____

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Welcome

**Uptown ~ New Traditions Worship
December 20, 2015 ~ 11:00am**

PRELUDE "Angels Sang at Bethlehem" [Prins] Praise Ringers

WELCOME/*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

***GATHERING SONG** "Angels We Have Heard on High" #238

ANTHEM "Of the Father's Love Begotten" [arr. Shackley]
Chancel Choir with Daria Schmidt, alto clarinet

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Worship Leader: Rev. Angie Loomis

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Silent Night" [arr. Foster] Alec Lloyd

*DOXOLOGY

SONG OF REFLECTION "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" #229

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-18

SERMON "Awakening" Rev. Scott Hibben

***HYMN OF SENDING** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #224

***BENEDICTION / POSTLUDE**

**Please stand if you are able.*

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Ushers: Pat Black, Al & Merron Hart, Jim Hutchinson, Mike Long, Tara Ramsey

Greeters: Mary Ann Ash, Stan Valde

Organist Mark Shultz **Acolytes:** Confirmation Students

Tech Support: Brian Crouch, Herb Wilson **Praise Ringers Director:** Elaine Oursler

Chancel Choir Director: Melody Webb **Chancel Choir Accompanist:** Christine Stone

Advent Candle Lighters: The Menges family

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Welcome

Uptown ~ Spirit Alive

December 19, 2015 ~ 5:00pm

ADVENT HYMN SING

PRELUDE "Silent Night" [arr. Raney] Jan Boehm & Julie Quick-Alcorn

WELCOME/*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

*SING PRAISE TO GOD "Angels We Have Heard on High"
"He Is Born"
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "O Little Town of Bethlehem" [arr. Labenske]
Jan Boehm & Julie Quick-Alcorn

*DOXOLOGY

SONG OF REFLECTION "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-18

SERMON "Awakening" Rev. Scott Hibben

*SENDING SONG "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" [arr. Raney]
Jan Boehm & Julie Quick-Alcorn

Worship bags for children are available from Worship Hosts.

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Worship Host: Karla Kasper Food Host: Tom & Terri Taylor

Worship Team: Jan Boehm, Alicia Carlberg Powerpoint: Laddie Devine

Advent Candle Lighters: Tom & Terri Taylor

Our Mission:

To be an open and inviting community of faith through which God grows deeply committed Christians.

Our Vision:

Reach WITH the love of Christ.

Grow IN the love of Christ.

Serve THROUGH the love of Christ.

UPTOWN CAMPUS: 206 SW Walnut Street

FAITH CHAPEL: 7384 NW 16th Street

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER: 710 NE 36th Street



Connect Card

We're glad you're here!

Please complete this tear-off as your offering of presence, and place it in the offering basket. If you have new contact information, please provide your name and updates.

Circle Worship Location/Time:

Uptown: 8:30 9:45 11:00 Sat. 5:00

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Wednesdays@First

Please update the following:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Names and grades of children in attendance: _____

I am a:

First Time Guest Member/Friend

Guest less than 6 months

How did you hear about Ankeny

First? _____

I would like more information about becoming a member.

Week of December 19/20.

Ways to Serve at Christmas

Christmas Eve Hospitality On December 24, we are still in need of Uptown worship and hospitality support. We especially need ushers and greeters at the 3:00pm and 11:00pm services, and parking lot hosts at all Uptown services. Sign-up by using the Connect Card in your bulletins, or by emailing Melody.Webb@AnkenyFirst.org. Please consider serving this Christmas Eve and letting the Light of Christ shine through your warm hospitality!

Calling Youth Piano Students At the 3:00 Children's Service at the uptown site on Christmas Eve, youth piano students are invited to play a song for the Prelude & Offertory music. (It MUST be sacred...no "Jingle Bells!") If you are interested please contact Jan Boehm at Jan.Boehm@AnkenyFirst.org.

Mitten Boxes and Wish Trees Are Out Find these at our worship locations where you can give to those in need this Christmas season! Have all items returned to designated locations by Monday, December 21.

In Mission

Childcare Volunteers Needed The CLC will be hosting a support group for adoptive and foster families the first Monday of the month. This group will meet beginning January 4 from 6:30-8:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help with childcare. If you are interested in helping support these families in this way, please fill out the connect card or contact Traci Schermerhorn at traci@ankenyfirst.org or 515.289.9153.

Mission of the Month In the month of December, we are collecting disposable diapers for Bidwell Riverside Center in Des Moines. Let's see how many we can collect! *To have your ideas of mission focus considered as a Mission of the Month, please ask for an application at The Connect.*

Bidwell-Riverside Workday Our last day in 2015 to serve at Bidwell as a group will be on Wednesday, Dec. 30, in the AFTERNOON. Several people have asked for an afternoon time so they can help so we have arranged one! Plan to meet at the north uptown parking lot at 1:00pm to carpool. We will be back at the church by 5:00pm. At the end of the month the need is usually greater, so be prepared for a large group of grocery shoppers. For those who are able, we may also have shelves to stock.

Pop Tabs, Soup Labels & Box Tops! Did you know that the United Methodist Women collect pop tabs (for Ronald McDonald House), Campbell Soup Labels for Education, and Box Tops for Education? All of these items are donated to Bidwell and other missions and are used to purchase items needed for education and various activities. Look for the new three drawer box on the table by the Uptown office which is ready for your donations. Thank you!



Welcome

Faith Chapel ~ Traditional Worship

December 20, 2015 ~9:00am

PRELUDE / INTROIT "Gentle Mary" Bells of Faith

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING SONG "Angels We Have Heard on High" #238

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE

*OUR RESPONSE "Glory Be to the Father" #70

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~JOYS & CONCERNS

OFFERTORY "Christmas Cheer" Bells of Faith

*DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION #95

SERMON HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #224

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:4-13

SERMON "Awaken, You Must" Rev. Thom Bryant

*CLOSING SONG "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #224

*CLOSING BLESSING/BENEDICTION SONG

**Please stand if you are able.*

Join us for fellowship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

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Audio/Video: Dean Pollpeter Keyboard: Jan Boehm/Alene Bailey

Bells of Faith Director: Jan Boehm

Advent Candle Lighters: Kim Harmon and Nancy Lundstrom

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Welcome

Faith Chapel ~ Casual Worship December 20, 2015 ~10:30am

WELCOME

*PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*PRAISE SONGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/JOYS & CONCERNS

OFFERTORY

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:4-13

SERMON

"Awaken, You Must" Rev. Thom Bryant

*BENEDICTION

**Please stand if you are able.*

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Advent Candle Lighters: Thom, Katie & Aislin Bryant

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Welcome

Christian Life Center ~ Casual Worship December 23, 2015 ~ 6:15pm

OPENING SONG

PRAYERS

OFFERING

CONVERSATIONAL MESSAGE

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

From 6:45-7:30 we offer small groups, children's programming, choirs and yoga.



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