

December 21, 2008

Pastor's Corner..... "Merry Christmas!" It always feels great to say that or have it said to you. I realize that not everyone who says "Happy Holidays" is trying to ignore Christ, but with the way our government and schools are going it makes it hard to swallow whenever I hear it. I was thinking the other night as I was shopping, "Why is it that I now feel like the out of place one when I say Merry Christmas?" Have we truly gone that far away from the Lord and the truth that we no longer celebrate Christmas? Presents, cookies, trees, and events are all nice but does the world realize that without Christ there is no Christmas? Are we Christians going to continue to remind them or will we eventually fall numb to the status quo of society. Please when you talk of the season make a point to wish all you see a Merry Christmas.

*** On behalf of myself, Alanna and the kids I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Christ-filled New Year!*

CHILD CARE - TODAY	Next Week
Nursery: MaryAnn Hill & Jenni Compton	Lena & Ronnie Ellis
Jr. Church: Virginia Compton & Carrie Ann Wielenbeck	Ellie Newsome & Kelly Sharpless

GREETERS: TODAY: Bob and Chris Nitz
Next Week: Jack and MaryAnn Hill

We will be receiving our annual JESUS OFFERING this morning. This offering is used to help those in need throughout the upcoming year.



**“A Peanut Butter Christmas” and “The Shepherd’s Story”
Tonight at 6:00..**

We will be having a time of fellowship and refreshments following the play. *Please bring finger foods, chips, and drinks.*

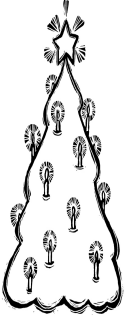
Please come out and see the kids. They have worked very hard. And plan to stay for the fellowship, too!

Prayer Concerns

Vicky Louthian
Ronnie Ellis (surgery 29th)
Ted Burkholder
Alanna Brown

Okie Kennedy
Christy Janney
Luke Sharpless
Jeff Morehead

All other on December prayer list



Christmas is the season for giving. God gave us His Son, and we have an opportunity to give to those in need as well. Listed below are a few opportunities to help others at this time of year.

** We have a family in the church that has a need of \$260. If you can help in this area simply put your gift in an envelope in the offering plate or give to the pastor and mark "Church Family" on it.

Christmas Giving

All gifts for the family we adopted must be in by tonight. If any questions, see Lena Ellis.

We are still in need of volunteers for two more events for next year.

- Feb - Valentine's Banquet
- Apr - Father/Son Outing

If you wish to head up either of these activities see Pastor or Alanna

Praise the Lord! Beginning in January, we will be supporting 8 individual mission works. They are the following:



- Claire Loquois (Phillipines)
- Henry Chatata (Malawi)
- Gardiner Gentry (Malawi)
- The Hendersons (Tanzania)
- The Reeds (Amazon)
- The Tavareses (Brazil)



The Davis' (Wyoming - church builders)

Homestead Community Fellowship Church (Jason Johnson)

Beginning the first week in January, there will be envelopes marked "missions" for you to place your Faith Promise mission's offering in.