

WELCOME TO AVERY STREET CHURCH! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our Lord and Savior. Please join us for coffee after the service. Our Pastor and the greeting Elder are available to answer any questions you may have. For more information about the Christian Reformed Church visit our website at www.ascrc.org

THIS SUNDAY – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Matthew 11:28-30
Message: Traveling Light



CHRISTMAS EVE

Scripture: John 12:46
Message: Light for Our Darkness

NEXT SUNDAY

Scripture: Exodus 16:1-20,31
Message: Stale Grace

MINISTRIES FOR AVERY STREET CHURCH HOSPITALITY

Praying Elder
Barry Priest

North Door Elder
Tony Liebl

Offertory Deacon
Judy Straayer

Coffee Servers: **This Week:** Bill and Jane Forbes
 Next Week: The Gore Family



Children's Worship: Dave Hiskes and Judith Collar

*** * * NURSERY * * ***

12/22/19
10:30 AM
Worship Service
Lois Hibma
Mary Christians
Amy Marcos
(Teresa VanderLeest on call infants)

12/29/19
10:30 AM
Worship Service
Melanie Smedley
Lydia Smedley
(Jean Ohliger on call infants)

A nursery is available during the worship service. The nursery is located in the north hall of this building. Electronic pagers are available and will vibrate if it should become necessary for a parent to come to the nursery. For parents with small children, we also offer a "cry room" in which you can see and hear worship and feel more comfortable should your child become fussy during worship. It is located near the corner with the sound and visual equipment.

*** * * AUDIO EQUIPMENT * * ***

A voice copy of the sermon is available on the church website at ascrc.org. CD copies are available as well. See Rich O'Neill or email him at roneill28@cox.net. Please specify sermon or service. Copies are ready the following week but can also be expedited if necessary. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: We offer our Christian sympathy to Ed and Teresa VanderLeest and Ed's sister, Happy, and their three sons in the death of Ed's brother-in-law, Michael Hill. *"We pray that our God will put His arms of love and grace around you as you mourn the passing of your brother-in-law. May He lighten your sorrow with the knowledge that he is now rejoicing in the presence of Jesus, his Lord and Savior."*

ADVENT: Today is the fourth Sunday of the **Advent** season. Traditionally Advent has been a time for Christians to focus on preparation for Christmas and the celebration of Jesus' first coming as well as to remember and renew their desire for Jesus' second coming. This year's Advent sermons focus on the theme of light, remembering that Jesus is the Light of the world and of our lives.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be held this coming Tuesday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE: The church office will be closed Tuesday, 12/24, through Thursday, 12/26.

FROM THE DEACONS: The Deacons would like to thank the Avery Street Congregation for the generous donations of gift cards for this Christmas season. We received \$650, which has been divided between the MACC and South Windsor Food Banks. Deacons also gave a \$400 donation to the South Windsor Fuel Bank as well.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: Children in Worship will not be meeting on 12/29.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: There will no Sunday School on Sunday, December 29.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Last Sunday the Council enjoyed the blessing of hearing **Naomi Galarza** make a reaffirmation of her faith in Jesus Christ. We are planning to hear Naomi's public reaffirmation next week Sunday morning, December 29.

CHURCH LOGO: Congratulations to the two winners of our contest to design a new church logo: **Kayla O'Neill** is the winner of the children's designs, and **Bill Nelson** is the winner of the adult group and the overall winner. Thanks to all who took the time to submit designs—you all did an awesome job!

MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **FAITH PROMISE MISSIONS UPDATE:** The Missions Team has decided to support Mrs. Ari Clowney, Jim Zylstra's replacement working for World Renew in Tanzania as country consultant. As we get more information from World Renew we will be updating our slide show and bulletin board.
- **Summer Service Project:** All World Renew Disaster Relief sites are more than a day's drive away so we decided to look closer to home. We are looking at some possibilities in Hartford as well as projects for senior citizens in nearby towns.
- We will be saying goodbye and godspeed to Bruce and Pam Johnson on Sunday, January 5. We will hold a special time of prayer for them that Sunday.
- Check out the Missions bulletin board for updates from the Chapmans, the Wilsons, and a Christmas greeting from Ruth Lemmen.

YANKEE SWAP DINNER: The sign-up sheet for the **YANKEE SWAP** dinner on January 11 is in the narthex as well as a tentative schedule of events for the evening. We are looking for appetizers, main courses and desserts and are asking each family/couple/individual who signs up to bring two of those items. FYI – the Congregational Life Ministry will be providing spiral ham for the dinner. Last year’s event was a great success, so come with a good appetite and an “interesting” gift for the swap.

NEW BIBLE STUDY: Our newest Bible study will begin meeting on Monday, January 13. The study will be called “Prime Time” and will meet (weather permitting) in Room A on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The theme for spring and fall of 2020 is *Favorite Psalms* and will be led by Pastor Dave. Everyone is welcome to come, though this study is being provided especially for those who would prefer not to be out at night or who cannot attend one of our already-existing studies. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

<u>This Week’s Calendar</u>		
Sunday 12/22/19	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	7:00 PM	Paul Baloche Concert (Church)
Tuesday	6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday	Christmas Day	
Thursday	6:45 AM	Man-to-Man (FH)
Friday	6:30-7:30 AM	Men’s Bible Study (Admin)

<u>Next Week’s Calendar</u>		
Sunday 12/29/19	9:15 AM	NO Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	(6:00 PM)	(N/A)(Room A)
	(7:30 PM)	(N/A)(FH)
Tuesday	New Year’s Eve	
Wednesday	New Year’s Day	
Thursday	6:45 AM	Man-to-Man (FH)
	4:30 PM	NO GEMS
	7:00 PM	Worship Planning (Admin)
Friday	6:30-7:30 AM	Men’s Bible Study (Admin)



CHURCH COUNCIL

Administrative Council

Elders: Barry Priest, President
Steve Zielinski, Clerk

Deacon: Judy Straayer

Shepherding Elders and Deacons

District 1 (A-F)

Elder: Bill Nelson

Deacon: Sue Brownell

District 2 (G-L)

Elder: Gloria Ranney

Deacon: John Hibma

District 3 (M-Ra)

Elder: David Van Deusen

Deacon: Sandra Dominguez

District 4 (Re-Z)

Elder: Tony Liebl

Deacon: Henry Huizinga

MINISTRY MANAGEMENT TEAM

Elder Steve Zielinski, Chair

Carol Drohan, Adult Ministries Team Leader

Jean Ohliger, Children/Youth Team Leader

Dave Hiskes, Support Ministries Team Leader

Andrew Brindisi, Worship Ministries Team Leader

Mike Ohliger, Congregational Life Team Leader

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dave Poolman (644-2731)

Church Secretary: Bev Kaldy (644-2731)

Custodian: Randy Wiggins & Michael May

Treasurer: Merrill Kloter

Sonshine Ministry: Carol Hulstein

Rides Coordinator: Lucy Berghuis

FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARIES

Jermaine & Meredith Chapman, Orlando, Florida

Ryan Goding, Farmington, ME

Bruce & Pam Johnson, Japan

Harold & Deibi Lappian, Dover, NH

Brandon & Ashley Wilson, Storrs, CT

Jim & Josephine Zylstra, Tanzania

MISSION STATEMENT

Avery Street Christian Reformed Church seeks to be a church that loves Jesus and loves our neighbors.

VISION STATEMENT

Avery Street Christian Reformed Church is committed to fulfilling Jesus' command as expressed in the Great Commission: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Avery Street Christian Reformed Church
661 Avery Street, South Windsor, CT 06074

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