



**NAPLES  
UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

A Traditional Church  
for Progressive People

**DECEMBER 30, 2018  
9 A.M. AND 11 A.M.  
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

*Away in a Manger*

James R. Murray

## CALL TO WORSHIP

\*PROCESSIONAL CAROL #179

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

## INVOCATION

**All: O God of this day, we come from the busyness of our ordinary lives, from the tumult of our world, to worship you. In this hour, we come seeking an experience of your peace and joy. We long to settle into silence, laying aside our worries and our cares, aware of your presence around us, before us, behind us, and within us, as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #203

*Away in a Manger*

AWAY IN A MANGER

TIME FOR COMMUNITY

*Please sign and pass the register book to your neighbor.*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Carol of the Bells*  
Sanctuary Choir

M. Leontovich; arr. Peter J. Wilhousky

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 4:7-12

NT pg. 190(NRSV)

CAROL #184

*What Child is This?*

GREENSLEEVES

Please remain seated.

SERMON

Great Expectations

Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross

OFFERTORY

*Angel Songs*

Arr. Joel Raney

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear ♦ Angels, from the Realms of Glory*  
*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

\*MUSICAL RESPONSE AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CRANHAM

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him; give him my heart.**

\*RECESSIONAL CAROL #198

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBILO

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

*Arr. Joel Raney*



Today we welcome Alexandra Carlson as our guest pianist. Her presence is graciously underwritten by the Music Gift Fund.

If you have a concern and would like a word of prayer or quiet conversation, stop by the parlor after the service for a visit with today's Stephen Minister. The parlor is to the right as you are leaving the sanctuary.

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, January 1, for New Year's Day.  
There is always a pastor available at (239) 595-2141 for emergencies.

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross, Minister for Congregational Care

Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross, Executive Minister

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music

Sanctuary Choir

Megan Black, Audiovisual

**USHERS:**

9 a.m.: Joseph Rickard, head usher; Christine Buol, Kevin Fuller, Carolyn Keller, Mary Robinson, Cheryl Turner, Pat Wiedner

11 a.m.: J Cunha, head usher; Ronnie Bellone, Christine Buol, Bob Nordland, Jennifer Rainey, Bill Rumpf, Ren Smith, Pat Wiedner



STEPHEN MINISTERS: 9 a.m.: Jean Lemmon 11 a.m.: Fred Gridley

### Today in the Gathering Place

- Social Activities Sign ups
- Class Sign ups and book sales

## THIS WEEK AT NUCC (DECEMBER 30 - JANUARY 6)

**Sunday** First Sunday after Christmas

- 12/30** 9 a.m. . . . .Worship Service (S)  
10 a.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)  
11 a.m. . . .Worship Service (S)  
12 p.m. . . .Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)

**Monday**

- 12/31** 9:30 a.m. . .Monday Morning Ladies (N104)  
9:30 a.m. . .Gentle Yoga with Shannon (MH)

**Tuesday** **New Years Day - Office Closed**

- 1/1** There is always a pastor available at (239) 595-2141 for emergencies.

**Wednesday**

- 1/2** 9 a.m. . . . .Palette Pals Open Painting Studio (N202)  
10 a.m. . . .Chair Yoga (BH)  
7 p.m. . . . .Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (S/BH)

**Thursday**

- 1/3** 9:30 a.m. . .Gentle Yoga with Shannon (BH)  
11:30 a.m. Stephen Ministry Interviews (P)  
12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg (MH)

**Friday**

- 1/4** 12 p.m. . . .Al Anon Meeting (N207)

**Sunday** Epiphany

- 1/6** 8 a.m. . . . .Cans for Communion Staging Area (MH)  
9 a.m. . . . .Worship Service (S)  
10 a.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)  
11 a.m. . . .Worship Service (S)  
12 p.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)

S = Sanctuary                      P = Parlor            N = Nelson Hall  
MH = McSpadden Hall            GC = Gates Chapel  
GP = The Gathering Place        MG = Memorial Garden  
ACR = Administrative Conference Room

## STAFF

### Ministers

- Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor,  
Senior Minister  
dawson@naplesucc.org  
Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross,  
Executive Minister  
david@naplesucc.org  
Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross,  
Minister for Congregational Care  
deb@naplesucc.org  
Rev. Dr. Sharon Harris-Ewing,  
Assistant Minister

### Music Ministry

- Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf,  
Director of Music  
becky@naplesucc.org  
Becky Best,  
Accompanist

### Administration

- Sharon Magiera, C.P.A.,  
Finance Administrator  
sharon@naplesucc.org  
Wendy Gayarre,  
Executive Assistant to Clergy  
wendy@naplesucc.org  
Megan Black,  
Office Manager  
megan@naplesucc.org  
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Communications Manager  
julia@naplesucc.org  
Tony Falco,  
Technology Director,  
tony@naplesucc.org  
Susan Melick,  
Events Coordinator  
Pat McGee,  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Georgia Lundy,  
Sunday Fellowship/Kitchen Coordinator  
Daniel Brower,  
Director of Campus Operations  
Rich Mancini,  
Facilities  
**Precious Cargo Academy**  
Leanne Badham,  
Director  
leanne.badham@outlook.com  
**Bargain Box Thrift Store**  
Sandy Goldstein,  
Manager  
Anthony Bandy,  
Assistant Manager

YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHURCH SCHOOL (Age 4 to 5th Grade) meets during 9 a.m. service in Nelson Hall Room 207.

JUNIOR DISCIPLES resumes January 9, from 3 - 5:15 p.m. in Nelson Hall Room 207.

YOUTH CHOIR resumes January 7, at 5 p.m. in Beverly Hall.

## PRAYER LIST

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Nicholas Vincent Adamo  
Alan and Susan  
Aunt Marilyn  
Joel Basham  
Joe Bejcek  
Roberta and Ben  
Jared Billips  
Carolyn Briggs  
Ben Buckley  
Al Cahen  
Jay Cahill  
Dr. Richard and Barbara Carter  
Steve Chalfant  
Carol Chidister  
Christopher and Family  
Robert Clement  
Ann Culshaw  
Cynthia and Family  
Ken Davis  
Diego  
Jamie DePalo  
Daniel and Marta DeVito  
Eric Downs  
Gill Doyle  
Ben Dyals  
Beth Endres  
Erin and Leslie  
Angela Fout  
Betty Freimann  
Gayle  
Calvin Grayson  
Henry  
Shelly and Katie Hull  
Edie Horney  
Karen Howick  
Alley Hoza  
Jill  
Mario Jimenez

Sheila Jung  
Tom Jung  
Cecil Jones  
Jennifer Jolls  
Dr. Peter Kelly  
George Kessel  
Keith  
Kathy Kircher  
Irv Koehler  
Anne Kruse  
Dr. Sam Leon  
Paul Leutert  
Jon Lindblom  
Lynn and Marilyn  
Susie Martinsen  
Mervyn Maxwell  
Ali McKee  
John McGowan  
Helene Melnick  
Michael and Kristi  
Dinny Nemachek  
Sara Nonken  
Jean Partridge  
Tracie Pustizzi  
Linda and John R.  
Sharon Rainey  
Ray  
Dave Remley  
Tara Reynolds  
Rose and Jim  
Roger Rhodes  
Bob Robida  
Carol Rudolph  
Carol Saul-Smith  
Sean, Jo and Kevin  
Deb Scott  
Carol Sellman  
David and Andrew Silver

Mary Simeone  
Dean Smith  
Derek Smith  
Sue Smith  
Donna Stevens  
Damon Surgener  
Dawn Teston  
Brenda Taylor  
Tor and Sunny  
Bill Uhlemann  
Joan Valentine  
Vera L  
Monika Vincent  
Debbie White  
Joshua Wills  
Nancy Wyckoff  
Darlene Zoretich

Our Children  
Maggie Bella  
Maxwell Bost  
Clayton  
Ella  
Emmanuel  
Gracie Faith  
Michael Jerrold  
Garrett Kaulbars  
John Kennedy  
Laila Grace  
Baby Miles  
Olin  
Phoebe  
Rosie  
Finn Sears  
Vanessa  
Jackson Varty  
Violet

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In Service to our Nation: CPT Keagan Callanan, SSG Corey Cunningham, CPT Robert Cook, TSgt Donovan Fredericksen, MSgt Matthew Fredericksen, LCDR Timothy Minor, SPC Austin Payne, LCDR Erik Sand and MG Matthew Wright



# SUNDAY ST

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2019** are available in the narthex after Sunday services today until the end of January. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes and would like to receive them, please contact Sharon in the office.

## PICTURE DIRECTORY MEMBER PHOTO DAY

Calling all new NUCC members: it's time to get your photo taken for the NUCC Member Photo Directory! Date: January 7, 2019 in McSpadden Hall, and appointments are required. It's easy to sign up - you can call Wendy at the church office during the week, or sign up online. Online signups begin Wednesday (naplesucc.org - "Photo Day Appointments"). There's no cost to be in the directory, but you can purchase prints from Lifetouch if you like them. You must have your photo in the directory in order to receive a copy. Appointments are open to all members, no matter when you joined!

## STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING

Stephen Ministry is having their bi-annual training starting Jan. 8 for 12 weeks and three Saturdays (Jan, Feb and March). If you are interested in applying to our Stephen Ministry training program, please contact Ronnie Bellone (238-216-2300) or Louise Brown (617-640-3003).

## BARGAIN BOX VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Bargain Box is in need of volunteers. Call Sandy at 239-262-3802 for more information.

## MIDLERS PLUS SUNDAY BRUNCH

Country Club of Naples. January 13. 1 p.m. \$30 per person. Hosted by Chuck & Jan Feeny. Registration forms are available in the Middlers Plus mailbox or on Sunday mornings in the Gathering Place. Deadline for sign-up and payment is January 6, 2019. For questions: call Bobbi Richardson at 239-207-6615 or Hilde Higuchi at 239-331-8358.

## BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be Monday, January 28, at 2 p.m. in N104: *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi.

## BABY BOOMER POTLUCK

Monday, January 14, 6 p.m., Park Shore Landings Clubhouse. Join us for another evening of fun conversation, good food (potluck), and Dennis's trivia game. Information: Carolyn and Dennis Kois, johnsonkois@icloud.com

## DINNER AND A MOVIE

Thursday, January 17, 5:30 p.m. in McSpadden Hall. The dinner will be first with the movie after: fried chicken, fish, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, and dessert. We will be screening the film *All Saints*, starring John Corbett. Cost is \$20. The deadline to sign up is January 13.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

Rev. Martie McMane will be here Saturday, January 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in McSpadden Hall to lead us in a women's winter retreat with the theme "Fully Alive! Deepening Spirituality for Life's Changes and Challenges." Sign up begins next Sunday, January 6. The cost is \$35.

## BOCA GRANDE AND THE GASPARILLA INN AND CLUB TOUR

Wednesday, February 6, 2019. Bus leaves Crossroads Shopping Center at Vineyards at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m. Cost: \$119. Information: Susan Melick at 239-293-8446 or susanmelick@gmail.com.

**NEW CHAPTERS MEN'S STUDY GROUP** is a weekly men's spirituality forum with David Kaiser-Cross every Wednesday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., N104. We are taking a break for the holidays and will resume the study group on January 9.

## SENIOR SINGLES DINNER GROUP

Sign up in The Gathering Place for the NUCC Senior Singles Dinner Group. The group will meet to enjoy dinner together on January 10. Restaurant and time are TBD. Reservations are available for the first 12 people who sign up.

# STEEPLELIGHTS

## PALETTE PALS AND GALLERY NEWS

Palette Pals holds their Wednesday morning workshops from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. All are welcome. This month in the NUCC library/gallery, members of the Seibert family are displaying their art.

## GRIEF GROUP: *BEYOND THE BROKEN HEART*

Thursdays, January 17 – March 7. 1 – 2:30 p.m. Beginning on Thursday, January 17th and continuing for eight weeks, we will be providing a Beyond the Broken Heart Grief Group at NUCC. Led by Rev. Deb Kaiser-Cross and Leigh Hindman (Stephen Minister), this group will provide information and support for those who have experienced the death of a loved one. We hope you can join us as we heal through the grieving process together. Books and sign ups are available in the Gathering Place.

## *THE ROAD BACK TO YOU*

by Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile. Wednesdays, January 16 – February 20, 5:30 – 7 p.m. The Enneagram is a powerful tool for self-discovery, which explains its spike in popularity in recent years. Cron and Stabile have written an introduction to the Enneagram that provides a practical and approachable way of accessing its wisdom. As we discover ourselves in a new way, we can deepen our connection with God and find that we are paving the way to the wiser, more compassionate persons we want to become. Books and signups are available in the Gathering Place.

## NUCC SERVICE DAY AT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Join church members and help build a Habitat home on Saturday January 12, 2019. You don't need any experience or skill. Habitat provides the tools and you'll be amazed what can be accomplished in one morning. For information, contact Jury Paulson, Habitat Director of Volunteers  
jpaulson@HabitatCollier.org or 239-775-0036

## TUESDAY AT TWILIGHT: JANUARY 22

Join us for our upcoming Tuesday at Twilight concert featuring Leelo Basham, flute and Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, piano, as well as other guest artists. 7 p.m., Beverly Hall.

## DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER: REV. DR. ROBIN MEYERS

February 9 and 10, 2019. *Building Irresistable Community!* Minister, professor, and author of seven books on Progressive Christianity, we invite you to be with us for a weekend of inspiration and illumination as Dr. Meyers shares what it means to be a traditional and progressive church. Here is our schedule:

### Saturday

9 a.m. *Building Irresistable Community*  
10:30 a.m. *The Underground Church*

### Sunday

9 & 11 a.m. Pulpit Message: *Original Blessing*  
12:30 a.m. Brunch provided in McSpadden Hall (\$10)  
2 p.m. *Quantum Physics and the Future of God*

Tickets are now available for all sessions together or individual sessions. Visit us in the Gathering Place or in the church office: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## CANS FOR COMMUNION

Don't forget to bring your hygiene supplies and nonperishable foods to our Cans for Communion drive next Sunday, January 6. A list of suggested items is available in the church office and in next week's Weekly Steeplelights.



**Care for God's Creation:** Support local family farmers who grow sustainable meat and produce. Not only does local, organic food taste better, but you'll also be doing your part for your community and the planet too.

## WELCOME, FIRST-TIME WORSHIPERS

First-time guest information cards are located in the pew racks, and can be brought to the first-time-guest welcome kiosk in the narthex, or placed in the offering plate. We invite you to journey with us as a visitor or unite with us as a Full or Associate Member.

Our sanctuary is equipped with the T-Loop (Telecoil Loop) Hearing System. Additional hearing devices are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Though children of all ages are welcome in our worship services, there is nursery care for infants and toddlers available. There is also a "cry room" near the nursery if you wish to stay with your child and observe the service. Please ask an usher for assistance.

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 13: Visitor Information Brunch | After 9 and 11 a.m. worship in Nelson Hall room 104.

Thursday, January 17: An Evening With Your Pastors at the Kaiser-Cross home.

Sunday, January 20: New Member Sunday

### Next Sunday

January 6 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

A Camel on the Roof

Matthew 2:1-12

Andrew Snedeker, oboe and English horn

The 2019 flower calendar is available on the reception desk. Please enter the date (or call the office) to reserve your Sunday for donating chancel flowers.

Our Services are livestreamed and recorded. DVDs from today's service are available for a suggested donation of \$5. Please fill out the order envelope located in the church office on the reception desk and place it either in the offering plate or leave it on the reception desk. A recording of today's service may be found at [www.naplesucc.org](http://www.naplesucc.org).

Cans for Communion - We welcome your donations of nonperishable food items on the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate Communion together. These donations will be delivered to the Grace Place food pantry.

Weekly Steeplelights arrives via email each Friday. If you are not receiving it, please contact Wendy in the church office, or at [wendy@naplesucc.org](mailto:wendy@naplesucc.org) to sign up.

Come visit our Bargain Box Thrift Store at 3906 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 34112 to find great items for any occasion or to volunteer! We also accept lightly-used donations. We can also assist in the pickup of larger donated items. If you have questions, please contact the store at (239)262-3802.

### 4 WAYS TO GIVE

Envelopes are available in worship



Online via our website



Text to Give  
Text NAPLESUCC to 73256 and click on the link in the reply text to complete your gift.



Stocks & IRA's

Please call Sharon in the church office.



As a **mission-driven congregation**, Naples United Church of Christ strives to show that actions speak louder than words. We are not only active in community outreach, but passionate about social causes. As an **intergenerational congregation**, we engage with people of all ages and stages of life to be a place where people not only believe, but also belong. As a **growing church**, we do not ask people to "check their brains at the door," rather to ask deep questions of faith of each other and of God.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation that not only welcomes, but celebrates all people. We are proud to be one of more than 5,000+ congregations in the United Church of Christ and of our identity as a "Traditional Church for Progressive People."

5200 Crayton Road, Naples, Florida 34103  
(239) 261-5469 | Pastoral Emergency: (239) 595-2141

[info@naplesucc.org](mailto:info@naplesucc.org)

WiFi username: Nucc\_guest WiFi Password: nuccguest