

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

hen Orville and Wilbur Wright finally succeeded in keeping their homemade airplane in the air for fifty-nine seconds on December 17, 1903, they rushed a telegram to their sister in Dayton, Ohio, telling of this great accomplishment. The telegram read, "First sustained flight today fifty-nine seconds. Hope to be home by Christmas." Upon receiving the news the sister was so excited about the success that she rushed to the newspaper office and gave the telegram to the editor. The next morning the newspaper headline stated in black, bold letters, "Popular Local Bicycle Merchants to be Home for the Holidays." The scoop of the century was missed because an editor missed the point. As we enter into the advent season we need to make sure we don't miss the point. There are many parts of the advent season that are wonderful and meaningful. So celebrate the advent season but make sure we don't miss the point of the season. The point of the season is Jesus! "For God so loved the world that he sent his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16) We celebrate Jesus coming to earth to be our Savior! Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Straight Ahead!
Pastor Doug

Church Events

- Dec. 1 Advent Fair
- Dec. 3 Upward Eval.
- Dec. 4 Lunch Bunch
- Dec. 6 Teen Boys' Christmas Party
- Dec. 7 Teen Girls' Christmas Party
- Dec. 8 KIDS Christmas Programs; Work & Witness Meeting
- Dec. 9 Ladies' Ornament Party
- Dec. 13 Young Adult Progressive Dinner
- Dec. 14 Men's Breakfast
- Dec. 15 Choir Cantata;
 House of Prayer
- Dec. 17 50-UP
- Dec. 18 Board Meeting
- Dec. 22 Family Service
- Dec. 24 Candlelight Service
- Dec. 25 Christmas!

Look what's happening...

Advent Fair - Sunday, Dec. 1st @ 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, or a cheese & cracker plate to share. A \$5 donation per family is encouraged to help pay for the craft supplies. ALL are welcome!

Single Again Lunch Bunch- You are invited to a Christmas luncheon on Dec. 4th at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. You MUST RSVP with Bertie @ 208-800-7541 so she has enough food. You are not required to bring anything but yourself!

50-UP Cookie Exchange! Dec. 17th @ 5:45pm -Entertainment this month will be the Encore Carolers. Please bring 2 dozen cookies...1 to share that night and 1 for someone to take home. The sign-up is at the Welcome Desk.

Young Adult Christmas Party - Dec. 13th at 5:45pm We will be having a Progressive Dinner and white elephant gift exchange. Start line is at the church.

Christmas Cards! We have the church "mailbox" set in the foyer for you to deliver your Christmas Cards. Check it for ones you receive also!

UPWARD BASKETBALL & CHEERLEADING

UPUMRD REGISTRATION IS OPEN! **EVALUATION IS DECEMBER 3** DROP-IN BETWEEN 3:30-6:00PM

Register online through the link on our website or through the Bethel app. Early-bird price: \$85 (includes shorts or turtleneck for cheer) until Dec. 3. Add \$10 after Dec. 3 & deadline to register is Dec. 17.

SPÓRTS

Call the office if you have questions or would like to coach or ref.

Teen Babysitting Nights - Dec. 6th & 13th

Need a night out without kids? The teens are here to help. They will be providing childcare from 5:45pm-9:30pm for donations to their Guatemala trip. The kids will have fun activities and a snack. Signup in PromiseLand or on the Bethel app.

Teen Boys' Christmas Party - Dec. 6th @ 7pm At the Shoemaker's House.

Teen Girls' Christmas Party - Dec. 7th @ 5pm At the Bale's House.

Ladies' Ornament Party - Dec. 9th @ 7pm - We will be getting together for fellowship, snacks and ornament decorating. Everyone is invited! Childcare provided.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Dec. 14th @ 8am -

All men are invited to attend this Down Home Style Breakfast. Chaplin Mark Thornton from BSU will be the special speaker this month.

Angel Tree - thank you for your great response taking tags! We are still collecting cash donations to get each family a food basket. Mark your gifts "Angel Tree". Please have your wrapped gifts back to the office by Dec. 8th.

Foster Kids Gifts - there are just a couple of tags left. Please bring these gifts back <u>UNWRAPPED</u> to the office by Dec. 8. Please attach the tag to the gift.

Check the Sunday bulletin for our weekly activities.

2019 Contribution Reminder:

Only those contributions actually received by Dec. 31 or postmarked by that date may be recorded as given during the 2019 tax year. Checks received in the offering Jan. 5 but back-dated into December are not considered 2019 contributions. Donors having given more than \$250 during the 2019 tax year should delay filing their tax returns until after they receive their contribution statement from the church. IRS regulations require that the contribution statement be in hand prior to filing the return. Bethel Church contribution statements will be available by the end of January 2020. We switched church management systems mid-year in 2019, so donors giving before June 2019 will receive 2 statements this year. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Christmas Services:

Dec. 8th - 9am & 10:45am - Promise Land Kids Choir

Dec. 8th - 6pm - Kids Drama

Dec. 15th - 9am & 10:45am - Choir Cantata

Dec. 22nd - 9am & 10:45am - Family Services

No Sunday School, Childcare or Evening Service

Dec. 24th - 5:30pm Candlelight Service