



The

January 2021

Brrrrrrrr. It's January. Love Christmas. Hate January. Hate taking down the festive decorations. Hate thinking about the resolutions I know I'm not going to keep. Hate all the hating I'm doing! Actually, I don't hate any of these things. McKenzie uses the word hate, a lot. Most young adults seem to. I remind her, often that hate is a very strong word! Most of us use it when a far less caustic word would surely suffice.

Hate is something that is taught. It's not something that comes naturally. More often than not it's born out of envy or jealousy. It drives us away from one another and builds walls between us. **Hate is a word that lives in Satan's neighborhood.**

Jesus taught us to live one hundred and eighty degrees from there. He taught us to love. McKenzie once had to write a paper on love and what it meant to her. It contained typical teenage idealism, but it was from her heart and spoke well of her. Love is the flip side of hate. It joins us together, tears down walls and makes our differences fade away. It opens otherwise closed doors to our hearts and souls. It makes us reach out and share the joy of life and faith with each other.

Our church would not exist without love. It would be just another stone building on a street facing. God's love gives Christians their joy... the smiles on their faces... the ability to see hope when others see only darkness. Our Church glows with love. Every Sunday morning when I enter this beautiful building I am surrounded by love. It grabs my hand, offers a cheerful good morning and inquires of how I am doing. Love comes from people. People come from God... And the best people come from a love of doing God's work...

Live well... Laugh often... Love always...

Phil

Happy Birthday

Sally Nolen	5th
Marci Partin	5th
Roger Schamaun	9th
Harold Corn	19th
Sandy Anderson	24th
Bob Nolen	28th



Anniversaries

Look here each month for the special days of our church family. If you're not here, send me your family member's dates and I'll add them to our list. Everyone loves to share special days together.

Alaska became the
49th U.S. state on
January 3rd 1959

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**Let's just forget 2020
ever happened**

A new year!

Many are those celebrating the end of 2020. It has been a hard year, and no one wants to see the troubles we've experienced in it continue. We want an end of the pandemic, the politics, and the polarizations. We want 2021 to be better for us, and for everyone else.



We are hopeful. But, what if the world around us doesn't change for the better? What if it only gets worse? What if we are stuck with a new normal that we don't want to be normal? What if the troubles of last year become more personal in 2021, touching the lives of people we know, rather than those we don't know?

When the great Apostle Paul wrote his letter to the believers in Philippi, he said, "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13,14).

As we enter this new year, I believe that it presents an opportunity to embrace Paul's challenge. Our past with all of its fears and failures as well as its successes should not define our future. We simply don't know what the future holds, but we do know who holds the future, and He has promised to lead us through it.

Paul's challenge, in some ways, reminds me of wedding vows. In forgiveness of all that may have marred the past, and because of the good they've experienced, with complete trust in one another, a man and woman commit themselves to following God through whatever life may bring their way. In sickness and in health, in adversity and in prosperity, in joy and in sorrow, etc... I am sure that you can spot the similarities. They were evident to Paul, for after talking about the roles of husbands and wives in Ephesians 5, he concluded by saying that he was actually talking about the church.

As we strain toward what lay ahead in 2021, we will do so together. We must keep our eyes focused on Jesus. We must keep His Word in our hearts and minds. We must let His Spirit guide us. And we must take every opportunity to love on each other, and those we met along the way of moving toward our hope of heaven.

We may not reach the goal of being with our Lord in heaven this year, but the path we blaze toward it should be littered with acts of loving kindness. Just as Jesus' life is. We have to forget the past, its over. We have to embrace the future, its coming. So, Lord willing, when we come to the next new year, we can celebrate that we are still on the right path despite what has happened in our world, our nation, our state, our county, our church, and our homes. And as a result of faithfully following Jesus, we can also celebrate that we've made the sort of difference that only God's kind of love can make.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Doug



Who's Who in the Pews

Andy & Carolyn Stewart: We were both born in Oklahoma. We moved here from Washington state and retired here. We are both passionate readers. Prior to 2020, we loved international traveling.

Personally, we hope we can stay well to enjoy our later years. We also hope for the hatred to heal in our country to all just be Americans. We love the people in our church who are so loving and accepting of new members.

We have 2 children, both married adults, and 5 adult grandchildren

The Frame Game Who Is This?

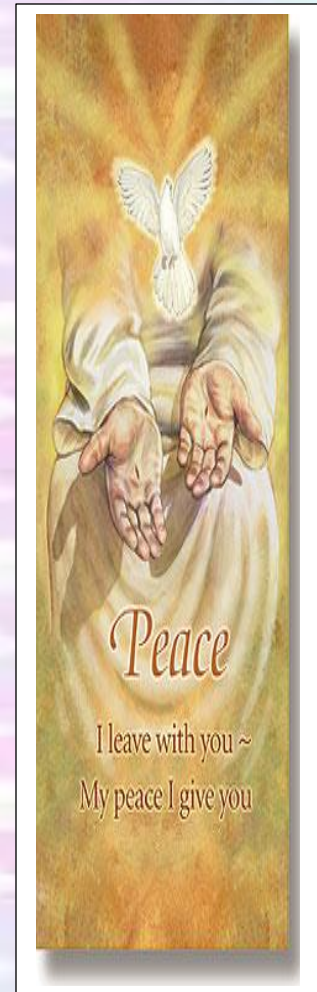


Last Month Was Patricia Cisneros



From the mouths of Little Ones

**Angels work for God and watch out for kids when
God has to do something else**





Emancipation Proclamation

January 7th


January 7, 1789, was the first presidential election in the United States. Only white men who owned land could vote. George Washington won the election and became the first U.S. president.



Ellis Island Begins

January 15th

On January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King, Jr., was born. He was a leader who fought for equal rights for black people in the United States. Americans celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day every year on the third Monday of January.



Your 2021 Trustees

Steve Hanson
Rick Hinckley
and
Cathy Hadley

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TRUSTEES

The Trustees shall be the representatives of the church in all 'LEGAL Transactions' and shall be composed of the

Chairman, Assistant Chairman, Secretary (of the Church Board) and an Elder. The Chairman of the Church Board will

also act as the Chairman of the Trustees. Trustee Meetings shall take place as needed. An accurate record of the procedures

will be kept by the Secretary of the Board and shall be presented at the next meeting of the Church Board.

See our website at:

www.lachristian.org

Elder Bob Houlton Welcomes You

In 1962 I was 6 years old and in the first grade when my family moved to Los Alamos and have lived here for most of my life since. It was a great community for a boy to grow up in and learn about life. I was introduced to the Christian Church while I was still in grade school, was baptized here at 12 years old by pastor Lloyd Dunn, and in 1976 was married to my wife Pam by pastor Bob Murphy in the old sanctuary. There are many more chapters to this story but I'll skip ahead to say that Los Alamos Christian Church is now our church home and family.

Serving as an elder is something that I look forward to and I am honored that this church selected me to serve in this capacity. I have studied church eldership formally and informally through the years of my life. The duties of a church elder are well described in the new testament scriptures and their role is a critical element in the health of our church body. The implementation of true biblical



new testament scriptures and their role is a critical element in the health of our church body. The implementation of true biblical eldership in our church was a key factor in my interest in serving as an elder. I hope to see great things in our church as we journey together into the future.

Church Leadership

See our website at:

www.lachristian.org



pppst.com

Your Elders for

2021

An Elder is elected for a term of 2 years but may continue by nomination for an additional one-year term for a maximum of four consecutive years.

They are charged with oversight, leadership, Support and education of our church family

Steve Hanson



Jim Gross



Bob Houlton



Lee Anderson

Rick Hinckley





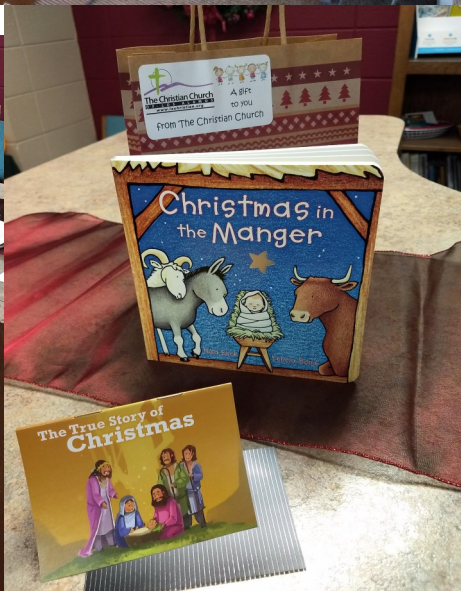
This year has been challenging to say the least. We knew that the outside construction would be... well, constricting. We were worried that Covid would be a challenge to say the least! But through it all, we were surprised to find how just strong our church family really is. You have shown a

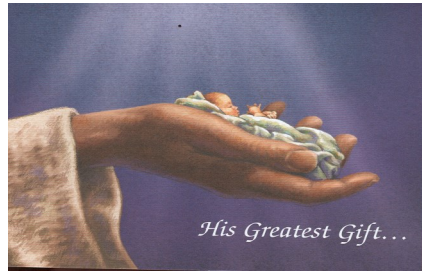
PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Willingness to support and share in the continued growth of our church! Between our onsite and online services, we have

shown that we are beating Covid and finally seeing light at the end of this dark tunnel.

Hallelujah!!!





**Christmas
Boxes
Donations**



THANK YOU FOR OUR BOX #17
Box #17
all the time!
Thank you sooooo much!
Thank you
Isaiah
SOOOOO much
Michael

God is good.....



Mayhem with the Mertzes

Bert and Lloyd Dunn were working on a building project at the Mertzes home. They stepped inside for a little break and as they sipped their coffee, Kurt came running into the kitchen yelling:

"There's a guy taking your tools outside!"

The two men scrambled to their feet and as they made it outside, a blue pickup truck was speeding away with their tools. They jumped into Lloyds's car and sped after him. Down toward White Rock they sped. Unbelievably the guy would stick his head out the window every now and then and yell at them for chasing after him. Lloyd turned to Bert and said,

"I know that guy. That's Joedon Takensteal. He's crazy as a coot!"

Soon, the blue truck left the road and giving chase, the two men followed him up and over low mesas and into shallow ravines. Where would it all end, they wondered? All of a sudden the thief slammed on his breaks, jumped out of his car and in a cloud of dust grabbed a tire iron from the back of his truck! Wow he sure was a big man.

The two men looked at each other and both had lost their color!

Lloyd turned to Bert and said...

"You know, I think... I think... I think we can probably talk to him about this another time!"

Bert replied. "Yah, yah I think that would be a good idea..."

The two men turned the car around and left... quickly... very quickly!



Will Lloyd need a hefty dose of Maalox?
Will he have tire iron nightmares?
Will Bert ever go driving with Lloyd again?
Look for the answers next month, in Mayhem with the Mertzes