December Birthdays

Dec. 1 - Joe Knerrschield, Vicki Martinson, Heidi Jones
Dec. 2 - Marvin Davis, Zach Longhofer, Katelyn Taylor, Ione Carmine
Dec. 3 - Steve Milligan, Bryan Armstrong, Sierra Murphy
Dec. 4 - Charita Cunningham
Dec. 5 - Julie Garmon
Dec. 6 - Shelby Keatley, Trevor Sutten
Dec. 7 - Patrick Dunning, Heather Autrich
Dec. 8 - Olivia Abankwah, Luka Majstorovic
Dec. 9 - Wayne Potter, James Overley
Dec. 10 - Tom Lewis, John Gifford, Zach Thomas, Ethan Wallingford
Dec. 11 - Marcia McCann, Jeremy Taylor, TJ McGreavy
Dec. 12 - Ray Quigley, Iasayah Mulusa
Dec. 13 - Mariella Adams, Jason Powell, Virginia Heider
Dec. 14 - Greg Wright, Kevin Doel
Dec. 15 - Donna Riddle, Gail Scott, Truanna Nickel
Dec. 16 - Stacy Shafer, Andrew Koch
Dec. 17 - Janice Johnson, Felicia Albright
Dec. 18 - Olia Abankwah, Luka Majstorovic
Dec. 19 - Jim Driggers, Nick Murr, Tannahael Howard, Cameron Moritz, Kelly Kennedy
Dec. 20 - Bob Eckhardt, Ed Cowen, Gina Koch, Hayes Wendt
Dec. 21 - Gayla Slusser, Jeni Light
Dec. 22 - Larcyn Lindsay
Dec. 23 - Jack Darrow, Connie Overley
Dec. 24 - Ray Quigley, Iasayah Mulusa
Dec. 25 - Nancy Hollomon, Sue Wheat
Dec. 26 - Lynda Smallback, Sherry Knight, Heather Hathaway
Dec. 27 - Gary Cunningham, Zachary Stockton
Dec. 28 - Ryan Simpson
Dec. 29 - Mikaayla Price
Dec. 30 - Ron Doole, Emmitt Johns, Wyatt Johns
Dec. 31 - Ray Wall, Celeste Rojero, Bailee Howard

Help for the Philippines

Some of you may already know about typhoon Haiyen that made landfall in the island of Leyte on November 6. My hometown is only a two-hour drive away from Tacloban City, the hardest hit area. I will be flying to the Philippines in December and thought of helping anyone I can, the people of Tacloban City. I am asking for donations to assemble a health kit to distribute to the school-age children there.

If you can donate any or all of the following to make up one health kit I thank you:
- TOOTHPASTE
- TOOTHBRUSH
- BATH SOAP
- BATH TOWEL
- WASH CLOTH
- COMB
- A SMALL TOY FOR A BOY OR A GIRL
- CANDY BAR
- 3lb. ZIPLOC BAGS to pack the kits

I would like to have these assembled and delivered by December 17. I will ship it on December 20. If you would also like to help with the shipping expenses I will gladly accept money. These boxes will probably get to the Philippines around February or March and by then I am praying the roads will become passable for me to personally distribute these to the children.

Call Flor Smith if you are interested at 817-5513 or leave a message at 273-2344. Thank you for your generosity.

December At A Glance

• December Sermon Series – “He Shall Be Called” the names of Jesus from Old Testament prophecies as they are fulfilled in Christ
• Dec. 3–5: Celebrating Christmas Coffee Stop Style, 7:30 pm
• Dec. 7 – Children’s Choir Rehearsal /4 pm in the sanctuary
• Dec. 8 – Church member vote on 2014 budget during both services
• Dec. 8 – Children’s Choir Christmas Program, 6 pm followed by church-wide fellowship
• Dec. 24 – 2 Christmas Eve Services at 5:30 and 7 pm

In October the sixth graders planned, organized, and ran a “Folloween Jesus” Party for the 3-year-olds through 5th graders. The kids had a costume contest, face painting, games, food, and lots of fun. Close to 100 kids came to this outreach. Thank you to the sixth graders for all their hard work and to all those who donated their time, candy, and goodies to make this event a success.

For the Philippine children, the gala people from the church, and for the 3rd and 4th graders from the Galatas, this was a wonderful opportunity to share the true meaning of Christmas with someone who may not feel comfortable coming to a Sunday morning service. It will be followed by a Christmas Cookie Social.

Tuesday, December 24th at 5:30 and 7 pm
There will be two Christmas Eve services. Bring your family and friends along and enjoy a candlelight service celebrating our Savior’s birth in song and word.

New Sunday Morning Class

Have you lost someone dear to you through death for any reason? Spouse, child, sibling, grandparent, close friend or other relative you loved? You are not alone! Others are walking through similar realities and we need each other! Join us on Sunday Mornings during the Bible Study hour from 9:45-10:45, room B-4. Meet others going through the same thing and learn what God has to say about loss and grief.

Contact Sue Smith at 806-3409 or Sandy Brink at 230-4277 with questions.

God has done for us. In many small group and family gatherings through the month we were continually reminded of all we have to be thankful for. Now we are looking forward with expectation to the celebration of the birth of a King who is fulfilling every Old Testament prophecy of the Messiah. It is an exciting time of hope, joy, and expectation. It is also a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to hear about the love of Christ.

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November took us back to how it all began in Genesis. From creation to the faith of Abraham we were reminded of all that God has done for us. In many small group and family gatherings through the month we were continually reminded of all we have to be thankful for. Now we are looking forward with expectation to the celebration of the birth of a King who is fulfilling every old testament prophecy of the Messiah. It is an exciting time of hope, joy, and expectation. It is also a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to hear about the love of Christ.

**Folloween Jesus, Giving Thanks, and Looking Forward with Expectation**

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Check out these opportunities for Women

**COFFEE STOP**
“WOMEN CONNECTING TO WOMEN”

“Celebrating Christmas”
Coffee Stop Style
Tuesday, December 3
from 7:30-8:30 pm
Room B-6

Special Speaker
Gary Smith with
“A Christmas Message”
Featuring
Carolyn with Cindy Casebeer
And Handsigning by
Diane Nicholson

You won’t want to miss this
special evening as we gather to
celebrate our Savior’s birth!

Coffee Stop is a Women’s
Ministry for women 18 years
and older

**Joy in the Morning**
Tuesday Mornings
9 am
A Christian fellowship with
women of all ages
Come enjoy speakers, prayer,
food, and fellowship
Questions contact Pat Dot
ton at 271-0994

**Annual Business Meeting**

The annual business meeting was held November 24th at 6 pm. The meeting started off with the approval of the minutes from the last meetings and the presentation of the Constitutional updates and revisions.

The Constitution was revised to align the Church’s purpose, mission, vision, and goals to align with OM, Love. The previously omitted paragraph on the church moderator and the duties of the church administrator were re-added with some additional language added. There were some changes made to provide consistency and a more logical flow. There were also changes made to the senior pastor’s goals, the method of leadership team selection and retention, and the pastoral search team section.

The changes were approved with a unanimous vote.

The following officers were re-elected: Doug Glenn as Church Moderator, Chuck Berry as Church Treasurer, Fran Luuk as Church Clerk, and Leland Heifner as Trustee.

Chuck Berry gave a financial presentation followed by the budget presentation by Neal Spencer. The Stewardship Team Motion on the use of the money from the sale of one of the Atwood houses was discussed at great length with many questions asked.

The Stewardship Team Motion was approved with some opposition. The budget will be voted on in both services on December 8.

The Pastor’s Report was encouraging with the report of giving up in November as well as growth in many ministries.

**Note from the Pastor**
By Pastor Gary Smith

“Dad, do we still have that cool light up train we set out in the yard every Christmas?” Regrettably, I had to say, “no.” That train finally broke after experiencing harsh Canadian winters year after year. It was funny to think about. Year after year we would put the train outside and then it would get buried in snow and we would put it up on the next layer of snow. I miss that train and we will have to find something to replace it. I loved bringing out that train year after year, plugging it in and seeing the lights of the Christmas train. I never grew tired of it. It looked so special all lit up and on a fresh blanket of snow. I also never grow tired of learning about Jesus Christ and what an awe inspiring miracle it is to consider His birth! Every time I unpack a deeper meaning of one of his names, Immanuel, Wonderful Counselor, etc. I am ever more amazed at Him and by Him. I pray that December’s Christmas messages entitled, “And He Shall Be Called…” will inspire you to the same. You know, I am sure we will find something to replace our train and you should come by our house to see what we get. I also know that I, that we, can never replace our precious Jesus. May he be the absolute highlight of this season for us.

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Gary