

CUMC NEWS - December 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With each passing day, week, month and year, one of the ways in which God has challenged and moved me in life is to be more grateful. It is not only because we just celebrated Thanksgiving that I share this, but it also because we are quickly entering the season of Advent. Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Of course, we're preparing for Christmas and all that it involves for each of us. For many of us we prepare and setup decorations, gatherings, lists, menus, gifts, and much more. In the life of our church we go from delivering Thanksgiving Baskets to Christmas Baskets, buying Angel Tree gifts, preparing our own church with decorations, the Children's Christmas Play, Advent Candles, Christmas Eve Service, and all the things seen and unseen.

I am so grateful to God for all that we have to be able to celebrate the birth of Christ and what Christ has and continues to do for us. I am grateful how we are able to do all that we do, not only for ourselves but also for many who are in need physically as well spiritually.

I encourage all of us to be more grateful as we go about all that we do in preparations for Christmas. May we not only prepare the things all around us and on our to do list, but also prepare our hearts and spirits as we look to Christ who came, who died and resurrected for us, who calls us to be living witnesses and disciple-makers, and who will one day return. Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas as well as for Christ's return on day. And as we prepare, Jesus calls us to continually be prepared as we do everything for him.

In being thankful for all the gifts we have received as well as being able to give to others, let us always be thankful for the gift of Jesus Christ for us and all!

In Christ's Love,

Taek