



**WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER 24TH, 2024 - 7:30PM  
CHRISTMAS EVE**

# Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here, and hope that you'll feel right at home.



**Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.**



Friendship Pew Pads can be found in each row.

Please fill them out and pass along to your neighbors.

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in.



WPC Directory Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center.

Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with questions.

WPC Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.



If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available.

An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.



An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents is located in the Narthex.



Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.



Fidget Toys for children (and adults) are available at the Narthex entrance.



Gluten Free Cookies are labeled and available during coffee hour.

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.

WPC uses bread that is gluten free and made without tree nuts or peanuts.

**Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!**

## **STAFF & HOURS**

PASTOR: Rev. François Lacroix

- Tuesday, 11:00am-4:00pm
- Wednesday, 10:00am-2:00pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- Monday, 11:00am-4:30pm
- Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon-Kerr

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

CO-TREASURERS: Ed Mattote and Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

LITURGISTS: Lena Anderson

Thomas Hansen

Ellis Warley

USHERS: Andrea Couzens

Todd Darr

Polly Sacco Ezzell

Ken Ezzell

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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***A community where all who seek God are Welcome...***



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## GATHERING

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy.  
To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.  
This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.  
**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!**

PRELUDE

All Ye Faithful  
Wallingford Winds

arr. J. Pasternak

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light the Christ candle to symbolize God's promise fulfilled.  
For a child has been born to us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
**Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom his favor rests.**  
**Blessed be the name of the Lord.**

OPENING PRAYER

\*Opening Carol #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful  
(verses 1 and 4)

ADESTE FIDELES

## Service of Lessons and Carols

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

Isaiah 11:1-9

THE MESSAGE 1225

<sup>1</sup>A green Shoot will sprout from Jesse's stump, from his roots a budding Branch. <sup>2</sup>The life-giving Spirit of God will hover over him, the Spirit that brings wisdom and understanding, The Spirit that gives direction and builds strength, the Spirit that instills knowledge and Fear-of-God. <sup>3</sup>Fear-of-God will be all his joy and delight. He won't judge by appearances, won't decide on the basis of hearsay. <sup>4</sup>He'll judge the needy by what is right, render decisions on earth's poor with justice. His words will bring everyone to awed attention. A mere breath from his lips will topple the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Each morning he'll pull on sturdy work clothes and boots, and build righteousness and faithfulness in the land. <sup>6</sup>The wolf will romp with the lamb, the leopard sleep with the kid. Calf and lion will eat from the same trough, and a little child will tend them. <sup>7</sup>Cow and bear will graze the same pasture, their calves and cubs grow up together, and the lion eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child will crawl over rattlesnake dens, the toddler stick his hand down the hole of a serpent. <sup>9</sup>Neither animal nor human will hurt or kill on my holy mountain. The whole earth will be brimming with knowing God-Alive, a living knowledge of God ocean-deep, ocean-wide.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

THE MESSAGE 1219

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. For those who lived in a land of deep shadows – light! Sunbursts of light! <sup>3</sup>You repopulated the nation, you expanded its joy. Oh, they're so glad in your presence! Festival joy! The joy of a great celebration, sharing rich gifts and warm greetings. <sup>4</sup>The abuse of oppressors and cruelty of tyrants – all their whips and cudgels and curses – Is gone, done away with, a deliverance as surprising and sudden as Gideon's old victory over Midian. <sup>5</sup>The boots of all those invading troops, along with their shirts soaked with innocent blood, Will be piled in a heap and burned, a fire that will burn for days! <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born - for us! the gift of a son - for us! He'll take over the running of the world. His names will be: Amazing Counselor, Strong God, Eternal Father, Prince of Wholeness. <sup>7</sup>His ruling authority will grow, and there'll be no limits to the wholeness he brings. He'll rule from the historic David throne over that promised kingdom. He'll put that kingdom on a firm footing and keep it going With fair dealing and right living, beginning now and lasting always.

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

Maria Wiegenlied  
Meghan Cakalli

M. Reger

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-7

THE MESSAGE 1866

<sup>1</sup>About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. <sup>2</sup>This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. <sup>5</sup>He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel.

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

O Holy Night  
Chamber Choir

arr. S Robson

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-12

THE MESSAGE 1866

<sup>8</sup>There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. <sup>10</sup>The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: <sup>11</sup>A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. <sup>12</sup>This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Chapel Ringers

arr. Martha L Thompson

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

#### OFFERTORY



Ukrainian Bell Carol  
Bell Ensemble

arr. M. Thompson

Scan the QR code to give via credit card on the Church Center app.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for your greatest gift, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. In this season when so many gifts are given and received, we pray that you will receive the gifts we offer now. Use them according to your purposes and plans, bringing your good news of great joy to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-5

THE MESSAGE 1924

<sup>1</sup>The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, <sup>2</sup>in readiness for God from day one. <sup>3</sup>Everything was created through him; nothing - not one thing! - came into being without him. <sup>4</sup>What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. <sup>5</sup>The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

### THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*Our lights have been dimmed to symbolize the darkness of the world without Christ. The burning candles represent the divine source of light in that darkness. Please stand as the usher comes to your pew. To light your candle, tilt it to the candle already lit. Don't tip the lighted candle or the hot wax will drip onto you or the floor. We ask parents to supervise your children as they light and hold their candles. You may extinguish your candle following the Benediction.*

\*CAROL #122

Silent Night, Holy Night!

STILLE NACHT

### SENDING

\*CAROL #136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING THE GRACE AND PEACE WE RECEIVED

*Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this evening.*

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come  
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,  
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -  
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all  
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

*Refrain*

born the King of an - gels!  
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let  
 glo - ry in the high - est!  
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

# Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*  
*Alles schläft, einsam wacht*  
*nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.*  
*Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,*  
*schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,*  
*schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

KOREAN

1 *고요한밤 거룩한밤*  
*어둠에 묻힌밤*  
*주의부모 앉아서*  
*감사기도 드릴때*  
*아기잘도 잔다*  
*아기잘도 잔다*


SPANISH

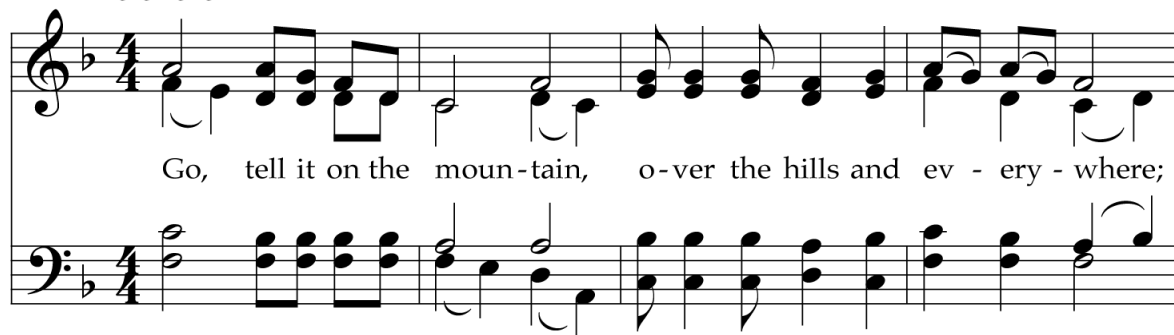
1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*  
*Todo duerme en derredor,*  
*entre los astros que esparcen su luz,*  
*bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,*  
*brilla la estrella de paz,*  
*brilla la estrella de paz.*

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.



# 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

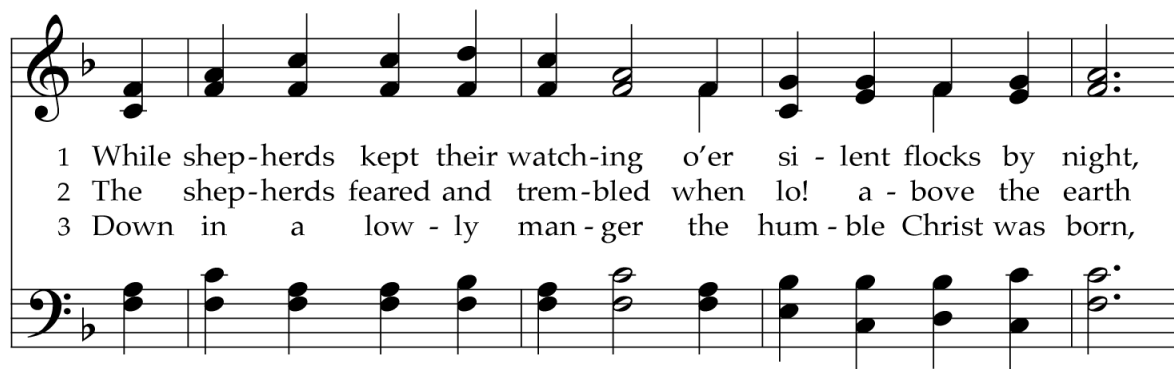
Refrain 



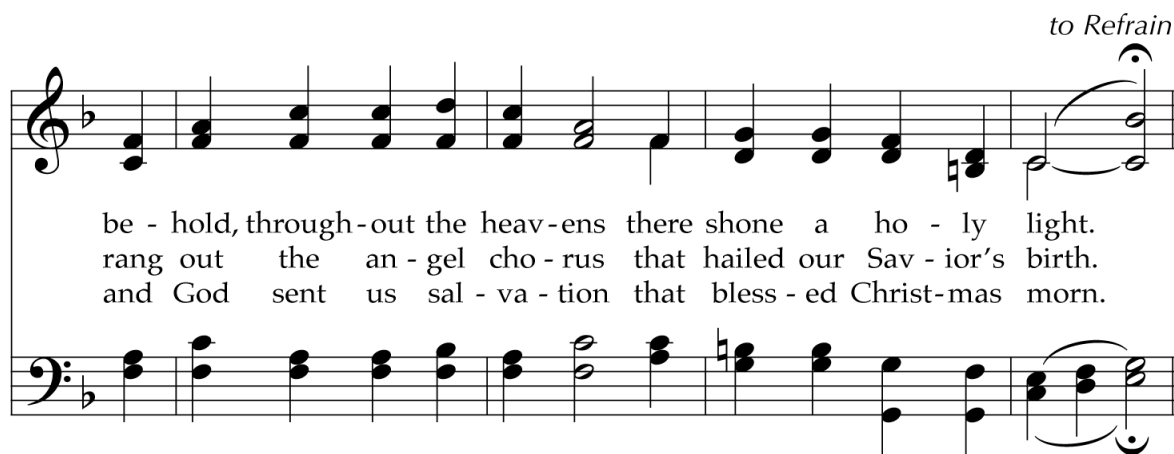
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth  
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

*to Refrain*

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.



## Congregational Vision Questionnaire

As part of the process for calling a new pastor to replace François Lacroix after his retirement, the church is undertaking a Mission Study to learn the congregation's perspective on what direction the church might take and what WPC should look for in a new pastor.

We need your input. It doesn't matter if you've been a member for a week, a year, or 40 years (or even if you've never gotten around to joining), your voice is amongst equals at this table. Please take the time to prayerfully consider the questionnaire.



Scan the QR code to launch the online Congregational Vision Questionnaire or find it at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Wallingford2025](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Wallingford2025). Hard copies of the questionnaire are available from the ushers for those who prefer paper. The questionnaire is anonymous. Please submit only one questionnaire per person.












The Mission Study Team will also be holding a series of in-person and online listening sessions as a follow-up to the questionnaire. Stay tuned for more!












The Mission Study Team consists of Ver Picher, Ben Drane, Lin Floyd, Lisé Meloy, Rick Miller, David Rudd, and Erin Vaccone.



## Christmas Poinsettias



<b>Given By</b>	<b>Dedication</b>
 Arianne Allan	In Memory of George Liepa
 Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle and Pete Bauer
 Bruce and Gail Clark	In Memory of Our Parents, In Memory of Beanie
 Sally Clyde	In Memory of Bill Clyde and Beloved Family Members and Friends
 Mary Lou Day	In Memory of James Day and Loved Ones
 Chris Dearnaley	In Gratitude for Friends and Family
 Roger and Barb Demos	In Memory of Allen Rock Creedy
 Rosanna Denney	In Memory of George Denney
 Carol and Roger Freidinger	In Honor of Pastor Francois and Cyndi
 Helene Furlong	In Honor of My Parents
 Fred and Mary Ann German	In Memory of Loved Ones

 Allison, Jeremy, Eva And Beckett Guinn	In Memory of Joseph Lukachik, Father and Dido
 Lindsay Gursky	In Memory of Louise and Kay Visage Victor and Shirley Rangeloff
 Alva Hayes	In Memory of Donald Hayes and Family
 Stephanie Jones	In Memory of Elma Jones
 Russ Kinder	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Henry and Leslie Krowchenko	In Memory of Sam and Caroline Keys
 Zach, Brian and Bill Mongon	In Memory of Kathleen Mongon
 Helen and Ver Picher	In Memory of Olie Davis
 Teresa Sawyer and Family	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Earl Varney	In Memory of Mina Hale Varney
 Gwyn Vernon	In Honor of Pastor Francois and Cyndi Pastor Taylor and Doug Lee and Her Family



**ANNUAL GIVING** We have received 77 pledges totaling \$355,394. Pledges represent approximately two-thirds of our annual budget and provide the confidence that we will continue to be the exciting, growing church we have become thanks to everyone's helping hand.

Register your pledge using the pledge card or the Church Center app.



**BLOOD DRIVE** Garden City Fire Company #1 is hosting a blood drive at its station (412 Moore Road, Wallingford), **9am-7pm, Thursday, December 26**. To register, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or use the QR code (enter Nether Providence to schedule an appointment).

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** The church office will be closed **Tuesday, December 24 – Thursday, January 2** for Christmas break. The staff will be available by phone or email.

**BREAKFAST CLUB** Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10am, Sunday, December 29**, for breakfast, a discussion about the week's video and games. Open to students grades 6-12.

**CHILD CARE RESUMES** Nursery, Toddler Room and Sunday School will be open **Sunday, December 29**.



**SPROUTS MOVIE NIGHT** Watch "Finding Nemo" and enjoy pizza, popcorn and lemonade, **6 pm, Friday, January 3**. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register – deadline noon, Thursday, January 2.

**YOUNG ADULT PIZZA PARTY** Nosh on pizza, enjoy fellowship time and provide feedback to the Mission Study Team on the direction and vision of the church, **11:30am, Sunday, January 5**. Meet in the Youth Room.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS 2025** The sign-up board for sponsoring Chancel Flowers in 2025 is live and posted in the Fellowship Hall. Sign your name and the dedication you would like printed in the bulletin. Suggested donation price is \$50. Payments will be collected at the beginning of each month. The church office will reach out with a reminder when your month is coming up.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** If you requested offering envelopes for 2025, please pick them up in Fellowship Hall.

**BULLETIN COVER** We give a special thanks to Jonathan Demos, son of Roger and Barb, for the beautiful drawings used as the bulletin art for the 7.30 and 10.00 services.



**CONGREGATIONAL VISION QUESTIONNAIRE** We need your input on what WPC should look for in a new pastor to replace François Lacroix after his retirement. Please take time to prayerfully complete the questionnaire. It is anonymous – submit only one per person. Hard copies are available from the ushers. Use the QR code to launch the questionnaire or find it at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Wallingford2025](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Wallingford2025) – **the deadline is Sunday, December 29.**

**RED WAGON** WPC supports 3 food pantries – Chester Eastside, LifeWerks & Media Food Bank. Chester Eastside is requesting:

- Pancake mix/syrup
- Oatmeal
- Canned fruit/applesauce
- Peanut butter/jelly
- Canned meats (chicken)
- Canned fish (tuna, salmon)
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, beans)
- Canned soup (condensed, ready to serve)
- Dry pasta/pasta sauce
- Canned pasta/chili
- Boxed mac & cheese/side dishes
- Stuffing/rice/mashed potatoes

**THANK YOU** The WPC family has been given generous, kind hearts. You ensured the Giving Tree/Angel Tree supplied gifts and gift cards to brighten many children’s Christmases. The nursery school was likewise very generous. We gave 60 gift cards from Target and Walmart and wonderful toys to Chester Eastside, City Team, Wallingford Swarthmore School District and Angel Tree. A huge thank you from the Giving Tree/Angel Tree team – Carol, Cathy, Chris, Don, June, Sally and Sheila

<b>WPC Week at a Glance</b>	
<b>Sunday, December 29</b>	<b>Saturday, January 04</b>
10.00am- Breakfast Club	11.00am- BSA Eagle Scout Court of Honor
10.00am- Worship	11.15am- Ballet Academy
11.00am- Coffee Hour	<b>Sunday, January 05</b>
<b>Monday, December 30</b>	10.00am- Breakfast Club
<b>Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve</b>	10.00am- Worship
<b>Wednesday, January 01</b>	11.00am- Coffee Hour
<b>Thursday, January 02</b>	11.00am- Kids Café
<b>Friday, January 03</b>	11.30am- Young Adult Lunch
06.00pm- Sprouts	

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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