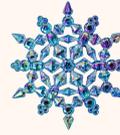




# EMORY EPISTLES



EMORY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1886 N. Decatur Rd., Atlanta, GA 30307

## AN ADVENT TO REMEMBER



Rosemary signifies love and remembrance. During this Advent season where we aren't able to gather together and celebrate in our usual ways, I want to remember God's love and our love for one another as a church community and as individuals. I want to remember the sound of our amazing choir filling the sanctuary with music. I want to remember the smell of the evergreen tree in our sanctuary. I want to remember the touch of hugs and handshakes, the big smiles and twinkling of eyes as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. I want to remember the excitement and mystery that fills the children, the ornaments they make filled with sparkling love (read messy, glitter ornaments), and the children's Christmas pageants filled with last-minute costume changes, lines rehearsed, and extra, unplanned-for shepherds and angels appearing in our midst. I want to remember a hot fire, mugs of cider and cocoa, and singing carols. I want to remember God's Love as I have witnessed it through you, each of you, as we continue to love and serve God together. In the midst of this remembrance, I hope towards the time when we will be able to do this together in person again. I hope towards the fulfillment of the birth of Christ in the world, and I remained grounded in the hope, peace, joy, and love that Christ brings to the world and to each of us.

What do you want to remember during Advent this year? What new Advent memories will you make this year that you will want to hold on to and remember for years to come?

Peace,  
Rev. Dr. Deedra Rich, director of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation

*"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

**ISAIAH 9:6, NRSV**

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## FEATURED EVENTS

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 7 PM**

Blue Christmas Service (live via Zoom)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, TIME TBD**

Outdoor Community Christmas Singalong (on Front Lawn -- bring a mask and a chair)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**

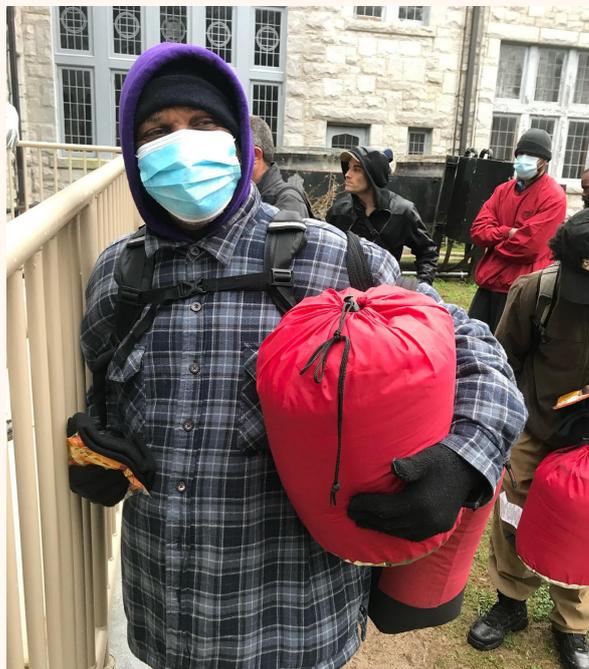
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (uploaded via Vimeo)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, 11 AM**

First Sunday of Christmas Service led by PCUSA (uploaded via Vimeo)

## 2020 ADVENT MISSION PROJECT

As we prepare to celebrate the greatest gift that comes into our lives (Emmanuel), let us give to those in need during this season of Advent by supporting **Mercy Community Church** and **L'Arche Atlanta**.



### Mercy Community Church

Our siblings at Mercy Community Church are in need of sleeping bags rated for super cold winter weather and some winter clothing. Please visit their Amazon Wish-List to make a purchase:

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3JACV39Y7H70Q/>

Each item tracks how many of a particular item is needed and what's already been purchased. Also, please select the organization or registry shipping address for Mercy when you check out.

### L'Arche Atlanta

In 2021, L'Arche is opening up a second home where four Core Members will live with four assistants, together like a family. The house is currently empty and many items are needed to turn it into a home! Please visit their Amazon Wish-List to see their needs:

<http://bit.ly/larchelist>

You will need to be signed into Amazon to view the list. The list also keeps track of what is needed and what has been purchased. Also, please select the organization or registry shipping address for L'Arche when you check out.

**L'ARCHE ATLANTA**

**Give the gift of belonging!**

Give an item on our wish list to help us **make a home** for our new residents with and without disabilities!

Amazon wish list  
[bit.ly/larchelist](http://bit.ly/larchelist)

Items listed are not brand-specific; we will accept new and like-new kitchen items from anywhere!

### Last but not least...

Please send Andy an email to let him know what item(s) you purchased for Mercy and/or L'Arche. He would like to keep track of how many items we provide for record and story purposes.

Thank you for your generosity during this time and season!

# WELCOME SHIRLEY WRIGHT-DAVIS AS EPC'S PERMANENT OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR!



We are excited to share the news that Shirley Wright Davis is officially EPC's new office administrator! Shirley, who began as the interim shortly before the pandemic began in March, has done such an outstanding job these past 10 months that we decided to make her permanent.

As an elder and choir member at Trinity Presbyterian Church of Decatur and someone who has spent more than 20 years in the hospitality & food management industry, Shirley brings a wealth of gifts to the job. She is a wonderful colleague to do ministry with during an unprecedented time in which creativity, outside-of-the-box thinking, patience, and perseverance is required behind the scenes to run the church.

Please take a moment to send Shirley an email ([office@emorypresbyterian.org](mailto:office@emorypresbyterian.org)) or stop by the office and visit if you're around to congratulate and welcome her to EPC.

## OUTDOOR CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER AND LABYRINTH WALK



Join us at 11 am on Monday, December 21st, for an in-person, outdoor contemplative time of prayer.

Please wear a mask. We will have a short time of prayer together from 11 - 11:30 followed by a time to walk the labyrinth. The labyrinth is always open and available for you to use. Deedra will be present near the labyrinth from 11-1 for any who would like more instructions on how to walk the labyrinth or who would like to pray together.

# ADVENT 2020 CALENDAR

COURTESY OF YVONNE BRADFORD

The header features a warm, golden-yellow background with several lit candles. The text is centered and reads: "THE SEASON OF Advent EMORY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH".

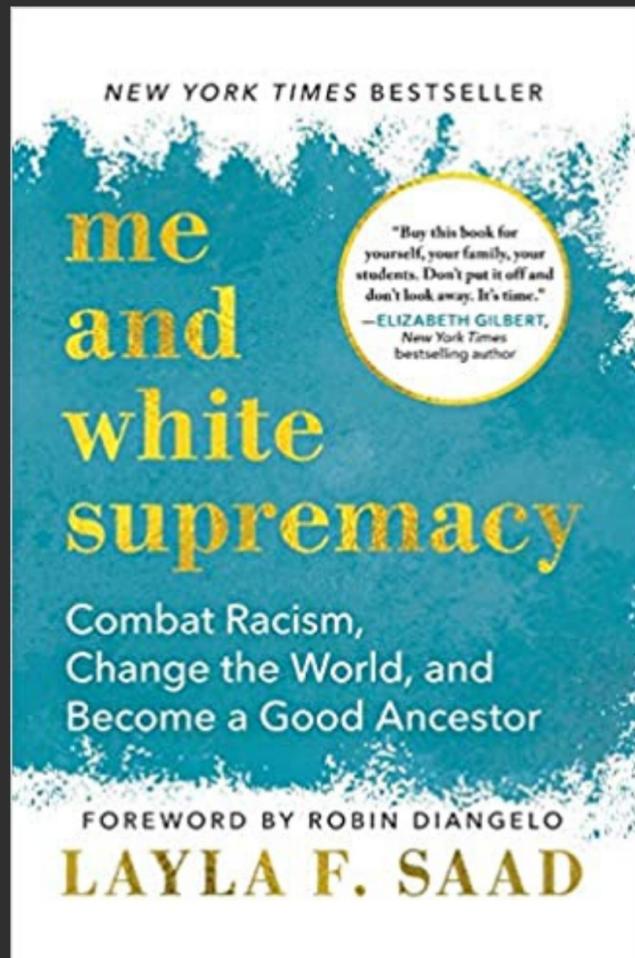
## THE SEASON OF *Advent* EMORY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Thursday, November 19, 7 pm    | Contemplative Prayer Service via Zoom  |
| Saturday, November 28, 12-2 pm | Advent Drop-By: pick up your Advent bag & visit/pray with pastor in parking lot (wear mask)          |
| Sunday, November 29            | First Sunday of Advent (Hope) Worship by Vimeo   |
| Thursday, December, 3-7 pm     | Contemplative Prayer Service live via Zoom   |
| Sunday, December 6             | Second Sunday of Advent (Peace) Worship by Vimeo   |
| Thursday, December 10, 7 pm    | Contemplative Prayer Service live via Zoom   |
| Sunday, December 13            | Third Sunday of Advent (Joy) Worship by Vimeo  |
| Thursday, December 17, 7 pm    | Blue Christmas Service live via Zoom   |
| Sunday, December 20            | Fourth Sunday of Advent (Love) Worship by Vimeo  |
| Sunday, December 20, Time TBD  | Community Christmas Carol Sing Along<br>Outdoors on front lawn (wear mask, bring chair & flashlight) |
| Thursday, December 24          | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service by Vimeo   |
| Sunday, December 27            | First Sunday of Christmas Worship by Vimeo lead by UKirk   |

*For more information go to – [emorypresbyterian.org](http://emorypresbyterian.org)*

# EPC'S ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY FOR JANUARY: *me and white supremacy*

## EMORY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S ANTI-RACISM BOOK FOR JANUARY:



EPC will read Saad's *me and white supremacy*, which "encourage[s] people with white privilege to examine their thoughts and behaviors." What started as Layla F. Saad's Instagram challenge became her call to action in the form of this book.

Please notify Pastor Andy by January 11th, 2021, if you would like to participate in this book discussion January 21st, 2021.

# RECURRING EVENTS

## **Sundays, 10 am**

Adult Lectionary Class (Zoom)  
Contact Scott Grosse for a Zoom link

K-5 Class (Zoom)  
Contact Deedra Rich for a Zoom link

## **Sundays, 11 am**

6-8th Middle School Youth Class (Zoom)  
Contact Deedra Rich for a Zoom link

## **Tuesdays, 8 am**

Men's Prayer Breakfast (Zoom)  
Contact Andy Acton for a Zoom link

**Mondays and Wednesdays**  
**4:30-5:30 pm, weather pending**

Black Lives Matter protests on the  
Front Lawn

**First Sundays of the Month, 2:00-3:30 pm, weather pending**

EPC Garden Party in the Outdoor Sanctuary  
- the next EPC Garden Party is January 3rd, 2021

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

