

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH COURIER

DECEMBER 2020 EDITION



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Pastor Rod's Message	2
Deacon's Devotional	3
Health Ministry	4
Christian Education Board	5
Coloring Page	6
Dieselberg Update	7
For Your Information	8
Prayers	9
Calendar	10
B/days, Anniversaries, Ministries	11
Do You Know This Jesus?	12
Snowflake and Prayer	13

## OUR STAFF

Rev. Rod Beardsley - Senior Pastor

Debbie Dine - Secretary

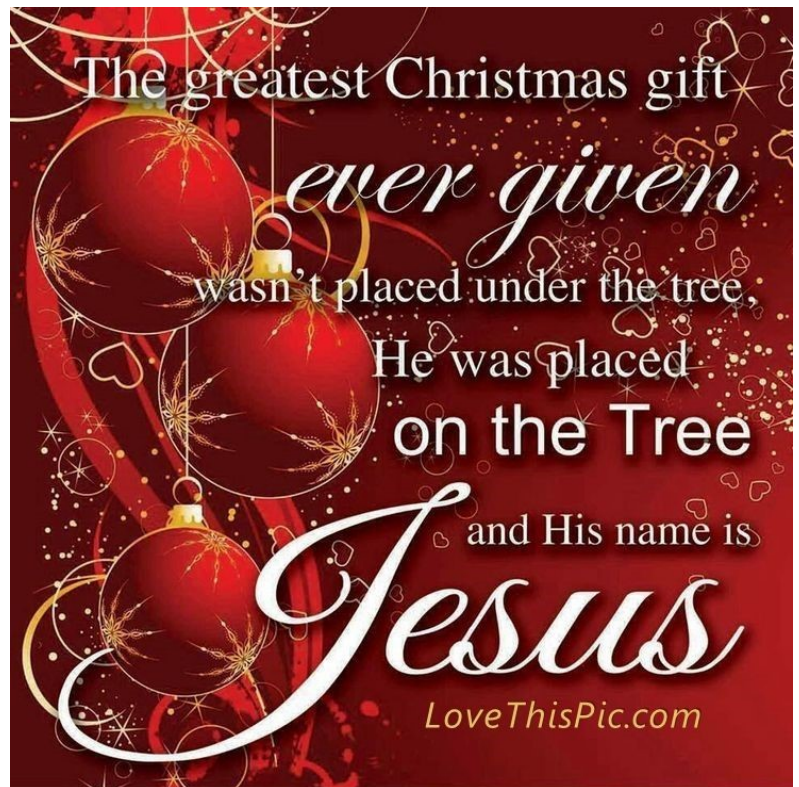
Email: [csfbc@zoominternet.net](mailto:csfbc@zoominternet.net)

Website: [www.csfbc.org](http://www.csfbc.org)

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8-5

Office is closed for lunch from 12:30-1:30 pm



## Live a Life that Matters

Sunday services: 8:45 and 11 am; Sunday School for all ages: 10 am

## CSFBC MISSION STATEMENT

“Infusing TRUTH to produce selfless followers of God.”

## PASTOR ROD'S MESSAGE

### Satan's first Christmas

Where was satan at Christmas when? Satan has access to the halls of heaven from Job and we know that he knew something was a foot. Maybe he even guessed that God was about to have feet. Satan must have realized the stir in heaven & he knew the plan that a human offspring would be his destruction (crush his head). But he only knew what he could figure out. See satan is not omniscient.

One of the most telling verses is "... *the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*" (1 Corinthians 2:8) When Jesus died on the cross, satan thought he'd finally won.

Lucifer tried on numerous occasions to destroy God's plan. In The Messiah's lineage is an obvious catalogue of sins and satan had been trying to obliterate the lineage of David from whom that righteous seed would come. Satan had been waiting for the right moment to kill this plan in its inception. But how was he to know that God would use a woman from Nazareth? He only knew the prophecy said from Bethlehem! (*Micah 5:2*)

The devil was tired of being a fool, that's why he was going to prevent this redemption God had planned. He was going to show God, even if he had to *kill all the babies in Bethlehem! Matthew 2:16* But how was he to surmise that God would import an unmarried couple from Nazareth to come to Bethlehem to give birth to the Messiah! Even if he would've suspected them, well she was pregnant without a husband. He would've concluded that, well the sinless lamb cannot come into the world through immorality, he was certain of that much.

Yet he was on the lookout. That evil one never dreamt that they Lord would use a census to fulfill prophecy? *This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. Joseph... to Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David Luke 2:2-4* God even used Rome's Caesar. Remember: *The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he wishes.... Proverbs 21:1* "It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd! *Isaiah 44:28* Even though satan's hordes were searching for this Redeemer, *she gave birth to her firstborn son; & laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7* Certainly, he'd check the palaces and the guest rooms of the wealthy. Still who'd look by the dung needing to be shoveled out of the manger for the incarnate God? *God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. 1 Corinthians 1:27* The nefarious one and his ilk to this day cannot comprehend that truth!

Even a sky full of angels didn't get his attention. *Lk 1:13* How does that happen? God doesn't allow you to see unless He opens your eyes to see. Consider Elisha at Dothan, or Daniel, Paul, the star right over the house- there's a neon sign. But satan couldn't connect the dots, that's when the murderer from the beginning decided to kill all the children in the Bethlehem environs. But who would've dreamt they'd go to Egypt which was synonymous with the bondage of 400 years? Can I remind you that, God has a plan & it works whether He leads you to the Amazon basin or to Erie. It's true about Christmas and it's true for your life! He knows how to rescue -protect the godly when we walk with Him. Even when it doesn't make any human sense. Christmas reassures us that God will always keep His promises- always! No matter what it costs Him! Is He born in your heart this Christmas?

Rejoicing in Jesus faithfulness at Christmas and every day,

*Pastor Rod*



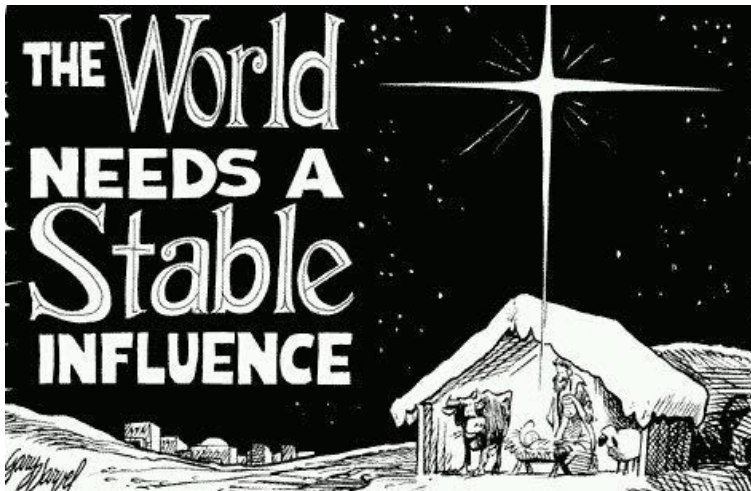
## DEACONS CORNER

In this time of political unrest and divisiveness you may feel like me and have the words of Psalm 82 come to mind. 1 God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgement among the "gods": 2 "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?" 3 Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. 4 Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the wicked. . . 8 Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.

We see so many in our nation who aim to be "human judges and 'powers that be' who set themselves up as little gods." As verse 5 says, They know nothing, they understand nothing, They walk in darkness. . . We can begin to be distracted or even feel overwhelmed wondering when God will show His Justice and expose these people for who they are and vindicate us Christians through his judgement.

Luckily for us, we can confidently leave this for God and in his perfect timing, and instead, focus on the stark contrast we see in Psalm 84: 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! 2 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. 3 Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself. . . 10 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;. . . 12 O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

Perhaps some popular praise songs come to mind when you read through this Psalm. Doesn't God love us even more than the sparrow he provides a home for? The psalmist envies the sparrows for being able to build their nests in the temple walls and live there permanently. How much more are we ensured to live permanently with the Almighty God as Christians. Not our timing but His. One day we will be "Home Sweet Home".



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-19-2014

IT HAD A STAR ON TOP SO I FIGURED IT SHOULD HAVE A MANGER AT THE BOTTOM



## HEALTH MINISTRY

### Peace Be with You!

**Would you like to feel more at peace throughout your day? Now, more than ever, we need to feel more calm, peaceful and secure in our lives.**

Feeling a sense of inner peace may seem elusive, especially in the world we live in today. It's easy to harbor negativity and feel a sense of anger, insecurities and frustration with all that is going on at this time in our world, country, states, communities and homes. We can get stuck in a continuous loop of negative stress and strife. It's normal and understandable.

Regardless of your circumstances, you can take charge and live a more peaceful life. How?

**Be still.** Quiet your mind and slow your breathing. Doing belly breathing, not shallow breathing, can help slow your down your mind and relax your body. At first, your mind may be noisy with lots of thoughts, but in time, you will feel a sense of calmness and peace. Sometimes quiet, soothing music or being in nature can help. Just a few minutes a day is a great start.

Consider prayer as a way to practice this stillness.

**"Be Still and know that I am God"** Psalm 46:10

**Power up.** Don't give power over your emotions to people who drain your energy and try to bring you down. Remember no one forces you to feel any particular way. You choose to feel a certain way. So be around energy enhancers, not energy drainers. This will help you feel more positive and in control.

**Be grateful.** Embrace an attitude of gratitude. Think of three things that you are grateful for each day and why. Maybe have your family say what they're grateful for around the dinner table, before bedtime or start your morning with a gratitude list. When you complain, feel negative, insecure, stop, acknowledge your feelings then think of how you will you respond in a respectful and positive way. Call a friend, reframe your thoughts to a more positive way of thinking that is more productive. For example, "What's another way to look at this?" or "I am grateful for this or that and I choose to be the change I wish to see." It's normal to feel negative at times, and, important to acknowledge your feelings. Control what you can by having a different perspective. What you are unable to control, change the way you look at what is bothering you so you can reclaim your emotions in a way that will better serve you and, then take action. Coming from a place of grace and gratitude will help you on your journey of living well. Be realistic and resilient and resolve that YOU can make a difference in your thought processes that will help you with any negative emotions you may feel.

**Phil 4:6-7** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

By doing these 3 things, your perceptions and perspectives can help change for the positive and help you feel more at peace every day.

Today, more than ever, we need to come together to help lift up each other, promote more peace within ourselves and realize that we are truly better together when we come from a place of peace and a positive attitude. It starts with you. You have the power through the Holy Spirit.

**Peace be with you.**



## Christian Education Board

Due to teachers being uncomfortable with teaching, going forward we will regretfully have to cancel Sunday School classes for the time being. I will continue to monitor the situation and keep you posted as to when we will be able to return to class. The situation might be taken out of our hands by the school shutting down soon in any case.



12-22  
© 2010 Bill Keane, Inc.  
Dist. by King Features Synd.  
www.familycircus.com  
“... When the shepherds came they had a place to park their sheep.”



### Congratulations to our outstanding scholars!

From Cambridge Springs Junior-Senior High School

Brett Kania  
Katlynn Baer  
Riley Zimmerman  
Parker Schmidt  
Gunnar Gage  
Nathan Held  
Aubrey Klemm  
Morgan Shaffer  
Jacob Jones

From Crawford County Career/Technical Center

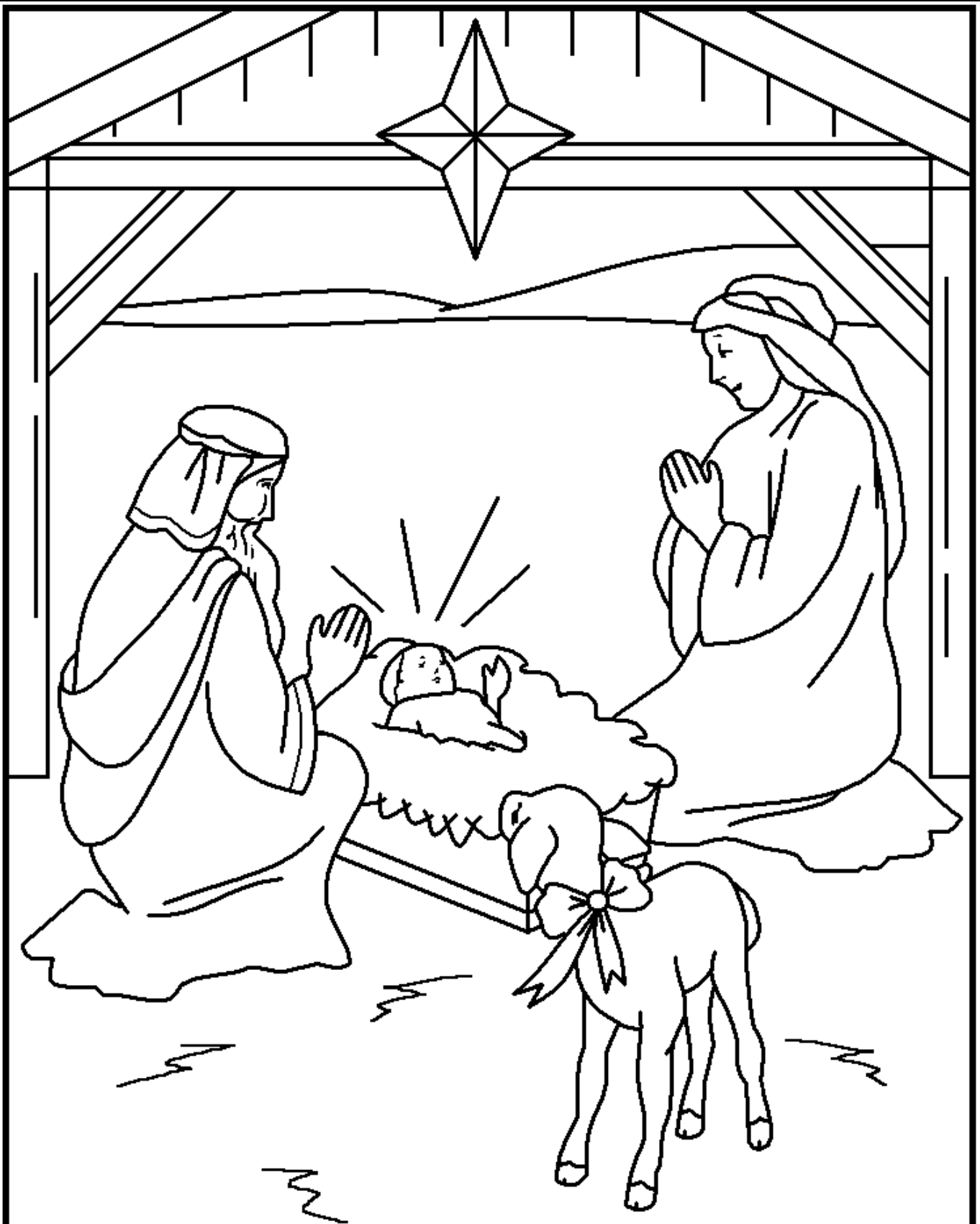
Jacob Jones ~ Diesel Technology

Cassandra Baer ~ Health Occupations

From Saegertown Junior-Senior High School

Everett Gardner  
Cassidy Boylan

Crawford Christian Academy did not submit honor roll list to the Tribune.



## Dieselberg Update

Dear Faithful Friends at First Baptist Cambridge Springs,

I just recently sent you a thank you/story about "M" and "J" and how I had the privilege of leading them in prayer to receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord. One thing that I have not told you yet is that "J" was involved in a VERY abusive relationship before she accepted Christ.

He is a heavy drug user and often gets violent when he is high or coming down off his high. Right after her coming to Christ "J" was totally aware she needed to get out of that relationship, but what she didn't know was that he would not be so ready to let go of her.

After two or three times of reuniting because of his begging her to come back (despite Annie's counsel to not do so) she eventually invited him to come to Song Sawang (our Thai church that "J" is now a part of).

For about 3 weeks he did not come back to church, which was expected because she got out of that relationship and now has a new relationship with Jesus. A power encounter happened between them. They both know there is power in the name of Jesus. The boyfriend needs to be in power and he has now seen "another power" more powerful than himself. He also sees how "this power" has changed "J's" life. And "J" has discovered for herself that Jesus has empowered her to actually make the decision to not reunite with this man.

If you are like me you are glad for "J" but also hopeful for her now ex-boyfriend. As we like to sing, "There is power in the name of Jesus. There is power in the name of Jesus. There is power in the name of Jesus. To break every chain, break every chain, break every chain."

"J's" chains are gone. She has been set free. Maybe her ex-boyfriend saw enough of Jesus's power in Sunday's worship that his chains might be next? I don't know. What I do know is that Jesus is power is stronger than any other power. "J" is a testimony to this as are all the women at NightLight who have come to believe in and follow Jesus.

Guess what . . . I saved it to the end . . .

Guess who got off drugs?

Guess who has come to Church every Sunday since then, except once?

Guess who has stopped abusing "J"?

You guessed it!! J's boyfriend!

I already talked to him this morning as he dropped off "J" at NightLight and he smiled and said, "I am not doing drugs any more and I will see you on Church on Sunday!"

Praise the Lord! Now, let's pray him into salvation and a relationship with Jesus!  
Will you join me? His name is "S".

Thank you for following this story as it unfolds.  
And thank you for supporting us and praying for us.

Blessings,  
Jeff

## For Your Information



Tuesday December 1st

Prayer Meeting

7 pm



Did you order a Christmas Poinsettia in honor or memory of loved ones? The Money is due Sunday Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 2020.



*Call the office with who you are remembering/honoring.*



The Ministerium will be having their Advent Devotions with a little change. Due to Covid19 the churches will be offering "soup to go" instead of gathering afterwards in the church. So come and safely enjoy nourishment for the body and soul.

December 2nd: Presbyterian Church

December 9th: First Baptist Church

December 16th: CMA Church

December 23rd: First Church of God

#### WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT



This year's Christmas Eve Service will look a little different that year's past. There is going to be two separate services in order to accommodate social distancing.

The **first service** will be held at 6 pm and **MASKS WILL BE MANDATORY.**

The **second service** will be held at 8 pm and **MASKS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED.**

We are also asking you to sign up for which service you would be attending in order to be sure there is adequate distancing available.

Thank you, The Deacons



## PRAYERS

**The Grieving:** The Held Family, Leona (Red) Smith, Lorraine Acklin, Bonnie Boylan, Brian Crowl, Betty Held, Tom Crowe, Lucas Crowe

**Cancer:** Chris Peterman

**Health Issues:** Rose Cummings, Randy Gorske, **Lee Manross**, Judy Santey, Reed Gage, Matthew Tenney, Sandy Mumau, Red Smith, Sue Davis, Brenda Beers, Keith Bancroft, Heidi Mumau, **Janet Beanland, Gary McCartney, Linda Roth, Karen Burchill, Kay Gage, Cindy Billingsley**



**Rehabilitating:** Janet Wise, Marilyn Dine, Patty Yenny, Cathy Williams, **Kim Marzke**

**Nursing Home:** Ralph Batchelor, Judy Klemm, Bill Hodge

**Military:** Dillon Lang, Keith Bentley, Howard VanMatre, Adam Alm, Jimmy Humes, Wesley Fleischer, Christian Ross, Austin Shearer, Wyatt Fleischer, Tyler Hauf, Bryce Kirk, Wyatt Doubet, Alex Baer, Joe Boyer

**Newborns:** Jonathan Held, **Lydia Baer**, Syrus Baer, Carter Longnecker

**Guidance:** Brian and Lynette Smith, Jen (Mitchell), Justin Fuller-Gaines

**College Students:** Madison Klemm, Mark VanMatre, Stephen VanMatre, Katie Duda, Jordan Anderson, Neely Colvin, Clayton Dingle, Zachary Dingle, Austin Jones, Jillian Risjan, Cori Schmidt, Ryan Shaffer, Alex Wheeler, Brenna Rindfuss

### **FYI~FYI~FYI**

1. Sunday School is suspended until in-person learning in the school district resumes.
2. Worship services will be suspended for 2 weeks when there are twelve (12) active Covid19 cases in the congregation. Please note that attendance to any worship service is at your own risk.
3. The church will be open Monday and Thursday evenings 6-8 pm for students needing Wi-Fi access to do their homework. Masks and social distancing required. Elementary students must be accompanied by an adult. Family groups must stay together. This is intended for use of Wi-Fi only, volunteers may or may not be able to assist with homework questions.

# December

## December Birthdays and Anniversaries



30th: Hannah Pabon  
 31st: Teresa Findlay  
 Samantha LaVan  
 Robin Oakes

1st: Bill VanMatre III  
 2nd: Bryona Baer  
 3rd: Christian Beers  
 4th: Mary Manross  
 5th: Andi Lundin  
 6th: Damarius Olsen  
 8th: Keith Held  
 9th: Mason Zimmerman  
 11th: Paula Steudler  
 12th: Brian Crowl  
 15th: Brenda Beers  
 16th: Brenna Rindfuss  
 Michael Held  
 Levi Mumau  
 23rd: Henry Sellers  
 25th: Annette Walczak  
 27th: Amy Boylan  
 28th: Ricky Smith



15th: Terry and Renee Terrill  
 Tom and Tenae Gage  
 17th: Pastor Rod and Barb Beardsley  
 21st: Tony and Judy Jardina



### **FYI~FYI~FYI**

1. **Sunday School is suspended until in-person learning in the school district resumes.**
2. **Worship services will be suspended for 2 weeks when there are twelve (12) active Covid19 cases in the congregation. Please note that attendance to any worship service is at your own risk.**
3. **The church will be open Monday and Thursday evenings 6-8 pm for students needing wi-fi access to do their homework. Masks and social distancing required. Elementary students must be accompanied by an adult. Family groups must stay together. This is intended for use of wi-fi only, volunteers may or may not be able to assist with homework questions.**



## Do you know this Jesus?

Come, see where He lays  
Good Shepherd and Little Lamb  
King of Kings and Servant of All  
Prophet and Prophecy Fulfilled  
Physician and Wounded one  
High Priest and Atoning Sacrifice  
Counselor and Rejected One  
Builder and Foundation Stone  
Righteous Judge and Condemned Prisoner  
Ancient of Days and newly born babe  
God and Man  
Do you know this Jesus?

### A Little Christmas Prayer

As Christmas nears, I am Reminded of the greatest gift,

# Jesus Christ

You Didn't even spare your Son, Because You Loved me,  
& this is how I, a sinner, joyfully returned to your arms.

Where would I be without my salvation?

My Life Would be meaningless I would not know

Grace & Peace. How wonderful it feels to have this gift  
of eternal life given so freely.

How generous of You, my God,

that You'd do this for me! May The Spirit Of Christ  
fill me to open wide my heart & hands, Help me share

Christ with those in great need of your touch

So they may see a glimpse of your wonderful Son,

Who gave His all because of Love.



## The Meaning of the Snowflake

Every new snowflake comes to earth as a picture of our Savior's birth, because they are sent from up above and remind us of God's care and love.

Each one is so intricate and small because Christ sees the details of us all, and just as two are never the same, the Lord knows and calls us each by name.

Snowflakes gently cover the world in white and hide what's unlovely from our sight, showing us how He covers our sin and gives us His grace when we come to Him.

So may every snowflake bring Christ and Christmas to mind and in every bit of white may you find a reason to celebrate anew and a reminder of His love for you.



*Lord, I set my heart on You. You are trustworthy, faithful and the Giver of the gift of peace. Please fill me this Christmas season. As others see Your peace in me, let them recognize You as Savior. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

*Merry Christmas to one and all  
from the staff of First Baptist  
Church of Cambridge Springs*

### A Marvelous Gift

from *The Gift of Jesus* by Johnny Hunt

*The judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift... resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. — Romans 5:16-17*

What is the most special gift you've ever received? Did you receive it on your birthday, for Christmas, or on another occasion? Through the years I've received some amazing gifts, but Jesus is the most marvelous gift ever given. And it is the most needed gift ever given.

The apostle Paul taught that by one man — Adam — sin entered the world, and death was pronounced upon all, for in Adam all have sinned. On the other hand, grace entered the world through Jesus, and a forgiven life and eternal life are available to all who believe. Adam brought into the world sin, offense, judgment, condemnation, disobedience, and eternal death.

Yet Christ brought grace, justification, righteousness, obedience, and eternal life.

Christ's death saved us from God's wrath. We now live with hope of eternal life rather than under the curse of death. We rejoice in God who, in His Son, atoned for our sins. Our justification is complete and irrevocable; there is no condemnation in Christ Jesus. And Paul confidently wrote that "he who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6).

What a marvelous gift!

### Prayer

*Father, thank You for the gift of Jesus. Thank You that because of Him I will one day stand before You cleansed of my sin, welcomed by You, and not condemned. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Excerpted with permission from [The Gift of Jesus](#) by Johnny Hunt. Copyright Thomas Nelson.

