



December 6, 2023

Dear Friends of Second Church,

On behalf the Stewardship Committee, many thanks to those who have sent in their pledge for next year! If you've been meaning to get to it (but haven't quite gotten there yet), please let us extend this gentle reminder. As you know, there are many ways to get involved in our work as a congregation, and contributing financially is only one. That said, church budgets translate very quickly into changed lives, whether that comes in the form of a program offered, a meal served, a staff member retained, an organ tuned, or a Christmas tree lit up. Please consider how you might support and become part of that wonderful work. Thank you!

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We're at the point in the Christmas season when lists are circulating with this year's "must have" items — toys, kitchen gear, music, electronics, etc.

How much we "must" have them is a fair question, although the lists are instructive in their own way.

Imagine if we could line up the lists of "must have" toys of Christmas side by side, going back to when we were children ourselves....

(Anyone else remember the Bionic Man action figure with the circuitry in his arm? Or the Evel Knievel wind up motorcycle?)

If we actually could line up those lists, we would probably get a window into how Christmas has changed, even within the span of our own years.

What we seem to hold onto is our hope that Christmas will be a time for connection or reconnection.

That can be as light and obvious as a Hallmark Christmas movie or as heavy and multi-layered as our own most fraught relationship.

It's unclear to me if Ebenezer Scrooge was isolated because he was greedy or greedy because he was isolated, but either way, the answer of Christmas was re-connection to family, community, and ultimately, to himself.

And for the Church, of course, the ultimate connection we celebrate at Christmas is the one between ourselves and God, whose love for us is particularly embodied in the person and work of Jesus.

Reconnecting with God, who wants so much to reconnect with us, is the possibility that

undergirds all the other possibilities (and promises) of Christmas.

As we ponder what to ask for this Christmas, there can be no better gift than a love that renews and inspires us, connecting and reconnecting our attention to the many gifts that surround us each day.

See you in church

Max

## Join us this Season...

**Sunday:**  
**8:30 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Eve:**  
**3:30, 6:30 & 11:15 p.m.**

Sermons are always  
available online:  
[2CCSermons](#)

If you can't make it in person, join us  
via [Livestream for our 10:30  
a.m.](#) Sunday service.

### ***" Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives"***

*The 2024 Stewardship Program is underway. We hope that you have had the opportunity to view our videos and the brochure about our mission for 2024 at Second Congregational Church. Please remember to complete your pledge card and return it to the Church Office.*



**Click here to learn more about our 2024 Stewardship Campaign**



## Chancel Choir Fall Schedule

Rehearsals at 11:45 a.m.  
in the Chapel:  
December 10 & 17

Chancel Choir in Worship  
December 24

No previous experience is  
necessary.

Attend rehearsals/services when  
you are in town and able to join us.  
All you need is a love for singing!  
The choir is open to those who are  
high school age and older.

[Email Alexander with  
any questions](#)

## Children's Chapel at 2CC

Nursery care for infants to age 4  
starts at 10:15 a.m. Deacons can  
help direct you to our nursery  
room.

Children ages kindergarten and up  
are encouraged to start worship  
with their parents at 10:30 a.m. in  
the Sanctuary. Those who wish  
may depart for Children's Chapel  
and Choir with Jenny at about  
10:45 a.m.

Registration not required but  
helpful for us to best know and love  
your child.

[Click here to register for  
Children's Chapel](#)

[Check out upcoming events for Youth on our website](#)

[Email Khaleigh for more  
information](#)

## Christmas is coming...



Our annual Angel Tree is up in the Sanctuary  
and the Congregation is asked to help give  
families in need in our community a special  
holiday. Please stop by after the service and  
consider being a 2CC Angel. Cash, checks, and  
credit cards accepted. If you prefer to donate  
online, Click the link below for our Virtual Angel  
Tree. Contact Georgia Harding 203-940-1010  
or Dorothy Mayfield at 203-629-9424 if you  
have any questions.

Click here to donate to the Angel Tree  
online

# TEDDY BEAR STORY HOUR

WITH JENNY AT COFFEE FOR GOOD

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

AT 8:00 A.M.

ROLL OUT OF BED & JOIN US IN YOUR PJ'S...

SPECIAL GUEST ON

DECEMBER 9: MRS. CLAUS

EMAIL: [JENNY@2CC.ORG](mailto:JENNY@2CC.ORG) FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



EVENT IS FREE! DONATIONS FOR HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE FOR TEENS AT YALE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WILL BE JOYFULLY ACCEPTED BY MRS. CLAUS!

Email Jenny for more  
information

## Moms Group Coffee for a Cause

Saturday, December 9 at Coffee for Good

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Join Norwalk Hospital Chaplain,  
Jenny Byxbee, and guest speaker  
Mairead Finn with Yale Children's  
Hospital

Treats for Teens, any new unwrapped  
gifts for teens at Yale will be  
joyfully accepted!



Any questions please email: [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org)

Email Jenny for more  
information



# Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

**Tuesday, December 12  
11:00 a.m.**

Fletcher Hall at Second Congregational Church  
\$20/person, pay at the door, guests are welcome

*Performing for the Women's Fellowship Luncheon on Tuesday will be Alexander Constantine, who will accompany baritone Kevin Douglas. Kevin has been a regular soloist during our 10:30 services. Kevin and Alexander will be performing holiday favorites.*

RSVP to [Pam@2cc.org](mailto:Pam@2cc.org) by Friday, December 8

**RSVP to Pam for the Luncheon**



## Christmas Eve at 2cc...

### Christmas Eve Worship:

- Regular Worship at 10:30 a.m.
- Family at 3:30 p.m.  
(outdoor pageant with live animals)
- Festival at 6:30 p.m.
- Candlelight at 11:15 p.m.

**Christmas Day:** Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Details at [2CC.org](http://2CC.org)



**Join us for Advent...**





The kids enjoyed singing during Children's Chapel...



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