



**1st Sunday of Advent**

**November 29, 2015**

**Thoughts for Individual Meditation**

Advent is for preparing for Christmas--for preparing our ears to hear the delicate rustle of angel wings, our eyes to see the star, our feet to hurry quietly to the stable, our knees to bow humbly before Christ, our minds to comprehend, and our hearts to adore.

Alexander T. Coyle

***Fort Street Presbyterian Church***

***631 W. Fort Street***

***Detroit, MI 48226***

***Phone (313) 961-4533***

***[www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)***

***[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)***

# Gathering the Community

PRELUDE

Ray Staroscik  
Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Bob Agnew

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Ashley Herrington  
and Ryan Stump

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jack Callas

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40:3)

**Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." (Isaiah 40:5)**

Be aware, keep alert and pray; for you do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33)

**Blessed are those servants whom the master finds alert when he comes. (Luke 12:37)**

\*HYMN # 93 (GTG)

*"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jack Callas

**Almighty God, you have spoken to us through the prophets to prepare the way, but too often we get wrapped up in ourselves or the things of this world and fail to be open to your presence and the deeper meanings of this Advent season. Have mercy upon us. Dispel the darkness of sin. Keep us awake, alert and working toward the fulfillment of your kingdom that Christ may dwell in us, and ever reign in our hearts and minds as the King of kings, and Lord of lords.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION

\*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE SONG # 447 (GTG)

*"We Are Forgiven"*

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

\*SHARING THE PEACE

Jack Callas

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 607 (GTG) *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jack Callas

\*HYMN # 362 (GTG)

*"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

(If you wish to do so, we invite you to sit quietly and enjoy the postlude as part of your worship.)

+ + +

*\*Please rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

*Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, there will be a coffee hour in the small dining area. Please join us!*

Organist

Ray Staroscik

Liturgist

Jack Callas

Song Leader

Nancy Combs

Sound Technician

Twiler French

Videographer

Randy Commissaris

Worship Coordinator

Kate Callas

Deacon on Duty

Bob Ponder

Open Door Representative

Elizabeth Kershaw

## **Church Hours**

The church offices are open Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 4:00pm. Church offices are closed on Fridays. Alison Grosch, Operations Manager, can be reached at the church or by email OM@fortstreet.org.

### **Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

Hearing Assist System  
Wheelchair Access Ramp  
Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary  
Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

### **We are delighted that you are here!**

- \* Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- \* During the worship service, child care is provided for children through age 4. Ushers can provide directions. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in Sunday School, which follows the Children's Message. A Christian Education staff member will lead the children downstairs. Parents may pick them up after worship. For additional information about our Sunday School program, please contact Judith Sheldon at [firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net). or Nancy Jackson at [nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com](mailto:nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com).
- \* A tape recording and CDs of today's service and/or previous services may be ordered in the Reception Office after worship @ \$3.00 each.
- \* You may add to the beauty of our weekly worship by contributing a floral donation. Flowers are usually given in memory of or in honor of persons or events. Contact Pam Sharrow at Sharrow13@gmail.com. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

### **Prayer List for the month of November 2015**

The Abraham family, Gabrielle Abrego, Shari Anderson, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Derek and Maxine Bloodworth, Bettie Burton, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Tim Dukes, Dick Green and family, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Ken McCoy family and friends, Marilyn Moore, Cheryl Myers, Kathy Payne and family, Richard and Suellen Sale, David and Karen Shillito, Rev. Diane Smalley, The Stump family, Nancy Woodkee, and Raquel Villaluz.

### **Prayers for Military loved ones.**

CPL Christopher Whittaker-Bonner USMC; Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN; Jonathan Heyler USN; SSGT Shanell Howard USAF; Sgt. Christopher King; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Lt. Theo Moran USAF; Alta Morrison; Lt. Jon Palmer USA; Lt. Marty Palmer USA; Charles Andrew Parsons II USN; Major Michelle Ruehl AF; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Alexander Szelestey USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

### **FORT STREET STAFF:**

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager, Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Director of Music; Ray Staroscik, Organist; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Support Staff, Donna Bryant, Damien Hines, Greg Howell, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw, and Elizabeth Kershaw, Open Door Staff.

**Temporary Stated Supply Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Robert Agnew  
pastor@fortstreet.org

**Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

**Web Site:** [www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)

# Fort Street News

## MISSION STATEMENT

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and developing programs that minister to metropolitan Detroit and the world beyond. We do this in response to the grace of God through Jesus Christ, recognizing the truth of the Gospel: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus.*

## Music at Fort Street

2015 Season



“MESSIAH” G.F. Handel



*The Fort Street Chorale  
& the Chamber Orchestra*

*Edward Kingins, Music Director*

Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

General Admission \$20.00 Patron \$35.00

Messiah tickets can be purchased by visiting [www.fortstreet.org/messiah](http://www.fortstreet.org/messiah) or calling 313-961-4533. Tickets will also be available for purchase by cash or check on Sunday mornings at the church.

Church members can also place an envelope in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Please include cash or check and clearly indicate the number of tickets and date of performance on the envelope.

## Meaning in a Moment

Advent 2015

## Christian Adult Education

Stapleton Chapel 10 – 10:45 a.m.

A compelling adult film version of “The Nativity Story” will be shown in four excerpts. Discussions will focus on promise and prophesy in the Magnificat.

November 29

**Hope**

December 6

**Love**

December 13

**Peace**

December 20

**Joy**

Light refreshments are provided. Please call Nancy Jackson or Judith Sheldon for further information.

Brown Bag Lunch Movie Presentation  
December 13, 12:20 - 2:00 p.m.

Full length “The Nativity Story”

Sun	Mon	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5
<b>December 2015</b>		8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg <b>7:00pm Session</b> <b>7:00 rehearsal</b>	9-11am Open Dr. <b>7:00pm Chorale , Orchestra Rehearsal</b>	<b>Church Offices Closed</b>	<b>1:30 Chorale Rehearsal</b>  <b>3:00 Messiah</b> 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
<b>6</b> 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship 3:00 Messiah Concert  6:30pm NA	<b>7</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>8</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>9</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg <b>7:00 Deacons mtg</b>	<b>10</b> 9-11am Open Dr. 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	<b>11</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>  <b>6:00 Wedding Rehearsal</b> 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>12</b> <b>Wedding</b> 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
<b>13</b> 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA	<b>14</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>15</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>16</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 6:30pm Personnel	<b>17</b> 9-11am Open Dr.  <b>7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b> 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>19</b> 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
<b>20</b> 11:00am Worship Christmas Pageant 12:00 Breakfast in Bethlehem 6:30pm NA	<b>21</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>22</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>23</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>24</b>  <b>7:00 Christmas Eve Service</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b> 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>26</b> 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
<b>27</b> 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA	<b>28</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>29</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>30</b> 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	<b>31</b> 9-11am Open Dr.		

Join us for our 5th **Sunday  
Potluck Luncheon**



**Today, following worship  
Sunday, November 29, 2015**

### Committee Meeting

The Session will hold its next meeting on  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at  
7:00p.m.**



**Attendance for:**  
**November 22, 2015: 54**  
**November 23, 2014: 85**

**The deadline for next week's bulletin is  
Tuesday, December 1 at 12:00 pm.**



*Join us for our Church Decorating Party*  
**Christmas Trees and Greens at Fort Street**

**Sunday, November 29, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Please stay after worship and help swag the Sanctuary, and reforest the Narthex, Great Hall and Stapleton Chapel. The trees will be decorated by everyone in celebration of the first Sunday of Advent, after the first Sunday Potluck.**

### Please Use Envelopes for Sunday Check Contributions

The count volunteers who total up the Sunday offering would appreciate it if check writers could fill out a pew envelope and use it to enclose your check. We use these envelopes as documentation to back up details of our deposit record. If you don't fill one out at the time of contribution, a volunteer must write one for you. The envelope also allows you to show precisely how your contribution is to be applied to our various funds. We thank you for your faithful giving and for your help in assuring that it is counted correctly.

### **MARRIAGE ANYONE, 2016?**

Thinking of getting married? Want to get married at Fort Street? Contact the Wedding Coordinator, Loretta Stanton's cell phone **number, 313-549-1015.**