



New Dawn

New Beginning Evangelical Presbyterian

Volume 1, Issue 12

December 2008



December

- 12/03 - Bonnie Woodfin
- 12/03 - David Carpenter
- 12/15 - Lynda Anderson
- 12/17 - Trena Kruis
- 12/17 - Jen Bozman
- 12/26 - Susie Alexander
- 12/27 - Jennifer Meachern
- 12/29 - Alex McEachern
- 12/29 - Omer Johnson

First day of winter
December 21, 2008

December 24, 2008



Christmas Eve

December 25, 2008

Merry Christmas!



New Year's Eve/Watch Night
December 31, 2008

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2008 December Calendar

Date	Time	Meeting
3	10:00 AM 6:30 PM 6:30 - 8 PM	Alanon Prayer Meeting Girl Scout Meeting
6	11:00 AM	Women's Luncheon @ Aardema's
*7	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service (Communion A #2) TOT Church (Stephanie Riser)
8	7:00 PM	Session Ministry Teams
10	10:00 AM 6:30 PM	Alanon Prayer Meeting
11	7:00 PM	Small Group @ Aardema's
13	10:00 AM	Praise Team
*14	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School A #3 Worship Service Tot Church (Robin Parsons)
15	7:00 PM	Session/Diaconate Mtg.
17	10:00 AM 6:30 PM 6:30 - 8 PM	Alanon Prayer Meeting Girl Scout Meeting
*21	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service #4 First Day of Winter Tot Church (Debbie Ponchot)
24	10:00 AM 6:30 PM	Alanon Xmas Eve Service Candle Light
25		Christmas Church Closed
December 26 - January 1, 2009 Pastor on vacation		
*28	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service Tot Church (Dennis & Alexandria Merriman) Pastor out of Pulpit

2008 Advent Worship Planning

11/30 - # 1 – Advent – A Faithful Jew's View of Christmas – Luke 2: 21-38

Today we consider the wonderful story of Simeon who prayed that he would not die before seeing the promised Messiah. Simeon is a devout, just man who, along with all the Jews, was looking forward to the promised Messiah; He was waiting for “the consolation of Israel.” What did the birth of Christ mean to Him and other believers? What should it mean to us?

7pm-Women's Ministries Advent Worship Service?

12/7 - # 2 – Communion – Mary's View of Christmas – Luke 1: 46-55

What would happen if we were fortunate enough to talk to the girl through whom God came to visit the world? The young girl, the virgin who name was Mary, the one who participated in the virgin birth up close and personal; the most highly favored teenage girl that ever lived. Can we even imagine what this event would be like for her?

12/14- # 3 – Joseph's View of Christmas – Matthew 1: 18-25

Today we are going to meeting an important figure is salvation history: Joseph Davidson or David's Son, better known as Mary's husband. He has been hanging around Christmas for a long time but I suspect that many of you don't know him very well. What can we learn from his perspective about the birth of the King of kings?

12/21 - # 4 – God's View of Christmas – John 1:1-5, 14

Today we attempt to look at Christmas from God's perspective as we consider the One who made the longest journey in history – the journey from heaven to earth. The Christmas journey is a cosmic journey that sounds too good to be true. Today we will consider where Jesus came from before he made the humbling journey from heaven t earth.

12/24 Xmas Eve – The Angels' View of Christmas – Luke 2: 8-14

Tonight we will look at the birth of Christ from the perspective of the Angels who announced His birth on that first Christmas night. The first Christmas carol was sung by angels! Don't you wish you could have heard it? What kind of peace did they announce and for whom is this peace intended? Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace for those with whom He is pleased.

12/28 - Pastor - Out Of Town

What Would Jesus Do?

by Jackie Peens

I've noticed that as I've gotten older, my patience level has decreased –dramatically. Where I was once a young, carefree spirit content with skipping down the halls, I now don't have patience for such things. I think this is partly due to the fact that I take my school work very seriously. I've realize how lucky I am to be able to go to school and receive a great education. I'm thankful for all the opportunities I'm given every day. So, it makes me mad when I see potentially bright students wasting everyone's time, including their own, when they sit in class and goof off. You know the type- loud and obnoxious; they sit in the back of the class and make fart jokes. Yes, times have truly not changed. I'm sometimes forced to ask myself before acting: "What would Jesus do?" I then compare what He would do with what I want to do. Somehow, I don't think Jesus would throw a heavy, 25 pound, book at a fellow student's head. So, even though I go to a public school where openly practicing religion is not condoned, the Lord is always at the back of my mind. So, fellow students of Jaqueline Peens, thank the Lord!!! If it wasn't for Him, you'd probably have a dent in the back of your head. I'm slowly working on becoming more composed, but it's kind of hard to do when you're in class discussing *Hamlet*, and students in the back of class start making farting and quaking noises.



Dear NBEPC Family,

Just a word of thanks for remembering Alyce and me on Pastor's Appreciation Sunday. We will enjoy using the Crestview Mall Gift Card with our family during the holidays.

We appreciate all of you more than you know and it is a joy to serve as your pastor.

The best way your can show appreciation to me is by doing what God wants you to do. I agree with the Apostle John who said, I have no greater joy than to see you walk in the truth.

SDG, Pastor Steve



I would like to personally thank each and every member of the Praise Team. The songs that you sing every Sunday always bring a smile to my face, even when I am not in a very good mood. It takes a lot of talent and nerve to get up on that stage to sing and play musical instruments. Keep up the good work and continue to inspire us each and every Sunday.

Robin Parsons



Sandra Fryer

Hello, I'm Sandra Fryer having lived in and around Huntington IN. Raised 7 children within the Methodist Church then to Presbyterian finding changes in live and worship necessity. God moves us to be where he can and help others as well as ourselves. I teach at church, public schools and private schools. I live at 510 Fox Street in Elsmere KY. Growing old surrounded by flower and bird gardens waiting for God to give me this assignment in life now. I rely on Gods up lifting prayers for my 7 children, 22 grand children and great children. I piece quilts for my life hobby, crochet, read Christian books, sing, listen to Christian music and wait to hear from you and meet you and your families.

Christian Symbols

Advent Wreath



The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as we anticipate Jesus' birth. The wreath's circular shape symbolizes eternity, or life without end. The candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World — he brought light and life to a dark world (see John 1:4-5). On each of the four Sundays of Advent, we light a new candle. As the light grows, so do our hope and joy.



Bible Quiz



Which of the four Gospels begins with the following words:

“The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Answer: B (See Mark 1:1, NRSV)

Christmas is proof

Christmas is a time to be happy! ... A time for celebrating and sharing. For God stoops down to be one of us, born as a poor baby so that we can be rich. He does not leave us to get along as best we can. He joins us where we are. God is committed to us. Christmas is proof that God cares. That is why we celebrate — and show our care in turn to those who need it.

—F. Hebart



What's so amazing about Christmas?

Consider this: God loved the world so much that he came visiting. God slipped into the world as a helpless baby, without fanfare or heraldry.

Think of it: The baby, born of humble parents, the man a carpenter, the woman still in her teens, scholars say. Jesus was born in a backwater town called Bethlehem, in a stable reeking with animal smells.

It took years before people fully comprehended God's self-revelation. Even John the Baptist, sitting in Herod's prison, sent a message to Jesus asking, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" (Matthew 11:3, NRSV). Jesus then explained that he was working miracles and bringing good news to the poor.

That became even more clear when Peter concluded that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16, NRSV).

What's amazing about Christmas is that it began in a manger. And today more than 2 billion people around the world celebrate Jesus' birth.



A Christmas blessing

May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,
The Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,
The Heart of Christmas, which is Love,
The Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

—Ada Hendricks

THIS GOES AROUND EVERY CHRISTMAS BUT IT NEVER LOSES IT'S MEANING TO ME.

Psalm 55:22 --- you really need to read this.
'Friends are God's way of taking care of us.'

This was written by a Metro Denver Hospice Physician:

I was driving home from a meeting one evening about 5, stuck in traffic on Colorado Blvd., and the car started to choke and splutter and die, I barely managed to coast, cursing, into a gas station, glad only that I would not be blocking traffic and would have a somewhat warm spot to wait for the tow truck. It wouldn't even turn over. Before I could make the call, I saw a woman walking out of the 'quickie mart' building, and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a Gas pump, so I got out to see if she was okay. When I got there, it looked more like she had been overcome by sobs than that she had fallen; she was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her. It was a nickel.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ancient Suburban crammed full of stuff with 3 kids in the back (1 in a car seat), and the gas pump reading \$4.95.

I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help, and she just kept saying 'don't want my kids to see me crying,' so we stood on the other side of the pump from her car. She said she was driving to California and that things were very hard for her right now. So I asked, 'And you were praying?' That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, 'He heard you, and He sent me.'

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely, and while it was fueling, walked to the next door McDonald's and bought 2 big bags of food, some gift certificates for more, and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car, who attacked it like wolves, and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and that she lived in Kansas City. Her boyfriend left 2 months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet. She knew she wouldn't have money to pay rent Jan 1, and finally in desperation had finally called her parents, with whom she had not spoken in about 5 years. They live in California and said she could come live with them and try to get on her feet there.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car. She told the kids they were going to California for Christmas, but not that they were going to live there. I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road. As I was walking over to my car, she said, 'So, are you like an angel or something?'

This definitely made me cry. I said, 'Sweetie, at this time of year angels are really busy, so sometimes God uses regular people.'

It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's miracle. And of course, you guessed it, when I got in my car it started right away and got me home with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow to check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find anything wrong.

Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that you can hear the flutter of their wings...

Psalm 55:22 'Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee.
He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.'

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

When in sorrow	John 14
When men fail you	Psalm 27
When you have sinned	Psalm 51
When you worry	Matthew 6:19 - 34
When you are in danger	Psalm 91
When God seems far away	Psalm 139
When your faith needs stirring	Hebrew 11
When you are lonely and fearful	Psalm 23
When you grow bitter and critical	I Corinthians 13
When you feel down and out	Romans 8:31
When you want peace and rest	Matthew 11:25 - 30
When the world seems bigger than God	Psalm 90
When you want Christian assurance	Romans 8:1 - 30
When you leave home for labor or travel	Psalm 121
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish	Psalm 67
When you want courage for a task	Joshua 1
When you think of investments and returns	Mark 10
If you are depressed	Psalm 27
If your pocketbook is empty	Psalm 37
If you are losing confidence in people	I Corinthians 13
If people seem unkind	John 15
If discouraged about your work	Psalm 126
If self-pride/greatness takes hold	Psalm 19
If you want to be fruitful	John 15
For understanding of Christianity	II Corinthians 5:15 - 19
For a great invention/opportunity	Isaiah 55
For how to get along with fellow men	Romans 12
For Paul's secret to happiness	Colossians 3:12 - 17

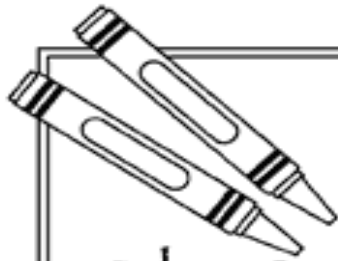
ALTERNATE NUMBERS

For dealing with fear	Psalm 347
For security	Psalm 121:3
For assurance	Mark 8:35
For reassurance	Psalm 145:18

**Please note: Emergency numbers may be dialed direct. No operator assistance is necessary. All lines to Heaven are open 24 hours a day!
Feed your Faith, and Doubt will starve to death!**

Faith is taking God at His word

Anonymous



Just for **KIDS**

The Story of Jesus' Birth

Jesus' birth is recorded in three New Testament chapters: Matthew 1 and 2, and Luke 2. Follow some important words about our Savior's birth by starting at a word beginning with the letter **A** and finishing with a word starting with the letter **Z**.



angels	Bethlehem	car	dance	easel
cat	bear	child	donkey	egg
fast	holy	glory	flocks	Earth
feathers	gap	inn	jacket	grapes
peace	quiet	hal	Joseph	king
Lord	only	righteous	shepherds	kelp
loop	Mary	night	unique	tidings
last	maze	paper	wise men	virgin
water	open	nest	word	excitement
young				

Answer: angels, Bethlehem, child, donkey, Earth, flocks, glory, holy, inn, Joseph, king, Lord, Mary, night, only, righteous, shepherds, tidings, unique, virgin, wise men, excitement, young, (saved by this baby called Jesus)

Dear Lord,

So far today, am I doing all right.



I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have charged nothing on my credit card.

But I will be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.



Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

You can't change the past but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.



God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

A hug is a great gift ... one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.

