

Calvary Family News

December 2024

'Tis The Season

Apparently, without my knowledge, the pages on my calendar have been flipping along, and somehow we got to December a lot faster than I thought. Suddenly, it's "Christmas Time". (Actually, if you go into stores or watch commercials on TV it has been Christmas time since the day after Halloween.) And, as I'm sure you are well aware, I really like all of the lights, music, and decorations. But the thing I have to keep reminding myself and I'm going to share with you is this: we have to fight to make sure that we don't let all of that become our focus and think that is what Christmas is all about.

The only Son of God came to earth, not as a mighty conquering warrior, as I would expect, but as a helpless baby. God became a man. And if that wasn't humble enough, He was born in a barn, grew up in a working-class family, and had a bunch of ordinary people that He hung around with. But this wasn't about God wanting to see what it was like on earth by slumming it with the humans. Jesus came for a purpose. He was born and lived the way He did to prove that while He continued to be God, He was also 100% human being. That takes care of the what and the how, but the big question still remains: why?

Jesus became a man because mankind needed a savior. Somebody had to pay for our sin and that someone had to be both human and sinless. By taking on human flesh, Jesus met both of those requirements. But Jesus didn't just live as a man, He had to die as one too. And that He willingly did, on a cross. So when you think about the true meaning of Christmas don't just picture a stable in Bethlehem, also remember a hill outside of Jerusalem, Golgotha, where Jesus gave us the greatest gift of all, His life, for all who believe in Him.

Merry Christmas.

In His Love,

Pastor Karl

The Second Sunday in Advent

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant us that we may in such a way hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer (1552)

(Submitted by FS)



January Newsletter Items will be due, Tuesday, January 7th, to include pictures from our New Year's Eve Party, Thank you for your patience!



Prepping before Company Comes!

Thankful for Thanksgiving

Tradition! (Be sure to sing it like the guy from Fiddler on the Roof.) For Laurie and I Thanksgiving has become a day full of doing the same things that we have been doing for many years. Turkey Trot in the morning, Community dinner in the afternoon and family dinner in the evening. It is a busy day but also a lot of fun and very fulfilling (and regular filling as well).

This year we were privileged to serve a big Thanksgiving Community Dinner to about fifty people. As usual we had plenty of food and everybody went home very well fed. Thanks to all who helped by decorating, cooking, cleaning, prepping food, serving, cleaning up, and most importantly, hanging out with people and building relationships.

You are all a big part of making this an extra special Community Dinner every year for a lot of folks who may not be able to have a nice dinner otherwise. We are making an impact in Baker City and people notice and appreciate it. May the Lord use it for His Kingdom and glory.

Serving Him,

Pastor Karl



Salad Table, *Yes Only Salads!*



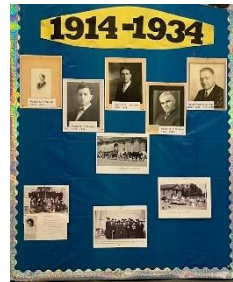
East Coast New Year's Eve Party! Wahoo!

Besides the time to enjoy family, Christmas, and a fresh start, it is also time to start practicing for the 6th M.T.A.C.B.C.C.C.T., also known as the Hopefully More Than Annual Calvary Baptist Church Cornhole Championship Tournament! Perhaps you can take home the trophy at our East Coast New Year's Eve Party, on Tuesday, December 31st, from 6 pm to 9 pm. Board Games, puzzles, as well as finger-foods, will be provided by attendees, so please bring your favorite one or two to share with us. We would love to have any friends, family, and neighbors that would like to attend!

It is always a lot of fun and relaxing time to get together. I tried to get Pastor Karl to do a loop around the block in our cars honking our horns before we head home for a warm fire, but he vetoed that suggestion. We hope you can make it! tap

December Birthdays

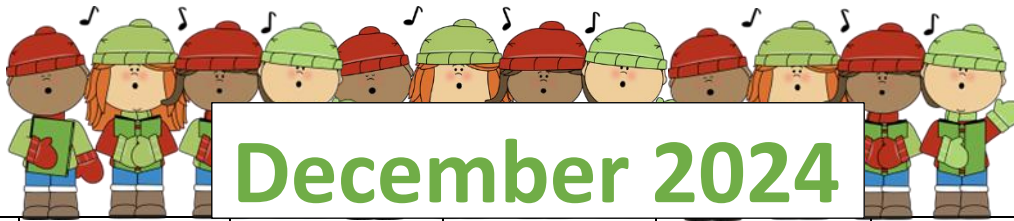
- 6th Ila McGuire
- Bob Haskell
- 11th Justin Emmons
- 18th Ray Hesseltime
- 20th Barb (Bentley) Stucky
- 22nd Karl Wittich
- 24th Carol Whelan
- 26th Jena Mough
- 31st David Mough



Decorating Party

We had a great time at the Decorating Party, with veggies and salad and a whole counter of delicious pizzas and a delightful amount of desserts to enjoy before we divided up into groups and took out Christmas decorations and put away fall ones, some elves put up the new tree in Browning Hall and did a great job as it reaches the ceiling in there. Also, we had a crew putting up former pastor's photos about the approximate years which was hung with care. We also have a cross to put our gratefulness for His Faithfulness slips on, and the jars are still out for us last-minute folks. The sanctuary and foyer have been transformed with bows on the center pews, Christmas banners, wreaths, mini-trees, the nativity scene on the Communion table, and the wise men traveling to see Jesus, are on the window sill. One of the requirements before leaving, was to take home an extra dessert which wasn't too hard to twist arms in taking them, Yum! Sorry if you were unable to come, we had a great time! tap





December 2024

1 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	2 5:30p Youth Group 6:00p Ladie's Bible Study 6pm Men's Bible Study	3 10:30a-1:30p CBC Serves at Sr Center NO LADIES BIBLESTUDY	4 11a-Noon Ladies Luncheon Bible Study 5:30 Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	5 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Quintessential Cousine!</i> 6pm Celebrate Recovery	6 9am Ladies' 1 st Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral	7
8 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	9 5:30p Youth Group NO Ladie's Bible Study 6pm Men's Bible Study	10 10a Ladie's Bible Study in Browning Hall	11 11a-Noon Ladies Luncheon Bible Study 5:30 Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	12 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Tasty Treats!</i> 6pm Celebrate Recovery	13	14 
15 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	16 5:30p Youth Group 6:00p Ladie's Bible Study 6pm Men's Bible Study	17 10a Ladie's Bible Study in Browning Hall	18 11a-Noon Ladies Luncheon Bible Study 5:30 Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	19 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Yummy Delights!</i> 6pm Celebrate Recovery	20 	21
22 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	23 6:00p Ladie's Bible Study 6pm Men's Bible Study	24 10a Ladie's Bible Study in Browning Hall	25 Christmas 	26 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Special Eats!</i> 6pm Celebrate Recovery	27	28 
29 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	30 6:00p Ladie's Bible Study 6pm Men's Bible Study	31 10a Ladie's Bible Study in Browning Hall 6-9p New Year's Eve—East Coast Style!	1 New Year's Day! 	2 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Fabulous Vittles!</i> 6pm Celebrate Recovery	3 9am Ladies' 1 st Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral	4 