
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

December 2021

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEC 2 -	CRYSTAL SPAID'S BIRTHDAY
DEC 5 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
DEC 6 -	BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
DEC 7 -	PEARL HARBOR DAY
DEC 11 -	SHELVA SWITZER'S BIRTHDAY
	JEANIE SPAID'S BIRTHDAY
DEC 12 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
	FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE
	(SEE ARTICLE)
	LAST DAY FOR COLLECTION OF TOYS
	FOR TOTS
DEC 13 -	BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
DEC 17 -	SUSAN CLARK'S BIRTHDAY
DEC 19 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
	(SEE ARTICLE)
DEC 20 -	BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
DEC 22 -	BETTY WINGFIELD'S BIRTHDAY
DEC 25 -	CHRISTMAS DAY
DEC 26 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	HOME MISSION OFFERING
DEC 27 -	BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
DEC 30 -	JANET FRIES' BIRTHDAY

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

The annual Christmas Candlelight Service will be held on Sunday evening, December 19th at 7 pm. However, there will be no refreshments following the service.

QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING

The quarterly council meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, December 12th following the worship service. In our effort to standardize reports and to create a single set of reports in advance of the meeting, treasurers and chairpersons are being asked to provide their reports to Pastor Mike by December 6th. For consistency, the treasurer's reports should be a year-to-date accounting through November 30th. They can be emailed to the church at timberridgechristianchurch@gmail.com or hand delivered. The meeting should last no longer than an hour.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.
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PASTOR'S PEN

Filled with Gladness

With the first week of Advent comes the reminder that Christmas day is just around the corner. If we're honest with ourselves, we find that this yearly season can end up being a time of hectic preparations instead of a joyous celebration. But you don't have to let the festivities hinder the awe and wonder of Christmastime. On the contrary, if you ground this special season in the biblical account of the arrival of the Messiah, then you can be filled with gladness no matter how hectic things get.

Think of the account of the announcement of the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. Not only were the shepherds filled with awe, but as the angels made the long-awaited announcement of His arrival, they were overjoyed. So the account in Luke makes it clear that the angels were glad that the fullness of time had finally come. In Luke 2:8-14, we read, *And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"*

We must remember that the angels who make this announcement have access to heaven. They know glorious things that we only get glimpses of in scripture. Yet, as they sing of the birth of Jesus, they are filled with great joy. Their mission to let the world know that the King of kings has come to earth to live among mankind causes them to lift their voices in praise to God. If the arrival of Jesus so moves angels, we should be too.

The birth of Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah signals the arrival of a new era in God's plan of redemption. The old covenant system of sacrifice will be done away with. Instead, Jesus will establish a new covenant. He will be the God/Man who lives among humanity. It shows us the Spirit of the Father and shows us what it looks like to live out the law of love.

The angels were overjoyed to see the plan of the Father begin to unfold in the lives of the shepherds. They also knew this would change the world forever.

Isn't it interesting that we tend to celebrate Christmas with the same traditions year after year? These traditions remind us that the meaning of the story of Christmas doesn't change. God meant to come as a baby, live among us, and accomplish the work of the Messiah. And yet, the arrival of the King did change things forever. So I pray that your celebration of the coming of your Messiah will fill you with gladness this Christmas.

~ Pastor Mike