

FOOTHILLS FAMILY ADVENT CALENDAR 2017

<p>SUN 12/3 1st Sun of Advent! Make an Advent Wreath. Or just gather 5 candles and some greenery. Light your Advent Candles after dinner</p>	<p>MON 12/4 Volunteer for our Foodbank@Foothills Sunday Dec. 10th 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month thereafter</p>	<p>TUES 12/5 Read "What is Advent?" as a family. Use your Post-It notes to leave Advent messages around the house for family to find!</p>	<p>WEDS 12/6 Go through your possessions and find items to donate to charity. What you give away will be a blessing to someone else.</p>	<p>THURS 12/7 SIGN UP to help with our Holiday Craft Workshop! Kids make holiday crafts to give as gifts or decorate for the holidays!</p>	<p>FRI 12/8 Enjoy a Family Game Night Invite friends or neighbors for a potluck dinner & games</p>	<p>SAT 12/9 Visit the Garden of Lights with your family - see the Foothills Madrigal Singers and the "Sugar Plum Furrries" dog troupe</p>
<p>SUN 12/10 2nd Sun of Advent! Snap a selfie at church today. Volunteer for our Foodbank@Foothills Light your Advent Candles after dinner</p>	<p>MON 12/11 Volunteer to help host Homeless Families through the "Faith Family Hospitality Program" SIGN UP HERE</p>	<p>TUES 12/12 First night of Hanukkah! Read about the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah HERE.</p>	<p>WEDS 12/13 Read "The Story of Christmas" as a family and have fun with the Christmas "I Spy" activity pages!</p>	<p>THURS 12/14 Learn about how our Unitarian Universalist Principles relate to this special time of year.</p>	<p>FRI 12/15 Cook up some potato latkes with your family for a taste of Hanukkah! Here is a Recipe for latkes</p>	<p>SAT 12/16 The 5th day of Hanukkah is a time to donate to charity! Talk with your family about which local organization you will support.</p>
<p>SUN 12/17 3rd Sun of Advent! Bring the kids to our Holiday Craft Workshop 2-5pm Stay for our Yule Celebration at 6pm Light your Advent Candles after dinner</p>	<p>MON 12/18 Learn to play Dreidel! This game is a fun Hanukkah tradition. Click here for Dreidl Instructions</p>	<p>TUES 12/19 Play a game that connects UU theology with the celebration of Advent. 5 Smooth Stones Game</p>	<p>WEDS 12/20 The color of Advent is blue. Wear something blue today and take a family photo!</p>	<p>THURS 12/21 Today is the Winter Solstice, or Yule! Join us for our Foothills Holiday Vespers Service tonight at 6pm or perform this Yule Ritual</p>	<p>FRI 12/22 Take a break from the holiday rush - pop the popcorn and settle in for a family holiday movie night!</p>	<p>SAT 12/23 Connect with our 7th UU Principle by spending time outdoors today! Make pinecone bird feeders or fabric gift bags to reduce waste</p>
<p>SUN 12/24 Fourth Sunday of Advent! Come to our Family Christmas Eve Services at 5pm or 7pm. Light your Advent Candles after dinner</p>	<p>MON 12/25 Share a Christmas Reading before opening presents or eating your meal.</p>	<p>TUES 12/26 Learn about Kwanzaa - a holiday celebrated by millions throughout the world African community</p>	 <p>FOOTHILLS UNITARIAN CHURCH UNLEASHING COURAGEOUS LOVE</p>			

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Advent wreath is a traditional part of the celebration of Advent for many Christians. It originated in its Christian form in Germany (the practice of lighting candles in evergreen wreaths began in pagan cultures) and is a way to mark the exciting days leading up to Christmas. Four candles are lit around the wreath, one each Sunday of Advent, to represent the hope, love, joy, and peace of the season. Here are instructions for lighting your very own Advent wreath!

On Sunday, 12/3:

Light your first blue candle (HOPE) and say: “We light this candle of hope that we may give and receive hope in the coming year.”

On Sunday, 12/10:

Light your first blue candle (HOPE) and your second blue candle (LOVE) and say: “We light this candle of love that we may give and receive love in the coming year.”

On Sunday, 12/17:

Light your first blue candle (HOPE), your second blue candle (LOVE), and your pink candle (JOY) and say: “We light this candle of joy that we may give and receive joy in the coming year.”

On Sunday, 12/24:

Light your first blue candle (HOPE), your second blue candle (LOVE), your pink candle (JOY), and your third blue candle (PEACE) and say: “We light this candle of peace that we may give and receive peace in the coming year.”

Then light the white candle (CHRIST) and say: “May we never curse the darkness, but be a force to bring light into the world.”