



# The Copper Hill Connection

December 2020

## Pastor's Postings

### Come and See

by Rev. Dr. Kelvin S. Jones



When children discover something curious or unusual and want their parents to see it, they often come running to Mom and Dad, tug on their clothes and exclaim urgently, "Come and see!"

That is exactly the phrase the apostle Philip used after he had met Jesus and began telling his friend, Nathanael, about him. The Bible says that Nathanael was cynical and said, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" "Come and see," replied Philip" (John 1:44-46 NIV).

Many today like Nathanael are cynical. Influenced by negative media portrayals, they may even distrust religious people. When someone talks about having faith or coming to church, they might say, "What help could that be?"

The Christmas Spirit, however, has a way of contradicting our easy dismissals of Jesus. As we participate in holiday celebrations, we begin to open our minds and hearts to a baby boy born 2000 years ago. And we may find ourselves asking questions like, "What did it all mean?" Perhaps it is God's Spirit Himself inviting us to the manger and whispering in our hearts, "Come and See!"

I, too, invite you to take a fresh look this Christmas at who Jesus is and what He means to you. Watch our children and teens review the Christmas story in "The Hanging of the Greens" video special on December 20 at 9:30 AM. Then my Christmas Eve message titled, "Trusting Christ at Christmas" will suggest steps of faith to draw us closer to Jesus. Worshipping Jesus anew this Christmas, you too, will find fresh inspiration for your soul. "Come and See!"

## Weekly Worship Services

Since the beginning of the shutdown due to Covid-19, we have been holding weekly Sunday services virtually via Zoom. At the Bishop's recommendation, we continue to meet virtually at 9:30 AM. Services can be accessed via the internet or phone. (See page two for further information.)



## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS



### "The Hanging of Greens"

We're pleased to announce our first-ever filming of "The Hanging of the Greens," a Christmas program presented by the younger members of our church. You can view it on Facebook or Zoom on **December 20 at 9:30 AM** and throughout the Christmas season on YouTube and Facebook.

The children will take you through favorite Christmas traditions beautifully filmed and edited by Christian Robison of Robison Imagery, interspersed with original orchestration of carols. It will warm your heart as you watch the children decorate the altar with festive greenery and Nativity pieces as they read the story of the first Christmas.

You can share this timeless story with friends and family by directing them to the link on the church website at [www.CopperHillChurch.us](http://www.CopperHillChurch.us)

### Christmas Eve Service



In keeping with our tradition, we will celebrate Christmas Eve at Copper Hill through our special virtual service at **5:00 PM** on December 24. (See page two for more information.) Join us as we light the Advent wreath, sing carols, and enjoy special music selections: Jonathan Griffin singing "O Holy Night" and Jordan Gabbidon presenting an acapella version of "Silent Night." We invite you to have candles ready for each member of your family as we light candles together in our homes at the close of the service.

Even though we cannot be together in the same building, we can worship together across the miles as we remember the true light and warmth of the Christ Child in our hearts.

## Ministries of Our Church



### Joining our Weekly Services

We would love to have you join us for our weekly virtual Sunday worship service via Facebook Live or Zoom at 9:30 AM. Services can be accessed via the internet or by phone. A weekly reminder is sent via email to each person for whom we have an email address.

If you'd like to be added to the weekly reminder, please let Judy Holcomb know by email at [jaholcom@yahoo.com](mailto:jaholcom@yahoo.com) or by phone (860-668-7953).

For the morning service, you may connect in one of two ways.

#### Join through your computer:

click on the link below to view the video.

<https://zoom.us/j/388881369>

Meeting ID: 388 881 369

**PASSWORD: 546 564**

#### Join and listen through your phone:

Dial the following phone number:

1 (646) 558-8656

After dialing the number, you will be asked to enter the "Meeting ID" and Password which are listed below.

**Meeting ID: 388 881 369**

**PASSWORD: 546 564**

A special reminder will be sent out for the Christmas Eve Service.



### PRAYER — Peace in Uncertain Times

God promises, *"Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you"* (Hebrews 13:5). When our hearts become anxious, we can bring our concerns to our loving Heavenly Father, offering thanks for all the ways He has already helped us. Then *"the PEACE of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:7). PRAY!

### Staying in Contact

Especially during these times dealing with Covid-19, if you have a prayer request, need special help, or just need to talk, please feel free to contact Robert Loomis (860-634-0001), Judy Holcomb (860-668-7953) or Pastor Kelvin (860-653-2891). We have a team of people who would be glad to help you however we can.

### Giving During COVID

We want to thank you for your generous gifts during the COVID pandemic. It has helped our church to continue to meet our normal operating expenses. In addition, we have been able to invest in cameras and other equipment necessary for live streaming our regular Sunday Service. The church now has WiFi as well.

You can continue to help your church and those in need in one of three ways:

1. On our church website, [www.CopperHillChurch.us](http://www.CopperHillChurch.us) click the blue "Donate" button for various options.
2. You can text a gift to our church at 860-579-6338
3. Or mail your gift to Copper Hill UM Church, Box 422, East Granby, CT 06026

When you give either through the website or by mail, you have a selection of four funds to give to:

1. Copper Hill Church Support, which helps our budget
2. Coronavirus Relief to help others through UMCOR
3. Online Services Support to help fund our online efforts
4. Electricity Fund for our electric bills



### Giving to Our Community

Since we were unable to collect food donations for our local food banks this year, we want to encourage you to **share kindness** with those in need around us. You can drop off your food donations at the **Food Bank** nearest you.

In place of the **gift cards** we usually donate, we encourage you to give directly to the East Granby or Granby Food Banks. You can check out their websites or call for easy giving opportunities by mail or online.

Last week we delivered handmade **scarves and mittens** donated by women from our church to East Granby Social Services to give out to area families. The gifts were very much appreciated.

Copper Hill United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 422  
East Granby, CT 06026



## Copper Hill Connexion

The newsletter for members and friends of  
Copper Hill United Methodist Church,  
27 Copper Hill Road, East Granby, CT

Editor: Judy Holcomb    Assistant Editor: JoAnne D. Jones



### YOU'RE INVITED!

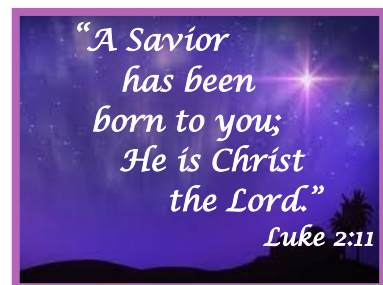
**Dec. 20—“Hanging of the Greens** Online **9:30 AM**

Children’s Program filmed by Robison Imagery

**Dec. 24—Christmas Eve**

Online **Family Service, 5:00 PM**

Special Music - Candle Lighting



Join us Sunday mornings for our online  
**Family Worship Service: 9:30 AM**

Find us on the **web:** [www.CopperHillChurch.us](http://www.CopperHillChurch.us)

**Pastor’s Blog:** at [www.learntobewise.com](http://www.learntobewise.com)

**Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/copperhillchurch](http://www.facebook.com/copperhillchurch)

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