

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

It had been four hundred years since anyone had heard a message from God. They knew the promise that God had made of the coming Messiah. So they waited in hope that he would come. That silence was broken on the night that the angels announced "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11) God broke into the silence with the amazing announcement that the Messiah had come. He came in a most unusual way, born as a baby in Bethlehem. The King of Kings entered our world as a humble, helpless baby. This is the greatest of all miracles. God became man. God became part of our family so that we could become part of his family. God became like us so that we could become like him. During this advent season we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrate the salvation that he gives to those who trust in him. We celebrate the future hope we have in the second advent of Christ when he returns to this earth. We have much to celebrate this season and it is all because of Jesus! May your advent season be filled with celebration as you remember all that God has done. Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Straight Ahead!

Pastor Doug

<u>Christmas Cards!</u> We have the church "mailbox" set in the fayer for you to deliver your Christmas Cards. Check it for ones you receive also!

Church Events

- Dec. 1 Lunch Bunch
- Dec. 5 House of Prayer
- Dec. 6 Ladies' Ornament Party
- Dec. 12 Kids' Christmas Programs; Family Christmas Evening Service
- Dec. 14 50-UP
- Dec. 15 Teen Christmas Parties; Board Meeting
- Dec. 19 Choir Cantata
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day
- Dec. 26 Family Christmas Service
- Dec. 28 Teen Winter Retreat
 - Dec. 31 Fellowship Night

Look what's happening...

Single Again Lunch Bunch - Wed, Dec. 1 @ noon.

Christmas party in the Fellowship Hall! RSVP with Bertie Stout if you would like to attend.

50-UP Fellowship Night - Tue., Dec. 14 @ 5:45pm

Join us for our Christmas Party! Entertainment will be Bell-Ring Praise Ministry. Dessert will be provided so you only need to sign-up if you can make it. If you need a ride that night, please also put your name down on that list.

<u>Family Game Night</u> - We are taking a break for December because of the busy holiday season. We will bring this event back in January 2022!

<u>Angel Tree</u> - There's just a few tags left! We are also collecting cash donations to get each family a food basket. Mark your gifts "Angel Tree". Please have your <u>wrapped</u> gifts back to the office by Dec. 8 and please attach the tag to the gift.

<u>Foster Kids Christmas Gifts</u> - Please bring these gifts back <u>UNWRAPPED</u> to the office by Dec. 8. Please attach the tag to the gift.

<u>Family Christmas Evening Service</u> - Dec. 12 @ 6pm All ages are invited to join us for a fun service of Christmas songs and readings.

New Year's Eve Fellowship Night - join us Dec. 31 @ 7pm for a fun game night to ring in the New Year! Please bring a snack to share and a game. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall.

*Consider giving non-perishable food items to the charities we support: Nazarene Care House & LOVE, Inc. Collection boxes are located outside the Fellowship Hall.

2021 Contribution Reminder:

Only those contributions actually received in the office by Dec. 31 or postmarked by that date may be recorded as given during the 2021 tax year. Please keep in mind that the office will be closed on Dec. 31. Checks received in the offering Jan. 2 but back-dated into December are **not** considered 2021 contributions. Donors having given more than \$250 during the 2021 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 emailed or made available by January 23, 2022. We will not be providing printed copies for everyone. If you need a printed copy of your statement, please contact Amy Slater in the church office.

<u>Deck the Halls!</u> - Join us Wednesday, December 1 @ 9am to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Many hands will make it go faster!

Ladies' Ornament Party - Monday, Dec. 6th @ 7pm We will be getting together for fellowship, snacks and ornament decorating. Everyone is invited! Wear your favorite Christmas sweater and bring your favorite Christmas cookies. Please let Tammy know if you need childcare.

KIDS Program practice - Dec. 10 @ 6:30pm

We'll practice our Christmas programs and then enjoy some Hot Cocoa and snacks.

<u>Teen Christmas Parties</u> - *Dec. 15 @ 6:30pm* - watch for details from Pastor Matt & Pastor Josh.

Teen Winter Retreat - Dec. 28-31 @ Trinity Pines

Registration is open for all Middle & High Schoolers! The registration form and \$50 is due to Pastor Matt by Dec. 12. Talk with Pastor Matt or Pastor Josh if you need a scholarship.

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Christmas Services:

Dec. 12th ~ 9:00am & 10:45am -Promise Land Kids Choir & Bethel Kids Choir Dec. 19 ~ Choir Christmas Cantata

Dec. 24th ~ 5:30pm - Candlelight Service

Dec. 26th \sim 9:00am & 10:45am - Family Services

(No Sunday School, Childcare or Evening Service)

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Liberty Quartet in Concert

January 2, 2022 @ 6:00pm

Liberty is a Gospel group based in the West with a full-time concert schedule. Whether or not you are a fan of Southern Gospel music, you will certainly enjoy the enthusiasm these men exhibit while serving and singing to the Lord. We will be taking a Love Offering to support their ministry.

