



## From Epiphany to MLK: Build Your Spiritual Life with Us in 2011

The evergreen boughs have been removed, but fresh ideas and programs are ever-plenty at KCC in January:

### Epiphany: Combined Worship, January 2, 10 AM

We start the new year at worship on January 2 with the observance of Epiphany, when Jesus' birth was hailed by scholars who followed a star from the East to Bethlehem. Our congregation will worship together that morning at 10 AM (No 8:30 AM service on January 2).

### Dedication of Confirmands January 9

Eight middle and high school students who are participating in Confirmation, and the adult mentors guiding their journey, will be introduced in worship at the 10 AM service on January 9. Confirmation class meets after the service in the Conference Room.

### Pressing Issues: Bullying & Local Food

Stretch your conscience. Learn more about bullying at our January 12 film screening (Details in the right hand column). Then hear from thought leaders at our panel discussion on Local Food Saturday, January 29, 10 AM

in Lander Hall (See page 3). Part of our new quarterly **Coffee & Conversation** series, you are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors. This is a FREE event, open to the public.

### Search Committee Dedication, January 30

Covenant with the Kensington Community Church Settled Minister Search Committee at the 10 AM Service on Sunday, January 30.

### Congregational Budget Meeting, January 30

Also on January 30, in Lander Hall after the 10 AM service, vote on the church's 2011 budget. Bring finger foods to share with our church family. ♦



### KCC Film Screening: "Bullied: A Student, School and a Case That Made History"

**Wednesday, Jan. 12, 7 PM, Lander Hall**

What does God call us to do in the face of bullying? How can we promote tolerance? How can we infuse the media age with self-control and kindness?

See the movie, "Bullied: A Student, a School, and a Case That Made History" in Lander Hall, Wednesday, Jan. 12, together with our middle and high school youth group. Afterwards, we'll discuss what we, as a faith community, can do as to help. A representative from *California Faith for Equality* will join us.

Refreshments and mingling start at 6:30 PM! ♦

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Foodies: The Politics of Local Produce
- 4 Who's the Roman God of Gates/Doors?
- 7 Copley Y, Las Posadas Photos!
- 9 Your Pledge Sustains KCC
- 10 Youth Lead, Building A Community

## Women's Spirituality: Drop-In's Welcome!

Women's Spirituality will resume meeting Thursday, January 6, at 10 AM and weekly thereafter. As always, drop-in visitors are welcome. Our book is: *The Muslim Next Door: The Qur'an, the Media and that Veil Thing* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali.

Questions? Call Sharon Young (619) 675-9592. ♦

### Kensington Community Church

#### United Church of Christ

4773 Marlborough Drive

San Diego, CA 92116

619-284-1129; Fax: 619-284-0160.

[www.kensingtonucc.com](http://www.kensingtonucc.com)

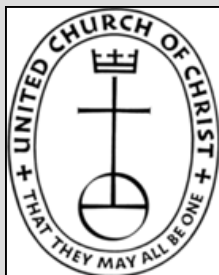
[info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com](mailto:info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com)

Rev. Paula J. Elizabeth, Interim Minister  
John Hansen-Tarbox, Director of Music  
Marg Stark, Director, Religious Education  
Nina Deering, Organist  
Connie Cleland, Preschool Director  
Donna Hanson, Administrative Assistant

<i>Chimes</i> Editor	Marg Stark
<i>Chimes</i> Production	Donna Hanson Millie Medigovich Beverly Patch

Submit photos, articles and announcements to Marg at [marg@kcc.sdcoxmail.com](mailto:marg@kcc.sdcoxmail.com) by the 15th of the month.

**Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m.  
All are welcome!**



## Save the Date for Feb. 26 Sock Hop

Get your poodle skirts and blue suede shoes ready for KCC's Sock-Hop, Saturday, February 26 at 5:30 PM in Lander

Hall. Bring friends, all ages are welcome. Yummy diner fare will be served, perhaps from waitresses on roller skates! Then hit the dance floor with the whole family. Watch for more news in the February bulletins and *Chimes*! ♦



## Events Committee Kept Us Fed, Festive, and Fulfilled in Advent!

About 60 people attended our tremendously successful December 2 "Cool Yule Senior Luncheon." Our talented church singers and musicians provided the music, with a rousing audience participation number, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and an appearance from the King himself ("Elvis was IN the building!" in the form of John Hansen-Tarbox).

The festive holiday decorations were beautiful and supplied by Carolyn and Steve Davis. Fun was had by all!

Late in November, 30 of us attended the Lamb's theater production of "The Festival of Christmas" in Coronado. This was the second play our Kensington Church group attended this year and was enjoyed by all. It was a wonderful way to usher in the Christmas season!

It would have been a dark Las Posadas without our Events volunteers who lit the stable, handed out candles, lined Marlborough with luminarias and set-up Lander Hall for piñatas and tamales.



Our Events committee was back at the church bright and early to arrange the crèche display for the Dec. 19 services. The igloo nativity scene, brought by Marilyn Cooper, was a crowd favorite. Thanks to all who prepared and participated in the festivities! ♦

Kensington Community Church presents

## Coffee & Conversation

The Politics and Pleasures of

Local, Seasonal Foods

Saturday, January 29, Lander Hall

9:30 AM Refreshments, 10 AM Panel Begins

- Food Blogger Alice Robertson on San Diego's local food scene.
- Waters Catering chef Andrew Spurgin with a cooking demo—showcasing recipes that are good for you and for Mother Earth. (Tentative)
- An organic farmer from San Diego County's Suzie's Farm and CSA program on the challenges of local farming given government regulation, climate change, etc. (Tentative)
- Keller Clinic's Lisa Pugliese (Acupuncturist and nutrition expert) on the importance of "seasonal" foods for health, mood, and disease-prevention. ♦



### KCC's In the News!

Recently we received the following media attention:

- The church, along with Kensington Video, was hailed in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* as the "center" of the Kensington neighborhood in an interview with Winnie Hanford, a longtime owner of Ken Video. Our efforts to reach out to a senior neighbor in need were noted.
- Also in the *Union-Tribune*, **Maya Rios**, a member of our church and Youth Group. Maya took a close up photo of a flamingo at the zoo and won first prize in a local photography contest. Congratulations, Maya!
- Our *Las Posadas* calendar announcement appeared in many community calendars and on the social network, Facebook. Pictures of the festivities were posted on Facebook, where Youth Group members could "tag" their friends in nativity garb or mid-swing at the pinātas. ♦



### KCC Learns of Unexpected Major Gift from Lander Estate

In late December, the church received a Christmas surprise—news from Bertha Lander's estate attorney of an additional major gift. As you will recall, longtime member Bertha Lander, who passed away in April of last year, left her home to KCC in her will—a gift designated for the capital campaign sanctuary remodel. This new gift is unrestricted, offering us an opportunity to be in prayer and conversation about the church's short and long term needs, and how to be wise stewards of this wonderful gift.

As work on the sanctuary begins later this winter, we'll continue to celebrate Bertha's tremendous legacy and the gifts we all bring to KCC. ♦



## A Moment with Our Interim Minister

*Happy New Year to all!*

*In Roman mythology, Janus is the custodian of the universe, the god of beginnings and endings, the god of gates and doors, the god of transitions and time. His most known gift to modern culture is his namesake, the month of January.*

*Janus is mostly depicted as having two heads facing in opposite directions; one head looks back at the last year to the past, while the other looks forward to the new year, the future.*

*And so it is for many of us.*

*Here at Kensington Community Church, we might think of Janus as our own guardian angel as we have been transitioning - looking back over our history while moving into our future, searching and calling a new settled minister.*

*It is a grand time and year for continued reflection and for continued discernment for where God calls and Spirit guides. Mystery unfolds slowly and the veil lifts gently yielding a newness and clearness of purpose and meaning in the community and in life.*

*And so it is for all of us.*

*Let us all begin this new year grounded in the faith of Christ - born to us anew in heart, mind and spirit.*

*Blessings of new life in a new year.*

*Paula*



## New Books Arrive for Ruth Cole Library

We've added these titles to our adult library for your reading pleasure:

Archer, Jeffery – **And Thereby Hangs a Tale**

Brown, Helen – **Cleo**

Brown, Rita Mae – **A Nose for Justice**

Jeffers, Sunni – **To Have and to Hold**

Karon, Jan – **In the Company of Others**

Macomber, Debbie – **Call Me Mrs. Miracle**

Macomber, Debbie – **1022 Evergreen Place**

Plaskin, Glenn – **Katie Up and Down the Hall**

Sparks, Nicholas – **Safe Haven**



Taylor, Patrick – **An Irish Country Courtship**

Williams, Andy – **Moon River and Me** ♦

# Save the Date

## John Hansen-Tarbox To Be Commissioned Sunday, February 6

John Hansen-Tarbox has been called to serve as the Commissioned Minister of Music at Kensington Community Church! In this light, the Southern Association of the United Church of Christ anticipates with great joy the celebration of this commissioning and installation.

Join us for this service and celebration at the 10 AM Worship Service on Sunday, February 6. ♦



## Chancel Flowers: Sign Up and Enjoy the Blossoms

The 2011 Flower Chart is now on the church office door (hallway side). Please sign up for your desired date or dates. If

there is more than one request for a specific date, our chancel area will accommodate more than one flower arrangement. So don't be shy! The fee is \$35. At time of your payment, please give to Donna the name of the person whom you are honoring or remembering, with the sanctuary bouquet.

**Please Note:** Have a special request for colors or type of flowers? Let Donna know so she can inform the florist. Larger arrangements can also be requested at a higher fee.

You may also provide your own arrangement, but again, let Donna know so she can inform the florist not to deliver that week. ♦



## Propel RE Campaign to Success

With one last push, we can make our Program Campaign a big success. This campaign started last spring the goal of raising \$50,000 by the end of 2010. This campaign supports our Christian educational programs for our children and adults. And God has blessed

our efforts. Look around and see our vibrant, growing church and the start of many new program offerings!

Our work is not finished. We are nearly halfway to our goal and if everyone could pitch in with a donation toward the campaign we could close the gap in the next two weeks. All gifts, large and small, are important. Thank you so much to those who have already contributed. Thank you to those who will prayerfully consider what they can give.

Please make your check payable to KCC and please put 'Program Campaign' in the memo line. The 2010 Campaign for RE Programs Committee wishes you a joyous new year! ♦

## Moderator's Moment

*Joy is the net of love  
by which you can collect souls.*

- Mother Teresa

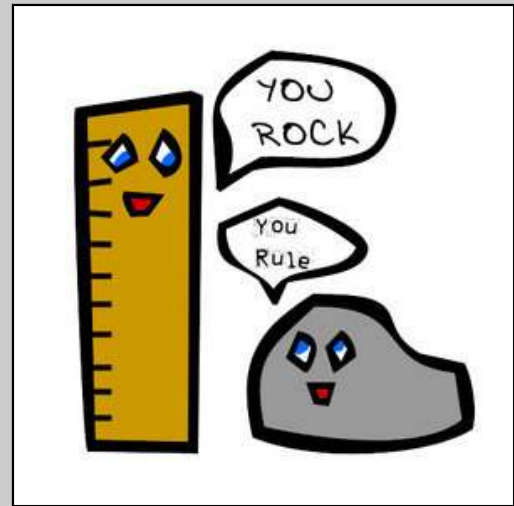
Wow, 2010 went by quickly. The new year is upon us! And 2011 is shaping up to be a fantastic year:

- The Settled Minister Search Committee has been formed. The committee is made up of a represented cross section of the church. All the members are well respected and hard workers. I look forward to meeting the candidate that they will recommend to the congregation. But how long it will take, I don't want to estimate or guess. Let's give the Spirit time to make the right candidate and fit clear to us.
- The Sanctuary update will be completed in 2011. The initial work will be installing acoustic panels in Lander Hall. After Lander Hall is updated, worship services will be relocated there. After the remodel, the Good Sheppard Window will be seen in its entirety inside and the Chancel will open up.
- The KCC Strategic Plan will be developed further and implementation started. I am sure what the KCC leadership envisions now will grow into something better as the congregation becomes involved.
- Religious Education Programs will continue to grow. I am amazed at the changes seen in the second half of 2010.

The new year is time for reflection and vision. I enjoy hearing from everyone about your experiences in where we have been. And where you want to go. We are a fantastic group of individuals that form a great church community. Let each of us make a resolution to communicate to outsiders what a welcoming and inspirational church we are. Often, all our friends and neighbors need is an invitation to join us!

Happy New Year,

-Rich Wayman, *Moderator* ♦



## Provide Feedback on KCC Staff Performance

Thank you all that provided feedback for Rev. Paula' Elizabeth's review! Now we are asking for everyone to complete feedback on all the staff members of KCC:

- Connie Cleland, *Director of Kensington Preschool*
- Nina Deering, *Organist*
- John Hansen-Tarbox, *Director of Music*
- Donna Hanson, *Office Administrator*
- Marc Marchant, *Refreshment Worker*
- Marg Stark, *Director of Religious Education*

Your feedback is important and we thank you all in advance for sharing your thoughts, suggestions, and experiences.

You can find the feedback forms in Lander Hall.

-Jim O'Donnell, *Chair, Personnel Committee* ♦

## ***We Welcomed Christ in New and Vibrant Ways in Advent!***

With Missions in the lead, KCC served more than 1,000 children at Copley Y's Christmas Party.



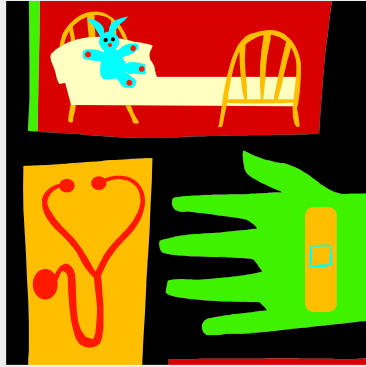
We explored traditions from around the world in the Children's Christmas Program—from Irish dancing to African drumming.



The Youth Group launched a new tradition—*Las Posadas* in Kensington. Thanks to Ken Café and Starbucks “inkeepers” for turning us away, and to many parents and volunteers who helped out.

## Are YOU “Called to Care?”

Our congregation is warm and compassionate and we often reach out to each other in profoundly meaningful ways, especially in times of illness, need and hardship.



Building on this, the church will soon begin training members who believe they are “called to care” and want to learn more about visiting those who are hospitalized or homebound and other forms of care-giving.

*Called to Care* is a resource and program from the UCC National Body, assisting those interested in reaching out to others in compassion, support, and love. *Called to Care* can answer such questions as:

- What are some of the practical things our church can do to demonstrate our caring?
- What do I need to know when assisting in visitation?
- How can I be helpful to the caregivers and those suffering from degenerative diseases?
- What are some ways we can respond to those afflicted with long-term illnesses?
- What words and phrases are helpful, when speaking to those in need? What’s not helpful?

Whether you feel the Spirit moving within you to become a church caregiver, a visitation team member, or just want to educate yourself for your own personal interest, please consider participating in this program offering.

This training, led by both Paula Elizabeth and Ross Putnam, will consist of three two-hour sessions and will begin in February. Please let Paula know if you are interested. ♦

## January Brings Shamu and Staff Development to Preschool

The preschool resumed classes on January 3 after enjoying two weeks of Christmas vacation. Thanks to the continued support of our KPPA, digital cameras were given as Christmas gifts to each classroom in the preschool. Now teachers can take quality pictures throughout the year and share the children’s progress and days’ events with the parents even more effectively.

We are geared up for the five remaining busy months of school.

- Our 4’s class will enjoy the annual field trip to Sea World on Monday, Jan.24.



- The preschool will be closed on this day so each teacher can visit various preschools or “Kinders” in San Diego County. Teachers will collect and share information to develop valuable ideas in their career fields. Perhaps some of these ideas can later be incorporated into our own program.

May the New Year bring peace, health and prosperity!

-Connie Cleland, *Preschool Director* ♦

## Mike Burnett: Thankful for Prayers

Good news! My stolen van was recovered with minimal damage. I had to replace the ignition switch, starter, solenoid and back door lock. Of course, all the contents were gone, but over time it’s all replaceable.

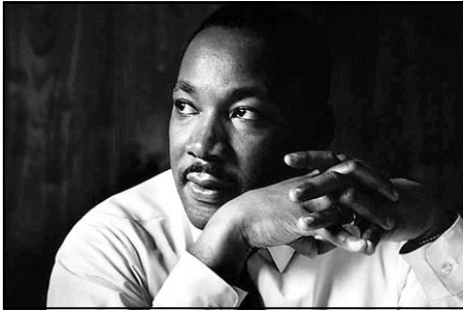
I want to thank all who said a prayer and had kind words for me during the last few weeks.

Sincerely,

Mike Burnett ♦







## Celebrate MLK Weekend with Guest Preacher and Day of Service

Reverend Curt Fuller, the Senior Minister at University City United Church of Christ, will preach at the 8:30 and 10 AM worship services, January 16, in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend.



Also participating in the annual Pulpit Exchange sponsored by the San Diego UCC Partnership Churches, Rev. Paula Elizabeth will preach at Mission Hills UCC.

### Day of Service, Monday, January 17

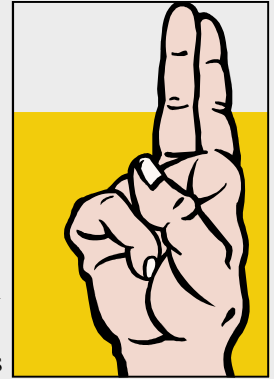
On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 17, the Partnership will host a Day of Service in which congregation members are invited to assemble and deliver care packages to homeless citizens who are residing in San Diego's winter shelter. Bring your heart for *seva*, or selfless service, to Mission Hills UCC, 4070 Jackdaw, 92103, at 10 AM. After the care packages are assembled, you are invited to drive to the Alpha Project's shelter in Barrio Logan to distribute the gifts and spend some time with the shelter's guests. ♦

### *Your Donations Needed*

- Granola or cereal bars (175 count)
- Individually wrapped antibacterial hand wipes (250 count)

Before January 10, bring your donations to Lander Hall to the box labeled "Winter Shelter Donations." We're assembling 250 care packages for the guests at Alpha Project's winter homeless shelter in Barrio Logan. ♦

## Stewardship Pledge Update and Thanks!



As 2010 draws to a close, the Stewardship Committee would like to thank all members of the KCC congregation for your financial support this year. Although the final tally is not yet available, it appears that many of you exceeded your yearly pledge amount. For those of you who are not current with your pledge, we encourage you to bring your pledge amount up to date. The financial support from each and every one of you helps maintain Kensington Community Church as a vital spiritual and social center of the community.

### Congregation Pledges Increase in Support

On November 7, Dedication Sunday, we celebrated by submitting our ongoing pledges of support for 2011. Two-thirds of those who pledged in 2010 have pledged again in 2011, and within this group, there was an overall 12 percent increase in amounts pledged. Thanks to those who have made the financial commitment for next year.

For those of you who have not turned in your commitment to KCC for 2011, there's still time! You may turn in your pledge in the offering plate, at the church office, or to members of the Stewardship Committee. Please take a moment to complete your card and bring it to church. Or, let us know if you need another! The pledge of each congregation member is an important brick in the development of next year's budget.

### What a Delicious Spud Bowl!

How we enjoyed the Spud Bowl on Dedication Sunday. Many thanks go out to Elizabeth Clegg for preparing the tasty meal and, with great assistance from a variety of congregants and youth, coordinating the setup, serving, and cleanup processes.

-The Stewardship Committee

Dale Clegg

Lee Howeth, *Interim Chair*

Mick McClain

Cathy Stephenson, *Chair* ♦

---

---

## God's Still Teaching Topics



### The Youth Will Show Us the Way

What is the most important thing we do at Youth Group? In Sunday School? At church?

The Spirit moving in our middle and high school Youth Group has persuaded me that the most valuable we do **is create community.**

Here are some of the wisdoms we can glean from the Youth Group, a microcosm of our congregation that has created a new and tightly knit community:

#### Lesson One: Show Up.

Few lives are as full as teenagers' lives. Yet, every Wednesday, 20 of them show up. They set aside homework, exercise, chores, friends, family and entertainment, even ear buds and Smart Phones!

Sure, some of them came at first because their parents told them to. But now, they come because they are magnetically drawn to one another. They are the community and it grows and deepens because they are present.

#### Lesson Two: Ask, "How Can I Serve?"

Many of us enter groups asking, "What's in it for me?" When Youth Group members arrive in the Youth Hall, they bombard me with, "How can I help?" By focusing on setting the table for 20 or talking to a Youth Group member sitting alone, they focus less on questions like, "Do I fit in?" and "Is this entertaining to me?"

#### Lesson Three: Affirm, Suggest, and Volunteer

Want to tweak a program so that it meets your needs? In Youth Group, Angie, Patrick and I advise the members to "affirm first." Be quicker with praise than criticism. If you have a suggestion for improving a program, offer to research the innovation or buy the supply you are requesting. The community can only improve to the extent its members are willing to help improve it.

#### Lesson Four: Play Together.

Kids naturally grasp that God is playful. The Mexican traditions—sugar skulls and *Las Posadas*—mingle the silly with the sacred. Maybe that's why these traditions have resonated with the Youth Group members.

We make each other into mummies with toilet paper. We have icing fights. We scream at scary parts of Harry Potter movies. We become a family by playing together.

#### Lesson Five: Invite Friends.

Adults are often self-conscious about inviting friends to church but it's second nature to kids. The boys want their wingmen nearby. The girls invite droves of friends. Drawn to the social setting, their friends rarely flee because we pray or pose faith questions.

In a social networking age in which people readily pick and choose the events and groups with whom they'll associate, we build and enliven our community by inviting others to try our community. ♦



#### Faith Nugget: How Can I Serve?

Challenge yourself and your family to spend the next month entering situations with a desire to serve, rather than a desire to be served.

If you are married/partnered, start there! Model servant leadership in your marriage so that family members see you demonstrate selflessness with each other.

#### Mitzvah Tree Exercise

If you have small children, print out a picture of a leafless tree and hang it on a window. Put a basket of cut-out leaves next to it. Write on a leaf each time you see a family member "serve" or perform a *mitzvah* (kindness, favor). Fill the tree with leaves of service.

#### "That Would Be My Pleasure" Game

Bellboys at Four Seasons Resorts have been known to challenge each other to see how many times and ways they can say "That would be my pleasure" to guests. If you have older kids, try this game in your family. See how many ways you can serve, treat or indulge one another and how many times you can use the phrase "That would be my pleasure." ♦

---

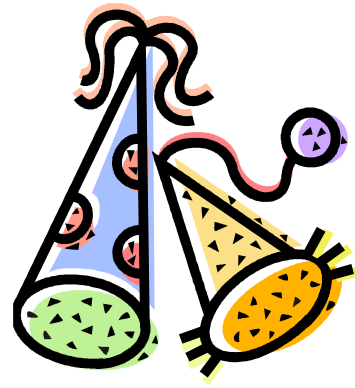
---

## Our Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

David Adams,  
Kathleen Andrews,  
“Benny Bear,”  
Brian Brewster,  
Betsy Clapp,  
Johnny & Mary Ellen Clapp,  
Mary Pat Curtin,  
David Douglass,  
Edward Gastelum,  
Betty Generoli,  
James Godsey,  
Diane Guerra,  
Dean and John Hansen-  
Tarbox,  
Michiko Lindsey,  
Kimiko Lindsey-Schroder,  
Susan Meckstroth,  
Peter Schroder,  
Evie Silberman,  
Robert Spor,  
Marilyn Tarbox,  
Barbara Underwood,  
Hazel Van Harten,  
Janis Wilson  
and the family and friends of  
Marian Nelson.

◆



## January Birthdays

2	Tom Wheeler
6	John Gutierrez
7	Howard Wilson
8	Douglas Atwater
12	Jennifer Negre
14	Leslie Wells
15	Paula Elizabeth
16	Alex Lesniak
19	Beverly Patch
20	Carlette Ottman,
22	Louis Wargo, Katie Trischman
29	Carey McCoy
30	Heather McCoy◆

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SAN DIEGO, CA  
PERMIT No. 2731

**Kensington Community Church UCC**  
4773 Marlborough Drive  
San Diego, CA 92116

[info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com](mailto:info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com)

[www.kensingtonucc.com](http://www.kensingtonucc.com)

619.284.1129

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**FOLLOW THE STAR: EPIPHANY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2  
WORSHIP: 10 AM COMBINED SERVICE (NO 8:30 AM SERVICE)**

**GET YOUR GROOVE ON: YOUTH GROUP**

**WHEN: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 6:30 TO 8:30 PM  
WHERE: YOUTH HALL**

**FEED YOUR SOUL: WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY**

**WHEN: THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 10 AM  
WHERE: CONFERENCE ROOM**

**COVENANT WITH THE CONFIRMANDS**

**WHEN: 10 AM WORSHIP, SUNDAY, JANUARY 9**

**EXPAND YOUR MIND: FILM SCREENING OF "BULLIED"**

**WHEN: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12**

**DETAILS: 6:30 PM REFRESHMENTS, 7 PM FILM & DISCUSSION  
WHERE: LANDER HALL**

**DREAM THE DREAM: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY**

**WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 8:30 & 10 AM WORSHIP**

**GUEST PREACHER: REVEREND CURT FULLER, UCUC**

**FEED THE HOMELESS: CONFIRMANDS & YOUTH GROUP**

**WHEN: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 4:45 TO 6 PM**

**WHERE: WINTER SHELTER, 1625 NEWTON AVENUE, 92113**

**BRING FINGER FOODS & VOTE: 2011 CHURCH BUDGET MEETING**

**WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, AFTER 10 AM WORSHIP**

**WHERE: CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, LANDER HALL**

SEE THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR  
AT [WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM](http://WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM)