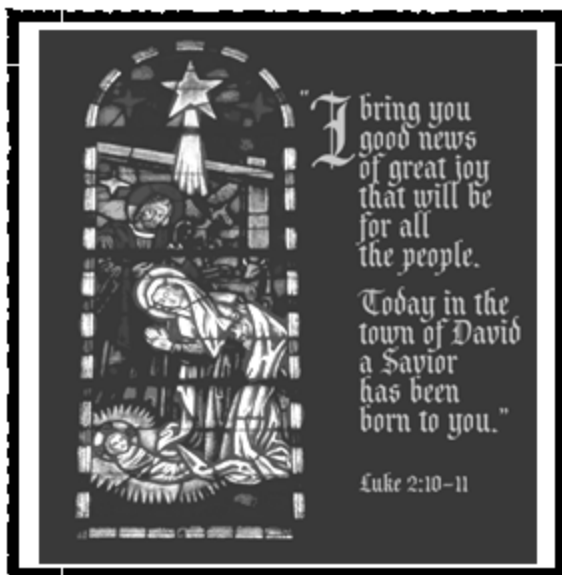


# **Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS**

**December 2007 Newsletter**  
**"Communicating the Love of Jesus"**



## **Worship Hours:**

**Traditional Service: 8:00 a.m.**

**Christian Growth Hour: 9:15 a.m.**

**Contemporary Service: 10:30 a.m.**

## Living Word Lutheran Church

Located on the West of Spicer on Cty Rd 10...  
in old Prairie Meadows building...  
PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273...  
Phone: 320-796-0742...  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)...



## Questions for Pastor...

Don't you think it's horrible that "Happy Holidays" has replaced "Merry Christmas"?

Short Answer: Yes and no.

(How's that for diplomacy - or just being wishy-washy?)

Longer, detailed answer:

First off, I greatly appreciate you being concerned that Christ is being taken out of our Christmas celebrations. He *is* the reason that we have hope during the darkest time of the year (and the rest of the year too). Christ is the reason for our December 25 celebration. Thank you for wanting to keep it that way! Now, on to the "yes and no" part of the answer.

As a *Christian citizen of a country that has a largely Christian heritage*, the answer is "Yes" It kind of ticks me off that a relatively few people are trying to erase all evidence of our Christian heritage. Taking "God" out of the Pledge of Allegiance or the Ten Commandments out of the courts or manger scenes off Post Office lawns just because a few people claim to be offended seems to me to be "just silly" (at best). From the sounds of it, many, many more people are offended by the removal of these Christian heritage reminders than are offended by our continuing use of them.

As U.S. citizens we also need to remember Jesus' words, "*Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's.*" In other words, give your government what you owe your government. In a democracy, one of the things we owe our government is our voice. For a democracy to succeed the people need to voice their thoughts and concerns. We have a responsibility to voice our concerns about the removal of our heritage. (But... it seems to be media and business - not the government - that are doing away with "Merry Christmas," so you have a right to let them know you prefer Merry Christmas, because it is our heritage.)

*On the other hand, from the perspective of a Christian who is a citizen of God's eternal kingdom and who believes that people need to trust in Jesus in order to live forever in that kingdom... the answer is "No."* It

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really doesn't matter to me what kind of greeting other people use during December. This may seem kind of strange, but think about it: Is anyone going to put their faith in Jesus as a result of hearing "Merry Christmas" instead of "Happy Holidays"? Not very likely. In fact, if everyone says "Merry Christmas" no one gives the greeting a second thought. But if most folks are saying "Happy Holidays" and you respond with something different (like "Merry Christmas") that may actually cause someone to stop and think about the words you just spoke. (And maybe ask "why?" which would give you a chance to point them to Jesus). Remember, God can always take things we see as "bad" and turn them into a "good" opportunity to be a witness for Christ.

With that in mind, as Christians who want other people to know Christ, we must always be aware of that our actions are a witness about Christ to the people who don't really know Him.

We should be thinking about the impression our

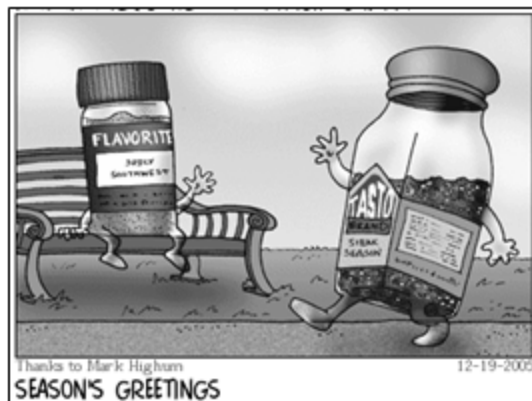
actions give to those who don't know Jesus. For example, what impression of Christ do "whiny" Christians give? Not a good one. And, I would guess, that non-Christians see us as just a bunch of whiners when all they hear this time of year is how we are miffed at not hearing "Merry Christmas." Chances are our complaining isn't leaving them with a positive image of Christ.

So, what do you do? Go ahead and wish people a Merry Christmas. In a world of "Happy Holidays" it may make them stop and remember what the holiday is really about. But don't get overly bent out of shape when they wish you a Happy Holiday in return. Whining isn't the best witness to the Christ whose birth you are celebrating. (Maybe it will help to also know that "holiday" is simply short for "holy day" - a day set apart for the Lord. And isn't that really what Christmas is?)

Thanks for asking ,

Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)



## Mark Your Calendars...

Wednesdays: December 5, 12 & 19  
Advent Midweek Worship

### *"The Gift of Imitation"*

It's been said that "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." God doesn't need our compliments, but He has created us to "be imitators of God." (Ephesians 5:1).

In Advent Midweek Worship: , December 5 & 12 & 19 @ 7:30  
The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation class will assist us in imitating Jesus with sermon messages based on their recent Bible study *Just Like Jesus*.

The Igniters' Youth will serve Ice Cream and toppings for a time of fellowship following each service.

Please take time to prepare your life for Christmas by attending Advent services.

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### Sunday, December 23 Christmas Program and Christmas Dinner

Program: @ 4:00 p.m.  
Dinner: @ 5:00 p.m.

( Program practice Saturday, from 9:30-11:00, Dec. 1,8,15,22)  
Invitations are available to give or mail to friends and neighbors. Talk to Mona Hjelle

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### Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 24th @ 5:00 p.m.

The entire service is held in candlelight. The Christmas story in Word and song, plus Lord's Supper.

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### Christmas Day Service December 25th @ 9:00 a.m.

**Invite Someone To Our Christmas Program or  
Christmas Eve Worship**

It's a very simple way to share Jesus with someone.

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## Coming Soon...

### Two Really Big Things Starting January 5:

- 1) We combine two Sunday services into one 10:00 a.m. service

At our October Voters' Assembly the congregation decided that God was indeed leading us to combine our 8:00 traditional service and 10:30 contemporary service into one worship service. So, beginning Sunday, January 5, we will begin a year-round Sunday schedule (no changing for the summer months) with one Sunday worship service at 10:00.

This means that the Christian Growth Hour (Sunday School and Adult Bible Forum) will also start at a new time - 8:45 - on January 5.

The question has been raised about the "style" of this service. Will it be traditional or contemporary or a combination of both? Will we alternate with one style one week and another the next?

At this point we envision something similar to our combined worship services of previous summers. That means we will attempt to incorporate elements of both traditional and contemporary. The style will also be dictated to some degree by the musicians that are available to lead us that day. (The music folks will be meeting the first Sunday of this month to hammer out more details).

- 
- 2) We begin to use the new hymnals.

Back in September we received a donation of seventy new hymnals from the church in Browns Valley that had flood damage earlier this year. Their insurance company replaced their hymnals, so they generously donated their "old" ones (just 6 months old). Each week in our traditional service we have been getting used to some of the songs and liturgies in that new hymnal. On January 5, we will "break them out" for full time use.

### All Stars for Jesus

**Wed., Dec. 5:** A fun evening for 1-3rd Graders and 4-6th Graders

The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade confirmation students have a special evening planned this month for the All Stars groups (1-3rd Grade and 4-6th Grade).

## A Minute For Parents...

### TEACHING THE FAITH AT CHRISTMAS

God commanded the Israelites to hold yearly celebrations commemorating major things He had done for them. (e.g. Passover). One purpose for these annual celebrations was so they would never forget what God had done (God knows how quickly we forget things He does for us). Another purpose was to force the people to *tell their children* what God had done. (The quickest way to forget what God has done is for one generation to not tell the next generation.)

Although God never commanded us to celebrate Christ's birth, it is a great thing to do each year, because it forces us to stop and think about the great thing God did for us in sending His Son to earth. It also gives us an opportunity to tell (or remind) our kids about Jesus. Here are some tips on ways to make sure your kids don't grow up thinking that Christmas is really about spending a lot of money or "some really fat chimney sweep who dresses in hideous clothes and never shaves."

**Quick tips to help you set an example of what the REAL Christmas celebration is about:**

1. **In your prayers at supper**, include a prayer for each person you received a Christmas card from that day.
2. **Invite someone to join you for one or more of the special services** (Advent midweek, Wednesdays @ 7:30; Christmas Program/Dinner @ 4:00 on December 23; Christmas Eve Candlelight @ 5:00; Christmas Day @ 9:00) Many people who wouldn't accept an invitation other times, will accept one this time of year.
3. **Give your lighting scheme a "Jesus" theme** by having a star or cross as the central focus.
4. **When decorating the tree**, take time to read the Christmas story and have everyone share what Jesus birth means to them. Don't forget to point out some of the aspects of the tree that remind us of Jesus.
5. **Have everyone write down (or draw and color) gifts they will give Jesus**, then wrap these in little (or big) boxes and put them under the tree. Open and read them when you open your other gifts
6. Remember: **The "perfect" Christmas** isn't made perfect by gifts, or food, or traditions, but simply by celebrating Jesus and His presence.

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## So That The World May Know...

### WISH LIST UPDATE:

Here are the items people included on our November "Wish Lists" for the new building:

#### **Windows/Lighting**

- One stained glass window at the front of the sanctuary
- Other sanctuary windows clear with a "church" look
- LOTS of windows - natural light in as many rooms as possible

#### **Fellowship / Gym**

- Basketball / Volleyball court
- rock wall
- running / walking track
- little kids toys
- big kids toys
- Big ROUND tables in the fellowship area
- Start with a multi-purpose gym add other areas as we go.

### THE NEXT STEPS:

1. Make the final payment on our land (between Christmas and New Year)
2. Building Committee meets to complete visits of other churches, compile "Wish List" ideas and begin looking at possible architects.

### STEPS COMPLETED THIS MONTH:

Wish Lists finished.

## What Do Missouri Synod Lutherans Believe ?

**BEGINS: TUESDAY, December 4 & 28, from 6:30 - 8:00.**

This class covers the basics of our faith. We'll tackle basic questions of belief and also attempt to answer whatever other specific questions you have about what we at Living Word believe.

This class also serves as the instruction class for those interested in discipleship (membership) here at Living Word. Please talk to pastor if you have questions about the class or would like to attend.

## E-Mail Wisdom...

The following is the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the 'Peanuts' comic strip. You don't have to actually answer the questions (although you can try). Just read the e-mail straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. (Everyone but Pastor) Name the World Series winners since 2000.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier? The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that have the heart of Jesus.

One final question: How will this reminder change your Christmas plans?

### GUYS, PLEASE NOTE :

We will be soon be starting a Men's Group. Our kickoff activity will be a weekend service project in SE Minnesota helping rebuild some of the flooded out homes. Watch for details on an initial get-together to plan for this special service project.

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## Parents of Confirmation Students

Our next "Parent" class is Wednesday, December 5.

We'll take a look at another aspect of "FAITHfully Parenting Teens" I'll also update you on your student's progress in confirmation. Then I would like to spend a little time getting your input on some youth activities for the coming year, so bring your ideas (and your teen's ideas) on some fun, faith-building events and mission trips, etc...

REMINDER: The Students will host the All Stars for Jesus that night.

Is Christ in your Christmas?



(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-23-2004

EACH YEAR AT XMAS THOSE XIANS CELEBRATE  
THE BIRTH OF X




## E-Mail Humor...

A guy goes into the doctor's office. There's a banana stuck in one of his ears, a carrot stuck in one nostril, and a cucumber in the other ear. The man says, "Doc, this is terrible. What's wrong with me?" The doctor says, "Well, first of all, you're not eating right."

## Operation Christmas Child

( We collected over 25 shoe boxes filled with the love of Jesus! Thank You! )

# December Living Word Lutheran Church - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 8:00 Traditional Worship w/Lord's Supper 9:15 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:45 Fellowship  6:00 Sr High Study / Orlando Group	<b>3</b> Pastors' Conference @ Willmar	<b>4</b> NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's  6:30 *What LC-MS Lutherans believe*	<b>5</b> Noon Revelation Study 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus 6:30 Confirmation Parents 7:30 Advent Worship *Gift of Imitation* 8:15 Ice Cream Filwshp	<b>6</b> 7:00 Elders' Team  7:00 LWML	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> 9:30 Christmas Program Practice  11:00 - 5:00 Bell Ringing @ Kandi Mall  11:00 Bake Sale @ Kandi Mall
<b>9</b> 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:15 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum: Creation 10:30 Contemporary Worship 11:45 Fellowship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	<b>12</b> Noon Study (Topic TBA)  6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Advent Worship *Gift of Imitation* 8:15 Ice Cream Filwshp	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30 Christmas Program Practice
<b>16</b> 8:00 Traditional Worship / L.S. 9:15 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School / Adult Forum: Creation 10:30 Contemporary Worship/LS 11:45 Fellowship 6:00 Sr. High Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's  6:30 *What LC-MS Lutherans believe*	<b>19</b> 10:30 Outreach Team Noon Study (Topic TBA) 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Advent Worship *Gift of Imitation* 8:15 Ice Cream Filwshp	<b>20</b> 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:30 Christmas Program Practice
<b>23</b> CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:15 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum: Creation 10:30 Contemporary Worship 4:00 *Joy for the World* S.S. Christmas Program 5:00 Christmas Ham Dinner	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE  5:00 CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS DAY  9:00 Christmas Worship w/Lord's Supper	<b>26</b> No Noon Study NO CONFIRMATION	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:15 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum: 10:30 Contemporary Worship 11:45 Fellowship	<b>31</b>  <b>HAPPY            JESUS'            BIRTHDAY</b>	<b>Jan 1</b> NEW YEAR'S	<b>Jan 2</b> Noon Study (Topic TBA) 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus 6:30 Confirmation Parents Mtg	<b>Jan 3</b> 7:00 Elders' Team  7:00 LWML	<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>Jan 5</b> IMPORTANT NOTE: Tomorrow Begins Our New Time Schedule: 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 Worship

## December 15-Minutes-a-day

### Today's Light Readings

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We Read through the Bible Just 15 Minutes a Day  
(In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

Dec 2 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Dec 3 Psalms 12:1-17:50 (Psalm 17) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 4 Psalms 18:1-22:31 (Psalm 22) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 5 Psalms 23:1-28:9 (Psalm 24) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 6 Psalms 29:1-34:22 (Psalm 32) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 7 Psalms 35:1-41:13 (Psalm 37:1-11) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 8 Psalms 42:1-47:9 (Psalm 46) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 9 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Dec 10 Psalms 48:1-53:6 (Psalm 48 & 51) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 11 Psalms 54:1-60:12 (Psalm 57) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 12 Psalms 61:1-66:20 (Psalm 61) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 13 Psalms 67:1-72:20 (Psalm 72) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 14 Psalms 73:1-77:20 \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 15 Psalms 78:1-82:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 16 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Dec 17 Proverbs 1:1-3:35 (3:1-18) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 18 Proverbs 4:1-27 (4:18-27) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 19 Proverbs 5:1-6:35 (6:16-19) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 20 Proverbs 7:1-27 (7:6-7) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 21 Proverbs 7:1-36 (8:12-36) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 22 Proverbs 9:1-18 (9:1-12) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 23 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Dec 24 3 John 1-14 (1-8) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 25 Luke 1:1-2:20 (1:36-38; 2:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 26 Luke 2:21-3:38 (3:23-38) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 27 Luke 4:1-5:39 (4:16-37) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 28 Luke 6:1-49 (6:1-11) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 29 Luke 7:1-8:56 (7:36-50) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 30 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Dec 31 Luke 9:1-62 (9:37-45) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 1 Luke 10:1-42 (10:1-24) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 2 Luke 11:1-12:59 (11:1-13) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 3 Luke 13:1-35 (13:22-30) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 4 Luke 14:1-35 (14:25-35) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 5 Luke 15:1-16:31 (15:11-32) \_\_\_\_\_

REMINDER: Go to [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net) to find past monthly devotional readings.

## Help Support Heidy...

Heidy is a young girl from Ecuador that the confirmation students have been supporting through Compassion, International. We would like to extend the opportunity to the rest of the congregation to help in supporting Heidy as well as in praying for and corresponding with her. Check out the display.

If you can help us support Heidy please make checks payable to Compassion, Int'l. THANKS!

## Donate Warm Clothes for Needy

Lu Kiehm is heading to the Marie Sandvik center in the Twin Cities on December 16. (They provide clothes and meals for the homeless and needy in the metro area). She will take with her as many new or used coats, mittens, hats, scarves as we can bring. Men's clothes are especially needed. Just bring them to church and Lu will take them from there. Thanks!

## Bell Ringer Outreach...

The Salvation Army would like our assistance in taking a turn at bell-ringing.



The Salvation Army Christmas kettle has been a familiar part of the Christmas scene in America for over 100 years! It is their major fund raising effort for the year and is crucial to their ability to continue serving the needs of Kandiyohi County. Not only does it support the special seasonal projects such as food baskets and toys for low income families, but it enables the Salvation Army to provide assistance to area families throughout the year.

We will ring at the Kandi Mall. **Saturday, December 8. (NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION)** Please sign up to take a turn at ringing for an hour or two on the sheet in the back.

## Poinsettias Welcome

Everyone is welcome to bring a poinsettia plant to place in the sanctuary for Christmas. You may bring the plant any time and set it on the counter. The Altar Guild will take care of it and place it around the altar.

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## Special Thank Offering...

### Special Thank-Offering Can Still Be Given

God commanded the Israelites to come to the temple once a year for a joyful celebration of the blessings God provided in the harvest. This harvest festival was called The Feast of Weeks.

*Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you. Deuteronomy 16:10*

In keeping with the example of the Israelites, on Thanksgiving Eve we came together for a special joyful celebration of the blessings God has provided us. We also brought special Thank-Offerings to the Lord in proportion to the blessings He has given us this past year. If you weren't here for the Thanksgiving service, you can still give your Thank-Offering today. Please use the special "Thank-Offering" envelope.

*"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."*  
King David in 1 Chronicles 29:14

## Today's Light Bible Readings...

This month we move from the first two Old Testament History books to get a taste of the Old Testament Hymnal (Psalms) and Book of Practical Wisdom (Proverbs). Beginning Christmas week we jump to the New Testament for the Christmas story (and the rest of the Gospel of Luke).

If you haven't gotten started with our daily readings... Give yourself the gift of God's guidance and power this month. It's a great time to start reading.

If you've gotten sidetracked in your readings... Just jump back in. You can catch up the readings you missed later.

## December Discipleship Verse...



*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord."*

Luke 2:10-11

## Bum Deal At Christmas?

By Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

Once in a while at Christmastime I catch myself complaining - about little things, inconveniences mainly. "I don't need this now," I mutter, and wonder, "Why does this have to happen to me? Is God mad at me?" Then my thoughts turn to Joseph and Mary. Face it. Their story doesn't center on sugar cookies and egg nog.

- Joseph was off work for weeks, because the government made him travel to a distant town to fill out some stupid registration paperwork.
- You can be the Nazareth "biddies" hounded Mary about her pregnancy. Have you ever been called a "slut"?
- Can you imagine taking a four-day donkey ride to Bethlehem at full-term? Of course, if Mary didn't want to ride she could always walk... or waddle.
- Think about a camping trip with winter winds whistling through your tent. Or do you even have a tent?
- Think about being in labor in a dirty cattle barn. One whiff was all Mary needed.
- And then, in the middle of the night after a grueling labor, there's a herdsman knocking at the door.

Why, of all things, did God let His own Son be born under those conditions? Was God mad at Mary and Joseph? Of course not. Maybe God allowed the stable so we could see His glory backlit amidst life's humbling experiences.

Life does have its downside, its reversals, its annoyances - even at Christmas. (Sometimes *especially* at Christmas). And where is God when we despair? He was with Mary and Joseph every moment, working out His plan... just as He is with you and me right now.

I guess Christmas reminds us to look beyond our aggravations. God *is* doing something. You know, if we'll lift our eyes above Bethlehem's hovels for a moment, we might even catch a glimpse of the Christmas star



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## Child of Promise...

### A Prayer for Christmas

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

Who are you little baby? Who are you little Christ child, lying so quietly in manger straw? Who are you that angels should herald your presence and stars announce your birth? That Wise Men and shepherds - the high and the low - should bow before you? Who are you, child of Bethlehem, son of David? What is your future? What is your promise?

Seven centuries before your birth the ancient Scriptures speak of you...

For to us a child is born  
To us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders  
And his name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor  
Mighty God  
Everlasting Father  
Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
There will be no end. *Isaiah 9:6-7a*

What is this government? What is this peace, O Christmas baby? Are you a warrior-to-be? Are you a king? What promise do you hold?

How can you be the Everlasting Father while not yet an hour old? How is it?

How can you be the Wonderful Counselor before you've learned? A teacher before you've been taught? What is the wellspring of your wisdom?

What is this mystery set before us, enigmatic newborn lying in a stable manger, born of parents poor, yet destined for this greatness? You must be the One we've hoped for, longed for all our lives. The One who will set us free from our depressions and oppressions, within and without.

Little wonder angels cannot contain their Good News of Great Joy. Little wonder heavenly host sing in chorus:

Glory to God in the highest, *Luke 2:14*

Be my peace, O Prince of Peace. Let its gentle, joyful blanket comfort my nervous soul, and still the warring of your earth.

Be my government, O Christ. Govern not my own heart only,

but also this desperate world in which I live.

Be my Everlasting Father and my Counselor. By your counsel guide me out of confusion and turmoil into the sunlight that always shines above my low-lying clouds.

Welcome Christ child. All my life I have needed you. O Child of Promise, at the Christmas I give to you my heart. Amen

## **New Schedules...**

### **Fellowship Servers**

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please call the next person and switch with them. Thanks.

December 9	Bonnie Hanson	796-5605
December 16	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
December 23	Christmas Dinner	
December 30	Nancy Jo Wendt	354-2398
January 6	Donna Peterson	354-5247
January 13	Janet Towner	444-0125
January 20	Pam Johnson	354-3545
January 27	Laurel Iverson	354-4932

### **Scripture Readers**

If you are unable to read on your assigned Sunday, please call the next person and switch with them. Thanks.

(Note: December readers read only at the service you attend)

December 9	Janet Towner	444-0125
December 16	Tammy Wachter	796-6222
December 23	Duane Hansen	796-5605
December 30	Scott Wachter	796-6222
January 6	Bryson Wachter	894-6378
January 13	Tris Mishe	354-9046
January 20	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
January 27	Mona Hjelle	354-4315

**Help with our Youth Ministry...** Chaperone a service project (and fun outing) in the Twin Cities

Please talk to Pastor if you can serve the Lord in any of these ways.

## **More Opportunities to Grow...**

### **Wednesday Bible Study**

#### **Wednesdays @ NOON**

Bring a friend and join us over lunch as we take a look at the book with this promise from God:

*"Blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it."*

### **Tuesday Noon Bible Study**

Join us at Geneva Olson's at noon on Tuesdays.

### **Sunday Morning Adult Study**

#### ***Creation: Foundation for All we believe***

We'll learn about evidence for the Biblical account of creation - thing you never hear in the media that seems bent on convincing us of evolution.

#### **Some specific things we'll cover:**

- + Did dinosaurs and humans co-exist?
- + What evidence is there for a young earth (not billions of years old)?
- + Is it illegal for Creation to be taught in public school?
- + How accurate are dating methods?
- + What was the world like in pre-flood times?
- + Did God put the Gospel message in the stars?

Please join us at 9:15 for coffee, baked goods and our study.

### **Senior High Study**

Every other Sunday evening at 6:00  
(DECEMBER 2 & 16)

The Orlando Youth Gathering Participants need to attend the December 2 Study: We all have some unfinished assignments that we need to take care of.

### **Parenting Young Children**

Sunday Mornings while the kids are in Sunday School

If you are a parent of a child of pre-school age through 4th grade we'd like to invite you to a special class that meets during the Sunday School hour (9:15 - 10:15).