

THE
ARRIVAL



CHRISTMAS 2022



WELCOME

I love everything about Christmas! One of the traditions in my home growing up was the tradition of Advent. Every night during the weeks leading up to Christmas, we would gather as a family, light a candle, sing a Christmas song, read the Bible and pray. There was such great anticipation, not just for Christmas morning, but for the Arrival of Jesus.

This is a journey I would like to invite you on as we make our way to Christmas. As with any journey, we are going to need some supplies, equipment and directions. This Arrival booklet will be our guide as we prepare our lives and hearts for the birth of Jesus.

LOVE • PEACE • JOY • HOPE

In our four week journey leading up to Christmas, we will explore these four words that have such deep meaning in our walk with Jesus and I pray that the **love** of Jesus would be in your homes, the **peace** of God would transcend all understanding, the **joy** of Jesus would fill your hearts, and the enduring **hope** of Jesus would lead and guide you.

Join me on this Arrival journey and encounter the greatest Christmas gift of all, Jesus. As you prepare your heart to give this Christmas, together, we might just change the world.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Tim Poetzl
Lead Pastor

STANWOOD
FOURSQUARE
CHURCH

THE ARRIVAL JOURNEY

We invite you to take time on the days leading up to Christmas to use this booklet and go on the *Arrival Journey* to prepare for the birth of Jesus.



READ

Gather together with friends & family, light an Arrival candle, sing a Christmas song & read a daily scripture provided each week.



PRAY

Each week, you will find a prayer to pray & invite God to speak to you & prepare your heart for Christmas.



SERVE

In the pages ahead, you'll find ways to bless your neighbors & community with the love, peace, joy & hope of Jesus. We've provided some ideas, but feel free to add your own!



GIVE

As we pray & seek the Lord, He expands our hearts to see how much we have & how much we have to give. We invite you to re-direct some of your Christmas spending to give to the most vulnerable & marginalized people in the world.



ARRIVAL CANDLES ARE AVAILABLE, BEGINNING NOVEMBER 20

Pick up candles in the Main building on **SUNDAYS** during service times or in the Admin building **TUESDAYS** from 9a-5p.

TO GIVE TO THE ARRIVAL

Head to the website and click on *The Arrival* tab or use *The Arrival Gift Guide* available at the church and give in person on December 11, 18, 23 or 24.

www.4sq.church/the-arrival

CHANGE THE WAY YOU GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS
AND YOU MIGHT JUST CHANGE THE WORLD.

The Spirit of the Sovereign
Lord is on me,
because the Lord has
anointed me
to proclaim good news
to the poor.

He has sent me to bind
up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom
for the captives and
release from darkness
for the prisoners,
to proclaim the year
of the Lord's favor.

ISAIAH 61:1



WEEK ONE
LOVE

Angels We Have Heard On High



An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing
Shep - herds why this ju - - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous



o'er the plains; And the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their
strains pro-long? What the glad - some ti - dings be; Which in - spire your



joy - ous strains. Glo
heav'n - ly song?



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; De - o.



READ

In our first week of Advent, we'll explore the biblical meaning of **LOVE**. Light an Arrival candle and read a verse about love each day and reflect.

DAY 1
John 3:16/ 1 John 4:11

DAY 2
Mark 12:29-31

DAY 3
John 15:9-13

DAY 4
1 Corinthians 13:4-8

DAY 5
Romans 8:38-39

PRAY



Lord,
Thank You that You love us. Thank you for sending Your son Jesus, the perfect gift of love. We pray that our lives would be filled and overflowing with the power of Your love so we can make a difference in this world and bring honor to You. Amen



Ukraine Shoeboxes

The Christmas when Yulia was 7 years old, her family was poor, living in Ukraine when she received the gift of a shoebox filled with things specifically curated for a young girl. Years later, Yulia is now married and living in Stanwood but she remembers that Christmas as her best Christmas ever and wants to extend that same joy to the families who are currently suffering because of the war in her home country of Ukraine.



Yulia Clack and her family in Ukraine

Yulia's family and church in Ukraine are working tirelessly to serve 80 families and 200 children who have been displaced by the war. Many of these children have been orphaned as their fathers have died on the battlefield.

Let's partner with Yulia and her family to bring the love, peace, joy and hope of Jesus to these 200 children by giving a Christmas shoebox specifically designed for them.

Giving Tree

Provide a shoebox for a child in Ukraine this Christmas! Grab a shoebox & tag for a child from the **Giving Tree** at Stanwood Foursquare and prepare a shoebox to be sent to children in Ukraine in time for Christmas.

- There are tags for boys and girls ages 2-14 years old
- Instructions for filling shoeboxes will be provided with each tag
- Shoeboxes need to be turned in by **Dec. 15**



Merry Christmas in Ukrainian
щасливого Різдва
[English pronunciation: Veseloho Rizdva]



REFUGEE RELIEF UKRAINE



Sarai, a 76 year old woman, was living in southeast Ukraine when her home was destroyed by a rocket. She had to leave her village and find a safe place away from active war zones. She was able to secure a small shed for temporary housing, but was scared thinking about the winter and how she would be able to keep warm. *Foursquare Disaster Relief*, partnering with *Homes of Hope*, arrived in the Ukraine with home-building kits to build Sarai an insulated home made of thick panels that will keep her warm through the winter months.

Your gift towards a home will provide Ukrainian refugees with housing, safety, warmth and the hope of a future.

support a Ukraine family

\$50 \$150

\$200 \$500

provide a home for refugees

\$250 \$500

\$1000 \$5000
entire home



HOMES OF HOPE

MEXICO



Melanie and her mom and dad spent their nights cramped on a single mattress in an old, abandoned trailer, while her grandparents slept in a tent outside, exposed to the cold, rain, dust and insects. Melanie's dad works 6 days a week making less than \$10 a day to provide for his family and the dream of owning a dry, safe home seemed out of reach. With the help of *Homes of Hope*, Melanie's family was able to buy land and a team from Stanwood Foursquare went to Ensenada, Mexico to build a house for her family as well as a home for her grandparents.

Your gift will provide the lumber and materials needed to build a house that will truly become a home of hope. We also invite you to prayerfully consider joining us on one of our teams to go and build homes for families like Melanie's.

\$150
towards a home

\$500
towards a home

\$12,000
purchase an
entire home





WEEK TWO
PEACE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing



F C F/A F F/C C F/A B \flat

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing ___ "Glo - ry to the
Christ by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er -

F/C C F C Dm F/C G 7 /B Am G/B C

new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild; ___ God and sin - ners
-last - ing Lord; Late in time be - hold Him come, ___ off - spring of the

Fmaj 7 G C N.C. C/E F F/C G N.C.

rec - on - ciled." Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph
Vir - gin's womb Veiled in flesh the God - head see, hail th'in - car - nate

C/E F F/C C B \flat D Gm C/B \flat F/A

of the skies; With th'an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim "Christ is born in
De - i - ty! Pleas'd as man with men to dwell, Je - sus our Em -

F/C C F B \flat F/A Gm D Gm

Beth - le - hem." Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing,
man - u - el.

C/B \flat F/A F F/C C 7 F

Glo - ry to the new - born King."



READ

In our second week of Advent, we'll explore the biblical meaning of **PEACE** and how it all leads to Jesus being our Prince of Peace.

DAY 1
Numbers 6:24-26

DAY 2
Isaiah 9:6-7

DAY 3
Philippians 4:4-9

DAY 4
Luke 2:9-15

DAY 5
Colossians 1:19-20

PRAY



Lord,
Thank You for sending your son, the Prince of Peace.
Thank You for Your peace that surpasses all understanding.
Guard our hearts and minds with Your peace and help
us remember those who need Your peace this Christmas.

Amen

Christmas Cookie Giveaway

Everyone loves a Christmas cookie! Why not make some to bring to a neighbor and invite them to Christmas Candlelight services? Take a few minutes with your kids or a friend to make these Christmas treats and share the light and love of Jesus with those around you.



Christmas Cracker Treats

- 1 1/4 sleeves Ritz Crackers
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- 1 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

- *Preheat oven to 425° degrees*
- *Line a 9x13 pan with foil and spray lightly with non-stick spray.*
- *Line pan with Ritz Crackers. They won't fit perfectly but aim for a mostly even layer. Breaking them into pieces will help!*
- *Over medium heat, melt butter, peanut butter and brown sugar until the sugar has dissolved. Pour mixture over the Ritz crackers and spread evenly.*
- *Place in the oven at 425° for about 5 minutes until it just starts to bubble.*
- *Remove from the heat and top with chocolate chips.*
- *Let the chocolate chips sit for about 1 minute, then using a spatula or knife, spread evenly across the top of the pan.*
- *Place in the freezer for about 15 minutes.*
- *Break apart and place in your favorite Christmas container.*

"So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing"
 1 Thessalonians 5:11



CLEAN WATER UGANDA



Malick, a young boy living in famine-ridden Burundi, stepped out of his make-shift shelter desperately hungry and thirsty. Thankfully, *Foursquare Disaster Relief* had recently installed a desalination-water-filtration system in his community. Malick and his entire village are now able to retrieve clean water quickly and easily. These clean water stations not only provide long-term water stability, but have brought opportunities to plant churches bringing the hope of Jesus to the nation of Burundi.

Partner with *Foursquare Disaster Relief* to bring the Gospel through clean water to these displaced people.

- \$25 provides a water filtration bucket
- \$150 towards a water filtration system
- \$500 towards a water well
- \$10,000 drill an entire well



LIVESTOCK GLOBAL



Luis, a young boy in Colombia, faces a combination of poverty and civil unrest, making it difficult for his family to produce crops or raise livestock for nourishment and income. Through the local Foursquare church in Colombia, Luis heard the good news of Jesus and received the gift of chickens which became a stable source of income and food for his family.

Partnering with local Foursquare churches, we are able to provide these necessary livestock options and share the message of Jesus with those trapped in poverty giving them the hope of a better life with long-term access to food and income.

\$10
pair of chickens

\$40
one goat

\$200
one cow





WEEK THREE
JOY

The First Noel



A⁷ D Bm A^{sus} A D/F# G D G



The -- first --- No -- el the ---- an - gel did say was to
They look --- ed ___ up and ___ saw --- a star shin - ing

D/F# A⁷/E D/F# G D/F# D/A A⁷ D A⁷ D Bm



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in --- fields ___ as ___
in -- the east --- be -- yond --- them far and to --- the ___

A^{sus} A D/F# G D G D/F# A⁷/E D/F# G



they lay ___ keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win -- ters night ___ that
earth it ___ gave -- great light and ___ so it con -- tin -- ued both

D/F# D/A A⁷ D A⁷ D Bm F#m D G



was ___ so deep. No ---- el No -- el No -- el No --
day ___ and night.

D A/C# Bm G D A⁷/E D/F# D/A A⁷ D



el ___ born is the King -- of Is - ra - el.



READ

In our third week of Advent, we'll explore the biblical meaning of **JOY** and how it all leads to Jesus. How do we have joy in uncertain circumstances?

DAY 1
Psalms 30:5

DAY 2
Isaiah 12:6

DAY 3
Nehemiah 8:10

DAY 4
James 1:2-3

DAY 5
Romans 15:13

PRAY



Lord,
Thank You for being our source of joy. Thank You that even in times of trouble, You are with us and Your joy sustains us. Fill us with Your joy this Christmas season so that we reflect Your love, peace, hope and joy to others.
Amen



Volunteer at the Local Food Bank

This Christmas season, there are many who struggle to put food on the table. Head to your local Food Bank and see if there is a time for you to volunteer to serve the community.

Stanwood/Camano Food Bank
360-629-2789
www.stanwoodcamanofoodbank.org

Skagit Valley Neighbors in Need
(360) 982-2089
www.svneighborsinneed.com

Arlington Community Food Bank
(360) 435-1631
www.arlingtonfoodbank.org



*"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord
has anointed me to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted..."*
Isaiah 61:1



THINK SMALL PHILIPPINES



In the Philippines, Lamai was left without a mother or father to care for her. She was attending school but was vulnerable to the influences of human trafficking which surrounded her. Thanks to *Think Small*, Lamai was invited to attend a child-protection training event and learned how to say 'no' to someone who might take advantage of her, as well as hear the Gospel message for the first time.

Think Small has seen over 931,000 decisions for Christ since 2007 in countries all around the world, and 71% have entered discipleship programs. Your gift will help see a new generation rise to follow Jesus, be protected from human trafficking, and transform the Philippines and countries all over the world.

- \$15
provides a Bible
- \$100
towards a trafficking prevention event
- \$500
provides an entire trafficking prevention event



NATIVE PEOPLES

NORTH AMERICA



Tiva and her little sister live with their mom and dad on the Crow Indian reservation in Montana. Last year, Tiva's dad lost his job and he became angry and depressed, and her family began to fall apart.

Arise Native American Ministry organizes family camps for families like Tiva's to strengthen parents and children. Under the leadership of Yaseer and Monique Handall, the camp encourages unity in the family and provides activities to discover better ways to communicate, bring healing and wholeness.

Your gift will provide families the opportunity to attend family camp and see lives of Native families radically transformed as they encounter the hope and love of Jesus.

\$100
towards Native
Family Camp

\$250
towards Native
Family Camp

\$500
pays for one family
to attend Native
Family Camp





WEEK FOUR
HOPE

Away in a Manger



G/D G G G G G C G C G



A - way in a man - ger no crib for a bed; The
The cat - tle are low - ing the Ba - by a - wakes; But

D C/D D C/G G G/D G G G G G



lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky... looked
lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing He makes. I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look

C G C G G/D D G/D D G D/F# Em Am D G



down where He lay; The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay
down from the sky; And stay by my cra - dle 'til morn - ing is nigh.



READ

In our fourth week of Advent, we will explore the biblical meaning of **HOPE** and how we can understand, experience and share God's hope.

DAY 1
Isaiah 40:31

DAY 2
Jeremiah 29:11

DAY 3
Psalms 147:7-11

DAY 4
1 Peter 1:3-6

DAY 5
Hebrews 10:23

PRAY



Lord, thank You that you gave us the gift of hope, Your son Jesus, to live among us. Help us to see that You are always with us and with those in need around the world. Thank You, Father, that we always have hope in You.

Amen



Happy Birthday Jesus!

On Christmas Day, before opening presents or heading out to Christmas activities, bake a cake (you can use a boxed mix or any simple cake recipe), put some candles on it and sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus!

This is a fun way to remember who we are celebrating and why.



Taste of Home Chocolate Cake Recipe

2/3 cup butter, softened

1 2/3 cups sugar

3 large eggs

2 cups flour

2/3 baking cocoa

1 1/4 tsp baking soda

1 tsp salt

1 1/3 cup milk

In a bowl, cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs one at a time beating well after each addition. Combine flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, beating until smooth after each addition. Pour batter into a greased and floured 13"x9" pan. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool and serve with favorite frosting.

"After Jesus' birth, wise men from the east arrived in Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the one who was born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star rising and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1



HOW TO GIVE

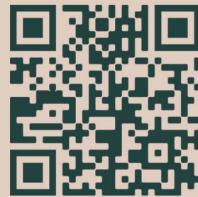
ARRIVAL OFFERINGS IN PERSON December 11, 18, 23 & 24

IN PERSON

Fill out your information (for tax deduction) and place your gift in *The Arrival* offering envelope located in the back of the Worship Center.

ONLINE

Scan the QR code or go to www.4sq.church, click on *The Arrival* tab, and choose the gifts you would like to give from *The Arrival Store*.



SCAN HERE

4SQ APP

Download the Stanwood Foursquare App to give safely and easily. Search in any app store to find and download.

BY MAIL

Fill out *The Arrival* Gift Guide and mail to P.O. Box 183 Stanwood, WA 98292

CHANGE THE WAY YOU GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS
AND YOU MIGHT JUST CHANGE THE WORLD.





PARTNERS



**FOURSQUARE
DISASTER RELIEF**

www.foursquare.org/events/fdr



FMI | FOURSQUARE
MISSIONS
INTERNATIONAL

www.foursquaremissions.org/about-fmi



www.ywamsandiegobaja.org/homesofhope



www.thinksmallfoundation.org



www.arisenativeamericans.org

JOIN US ON ONE OF OUR MISSION TRIPS!

Head to the website www.4sq.church/missions
or email connect@4sq.church



CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICES



DECEMBER 23

5:30^{PM} & 7^{PM}

DECEMBER 24

4^{PM} & 5:30^{PM} & 7^{PM}

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us! This is a family friendly service where we will sing some songs, hear a great message and light candles.

Bring the whole family and invite a friend!

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