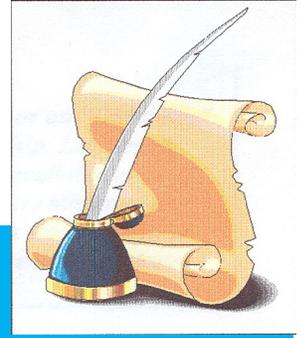


The Holy Post



FAITH

January 2023

I remember the Great Snow Storm of 1959. It struck northern Indiana with a vengeance, burying everything. We had to crawl out a bedroom window to get to our snow shovel, so we could unbury the front door. At the time it was great fun for a ten year old. But that storm took lives and made things near impossible for those needing emergency care! We had plenty of warning, but many did nothing to prepare.

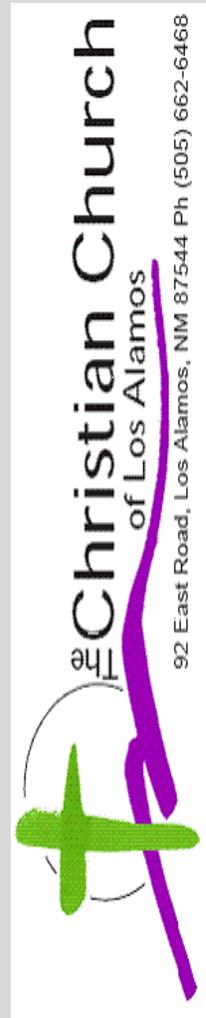
I remember 1968, when again, it happened. I was in Viet Nam. I almost longed for the deep snow compared to the miserably hot jungle I was in. People were in need of emergency care all the time and our Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) unit provided the medical care they needed so desperately. Here was a place where everything was prepared for and amazing numbers of lives were saved daily!

I remember 1977, when, yet another storm did the same thing and buried Chicago for three months. I was a firefighter, then and though I was in great shape and only 28, I worked my tail off wading through snow banks moving people with emergencies on gurney's in waist deep snow. Emergencies are a part of life. We all endure them... Some with good endings... Some not so much! I tell my girls all the time, in all kinds of situations: "Don't wait 'til the house is BURNING DOWN to call the fire department." In other words seek help early!

It's often much the same with our Spiritual Emergencies. There are always situations that happen at a moment's notice and you have to just work through them. But many are a growing, building kind of drama that we wait for the bottom to fall out, before we seek help. This church is full of many fine people and two ministers who will drop what they are doing when the need is there.

As a firefighter we kind of followed the Boy Scout motto of "Be Prepared." Don't just grab your Bible when you're desperate. Keep your friends close and your Bible closer. Don't just call Doug... when you need him. Be there for each other, always. God gave us a church body for a reason! Behind children, I feel friends in Christ are his greatest gift to us. But remember to have good friends you need to be a good friend! In Christ, nothing is impossible... and in all situations, He is with us!

Phil



Happy
Birthday

Brian & Sherisse
Smith
19th



Sally Nolen 5th
Marci Partin 5th
Roger Schamaun 9th

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.

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Happy New Year!



Are you resolving to be intentional about the changes that are certain to happen over the next year? That is what “resolutions” are really all about. For example, your physical fitness is going to change, you might become more fit, or less fit, but you can be intentional, and resolve to do something that will impact the change that is certain to happen. Of course, there are a lot of factors that are out of your control when it comes to physical fitness, but you could resolve to do something in regard to the factors that you can control.

You might want to be fit enough take a hike along one of our beautiful trails around Los Alamos without it completely wiping you out. To do that you might resolve to start tracking and taking 10,000 steps each day. Or you might decide that you are far too fit, and decide that you need to relax more often. And if you stick with whatever it is that you decide to do, your fitness will change one way or another, and it will be intentional. The same can be said in regard to your spiritual fitness. It is also going to change over the next year. It might be for the better, or it might be for the worse.

I’ve always liked the apostle Paul’s spiritual fitness resolve to “live for Christ.” And I’m not alone in liking it. A lot of believers have come to call this lifestyle choice “surrendered living.” And there are a lot of resolutions you can make that will, intentionally, impact how well you end up living for Christ this next year.

Our daily choices that result in surrendered living are ultimately based on how well we know the Bible. And I’m not talking about knowing it like an academic subject, I’m talking about becoming more familiar with the stories in it so that you can recall them in a way that will help you think about how you should respond when faced with decisions that you have to make.

So, I have resolved to focus my sermons this year on the 52 Key Bible stories that lay a foundation for our faith and practice. I thought, at first, that the problem would be coming up with enough stories for each Sunday of the year, but as I looked at several resources that provide lists of the best, favorite, and most important Bible stories, I discovered quickly that the real challenge was going to be limiting this series to only 52 stories. There really are a lot more Bible stories that are also important than the 52 that we will cover this year.

The other problem I had in limiting this series to 52 stories is that I am a little bit biased against making lists, because I was taught that when you say less than what the Bible says you’ve said too little, and if you’ve said more than that the Bible says, than you’ve said too much. But I still feel that this approach is going to be a lot better than challenging you to read the Bible in a year. A lot of people make that sort of resolution, but don’t get very far into the Bible.

I am relying on a list of the 52 Key Bible stories from Rose publishing. They have a pamphlet that you can get for \$5, or \$4 for the pdf version. It provides a short summary of each of these stories and the important lessons to be learned from them. I’ll be sharing a link to their website through email later this week if you want to get one for yourself.

It is my prayer that we live for Christ better than we have ever done before in 2023.

Who's Who in the Pews



Will & Char Hutchison: Came to Los Alamos from Belen NM, where Charlene grew up. Will was originally from Grafton, North Dakota. They came for work at LANL.

They are avid video game enthusiasts. Charlene is also a part of the Hillstompers of Los Alamos.

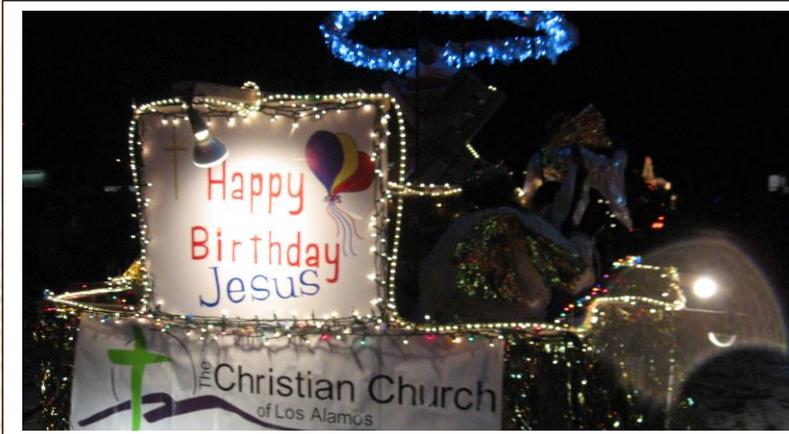
They wish for a more calm and friendly world.

They love the friendly and welcoming environment our church provides. They felt at home right away! They have a son, Liam, age two.

The Frame Game

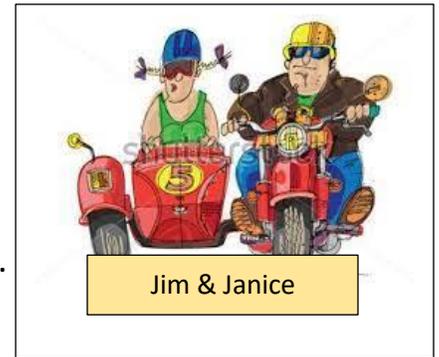


**Last month was
Pat McCleenehan**



Easy Riders...

Jim and Janice Gross have been avid motorcycling enthusiasts since 1966, when he bought his first Honda 90. In 1970 he bought his first BMW motorcycle and they've explored the world, ever since.

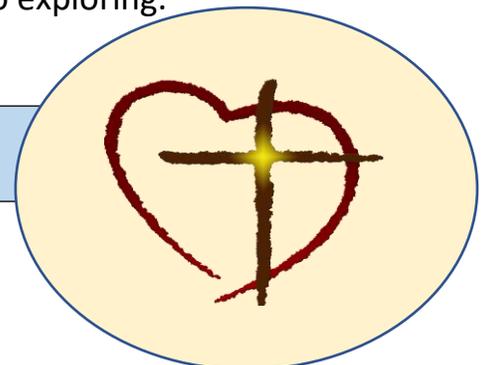


For the last five years Jim has shared videos of their travels with Dorii and me and we have loved them. We kind of travel the world vicariously through their entertaining excursions. The sights and sounds of the open highway and back roads of the western United States have been eye opening and exhilarating. Everything from Northern Idaho to the mountains of North Dakota and Mount Rushmore have filled our big screen TV, while we sat back and watched and ate scrumptious, buttery popcorn. He even added classical music to sooth the soul.

Canada, Alaska, most of the western and north-western states, some of the Eastern states even Europe has been on their map, as well. What a joy it has been for us to watch... and Janice adds still photos and relevant information all along the way for points of interest. Janice adds that she loved the amazing castles of Europe and the delicious strawberries of Norway. They, also love sharing their views with other Christians, they meet along the way.

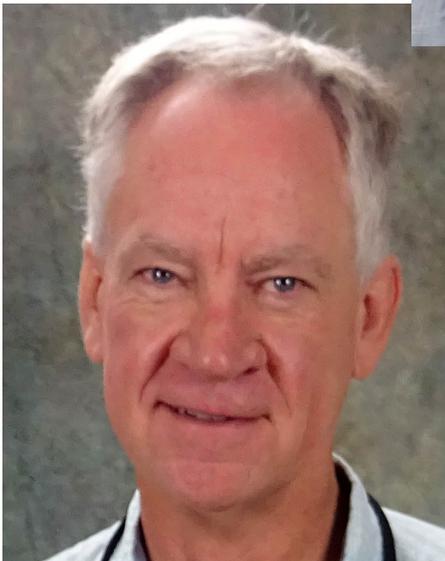
Now, they have added a side car to make the travel more comfortable for Janice and their most precious friend, Quincy they're mail-box sized dog. Janice says since adding the side car she notices that many people wave and smile, as they cycle by. Jim says he loves the smells, fresh air and feeling of freedom, along the byways. Seeing all around him, from the big sky, even to the pavement below is something he can't live without. Sometimes, they even sing gospel songs as they ride down the roads! For the colder trips they even have electric thermal outfits to keep them snug as a bug in a rug. He has no intention of giving it up, as long as he is able to ride and you can be sure Janice and Quincy will be right alongside of him filming and enjoying everything as they go exploring.

Living & Sharing as Christians



CHURCH *Leadership*

**We look forward
to sharing them
with you in faith**



Your 2023 Trustees

Bob Houlton

Lee Anderson

Sandra Hughes

and

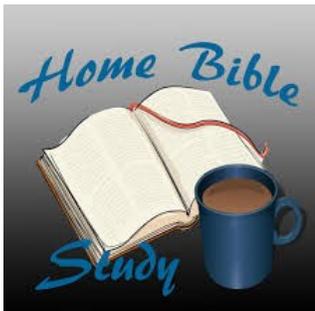
Steve Hanson

2023



50's+ Festivities

Our newest group met at the Gross home in December and was well attended. Christmas delights were served and a good time was had by all. This is a new group for the entertainment of our “little bit” older folks, but certainly open to all who wish to attend.



A Christmas home Bible Study finished just before the holiday, hosted by the Kiersteads. There will be a new class coming up soon. Look for the details here in the Holy Post.

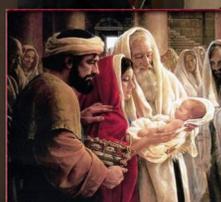
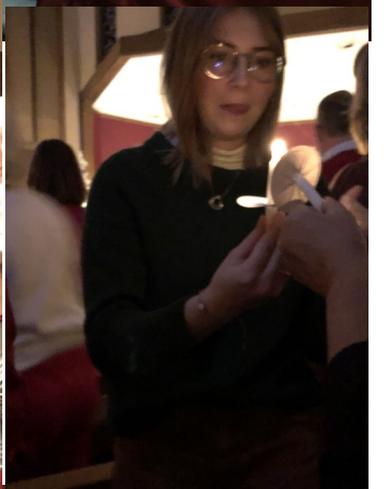
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TRUSTEES

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.



*Christmas
Eve
Service*



The Banks Family shared a Special day with their two children, Madi and Noah. The two were Baptized by our Intern, Matthew.



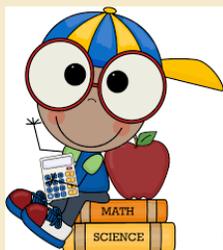
Welcome





Elizabeth Brosha
and Celeste
El-Darazi gift us
with harp music
for a Sunday
morning Service

Pastor Steve and the
"Kiddies" work through a
Sunday morning Children's
Time





Mayhem with the Mertzes

Grandma Uteesia didn't know if Farvel had learned his colors and other things a child his age should be learning, yet. So, she decided to test him. She would point out things and ask what color it was or how many of them there were or where you would find things like that. Farvel would tell her and he was always correct.

"Now what color is the sofa, dear? She asked.

"Brown, Grandma," he replied.

"How many trees are in the front yard, dear?"

"Four, Grandma," he shot back.

It was fun for him, so she continued. And on and on it went.

Finally, he headed for the door. He turned to her saying sagely,

"I'm gonna go play for awhile, Gramma. I'm tired of teaching you things you should already by know.

Aren't Grandmas great?
Isn't Farvel patient with her?
What color are Farvel's trucks?
Look for the answers next month in
Mayhen with the Mertzes

