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**To:** fccv@snet.net;  
**Date:** Fri, December 14, 2012 12:09:26 PM  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Pastor's Weekly Email

As we were looking over the schedules on the church calendar today, I mentioned to Nancy Young, our church secretary, that even though it doesn't feel like fall, winter does not begin until next Friday, December 21st. Nancy's response was, "I can't wait for that day to get here. After that, daylight gradually gets longer every day until summertime."

Nancy's comment (and enthusiasm) about the changes in the amount of daylight we experience has some parallels for me. As my time with you as an interim pastor slows down and comes to a conclusion on December 30th, the enthusiasm and interest in the beginning of the Rev. Meg Watson's time here likewise seems to increase and blossom. Much as the length of daylight is soon to shift from declining to increasing, so too as my ministry here winds down, Pastor Meg's is soon to begin.

These are rhythms of nature, season and church life that we have all longed for and await with hope. Thanks be to God.

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Last Sunday, we gathered for a very full day of Advent worship, Advent planning, and sacred music. During worship, we were blessed to have the Little Bells, Transformers and Contemporary Choir bless our worship with their enthusiastic and sacred music. Our young Angels Among Us did a wonderful job of helping to lead worship and giving us all confidence that we will be blessed with good public speakers among our Sunday school students for years to come.

After worship, the hum and buzz as the Advent Workshop took place was contagious as children of all ages joined in on the many craft projects available. And later in the day, the Music @ First Christmas Concert was a wonderful blend of ages, voices and instruments as we gloried together in the sacred and seasonal songs of Christmas.

This Sunday, our worship will include music from both the Alpha and Omega of choirs in our church, the Cherub Choir and the Sanctuary Choir. Christa and Cherish Hockenberry will lead us in the lighting of the Advent wreath ritual and this week's sermon will be based on Luke 3:7-18, one of the stories of John the Baptist (who is the patron saint of interim ministers).

Hope to see you this Sunday.

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Welcome to our new Sunday school superintendents---Christa and Cherish Hockenberry. Christa and Cherish will be taking over for Cindy Madden, who has faithfully served and supported our Christian education efforts for many years.

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Just a reminder---Sunday is the deadline for new unwrapped toys as part of our Christmas Giving Tree

**outreach sponsored by the Board of Missions.**

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**Cookie Sale this Sunday! During Coffee Hour this Sunday, we will be having our annual Christmas Cookie Sale . Fill a box with homemade Christmas cookies for \$5. This will take place in the Fellowship Hall.**