



## Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • November 21, 2024

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### Sunday, November 24, 2024

- **Worship Service @ 10:15 am**

- Live-stream on YouTube
- Nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children
- Children ages 5 and older are invited to attend Sunday School immediately following worship

- **Rev. Cristián Briones - Service of Installation @ 3:00 pm**

- Live-stream on YouTube
- Reception following the service

Participating from home? Join us via live-stream...

Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>



## *In Prayer*

- Emily Gray received a breast cancer diagnosis in October and is having surgery on Friday, November 22.
  - Jordan Kerr asks for prayers for health and healing.
  - Amanda Trosen as she continues to deal with ongoing seizures.
  - Tom Ford who is undergoing thyroid tests.
  - Joann's nephew, Russell Hunt Jr, infusions for leukemia.
  - Doug Allen, John Burgart, Mykayla Cunningham, Julie Ford, Louise Ford, Cheryl Irwin, Molly Lee-Lafferty, Cheryl Marsch, Beau & Kelly Onischuk, Ken and Ann Puglisi, Annette Ronan, Nolan Sapp, Gail Stalpes, Traci White-Hobson, and Michelle Liebl's nephews, Sam, Noah and Maki.
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### **Installation of Rev. Christián Briones**

You are invited to share in the joy of welcoming Rev. Christián Briones as our Minister. A celebration/service of installation will be held on Sunday, November 24 at 3:00 p.m. at Chapel Hills - followed by a reception.

We are excited about the future ministry of our church under Christián's leadership. So, please join us as we welcome him to our church community.

The service will be available on YouTube via live-stream for those who are unable to attend in person at <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>.



### **Annual Pledge Drive**

This week's letter will include a pledge card for you to complete and return. This will be your opportunity to join others in our community of faith to support our shared ministry. With Christián as our new pastor, and with your enthusiastic and generous assistance, we have an exciting and promising year ahead. Thank you in advance for your financial support of that future.

## Dates to Remember *at a glance...*

### *Winter Outerwear Drive* Receiving Donations through Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>

<b>Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pledge Sunday</li> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship – 10:15 am</li> <li>- Printed copies of the Advent Devotional are available in the Narthex</li> <li>- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – 12:00 pm</li> <li>- Installation of Rev. Christián Briones – 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service @ Morningside Hills UCC (4201 Morningside Rd, Edina) Pie &amp; coffee at 6:15 pm, worship service at 7:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>
<b>Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Last day to order poinsettias</li> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship &amp; Communion – 10:15 am</li> <li>- Preparing for Advent - following worship</li> <li>- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – 12:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship – 10:15 am</li> <li>- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – 12:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Book Group – 1:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship – 10:15 am</li> <li>- Receiving the Christmas Fund Offering</li> <li>- Christmas Pageant – 1:00 pm at Morningside Hills UCC</li> <li>- Christmas Concert/Fundraiser – 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship – 10:15 am</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christmas Eve Choir Prelude - 4:10 pm</li> <li>- Candlelight Service - 4:30 pm</li> <li>- Receiving the Christmas Fund Offering</li> <li>- Take home your poinsettias (if you order them)</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Merry Christmas</i>
<b>Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunday Morning Worship – 10:15 am</li> </ul>



## **Morningside Hills UCC invites YOU**

... for pie, coffee, and a Thanksgiving Eve service on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> (4201 Morningside Rd, Edina)

- 6:15 pm – pie and coffee

- 7:00 pm – worship

## **Preparing for Advent**

Please plan on staying after worship on Sunday, December 1 as we decorate the church for the Advent season. Your help is needed and appreciated!

## **It's Time to Place Your Poinsettia Order**

We are happy to offer 6 1/2" poinsettias for the cost of \$13.00 per plant. Choose from Red, White, or Pink. Order forms are available at church.

We will arrange to have your poinsettias delivered to church. It has been our tradition that folks leave their poinsettia plants at church through the Christmas Eve Service. The beautiful display of poinsettias on the communion table will be enjoyed by all. **Order and pre-pay by December 1<sup>st</sup>**. Questions? Talk to Stephanie Tesch.

## **Winter Outerwear Drive**

This Christmas season, we will be supporting the Minnesota Council of Churches Refugee Services. Their program helps secure housing and provides critical supportive services for refugees moving to Minnesota. Since many families do not come with winter gear, we will be collecting new and gently used coats, gloves, mittens, and hats - all sizes and ages.

We will be collecting outerwear donations through December 29<sup>th</sup>. Let's help our new neighbors settle into life in MN by giving generously. Your help is appreciated. Any questions, see Barb Okonek.

## **Book Group - Thursday, December 12 @ 1:00 pm: Horse - Geraldine Brooks**

A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: from these strands, a Pulitzer Prize winner braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history. Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism.

## **Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 pm @ Edina Morningside Hills UCC**



# **Christmas Concert Fundraiser**

to benefit  
**MN Council of Churches  
Refugee Services**

**Solo Christmas Songs...**  
- Michelle Liebl, Voice  
- Martha Barth, Piano  
**Ending with...**  
**Sing-Along Christmas Carols**

Chapel Hills United Church of Christ is hosting  
a Christmas Concert/Fundraiser

**Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 4:00 pm**

6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina

Free-will offering or donations of  
winter outerwear\* would be appreciated!

- to benefit the MN Council of Churches Refugee Services -

\*New or gently used coats, gloves, mittens & hats (all sizes-all ages)



*Christmas Eve  
Carols & Candlelight Service*

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:10 pm - Choir Prelude

4:30 pm - Service

### **Year End Donations**

If you wish to contribute to Chapel Hills for tax year 2024, please have your check in the office or in the mail before December 31<sup>st</sup>. You can also donate online at our secure site <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina>

Did you know that you can transfer assets to pay your pledge? We recommend starting the brokerage transfer process by 12/6 due to different turnaround times. Here's that information:

Chapel Hills Brokerage Information for Transferring Stock

Broker: UBS Financial Services

Account Information:

FBD: Chapel Hills UCC Church

Account Title: Chapel Hills UCC Congregational Church

DTC: 0221

Account Number: 7R02685

UBS Contact:

John Hedrick

Phone: 952-848-8082

Email: [John.Hedrick@UBS.com](mailto:John.Hedrick@UBS.com)

Address: 8500 Normandale Lake Blvd, Bloomington, MN 55437

## Contact Information

Reverend Briones can be reached at [revcbriones@gmail.com](mailto:revcbriones@gmail.com) or 952-935-3025.

*Christián's emergency line is 612-495-8203. In the event of an emergency on a Friday, please call the church (952-935-3025) and leave a voicemail and the message will be passed along to Christián. He will be in touch as soon as possible.*

## Looking Ahead

22	NOV, FRI	● 4:30 – 8:30pm	Villard Studio - Cello Group Lessons
24	NOV, SUN	● All day	Pledge Sunday
		● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
		● 11:15 – 11:45am	Sunday School (for Ages 5 & Older)
		● 12 – 1pm	Rehearsal for Christmas Pageant @ Morningside Hills UCC
		● 3 – 4pm	Installation of Rev. Christián Briones
25	NOV, MON	● 3:30 – 6:45pm	Villard Studio - Cello Lessons
26	NOV, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 6:15 – 7pm	Pie & Coffee Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Morningside Hills UCC
		● 7 – 8pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Morningside Hills UCC
27	NOV, WED	● 7:30 – 8:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal



GIVE Securely Online

## **Offering/Donations**

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking the following link...
- <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code on the left
- **By Check** (indicate what your donation is for on the memo line) Send to: Chapel Hills, 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina, MN 55436



## **“A Wise Reign” Reign of Christ**

### **Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Today is Christ the King Sunday, a festival on church calendars that brings our attention once again to the why God sent his Son to us — to reign with righteousness, justice, peace and love.

It's a day we hear Jesus in John's Gospel telling Pilate, an earthly ruler, that the kingdom that Jesus has come to establish is not from here. It is beyond policies, agendas and elections. Perhaps that is why the use of the word "kin-dom" rather than "kingdom" is better suited for our time, as it emphasizes a reign where we are indeed kin, a family called to care for one another.

The celebration of Christ the King Sunday, though, is not an ancient church festival like Epiphany or Pentecost.

Christ the King Sunday was created by Pope Pius XI in 1925 to address the rise of communism and fascism that was taking place in Europe. He had envisioned his papacy to be "the reestablishment of the Kingdom of Christ by the peace of Christ," and sought ways to lead people back to loving God first in a world that was being divided by politics.

Almost a century later, it is not hard to imagine the fears felt in the uncertain and volatile world of 1925. In many ways, they are the same. What will tomorrow bring for my family? Will my children be safe? When will the fighting end? Will there be jobs? Food? Housing?

Our world is still filled with power grabs and political loyalties that pit families, friends and congregations against one another. The Reign of Christ seems so distant. The reign of love so elusive. The reign of peace so impossible.

Yet here we are. Christ the King Sunday 2024. Where have we placed our trust for a hopeful tomorrow? If that trust is in the hands of mere mortals, we are in trouble. But if that trust is in God who reigns now and forever, then we just might have a chance in seeing peace in our lifetime.

In The Lord's Prayer there's a line recited that says, "thy kingdom come." What if today we stop right there and ask ourselves what is this kingdom we are praying for? Have we given it any thought to what it really looks like? How is this kingdom asking us to change how we live — how we use your resources to help others?

Jesus' kingdom is not from here. It is a kingdom foretold by the prophet Isaiah as one where the poor hear good news, the brokenhearted are comforted and prisoners are set free. It is a kingdom where all are welcome, and no one is without.

*God, You so loved the world that You gave us Your Son who is our Lord, Savior, Redeemer and King. May today we catch the vision of Christ's reign here in our time, and may our words and deeds help to usher in thy kingdom. Amen.*