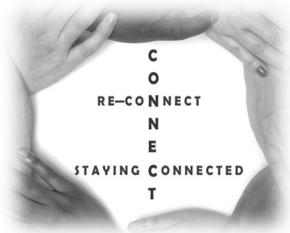




November 28, 2021

Re-SCHEDULED !!!

**Connect,
Reconnect,
Staying Connected**
w/ Rev. Cean James

**Building and Maintaining Fellowship
during the prolonged Covid Pandemic**

TWO workshop options available.

Choose the one you are comfortable with!

January 22nd—VIA ZOOM

Register at: <https://psecconnect0122.eventbrite.com>

January 29th—IN PERSON @ First UCC, Schuylkill Haven

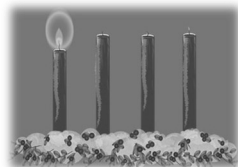
Register at: <https://psecconnect0129.eventbrite.com>



Facebook Advent Postings

As in years past, today marks the beginning of our daily Facebook Advent posts. Need to take a few moments each day of this hectic season to re-focus? Perhaps the daily PSEC Advent posting is just what you need.

Postings began today and will continue through Christmas Day!



LIVING ADVENT as a VERB

If you search for the word 'advent', you will discover that it is a noun: "arrival of a notable person, thing, or event." This concept of Advent being a noun, falling into the category of a person, place or thing... made me pause. Yes, we are remembering the arrival of Jesus, yes we are waiting God breaking into the world with hope for transformation and yes, this is a big event in that we are beginning a 'new' liturgical year. We are also waiting for that second coming...aren't we?

As I sat with this, I wondered what would happen if Advent would be embraced as a verb. So of course I decided to search for the word verb: "a word used to describe an action, state, or occurrence, and forming the main part of the predicate of a sentence, such as hear, become, happen."

You see, God has already broken into our world and Jesus...our Christ has arrived and while some use the language of waiting for that second coming, I think part of the wonder of God's call on our lives as Christians is LIVING ADVENT as a VERB. What will the world *hear* from us? How do we *become* what/who God has called us to be? What will *happen* because we receive this Holy One into our very being? If our life is what we give in return, how can we be Christians as a verb instead of a noun? How will we live Christianity as a verb?

Our biblical text is a gift of history, literature and faith. While reading the Bible it becomes obvious that humanity has always had struggle, pain, suffering, and oppression. In some ways that gives me hope because what we live through isn't new. Our biblical text also gives me hope because God is in this with us. God risked coming to us as a vulnerable baby! God is always moving in this creation...in our lives. God does this and 'like' human parents, God releases us into the world to live and BE people of faith. We may be born nouns but we are released into the world as verbs.

This Advent, may you discover your life as a verb and live the wonder of your own being in relationship with God and others.

- Rev. Dr. Susan Minasian

Interim Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call