



"THE STARTER"

December 2022

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*Evan Hall, Terry Hall
 Shoebox Delivery Men*



Our very special Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 9:00pm this year! The service is filled with scripture, music and praise for our newborn King. PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE and join us.



JESUS FIRST

OTHERS SECOND

YOURSELF THIRD



Daryl Stuhr has been called home to the Lord on Sunday, November 13, 2022. We share our deepest prayers and sympathies.



A Year of Thanks

Thank you to all of you who use the talents God has blessed you with to keep His church alive and thriving... to those who continually pray for God's grace, to the choir members who come every week to prepare songs of praise, to those who serve on busy boards, to those who bake for fellowship hour, to those who visit our shut-ins, to those who quietly do things for the church that go unnoticed by anyone else. Your rich rewards await you!





The Children's Bell Choir will be performing during worship on Sunday, December 11th.



Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 29, 2023. Those responsible for writing reports are asked to have them turned into the office no later than January 16th.



Pray for the health of Jane McClintock, Char & Pete Belski, Marilyn Cobb, Rita Tieman, Rick and Deb Taylor, Rob and Cyndee Dickson, Nancy Erlenborn, Ellen Powell, Diana Kurtz

**Please pray for daily grace for our shut-ins:

Carol Edgcomb Don Walker

Jane McClintock Lin Stuhr

Lillian Mini

** Pray for Pastor Roy Jacob & Peace Mission in India caring for children and widows

** Pray for Jews for Jesus

** Pray for the Surbers and Supply & Multiply

** Pray for Abigail Women's Clinic

** Pray for Cup of Cold Water Ministries

** Pray for Transport for Christ

** Pray for PADS providing shelter to the Homeless



Congregational Meeting

The Executive Board is requesting a meeting of the congregation to vote on two matters.

The first will be to approve the pastoral selection committee, and the second matter being presented for discussion and vote is a different form of government for a 1 year trial period. The meeting will be Sunday, December 11, 2022.



Twas The Night Before Jesus Came

Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house, Not a creature was praying, not one in the house. Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care. In hopes that Jesus would never come.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed. Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head. And mom in her rocker with baby on her lap. Was watching The Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the East there arose such a clatter. I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash. Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash! When what to my wondering eyes should appear,

But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here. With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray. I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!

The light of His Face made me cover my head. IT WAS JESUS! Returning just like he had said. And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth. I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life which He held in His Hand, was written the name of every saved man. He spoke not a word as He searched for my name. When He said "It's not here." I hung my head in shame!

The people whose names have been written with love. He gathered to take to His Father above. With those who were ready, He rose without a sound. While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late; I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate. I stood and I cried, as they rose out of sight. Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear. The coming of Jesus is drawing near. There's only one life and when comes the last call, We'll find that the Bible was true after all.



Christmas Parade

"Light" Up Peru Christmas Parade is Saturday, December 3rd at 5:00pm.



Christmas Tree

Despite some Christmas confusion, the Christmas tree can be a wonderful symbol for the tree of life. God placed the tree of life in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:9). However, when Adam sinned, mankind lost our right to eat from the life-giving tree. Genesis 3:22: And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." God couldn't allow sinful men to live eternally, and we couldn't do anything to restore that privilege. We needed a Savior, and Jesus was our longing fulfilled. (Proverbs 13:12). His victory over sin and death restored our privilege: Revelation 22:14: Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. If you decorate with a Christmas tree, let it be an "evergreen" reminder of your eternal life with Christ!



The Twelve Days of Christmas Praise

On the first day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me... Salvation...full and free.

On the second day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the third day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the fourth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Love for all men, Peace in my Heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the fifth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the sixth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me... Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the seventh day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me... a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the eighth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Robe and a crown, a Body glorified, Power

from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the ninth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me... Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the tenth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Thousand Tongues to sing, a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Eternity to praise, a Thousand Tongues to sing, a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.



Happy Birthday Jesus

We come together now and sing HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS glad tidings of great joy we bring.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

Spread the news to every land and let the people know His birthday party's just at hand as candles burn and glow

God sent His Son, His Special Gift to bring us Hope and Peace, to give our lives a marvelous lift. His wonders never cease.

This baby born in Bethlehem is GOD in human flesh. He came to save and not condemn. Our souls He will refresh.

His party is the best in town, and you have been invited. Come be with Christ who wears the Crown, and let's just get excited.

Let's sing again those songs of old which stir us in this season. And gladly share the truth we hold
THAT JESUS IS THE REASON!!!

And Christ became a human being and lived here on earth among us and was full of loving forgiveness and truth. And some of us have seen His glory - the glory of the only Son of the Heavenly Father.

John 1:14



The Coming of the Christmas Lamb

Tw'as the night before Christmas, when over the earth people were awaiting the Savior's birth. Shepherds were resting while watching their sheep. Because of wild animals, they dared not to sleep. Suddenly light shone from the sky high above. A bright star appeared announcing God's love. The shepherds were frightened and fell to the ground. In the darkness of the night, God's glory shone 'round. When what to their wondering eyes did appear' but a choir of angels who said, "Do not fear!" "A Savior is born in a city close by." "Jesus, the Lord, in a manger does lie." Good tidings of great joy they did proclaim. The shepherds knew life would not be the same. Why would the angels to us come and sing? We're just ragged old shepherds with nothing to bring. They rounded up their sheep and off they went. To find the Savior, the one who God sent. In the dark of night, the star was their guide. And soon they arrived at the Savior's side. There in a manger surrounded by sheep the Lamb of God was peacefully asleep. The sheep nestled closely to keep Jesus warm. The shepherds stood watch to keep him from harm. Baby Jesus was swaddled in burial clothes, A symbol of His death, and triumph over foes. Jesus was the promised one, His work would soon begin. The Christ child came to save us from all of our sin. The shepherds they spread the good news as they went, to let others know that a Savior was sent. When you seek Him and ask Him to make your sins clean white as wool they'll become - not a spot to be seen. When His gift of salvation you

accept and claim, In the Lamb's Book of Life will be written your name. Yes, the Lamb of God, brought salvation and light. So Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Barbara Anderson

A Bethlehem guide told us that the strips of cloth used to swaddle baby Jesus were burial cloth pieces that were used to wrap a corpse. Strips of burial cloth were also used to wrap feet of the little lambs that were to be sacrificed. This would keep the lamb clean and without defect. Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God who sacrificed for our sins.

"You were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ,

A lamb without blemish or defect."

1Peter 1:19



Christmas Symbols

The Tree points to heaven and reminds us that God is eternal.

The Wreath is a circle reminding us that God's Love for us never ends.

The Candle shines brightly, showing us that Jesus is the light of the world.

The Bell ring out, in celebration to announce the coming of our Lord.

The Baby in a manger shows the birth of Jesus, the Lord and Savior of the world.

The Candy Cane is shaped like a shepherd's Staff, reminding us that Jesus is our shepherd

The Star was placed in the sky for the wise men to follow

The Holly is sharp like the crown He wore. The berries are red like the blood he shed.

The Cross reminds us of the sacrifice made when Jesus died for our sins.

The Presents remind us of God's gift to the world.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 6:23



Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2023 will be arriving soon. If you would like to start using envelopes, please see Dawn.



Fellowship

For anyone wishing to visit after worship service, there will be coffee and lemonade made available. All that is asked is you rinse out the coffee urns and pitchers after use.



Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

