



Bethel church

DECEMBER 2017

From our Pastor...

We are entering into the Advent season. Advent is a season of preparation in which Christians look forward to the celebration of the coming of the Savior to earth. During this season we will gather and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who came to earth to save us from our sins. Each week we will light Advent candles that have symbolic meaning to us. Jesus is the light of the world that was born in Bethlehem to be the promised Prince of Peace. The act of lighting one more candle each week, on the four Sundays proceeding Christmas, tells of the increasingly brighter light of his coming and lead gradually to the blaze of light at the dawning of Christmas. There have been many meanings that have been attached to the advent candles. The one that we use recognizes the first candle as the Prophecy candle, announcing the period of waiting. The second candle is the Bethlehem candle, symbolic of the preparations being made to receive and cradle the Christ child. The third candle is the Shepherd's candle, which typifies the act of sharing Christ. The fourth candle is the Angel's candle of love and final coming. The fifth candle is the Christ candle, usually lit on Christmas Eve, in preparation for the full appearing of life in Jesus Christ. As we celebrate this Advent season, may your hearts be touched by the love of God and may your life shine with the light of life given to us by Jesus.

Straight Ahead!

~Pastor Doug

Gather your family and friends and join us for our annual **ADVENT FAIR on Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 6pm.** This is a great time to celebrate the coming of Christ with worship, food, fellowship and a variety of fun Christmas crafts for all to enjoy. Please bring soup or chili, cheese & cracker plate, and desserts to share. A \$5 donation per family is encouraged to help pay for the craft supplies. ALL are welcome!

Celebrate
the coming
KING!

Church Events

- Dec. 3 Advent Fair!
- Dec. 5 NASA outing
- Dec. 9 Safety Team
- Dec. 9 Family Builders party
- Dec. 10 CANTATA
- Dec. 10 House of Prayer
- Dec. 12 Upward Eval.
- Dec. 12 NASA
- Dec. 15 Teen Party
- Dec. 17 Kids Drama
- Dec. 24 Candlelight service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angel Tree



Single Again Lunch Bunch- You are invited to a Christmas luncheon on Dec. 6th at 1pm at the home of Bertie Stout. Please RSVP to Bertie 208-800-7541. You are not required to bring anything but yourself!

NASA- Nazarene Active Senior Adults

Dec. 5th - Join us for a night of Christmas fun viewing the lights at Caldwell's Indian Creek. Meet at the church at 5pm with finger foods to share. We will leave the church by 7pm in the church vans for the Caldwell Winter Wonderland!

Dec. 12th - Enjoy a cookie exchange and a fun Christmas sing-a-long. Please bring 2 dozen cookies (1 to exchange and 1 to share) and meet at 5:45pm.

Bethel Safety Team- We are in need of more volunteers to assist with our Safety and Security Ministry. Please meet on **Saturday, Dec. 9th at 9am** to receive details and training. Current member please also attend this meeting. Let's increase our team!

Teens Christmas Light Cruise is Friday, Dec. 15th, 5:30pm to 10pm. Please bring \$5 for Hot Chocolate on the town. After the light show we will return to the teen center for Christmas activities. All teens grade 9-12 are invited.

We invite you to share your Christmas photo / postcard with everyone by pinning it to our Christmas bulletin board in the foyer. Cards may be delivered at our Bethel mail center as well. Merry Christmas!

GIVE JOY TO A PRISONER'S CHILD THIS CHRISTMAS!

*We will again be participating in the **Angel Tree** gift giving for children of prisoners. We do this to let children know that they aren't forgotten and that they are loved by God. Every child receives a gift purchased especially for them as indicated on the gift tag as well as an age-appropriate presentation of the Gospel message.*

*Look for the '**Angel Tree**' in our foyer and choose a tag, purchase the gift, and bring it back to the church by **Dec. 10th** wrapped and ready.*

*Gift tags are also available for kids in **Foster Care** as well as kids in need from **South Middle School**.*

*Please follow the directions on the tag and return the gift to the church by **Dec. 10th**.*

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Registration is open for our **UPWARD** Basketball and Cheerleading 2018 season.

Fee is \$80 by Dec. 12 and \$90 thereafter.

Evaluation date is **Tuesday, Dec. 12th** between 4pm and 6pm. All participants must attend a basketball evaluation/cheerleading orientation. Come to register, pay fees, and get sized for uniforms.

Pick up your registration form in the foyer or go to our website www.bethelnazarene.org and click on the **UPWARD** tab for more information.



Christmas Services:

Dec. 10th - 9am & 10:45am - Choir Cantata

Dec. 17th - 9am & 10:45am - Kids Choir

Dec. 17th - 6pm - Kids Drama

Journey to Bethlehem-The Story of Christmas as seen through the eyes of Joseph. Performed by our kids grade 1-5



Dec. 24th - Services at 9am & 10:45am

No Sunday School classes (child care for birth - tiny tots)

Dec. 24th - 6pm Candlelight Service