

**RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
CHRIS C. NETTLES, Minister**

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**Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love Candle
Luke 2:1-14**

**NEXT SUNDAY DECEMBER 20
THE CHANCEL CHOIR PRESENTS
“Come, Let Us Adore Him”**

**Our Youth Will Be Serving the
Homeless Again This Saturday**



Charles, Louie & Brian Serving

Special Upcoming Events –

December 24 -- Christmas Eve Communion Service 7 PM
January 3 – Ugandan Orphans Choir

FROM THE MINISTER

Over my years of ministry, I have more than once got involved and then clobbered when my decisions fell flat or served as a trap to snare me. I have been struggling with some church relationship conflicts for two months. I turned it over to God more than once; only to take it back, as if I could solve them if I did just the right things. Then Sunday morning someone shared a problem they are having that is the same one I am having. Then they said what I needed to hear: let it go. Right away I thought of one of the new songs that the group Tenth Avenue North sings. It was as if God stepped into my world and grabbed me by the collar and pulled.

This is one of those God moments in our lives when we realize we are not alone in our struggles. As I listen at church I hear all sorts of people experiencing so many struggles. They include our health and the health of our family and friends. For many of us we have pain that won't go away. We have the same concerns for our family and friend with jobs. Many are either unemployed or under employed. This puts

pressure of our families and relationships. Strong marriages can crumble when our bills are bigger than our income. Still others are battling the demons of drugs and alcohol. They are a powerful force gobbling us up with no end to its grip. Many of us are battling depression, either too afraid to take medication or not getting the right help. So when God steps into our lives and grabs us by the collar we need to remind ourselves that we have never been alone and we can stop our struggling. In this season of celebrating God arrival in Jesus, let us give thanks and let go of our often powerless grip on our lives.

Chris C. Nettles

We ask Prayers for:

Francis Hiltabidel funeral will be Friday at 1 PM at the Miller Jones Mortuary 1501 W. Florida Avenue in Hemet.

For the homeless and for shelters,
Farolyn Hanscom fell at CWF on Wednesday but was in worship,
for all those in pain,
Peace on Earth,

Al Bondesen's mom, Kathleen Neal,
Prayer for our church without ceasing,
Jim & Wanda Copenhaver,
Blessings on this congregation,
Jewell Magill & Charles, her son,
We pray that we all keep
our faith during these troubled times!

Prayers for our troops,
Health of our church.

Al , Unity & Sally,

Prayers for balance in families with the stress & the economy,

Jeff & Debbie Stewart's 16 year old nephew is being treated for brain cancer,

We thank Maria & Jesse Dulaney, Scott Jennifer Field & youth for preparing the Thanksgiving meal for the homeless feeding.

We thank Mary Stuart for accompanying worship last Sunday.



Santa & Gillian



Franklin & Mary, along with some of our children led us in the singing of our Christmas Carols and Hymns

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23

6:30 PM Youth Ice Skating

Downtown Riverside

6:30 PM Lydia Group going out to eat @ Portillo's
12840 Day Street in Moreno Valley

THURSDAY DECEMBER 17

7:00 PM Choir Practice

FRIDAY DECEMBER 18

1:00 PM Frances Hildabidel Funeral

in Hemet 1501 Florida Ave

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19

8:15 AM Disciple Men (CMF) Breakfast

at the Soup Shoppe

8:15 AM Women's Book Club

@ Coco's on Trautwein

10:00 AM Choir Christmas Cantata

Rehearsal in Sanctuary

10:30-12:30 Homeless Meals Ministry

Youth Group Serving

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20

9:15 AM Adult Church School

10:30 AM Worship

"Come, Let Us Adore Him"

10:45 AM Worship & Wonder

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24

7 PM Christmas Eve Communion Service

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20

WORSHIP LEADER Scott Copenhaver

SONG LEADER Cheri Copenhaver

COMMUNION PREP Sandi Smith

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

Shirley Baker

HOSPITALITY

Honoring The Choir

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS

Worship Attendance:

72