

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

n the book of Esther we read about a terrible tragedy that is about to come upon the Jewish people. At this time Esther is the queen of the Persian Empire. She has been put in a place where she can intercede for her people but she is fearful because to approach the king without an invitation could result in her death. She was encouraged by her relative Mordecai to go and plead before the king for her people. He told her "If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows that that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14) The thought that she had been brought into this position for that time motivated her to intercede for her people and she was successful. We live in challenging days but we need to understand that we are here on purpose during this time. It is no accident that we live during these troubling times. We are here for a purpose and that purpose is to represent Christ to our world. We are here to intercede for our nation. We are here to share the love of God with others. We are here to be lights in the darkness. We are here to help others find salvation in the name of Jesus Christ. This is our time so let's trust Jesus and see what he will do.

Straight Ahead!

Pastor Doug

Church Events

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 2 Liberty Quartet
- Jan. 4 Ladies' Bible Study
- Jan. 5 Lunch Bunch
- Jan. 9 House of Prayer
- Jan. 15 NMI Council
- Jan. 17 Secret Sister **Reveal Party**
- Jan. 18 50-UP
- Jan. 19 Board Meeting
- Jan. 21 Game Night
- Jan. 23 AWANA Sunday; **FPU Starts**
- Jan. 29 Grand-Parenting Class

Look what's happening...

<u>Single Again Lunch Bunch</u> We will meet in the Fellowship Hall on <u>Jan. 5th at Noon</u>. Bring a sack lunch. Call Bertie @ 208-800-7541 if you have any questions.

50-UP Jan. 18th @ 5:45pm - Entertainment this month will be Sisters Promise from Canyon Hill Nazarene. The meal will be Homemade Soup. Please sign-up at the Welcome Desk to bring a pot of soup or cornbread.

Christmas Cards! Check the "mailbox" in the foyer for cards you may have received! We also collect "old" cards for Carol Cox who likes to do projects for the kids with them. She'll take old calendars as well.

Secret Sister Reveal Party - Jan. 17th @ 7pm

Join us as we reveal the 2021 sisters and draw new names for 2022! Please bring a snack to share. There are new Secret Sister forms available on the gift table or stop by the office. Secret Sister is first and foremost a prayer ministry. It gives you the opportunity to pray specifically for a sister in Christ throughout the year. The monthly gift should just be a small token (\$10 or less) to say you're thinking about them. Talk with Tammy Wightman if you have questions.

Upcoming Memorial Services

Aline Nielsen & Becky Abell (combined) ~ January 7th at 10:30am

Lloyd Swaim ~ January 8th at 1:00pm Della Jenkins ~ January 8th at 1:00pm at Zeyer Funeral <u>Family Game Night</u> - Friday, Jan. 21 @ 6pm - EVERYONE is invited to join in. Please bring a favorite game and a snack to share. We'll also have Pickleball and Corn Hole setup in the gym. Don't prefer games? Come for the fellowship!

Ladies' Bible Study Starts Tuesday, Jan. 4 @ 9:30am "Unexpected" by Christine Caine. Leave fear behind, move forward in faith, and embrace the adventure. Books can be made available in the office for \$16. This study is led by Tammy Wightman. Please signup if you need a book and/or childcare.

Men's Retreat 2022! February 11-13, 2022 at Trinity Pines We will be hearing from Tony Evans "No More Excuses". Cost is \$100. Sign-up at the Welcome Desk if you would like to attend.

Financial Peace University -

First session is Sunday, Jan. 23 @ 5:30pm, which you can attend as a preview. This is a 9 week study. Come learn how to live your life DEBT FREE! Register online at www.fpu.com/1144900. Talk with Pastor Bob if you have questions.

2021 Contribution Statements - Statements will be emailed to the address we have on file by the end of January for donors having given \$250 or more in 2021. 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.

NEW CLASSES...

Grand-Parenting Class Coming!

Starting Saturday, January 29 from 8:30am-10:00am The curriculum we will be studying is "Grand-Parenting Matters" and we will meet in the Fellowship Hall for 6 Saturdays. Talk with Pastor Kym if you have questions.

NEW Sunday School Class starting January 9!

Steve & Deanne Barstow will be teaching a new class called "This Is Not Our Home". The first topic of study will be: What do you believe and why do you believe it. They will meet during our second hour of services at 10:45am in Room 106. Everyone is welcome to attend.

January 21-22, 2022 At College Church of the

At College Church of the Nazarene

Featuring "A Lifelong Love" by author Gary Thomas

Cost is only \$35 per couple! Please register by January 16.

Register at www.intermountaindistrict.org