

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 3rd, 2017

SERVICE TIMES 8am and 10:30am

CHURCH SCHOOL 10:15am

REV. SUE POULIN, RECTOR

LECTIONARY READINGS

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7,16-18

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

SCHEDULED PARTICIPANTS

L.E.M. 8am Peter Campbell, 10:30am Carole Connors

Lector: 8am Jackie Keating, 10:30am Julia Stackpole

Acolyte: 8am Peter Campbell, 10:30am David Moberg

Ushers: 8am Jim Bennett, 10:30 Dave and Pam Tyler

Counting: Kate Leslie and Carole Connors

Coffee Hour: Ann Elkins and Donna Nelson

Thrift Shop: 12/7 Ann Elkins, 12/8 to be announced

Bread Ministry for December: Ann Elkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY TURKEY SUPPER

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13th

5-6:30pm

Adults \$8, children under 4 \$4

Sign up sheet in the Narthex

Please support this last fund raiser for the year and St. John's budget

FRIDAY MORNING ADVENT GATHERING

we will continue this program on Friday December 3rd, 10-12 noon in the conference room.

Our Advent activity is based on the Advent Journey Coloring posters and coloring pages created by artist and pastor Adam Walker Cleveland. We will meet for conversation using the reflections in the Devotional Guide and for group coloring of large posters to be used in church.

We met this week on Wednesday evening and Friday morning, and completed the first poster. All are welcome whether you were here last week or just joining in.

STEWARDSHIP

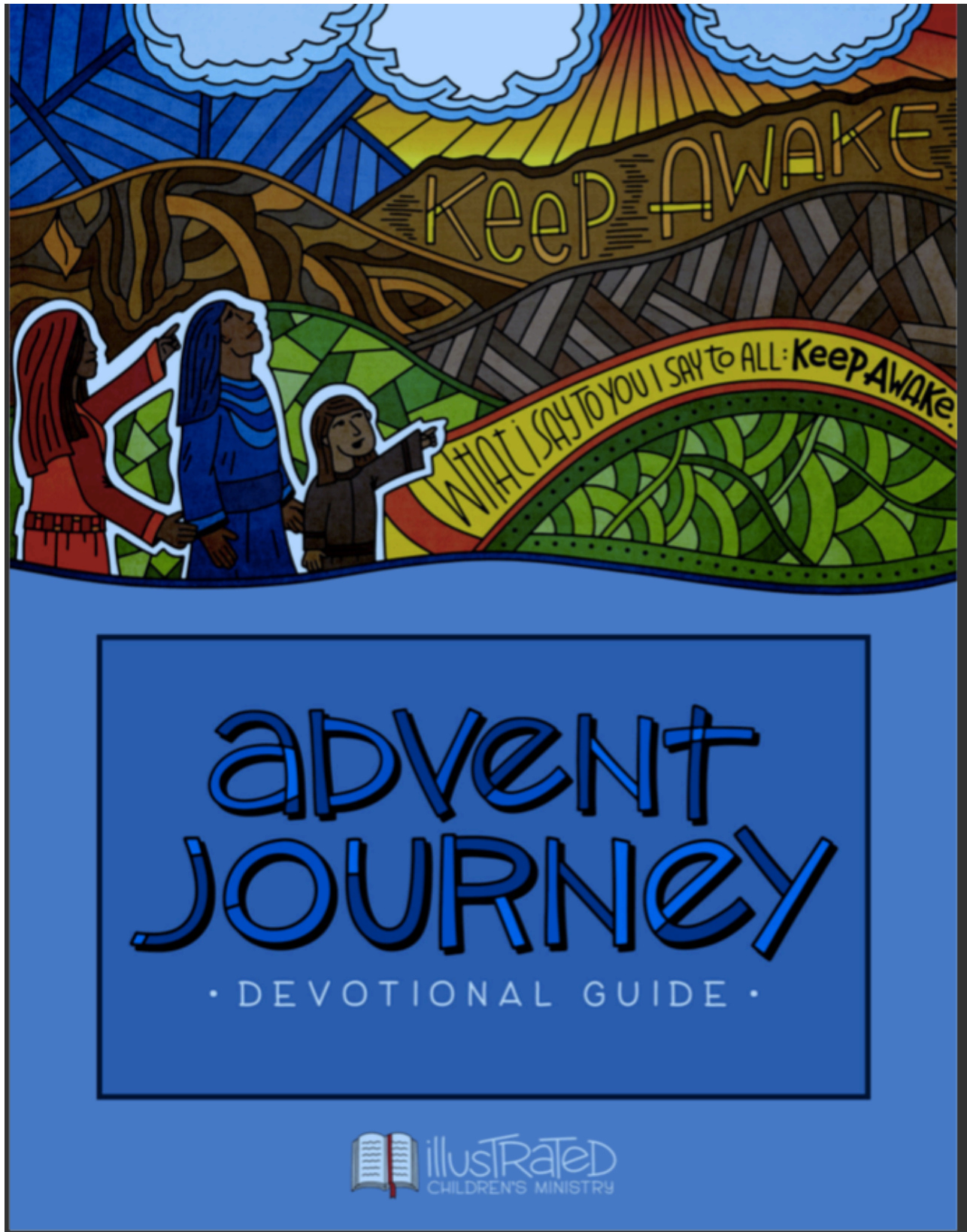
A reminder that pledge cards for 2018 were due back November 26th. Thank you to everyone who has returned their pledges for next year.

FOOD PANTRY

A reminder that the need for the food pantry is in greater need this time of year. The basket for food items is in the Narthex and a jar for cash donations.

CINDY'S RESTAURANT

Thanksgiving day Cindy held a for the food pantry and the people in need in our area a fund raising dinner. \$4,005.00 was raised. I am always amazed by what a small community does to support those in need.



SYNTHESIS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 3, 2017

3 reflections from this week's readings.

Now, more than ever, we must proclaim, "The Lord is at hand!" We are part of this, quietly and actively, through our faith and expectation. It is enough for us to know that God is weaving his design in the warp and weft of the world. His goal will be reached, not just for this or that person, but for everyone.

--Eleanor Roosevelt, "If You Ask Me" in the Ladies Home Journal (Nov 1941)

During Advent I find God in the slight and easily broken. As autumn days grow shorter, God is working in miniature. God has put away autumn's acrylics and is now painting in watercolor. These days, God dances with children in playful games of make believe. As world leaders pass, from the scene and new leaders are born: God soars with migrating birds giving eye to fragile wings. While we stand in awe of the world's wealth and power; God gazes on the refugee child as she clings to her yellow toy ball. (yes, as nations unleash the tsunami of military destruction, the future of God's reign seems dependent on a child keeping hold of her precious toy.) And as God lies down in a dirty alley with the homeless we hear the prophet intone. "have you not known? Have you not heard? God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless."

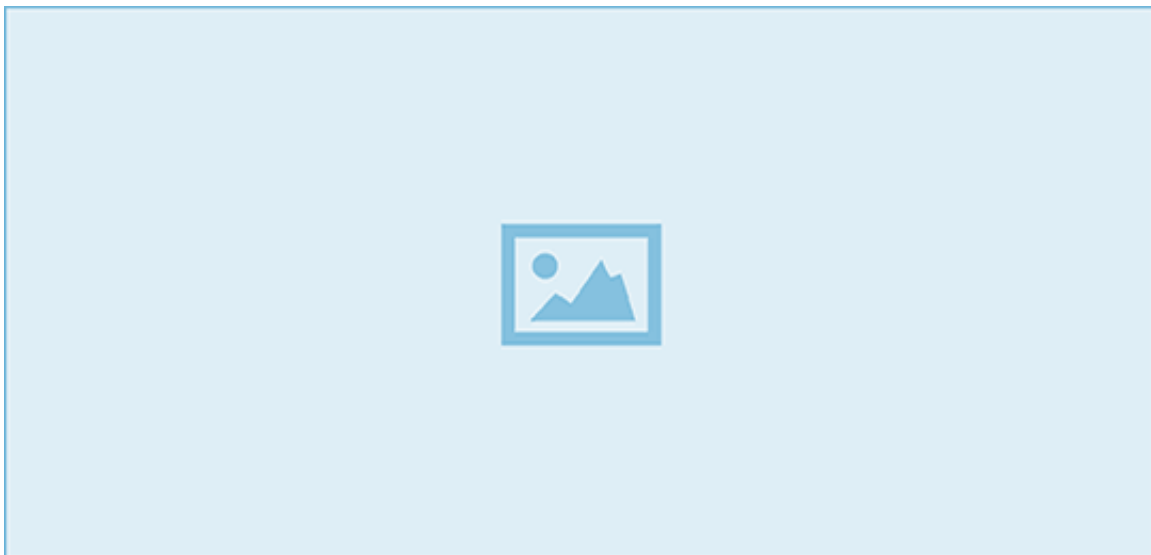
--Lon Oliver, Executive Director: Appalachian Ministries Educational Resource Center, Berea Kentucky.

This then is to watch: to be detached from what is present and to live in what is unseen....

John Henry Newman.

As we begin our Advent journey to Bethlehem, I am (trying) to tell myself to slow down and enjoy the season. What gets done, gets done, and what doesn't, oh well. I'm trying hard God, honest.

Carole Connors



Keep your message brief, friendly, and to the point.
Use the image as a link, or add a call-to-action link here.
[Add a Link](#)

STAY CONNECTED:



St. John's Episcopal Church | 118 High Street | PO Box 249 | Sanbornville | NH | 03872