



# THE COTUIT FEDERATED CHURCH

Dear Beloved Community,

On December 1, we begin our Advent Journey. It's not often that our liturgical calendar perfectly aligns with the commercial Advent Calendars with chocolates or LEGOs or tiny toys. In the church calendar, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. Each Sunday traditionally is assigned a focus, respectively: *Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*.

Enclosed with the winter *Chimes* newsletter you will find a booklet that can serve as an Advent Calendar for you. Each day, you will find a reflection or poem or writing prompt or an invitation for action. We hope that this will serve as a touch point in the Advent Season for you.

Advent is traditionally a season of waiting. We, like pregnant Mary, await the arrival of God-with-us, but even as Mary waited, she proclaimed the words of the Magnificent. She said: *"I'm bursting with God-news; I'm dancing the song of my Savior God... God's mercy flows in wave after wave on those who are in awe before God. God bared his arm and showed strength, scattered the bluffing braggarts. God knocked tyrants off their high horses, pulled victims out of the mud. The starving poor sat down to a banquet; the callous rich were left out in the cold... It's exactly what he promised, beginning with Abraham and right up to now."*

Advent is a season of proclamation of what is and what will be. It is a time to strengthen our commitment to what cannot wait in our world in response to our call from God. May we say "Yes!" like Mary did that first Christmas.

Repeat the Sounding Joy,

*Angie McAllister*

**Our Advent theme, *What Can't Wait*, was developed by A Sanctified Art. Here is what the artists are saying about how this focus was developed:**

*Advent is a season of waiting, but is idle waiting what God wants of us? In preparation for the coming Messiah, we wonder together—what things can't wait? What demands our immediate attention? What requires our work and preparation? What is it that God can't wait for? Is it our praise, reconciliation, and proclamation? Is it the end of suffering, isolation, and fear?*

*We hope this theme might awaken you to the ways God can't wait to create hope, peace, joy, and love. We invite you to carve out time each day to listen for God speaking to you through art, poetry, silent reflection, and embodied prayer. As we are called to action during this season, may we also be mindful of what can wait, for we are also called to rest and receive the gifts of Sabbath.*

**WHAT CAN'T WAIT**



*Advent and Christmas at  
Cotuit Federated Church*

**December 1**

**1st Sunday in Advent**  
Communion Sunday

**December 7**

Christmas in Cotuit

**December 8**

**2nd Sunday in Advent**  
2nd Sunday Celebrations  
Worldwide Candle Lighting

**December 15**

**3rd Sunday in Advent**  
Christmas Tributes Due

**December 20**

Bulletin-folding  
and Candles

**December 21**

Longest Night Service

**December 22**

**4th Sunday in Advent**  
Pancake Breakfast  
Children's Pageant  
Caroling to Shut-ins

**December 24 Christmas Eve**

Worship at 4:30pm and 8pm  
Potluck Gathering for All  
(at 6pm—between services)

**December 25**

Merry Christmas!

**December 26**

Office is closed.

**December 29**

No Church School  
Lessons and Carols

**January 5**

Epiphany Sunday

# Christmas in Cotuit

## Saturday, December 7, 2019

### GIFT BASKETS

The Cotuit Women's Fellowship will have ready-to-go gift baskets for sale during Christmas In Cotuit in Bruce Hall from 10am-2pm. The beautiful baskets contain gifts of different themes, and the sale supports scholarships for local students.

### SMALL ARTS SHOW & SALE

Also in Bruce Hall, from 10am-3pm, is the Annual Small Works Show and Sale. Original artwork by local artists will be available for holiday gift-buying, and the 30% commission on paintings sold will benefit local, national, and international charities. Stop in to pick up a unique, one-of-a-kind gift for the special people on your holiday shopping list!

### WELCOME SANTA

Join Pastor Angie to welcome Santa at 3:45pm at the town dock. Follow them to the Village Green for the community tree-lighting.

### CHRISTMAS COOKIES

The Bruce Hall Open House with Christmas cookies, punch and hot cider is 4-5pm. Four hundred or more cold and hungry people will fill Bruce Hall, searching for their favorite cookies!

Volunteers are needed to set up (3-4 pm), serve (4-5pm) and clean up (5-6pm). Sign up at the bulletin board if you can help. Questions? See Ken Molloy.

### MOST IMPORTANTLY...

*those Christmas cookies!* At least 1,000 cookies are needed. Figure how many cookies a hungry child can eat, especially with sugary Christmas decorations or lots of chocolate! Please bring your favorite Christmas cookies to the CFC kitchen on **Friday, December 6 (9am-1pm) or on Saturday, December 7 after 9am.**

### VILLAGE EVENTS

Gallery Arts & Crafts Market  
Cotuit Center for the Arts,  
9am—3pm

Free admission at Cahoon Museum  
10am—4pm

Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival  
Freedom Hall, 10am-4pm

Historical Soc. Gift Shop, 10am-5pm,  
Children's Yuletide Crafts, 10am-noon

Kettleers Store - Lowell Park  
10am-3pm

CWF Theme Gift Baskets Sale  
Bruce Hall, Cotuit Federated Church  
10am-2pm

Small Works Art Show & Sale  
Bruce Hall, Cotuit Federated Church  
10am-3pm

Cotuit Fresh Market Tastings  
11am-5pm

Cotuit Fire Station Open House  
with free Fire House Chili  
12noon-2pm

Horse-drawn Carriage Rides at the P.O.  
12:30pm-3:15pm

Face Painting at the Kettle Ho  
1pm-3pm

Malik the Magician at Cotuit Library  
2:45pm-3:30pm

DJ and pizza  
Town Dock, 3:30pm-3:45pm

Santa's Arrival, Town Dock  
3:45pm

Tree Lighting on the Village Green,  
Invocation by Pastor Angie, 4pm

Hot Chocolate by Cotuit Fresh Market  
3pm-5pm

Christmas Cookies and Cider  
Cotuit Federated Church, 4pm-5pm



## **GIVING TREE**

Please come and take a look at our Christmas Tree in Bruce Hall and grab one of the paper ornaments with gift ideas written on them for our Christmas mission. We will provide gifts to children and teens through the Salvation Army's annual holiday giving programs. There is an early gift return deadline of December 1st this year.

## **BULLETIN STUFFING**

**December 20, 10am**

Office volunteers are needed on Friday, December 20 at 10am to prepare the Longest Night Service bulletins, the Christmas Eve bulletins, and the candles. If you can spare time to help out, please call Laura at the church office at 508-428-6163.

## **LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE: REMEMBRANCE & HEALING**

**December 21, 7pm**

This year's Longest Night Service is scheduled for Saturday, December 21 at 7pm. This will be a service that honors Christmas as a difficult season for those who have experienced loss of loved ones, work, or relationships during the past year. This quiet service allows us to rest in God's presence and to bring our grief and longing, our pain and prayer, to our Savior. Join us for this time of healing and remembering, of lighting candles to remind us that God's light shines in our darkest hour and our longest night.

## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**December 22, 9am**

This year, on the Fourth Sunday of

Advent, we will host a Pancake Breakfast before church. Join us in Bruce Hall from 9am—9:45am for pancakes, as we celebrate around the Lord's Table. Join us afterwards at 10am in the Sanctuary for an intergenerational and interactive service for all. Bring your family and friends for this unique opportunity to gather as God's people.

## **CHILDREN'S PAGEANT**

**December 22, 10am**

Children can really bring the light of Christmas to our hearts! The annual Children's Pageant will be held during the 10am worship service on December 22. Come to hear our children remind us once again the real "reason for the season!"

## **HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS**

**December 22, 11:15am**

Please remember to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for our Christmas Food Baskets by December 22nd. Everyone is invited to join the Mission Team during Coffee Hour to assemble the baskets. The baskets will be delivered in the afternoon to families in our community who need a little extra encouragement during the holiday season.

## **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**December 22, 4:30pm**

Share in the delight of bringing joy and cheer to others through song. Meet at Bruce Hall. For about 1-1/2 hours, we'll visit friends of the church to carol and spread the joy of the season!

*Come on your own. . .  
Come with your family . . .  
O come all ye faithful!*

## **A CHRISTMAS EVE MEAL WITH CHURCH FAMILY**

**December 24, 6:00pm**

Everyone is invited to a Christmas Eve meal between the 4:30pm and 8pm services. We will gather in Bruce Hall to celebrate this Holy Night with a family meal. Bring a dish to share. We will begin our meal at 6:00pm.

## **HOLIDAY HOURS**

The church office will be open on Monday, December 23 but closed on December 25 and December 26 and on January 1 for New Year's Day.

## **STAR GIFTS**

**January 5, 10am**

Everyone will receive a star gift to help guide you into the new year. Join us on January 5, as we share stories of this year's star gifts and begin our journey into 2020.





# The Capital Campaign for Cotuit Federated Church



## A Special Message to the Congregation

This historic initiative is designed to support our congregation and community as we strive to meet our current and future needs, and better prepare our church to sustainably meet the needs of future generations.

Representatives of the congregation are working to organize early capital campaign efforts, and during the next several months our entire congregation will be asked to participate in the campaign. In preparing for the launch of our effort CFC leadership has been carefully assessing the needs of our congregation with the support of CCS Fundraising. Based on conversations with our members and friends, we have learned more about the needs of our community and how this effort will help us meet our priorities.

CFC leadership will provide opportunities for conversations with the congregation on campaign progress, and will request your support in due time. In the meantime, we ask for your continued support and prayers.

### Where Are We Now?

- For over 170 years, Cotuit Federated Church has served our multi-denominational community, welcoming worshippers of all traditions. It has been over 60 years since CFC last addressed its need for additional space. The church now owns the property and has acquired the parsonage, and CFC leadership has completed its title search.
- Today, our congregation is as vibrant as ever with robust opportunities for involvement in worship, fellowship, education, and service.
- We are preparing for a long and vital future, and have made careful plans to update our historic church to ensure CFC is accessible and welcoming to everyone.
- The capital campaign is in its early stages, and has already garnered generous support from several members. CFC leadership will continue to meet with members of the congregation and key community stakeholders over the course of the coming months.
- Once sufficient funds have been raised, CFC will re-engage architects to finalize the building expansion plans.
- CFC leadership will share more information with the community as the campaign progresses, and we hope that all members of the congregation, seasonal visitors, and stakeholders in the Cotuit community will participate and show their support.

### Please Refer Questions to the Building Expansion Team

Angela Menke Ballou, *Pastor*

Dick and Sue Hamilton, *Honorary Co-Chairs*

Pam Boden, *Special Projects*

John Murray, *Process Manager*

Jennifer Loughran, *Communications Leader*

Peter Rohner, *Building Design Leader*

Carol Wilgus-Giller, *Campaign Leader*

Tim Wakefield, *Church Moderator*

# EQUIPPED TO SERVE

## *Updates on the current work of your Ministry Teams*

**THE CHOIR** is going strong! It was wonderful to have the summer off and have special music. We are always looking for new members to join us on Sunday mornings at 8:15. The Choir has been blessed to be joined by Hans on Open Choir Sundays (first Sunday of the month at 9am). Because of his brave testimony, we have had new members join the Choir, but we always welcome more! The Choir is looking forward to performing a Cantata this Easter!

Handbell rehearsals are Thursdays at 6pm in Bruce Hall. We are planning to play every second Sunday of the month. We've already welcomed new members but are still looking for more! I've picked out some exciting anthems with new techniques to share with the congregation.  
~ Megan Anthony

### **GREETERS AND WORSHIP ASSISTANTS (ALSO KNOWN AS LAY READERS)**

Did you ever wonder how these jobs get filled? People in our church family volunteer! THANK YOU to those who so faithfully help out and especially to those who willingly adapt when there are unexpected changes.

There is a short list of "duties" provided for Greeters to reference, which includes a quick check/cleanup of the pews after service, in addition to welcoming parishioners as they arrive to worship. A few days before Sunday worship each week, Laura provides a script to the Lay Reader, so that they have a chance to review their readings ahead of time.

Both positions are scheduled in four-month intervals, with input from all who participate. Individuals or families who are interested in either (or both) of these jobs have the option of helping only once in a four-month segment or more frequently, depending upon their availability and the number of volunteers. The schedule is created early in the month preceding the new round (January-April schedule is created in early December; May-September in April; and September-December in August). NOTE: Deacons serve as Lay Reader on the first Sunday of every month.

If you have questions or would like to be included in the next round, please notify Chris Robello who

coordinates the schedule ([crobello2@gmail.com](mailto:crobello2@gmail.com) or 508-428-8862).  
~ Chris Robello

### **CHAIR YOGA FOR SENIORS**

My Chair Yoga classes are an adaptation of mat classes I used to teach. Each class begins with a short meditation and centering to calm the mind and prepare the body for movement. We then do a series of breathing exercises combined with movement and proceed to warming up the shoulders, hips and spine. We then do seated forward bends, gentle back bends, core strengthening and warrior sequences. We also sometimes do standing poses, such as balancing poses and modified sun salutations, using the chair for support. Each class finishes with a closing meditation. Most importantly,

we have FUN!!! Classes are held on Monday and Thursday in Bruce Hall from 9-10:00am. Suggested donation is \$10. Beginners are always welcome. Stay tuned for the class start-up dates for 2020.

~ Linda Harmon

### **MEDITATION**

Simply defined, meditation is the art and act of paying attention moment by moment,

using the flow of the inbreath and outbreath as the anchor. I teach a fusion of Lovingkindness Meditation, Mindfulness Practice and Mantra. My intention is to provide options for people to incorporate into their "self-care toolbox." No experience is necessary to come to this class. Stay tuned for the 2020 schedule.  
~ Linda Harmon

### **COFFEE HOUR**

We continue to appreciate all the warmth and love that people bring to Coffee Hour. We continue also to love the wonderful contributions of goodies, including those yummy deviled eggs each Sunday from Priscilla Johnson and Carol Jean O'Toole. Thank you to everyone who thinks of Coffee Hour during the week and buys or makes something for all of us to enjoy. We are all nourished by each other.  
~ Janet Kearsley



*Reports are continued on the next page →*

### THE MISSION TEAM:

We are collecting food for our holiday food drives during November and December, so we can provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for some members of our church family and neighbors with food insecurity. Our church will provide the non-perishable food, and the Cotuit Fire Department will provide the turkeys and hams. We will deliver the Thanksgiving meals after church on November 24<sup>th</sup> and the Christmas meals on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please make sure to bring non-perishable food items to church before those dates.

~ Pat Uhlman

### EQUIPPING MINISTRY & GROWTH TEAM:

This fall, we are working on revising and tightening *The Gifts We Bring* survey. As part of our equipping ministry, our team and our pastor seek the means to know and appreciate the congregation's gifts and desires, so we easily flourish together as we follow in the path of our Vision -- as "a conduit of God's love, a wellspring of spiritual growth, and a sanctuary for Holy worship."

~Janet Kearsley

### THE PASTOR-PARISH TEAM

The Pastor-Parish Team provides support for Pastor Angie and acts as a communication channel between our pastor and our congregation. The Team, which

meets about four times a year, includes Joan Bentinck-Smith, Sue Hamel, Michael O'Toole and Jayne Uyenoyama and is chaired by Ann Murray.

Support is offered to Pastor Angie by providing a safe and confidential space for conversation where topics range from affirmations to surprises to sadness to solutions and more. Team members bring to Pastor Angie feedback they have received from the congregation, and Pastor Angie can share what is in her heart or thoughts.

Please note Pastor Angie does not share with Team members any information that has been given to her in confidence.

~ Ann Murray

### ADMIN TEAM

The Admin Team is continuing to meet on a monthly basis, and over the past few months, we have been working with a consultant on negotiating a new lease for the post office. We have continued to review the financials and operating budget of the church. We have worked on general maintenance and making repairs at the parsonage and at the church and have consulted with the Building Expansion Team on decisions as the process has been moving forward.

~ Tim Wakefield

## TREE OF LIFE



**We pray in Christian love for the family and friends who are mourning the passing of:**

John Robert Carey, September 16, 2019  
John Avera, October 2, 2019



### Dinner Hosts/Hostesses:

#### **December 20, 6pm:**

Ginny & Peter Farwell and Linda Sullivan  
Cotuit Bay Condo Clubhouse

#### **January 18:**

*Hosts/Hostesses Needed.  
Please see the sign-up sheet.*

#### **February 15:**

*Hosts/Hostesses Needed  
Please see the sign-up sheet.*

Hosts/hostesses are needed.  
Please see the sign-up sheet!





# COMMUNITY BULLETIN

## Hosted by Hearts Hope Healing

In Conjunction with



*The Compassionate Friends*  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies



Light a candle for all  
children who have died

**Worldwide  
Candle  
Lighting®**

*... that their light  
may always shine.*

Bereaved families and friends are invited to participate in a global wave of light to honor the lives of our children. This is a non-denominational world wide candle lighting event in remembrance of all the children who have died at any age, from any cause. The ceremony will include music, readings, and speaking our children's names.

*Please bring a votive candle and a framed photo of your child to be placed on our altar.*

### Sunday, December 8, 2019

Open at 6:00, Starts at 6:45 - Cotuit Federated Church  
40 School St., Cotuit, MA

[www.heartshopehealing.com](http://www.heartshopehealing.com)

For further information, contact: Leyla - 774-722-1918 or Lori - 508-280-5771



## "Arise, Shine"

### A Holiday Concert

*Guest Conductor: Krishan Oberoi*

Saturday, December 14, 2019 4PM

Sunday, December 15, 2019 3pm

First Congregational Church of Falmouth  
68 Main St., Falmouth

**For ticket information:**

[www.falmouthchorale.org](http://www.falmouthchorale.org);

774-392-2383

## DIAPER DRIVE



One in three American households struggles financially to provide their babies with diapers and other needed supplies. Unfortunately, there are few resources and little public support to address this need; **BUT . . . YOU CAN HELP!**

During the entire month of January, please bring in your donations of: diapers (newborn to size 6), wipes, Pull-Ups (2T-4T), baby wash (head to toe), baby lotion, diaper rash cream, washcloths, and receiving blankets and quilts to be distributed to needy families, victims of domestic violence, and women in recovery who are living with their infants.

Donations will be distributed by  
Family Continuity, Family Resource Center, and A Baby Center.

Questions? Contact Diane Campbell  
774-521-3642 or [DianeECampbell2002@hotmail.com](mailto:DianeECampbell2002@hotmail.com).



### Dear Cotuit Federated Church,

On behalf of the Cotuit Bay Shores Association, we want to thank you for the use of Bruce Hall for our annual meeting. It served as the ideal location to hold a very important meeting. Also, thank you for the use of the projector screen. It provided the perfect view for our new website presentation. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

*Susan Davis*, CBS Secretary

### Dear Friends at Cotuit Federated Church,

Thank you for your generous donation of diapers and beautiful knit caps! We are thrilled that you see the value in helping struggling parents raise thriving babies. We greatly appreciate you joining our mission to make that happen by supporting A Baby Center! A gift such as yours helps low income households on Cape Cod and the Islands with critical but basic health and wellness items. Our clients are invited to visit us once a month to receive basic necessities such as supplemental diapers, wipes, and formula but also a selection of gently-used clothing, equipment and other baby care items that have been generously donated. The support of our community partners continues to overwhelm us, and we are so appreciative of every donation we receive. With great thanks to generous donors like yourself, we are excited to share that A Baby Center Nantucket is now open! With the high cost of living on Nantucket, you can imagine what good news this is. Without the support of our neighbors and extended community, this never would have happened. Thank you for caring enough to make a difference in the future of babies we serve. Warmest Regards,

*Kelly Lerch*, Program Manager

**To all of the amazing people who have volunteered in the office and assisted with proofreading and collating bulletins during the past year . . .**

Thank you so very much for all you do to help keep the office up and running!

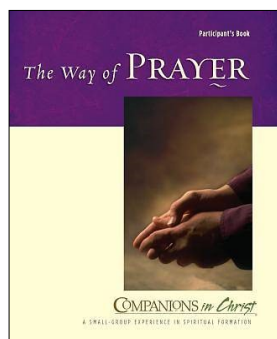
~ *Laura*

*Peterson*

(Madam Secretary)

## Bible Study: The Way of Prayer

*The Way of Prayer* expands on our knowledge of prayer through a ten-week exploration of different forms of prayer practices. Through this exploration, small-group members embark on a journey of genuine discovery—the discovery of different dimensions of God’s grace and love. Prayer is explored through music, dance, gazing, silence, or acts of service. *The Way of Prayer* teaches us how to respond to God’s invitation into the divine presence, and it brings a deeper sense of spiritual vitality and encouragement to seek out new ways to pray. Following a preparatory meeting, the weekly explorations include:



January 14 -- How do you Pray?

January 21 -- Images of God?

January 28 -- Praying by Heart

February 4 -- Praying with Music

February 11 -- Praying by Gazing

February 25 -- Praying with Our Bodies

March 3 -- Scriptural Prayer

March 10 -- Contemplative Prayer

March 17 -- Praying with and for Others

March 24 -- Prayer and Social Transformation

**AUTHOR BIO:** Reverend Jane E. Vennard is a spiritual director, retreat and workshop leader, and lecturer. She was ordained in the United Church of Christ and currently serves as an adjunct faculty member at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, where she teaches courses on prayer and spirituality.

**QUOTE:** *All prayer begins with God. The Creator does not wait passively for us to come with our prayers; rather, our prayers are a response to God’s call to us. God was with us in infancy, calling forth our response to divine love. (p.13)*



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

A small group of volunteers share their time and talents with the Church School. Ideally, two volunteers are needed each week when individual classes are held. On Communion Sundays, when the lesson is a whole group lesson, one volunteer serves as the second person needed to comply with our safe church policy. The Church School needs more volunteers. Our volunteer teachers serve one to two times per month. Volunteers receive a lesson plan including relevant background information via email a few days before Sunday. A lesson lasts only about 15 minutes. All materials and supplies for follow-up activities are prepared and are in each classroom. Does this pique your interest? Please come downstairs one Sunday and check us out! Find out how fun and rewarding this valuable ministry is! Church School is a busy place with 25 registrants from pre-kindergarten through grade eight. Eighth and ninth graders will begin Confirmation Classes this winter.

We are collecting pull-tabs from aluminum cans. This year-long mission project benefits the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Thirteen hundred pull-tabs equals one pound of aluminum. Last year, we contributed more than 15 pounds! Pull-tabs may be dropped off to my mail-tray on Sundays or during office hours.

The annual Christmas Pageant is December 22. Scripts will be emailed to families early in December. Rehearsals are December 8 and 15 during Church School. If your child is unable to attend both dates, December 15 is the more important of the two. Downstairs will be a "sanctuary," and children will be able to practice where they need to go and when they need to speak, etc. Please note: Church School will not be in session on **December 29, 2019**.

We welcome student volunteers (confirmands and older) to assist during Church School. This is a community service opportunity for interested students. Contact me at [cotfedced@gmail.com](mailto:cotfedced@gmail.com) for more information.

~ Lynne Belfiore, Director of Christian Education

## Cotuit Federated Church *Children's Pageant* Sunday, December 22, 2019, 10am





# Christmas in Cotuit

Saturday, December 7

10am—5pm



## Cotuit Federated Church

40 School Street, Cotuit  
(508) 428-6163

10am—3pm Small Arts Show and Sale

10am—2pm: Women's Fellowship Theme Gift Baskets Sale

3:45pm: Pastor Angie welcomes Santa at the town dock

4pm: Tree Lighting and Invocation on the Village Green

4-5pm: CFC Open House with Christmas Cookies & Cider

## longest night

an evening of worship

### REMEMBRANCE AND HEALING:

#### A Service for the Longest Night

Saturday, December 21, 2019 ~ 7pm

Cotuit Federated Church, 40 School Street, Cotuit, MA 02635

The service honors Christmas as a difficult season for those who have experienced loss of loved ones, work, and/or relationships. It allows us to rest in God's presence and to bring our grief and longing, our pain and prayer, to our Savior.

Join us for this time of healing and remembering,

of lighting candles to remind us

God's light shines in our darkest hour and during our longest night.

Everyone is welcome.



## CFC Christmas Caroling



Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 4:30pm

Share in the delight of bringing joy and cheer to others through the gift of song.

Let's meet in Bruce Hall at 4:30pm, and we'll spend 1-1/2 hours visiting friends of the church to carol and spread the joy of the season!



## Silver Lake Conference Center is coming to Cotuit Federated Church on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>!

Silver Lake Conference Center (SLCC) is the year-round retreat center and summer camp of the Southern New England Conference UCC. It is a retreat center for guests of all ages and all kinds of retreat groups. With five winterized retreat buildings and incredible food, you will be welcomed and find respite and joy!

In the Summer, Silver Lake is camp for 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, with something for everyone, from music and drama to adventure and just being at camp.

You can find out more about Silver Lake by visiting [www.silverlakeect.org](http://www.silverlakeect.org). Summer registration opens January 15<sup>th</sup>. Retreat groups are scheduling retreats now and booking through May.

Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> will be a great morning of worship, celebration,  
and the life-transforming power of camp.

The Rev. Ryan Gackenhimer joined Silver Lake in 2016, coming from more than seven years of ministry as Associate Pastor of the First Congregational Church UCC in Essex, Vermont. As a young camper in Indiana, Ryan found a passion for the life-transforming ministry that happens at camp. He has camp experience in Indiana, Vermont, and Idaho, and has served on the Board of the UCC's Outdoor Ministry Association and is currently the OMA Chaplain. A graduate of DePauw University and Eden Theological Seminary, he and his wife, Rev. Abby, have a young son, Keadyn.

## Christmas Tributes

Gifts may be made in honor or in memory of loved ones, and dedications will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins. **Please print clearly.**

**Option #1 — *Poinsettias*:** Cotuit Federated Church traditionally decorates for Christmas celebrations with holiday poinsettias. Donations of \$15 to the Holiday Flower Fund are appreciated.

**Option #2 — *Church World Service Immigrants and Refugee Project*:** Around the world, violence, conflict and persecution are forcing families to flee their homes in search of safety. The United Nations estimates there are more than 25 million refugees who cannot safely return home. The U.S. Refugee Resettlement program, built by CWS and faith communities around the country, saves lives, encourages other countries to keep their doors open to families seeking safety, and promotes global security. A donation of \$50 will go a long way in support of this work.

Your name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Flower Fund Donation or Church World Service? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to take a plant home after the second Christmas Eve service? \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form and payment to: CFC, P.O. Box 436, Cotuit MA 02635**

**Please make all checks payable to Cotuit Federated Church.**

**The deadline to order is December 15th.**





## Christmas Eve Services *Cotuit Federated Church*

*40 School St., Cotuit*

*4:30pm and 8:00pm*

*Between services, join us for a  
community potluck dinner.*

*Serving begins at 6pm in Bruce Hall.*

*Everyone is welcome—bring a friend!*

*(508) 428-6163*

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**Cotuit Federated Church**  
40 School Street • P.O. Box 436  
Cotuit, MA 02635-0436  
508-428-6163  
cfc436@comcast.net  
www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org  
Facebook.com/cotuitfederatedchurch  
Pastor:  
Rev. Angela Menke Ballou  
Music Director:  
Megan Anthony  
Director of Christian Education:  
Lynne Belfiore  
Admin. Assistant for Ministry:  
Laura Peterson  
Sexton: Mark Eames

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