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10-15-19

## Call to Artists for Advent Banners Design

### Advent\* at Fountain Street Church

There are many interpretations of Advent, each with particular customs. Forms of observance are so diverse that perhaps the only shared element is the calendar – typically Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas – but even that varies. Lighting four candles, one each week until Christmas when a fifth candle marks the anticipated moment, is a common observance.

For almost sixty years Fountain Street Church has celebrated Advent with candle lighting and Sunday services focused on faith, hope, love, and joy. These themes are expressed in a hymn by Vincent Persichetti, “Faith, Hope, Love and Joy Will Come at Christmas.” At Fountain Street this hymn precedes the candle lighting each Sunday of Advent. For many decades, these themes have been expressed in banners displayed in the sanctuary during Advent.

\*The word "advent" comes from the Latin "adventus" meaning "arrival" or "coming," particularly of something having great importance. Celebrations of Advent have their origins in preparations for Epiphany, a celebration of the manifestation of Christ through the visit of the wise men or, in some traditions, the baptism of Jesus. In the early church Advent was a time new Christians were baptized and received into the faith marked by a 40-day period of fasting and repentance followed by anticipation, hope and joy.

### Call for New Advent Banner Designs

The Fountain Street Church Art Committee is seeking artists' proposals for new banners to display in the sanctuary during Advent.

### Current Advent Banner Display

There are specific locations in the sanctuary where banners may be suspended from cables. Banners expressing the four Advent themes are suspended from a cable stretching from one side of the chancel to the other, facing the congregation. In addition there are eight cables to suspend banners above the congregation, four on each side at regular intervals of about 20 feet. These cables support decorative banners typically hung during the Advent period.

### Scope of Proposals

The Art Committee seeks proposals that:

- Address the four advent themes, faith, hope, love, and joy;
- Allow for sequential display corresponding to the four Sundays of Advent; and,

## Call to Artists for Advent Banner Design (continued)

- Make use of the cables across the chancel for a total of four banners.

### Proposal Process and Requirements

1. Artists submit draft proposals to the Art Committee via email at [art@fountainstreet.org](mailto:art@fountainstreet.org) by January 10, 2020. Draft proposals must include:
  - a. Design statement and description of banner installation;
  - b. Design sketches; and,
  - c. General description of materials to be used.
2. Art Committee evaluates draft proposals and selects one, two, or three proposals to proceed with detailed development. Selection for detailed development will occur by January 31, 2020. The Art Committee may request a meeting with an artist to discuss further development of the proposal.
3. Artists submit detailed proposals in person to the Art Committee on February 18, 2020 in a meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Detailed proposals must include:
  - a. Final written statement of design;
  - b. Design drawings and color pallet;
  - c. Detailed materials list for banner production with identification of sources and lead times to acquire required materials;
  - d. Any other information important to execution of the design.

### Proposal Evaluation

The Art Committee will evaluate proposals on:

- Artistic expression of the four Advent themes;
- Use of space for visual impact;
- Cost and durability of materials to execute the design;
- Feasibility of storage and reuse of banners; and,
- Congruence of design and materials with the art and architecture of the sanctuary and the eight banners that hang, four on each side, over the congregation during the Advent period.

### Banner Production

The Art Committee will fund production of the selected design. The Art Committee and artist will collaborate on management of the banner production process.

Fountain Street Church Art Committee  
24 Fountain Street NE  
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Direct all inquiries to: [art@fountainstreet.org](mailto:art@fountainstreet.org)