



Volume 10, Issue 6

December 2021- January 2022

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The Real Meaning Of Christmas

It's that time of year again. December has come and with it all the joys of Christmas. But what is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners with family and friends, snow in the yard, stockings hanging in the living room, and shouts of "Merry Christmas" to those who pass us in the streets? Is this really Christmas?

For many people, Christmas is a time of sorrow. They don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened at Christmastime when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Turkey dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some.

Yet, Christmas can be a season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. You see, Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared in the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had told of His coming hundreds of years before. The star stopped over Bethlehem just to mark the way for those who were looking for this special child.

Luke 2:4-19 says: *"So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

(Continued)



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." (NIV)

Why did He come? Why did God send His son to this sometimes cruel and hard world? He sent Jesus to us so that one day, He would grow up to become a very important part of history. His story (history) is one of truth, love, and hope. It brought salvation to all of us. Without Jesus, we would all die in our sins.

Jesus was born so one day the price could be paid for the things we have done that are wrong. The Bible says that all have sinned. We are all born with a sin nature. We do things that do not please God. Through the sins of Adam and Eve, we have all inherited that sin nature. We need to have that removed. The only way is through Jesus. Jesus came so He could die on the cross for ALL of our sins. If we believe that Jesus died for our sins, we can ask Him to come into our hearts and forgive us. Then, we are clean and made whole. We can know that heaven is a place where we can go to when this life is over.

"But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness." (1 John 1:9 NLT)

We can truly be happy at Christmas! No matter what may be happening, we can know that we are His children. We then become sons and daughters of God and Heaven will be our home one day.

Look at Christmas in a new way this year. This is the year to invite Jesus into your heart. You will then have a **"Merry Christmas."** The joy and peace you will receive will last all year as you look to God for all your needs to be met.



Jesus Is the Reason for the Season! Rejoice!

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Come join family and friends in celebrating the Lord's birth!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Friday, December 24, 2021 at 8 p.m.



For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21



The ladies who meet on Monday evenings just finished studying the Book of Philippians. It is one of my favorite Books in the Bible. It was there to encourage me years ago in my walk with Christ. Here are some passages from this good book that are to encourage you in the New Year ahead.

The Book of Philippians is a letter from Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus, to God's holy people in Philippi who belong to Christ Jesus, including the elders and deacons.

Today this letter is for our church family from us.

Philippians 1:3 Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. ⁴ Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, ⁵ for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. ⁶ And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. ^{7a} So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart. You share with me the special favor of God.

⁹ I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. ¹⁰ For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. ¹¹ May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

^{27a} Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News. ²⁸ Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God Himself. ²⁹ For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for Him. ^{30a} We are in this struggle together.

2:1 Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from His love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? ² Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. ³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, ⁸ He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(continued)

¹⁴ Do everything without complaining and arguing, ¹⁵ so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. ¹⁶ Hold firmly to the word of life; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless.

4:4 Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! ⁵ Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. ⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

²³ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. (Philippians NLT)

*We pray that this Christmas Season and New Year is filled with the **HOPE, JOY, PEACE** and **LOVE** of **Christ our Lord**. You All mean so much to us!*

Love, Pastor Brett & Shelly



WOODVILLE CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE

December

5 Deb Thorne, Carianne & Joziah Smith
12 Adriana Beckwith & Jenna Minor
19 Nancy Eveland & Mary Helmus
26 Polly Byers & Brittany Hurlbert

January

2 Barb Knight & Christie Pikaart
9 Nina Bell & Kim Schaefer
16 Nina Bell & DeeAnn Ruiter
23 Carianne Smith & Sue Walta
30 Amy Hysell & Nancy Redd



Thank you, ladies, for your service in caring for these little ones.

If you are unable to serve on the date that you are scheduled please contact Annie Mercer at 231-580-5552 as soon as possible.



In this issue:

Wisdom is Supreme



In our last letter, we read about using wisdom to find salvation for our daily walk in life. Today, we will journey through the Bible to learn from the author of wisdom on how to live our lives.

Proper Etiquette with BOB

Proverbs of Solomon

Proverbs 1:7 Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Proverbs 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes, fear the Lord and shun evil.

Proverbs 4:6-7 Do not forsake wisdom; it will protect and watch over you.

Proverbs 10:13 Wisdom is found on the lips of he who has understanding.

Proverbs 10:19 When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

A few interesting verses from the new testament:

James 1:5 If any lack wisdom let him ask God...

Ephesians 5:6-10 Let no one deceive you...

1 John 4:1 Do not believe every spirit, but test...

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to the world but...

James 3:13 Who is wise and understand among us...

Matthew 7:24 Everyone who hears these words...

Philippians 1:9-10 It is my prayer that your...

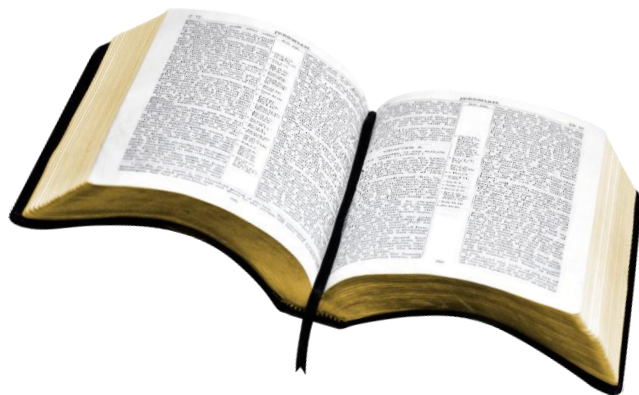
Romans 11:33-35 Oh the riches and wisdom...

The words of **Isaiah 40:13** teaches that no human being knows the mind of the Lord apart from revelation, and no one can serve as God's adviser.

As **Job 41:11** reads, as a reminder, that no one ultimately gives anything to God.

Instead, in **1 Corinthians 4:7** Everything humans have is a gift from God.

May you receive blessings of wisdom from reading the Bible.





December 2021

Sunday

WORSHIP
SERVICE
10:00 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:40 a.m.

Tuesday

MEN'S BIBLE
STUDY
7:00 a.m.
LADIES BIBLE
STUDY
9:30 a.m.

Youth Group
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

AWANA
6:00 p.m.
NIGHT SERVICE
6:30 p.m.

3rd Monday

BOARD MEETING
6:00 p.m.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Greeters for December: <i>Clint & Shelley Cook</i>			1 AWANA WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	2 Praise Team practice	3	4 Elders' Prayer Time
5 1 ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday school	6 <i>Ladies Aid</i>	7 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study YOUTH GROUP	8 AWANA Christmas party WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	9 Praise Team practice	10	11 Elders' Prayer Time
12 2 ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday school	13	14 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study YOUTH GROUP	15 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	16 Praise Team practice	17 Christmas Basket assembling	18 Elders' Prayer Time Men's Monthly Breakfast
19 3 RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE	20 <i>Ladies Aid</i> Board Meeting	21 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study YOUTH GROUP	22 No WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	23 Praise Team practice	24  Candlelight Service 8 pm	25 
26 4 TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE	27	28 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study YOUTH GROUP	29 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	30 Praise Team practice	31 New Years Eve	

December Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Dick Jusino | 20 Leeland Yates |
| 5 Paul Morse | Renee Cook |
| 6 Paisleigh Minor | Stacy Edewaard |
| 9 Gene Fisher | Carol Tillotson |
| 11 Jeremy Jahr | 21 Gordon Witte |
| 13 Larry Frontjes | 22 Charlie Minor |
| 15 Ronica Garrod | 23 Elijah Hysell |
| Dave Kolehouse | 26 Larry Gravelin |
| 16 Adriana Beckwith | 29 Richard Yates |
| 18 Laurel Garrod | 31 Ryan Jensen |

December Anniversaries

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| 3 Kurt & DeeAnn Ruiter |
| 5 Wes & Barb Knight |
| 12 Pastor Brett & Shelly Werner |
| 20 Ken & Linda Kacel |
| 29 Glenn & Marilyn Patrick (65 years) |



January 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:40 a.m.						1 New Years Day
2 WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY SCHOOL	3	4 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Youth Group	5 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	6 Praise Team practice	7	8 Elders' Prayer Time
Tuesday MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 a.m. LADIES BIBLE STUDY 9:30 a.m.		11 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Youth Group Men's Evening Bible study	12 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	13 Praise Team practice	14	15 Elders' Prayer Time Men's Monthly Breakfast
Wednesday NIGHT SERVICE 6:30 p.m.		18 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Youth Group	19 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	20 Praise Team practice	21	22 Elders' Prayer Time
3rd Monday BOARD MEETING 6:00 p.m.		25 Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Youth Group	26 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	27 Praise Team practice	28	29 Elders' Prayer Time
30 WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY SCHOOL	31					



January Birthdays

3 Mike St. Amour	19 Larry Miller
5 Kelly Johnson	24 Kathy Weeks
8 Glenn Patrick	25 Mary Wagner
12 Ormand Hook	26 Bonnie St. Amour
Jeff Thorne	30 Sabastian Tolhurst
13 Matt Wagner	31 Chris Rottman
18 Pattie Morse	Cohen Garrod
Christie Pikaart	Tim Cook

Items on this calendar are subject to change

Food For Thought...

Christmas Meatballs

TOTAL TIME: Prep/Total Time: 30 min. **YIELD:** about 3 dozen.

Ingredients:

2 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 envelope onion soup mix
1/2 cup seasoned bread crumbs
1/4 cup chopped dried cranberries
2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
1-1/2 pounds lean ground beef (90% lean)

Sauce:

1 can (14 ounces) whole-berry cranberry sauce
3/4 cup ketchup
1/2 cup beef broth
3 tablespoons brown sugar
3 tablespoons finely chopped onion
2 teaspoons cider vinegar



Directions

1. In a large bowl, combine first five ingredients. Add beef; mix lightly but thoroughly. Shape into 1-in. balls.
2. Place a third of the meatballs on a microwave-safe plate. Cover with waxed paper; microwave on high until cooked through, 2-3 minutes. Drain on paper towels. Repeat twice with remaining meatballs.
3. In a 2-qt. microwave-safe dish, mix sauce ingredients. Microwave, covered, on high until heated through, 3-4 minutes, stirring halfway. Gently stir in meatballs. Microwave, covered, on high until heated through, 1-2 minutes.

Coconut Delight

Ingredients:

60 Town House crackers- crushed
1/2 cup butter- melted
2 sm. Boxes Instant Coconut Cream pudding mix
1 1/2 cups cold milk
1 quart softened vanilla ice cream
1 lg. container of Cool Wipe



Directions:

Mix crushed crackers and melted butter
Press in bottom of 9x13 pan
Mix pudding and milk, then ice cream
Pour over cracker base
Spread with Cool Wipe
Sprinkle top with a few more crushed crackers
Refrigerate until ready to enjoy!



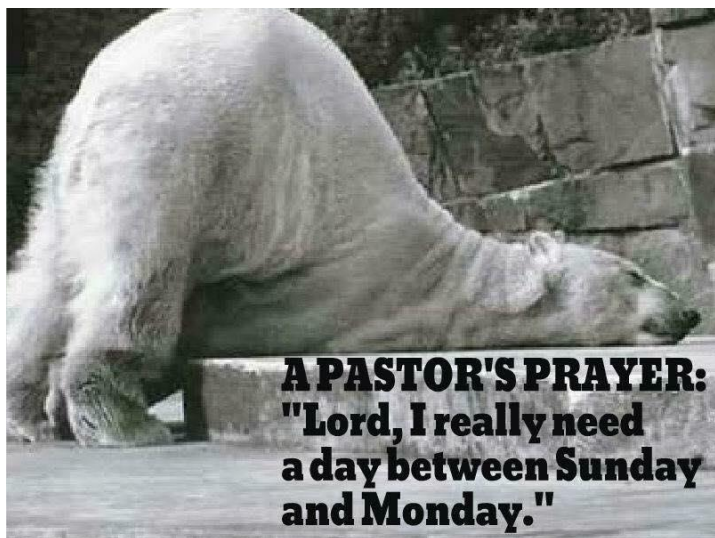
"...A merry heart doeth good like a medicine..."



((chrstphr))

@LasagnaEveryDay

My mom still hasn't noticed...



A PASTOR'S PRAYER:
"Lord, I really need
a day between Sunday
and Monday."

When God gives you the help you've
been looking for but you still choose
to do things your own way



When you run out of Christmas
wrapping paper



Bible Trivia... Fill in the blanks

*"My child, don't make light of the Lord's _____,
And don't give up when He corrects you. For the Lord
_____ those He loves, and punishes each one
He accepts as His child. Hebrews 12: 5b-6.*

ACTIVITY PAGE



Joy to the World



ADVENT
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BLESSINGS
CAMELS
FRANKINCENSE

INFANT
JESUS
JOSEPH
MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE

MYRRH
NATIVITY
REJOICE
STABLE
STAR
THREE KINGS
WISE MEN

