

WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

As believers in Jesus Christ, we will be a church of vibrant Christians.

Our Mission

We welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ to: *Discover God*

Equip one another for life

Reach inward/outward to serve

Our Welcome

Because we believe each person is made in God's Image, we welcome all persons into the life and worship of this congregation. Regardless of age, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation, racial or ethnic background – you are welcome here!

CONTACT

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Phone: (269) 983-5519

Website: www.fccstjoseph.org

Facebook: facebook.com/FCCStJoseph

Email: office@fccstjoseph.org

Address: 2001 Niles Avenue

St. Joseph, Michigan 49085



STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey Hubers, Minister

Brenton Offenback, Music

Carly Hubers, Youth

Alison Achramowicz, Children

Jan Trapani, Parish Nurse

Stephen Zork, Choir

Judy Hoffman, Church Office

Nanci Fenrick, Bookkeeper

Jim Dansfield, Maintenance

Julie Ruple, Housekeeping

SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 15

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Luncheon

Monday, December 16

9:00 a.m. - Church Council

5:30 p.m. - Interfaith Board

6:30 p.m. - CE Board

Tuesday, December 17

9:30 a.m. - Soup Kitchen

Wednesday, December 18

12:00 p.m. - WBS

6:30 p.m. - Sing of Christmas

7:30 p.m. - Zork Reception

Sunday, December 22

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

6:00 p.m. - Longest Night

Tuesday, December 24

5:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve

8:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve

**For full listing, check Events
or Newsletter on website.**



First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, December 15, 2024

10:30 a.m.

“Third Sunday of Advent”

“Wherever you are on the journey of life or faith, you are welcome here”

2001 Niles Ave
St Joseph MI 49085

www.fccstjoseph.org



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome / Announcements ***indicates invitation to stand if able*
Sharing the Peace [screen]
You are invited to listen for God's Spirit as we prepare for worship.
Prelude "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" arr. Lyle Neff

**Call to Worship [screen] Rev. Jeffrey Hubers

Hymn [screen] #183 "Once in Royal David's City"

Advent Candle Lighting The VanderVeen family

First Bibles Matthew & Silas Triemstra

Ministry of Music Emerson & Victoria Osborn; Emmett Achramowicz

Prayer for Discovery [screen]
Scripture [screen] Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:10-16, MSG

Children's Christmas

**Hymn [screen] #179 "Joy to the World!"

Morning Prayer Lord's Prayer [screen]

Offertory "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" arr. Gordon Young

**Doxology [screen]

Benediction Parting Blessing [screen]

Postlude "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" arr. Gordon Young

*You are invited to be seated for the postlude as a final musical reflection;
otherwise, please depart quietly. Peace be with you!*

Ushers: Patty & Steve Nordberg, Linda Becker, Kristen Robinson

Thank you for joining us for worship! If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about FCC, please enter your contact info in the fellowship pads located in the pews and a staff member will reach out!

To receive text updates, send a text to **81010** with the message **@fccstj**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our Children's Christmas today. Thanks to all our young ones for leading us in worship—you remind us of the Reason for the Season!

After worship we're holding our Christmas luncheon. You must purchase a ticket for the meal: Adults \$15; Kids/\$7. Come hungry!

If you missed last Sunday's Nominating meeting, see the attached link: <https://boxcast.tv/view/nominating-meeting-punia5z01eianym1cc>

Please contact Kim Henkel (313.300.3918) if interested in hosting a Pop-Up Dinner in January! Host sign-ups due today!

Women's Bible Study will hold their Christmas celebration at Kathryn Anderson's home at noon on Wednesday, December 18.

Bear Pack Schedule Change: We'll pack Wednesday, December 18 (not Thursday) at 3 p.m. because of upcoming school vacation. Questions? Call Beth Kenagy (269.985.8782)

Join for a special evening of music and Advent / Christmas worship on Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30. Freewill offering collected. Following the service, there will be a reception to celebrate Steve Zork's retirement!

A special service of prayer will be held on Sunday, December 22 at 6 p.m. titled "The Longest Night" - a time of sharing grief amid the hope of Advent.

Christmas Eve worship services will be 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Both will feature lessons, carols, special music, and candlelit hymns.

The church office will be closed December 25-26, closing at noon on the 31st and closed January 1 for the holidays.

Interested in joining FCC? Please contact Pastor Jeffrey for New Member Sunday, coming in January!

Thanks for helping sponsor Christmas gifts for migrant children! With your help, over 30 kids were cared for this season!

Please collect any leftover kitchenware (containers, bowls, etc.) from above the coatrack next to Pastor Jeffrey's office. Any items left till the New Year will go into the next Rummage Sale!

Can you help serve at Soup Kitchen on the third Tuesday of every month? Contact Lori Hellenga (269.921.7919) to volunteer or to learn more!

Could you usher on a Sunday morning? Sign-up through [Sign-Up Genius](#)