#### <u>NEWSLETTER</u>



EMBRACING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY

TRAIL LIFE

A WORD FROM PASTOR WILSON

## Embracing the Joy of Christmas: A Season of Love, Hope, and Celebration

By: Doyle Rowan

Dear Friends and Members of Rekindled Church,

As we approach the most wonderful time of the year, our hearts are filled with anticipation and excitement for the joyous celebration of Christmas. This season is not merely a time for festive decorations, delightful feasts, and exchanging gifts; it is a sacred and meaningful occasion that reminds us of the profound love and hope brought into the world through the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### Reflecting on the Gift of Love:

Christmas is a time to reflect on the incredible gift of love that God bestowed upon humanity. The birth of Jesus Christ in a humble manger is a testament to the boundless love God has for each and every one of us. As we gather with family and friends, let us take a moment to ponder the significance of this divine love and how it has transformed our lives.

#### **Nurturing the Flame of Hope:**

In a world that sometimes feels burdened by challenges and uncertainties, Christmas brings a radiant light of hope. The story of Jesus' birth is a beacon of hope, illuminating our lives with the promise of a brighter tomorrow. Let us carry this hope in our hearts and share it with those around us, offering



## The Joy of Christmas (Cont.)

comfort and encouragement to those in need.

#### Celebrating the Gift of Christ:

Our Christmas celebrations are not just about the glittering lights and festive decorations; they are a joyous expression of gratitude for the gift of Jesus Christ. As we come together in worship and fellowship, let our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving for the grace that came down to dwell among us. May our celebrations be a reflection of the true meaning of Christmas.

Spreading Kindness and Goodwill: During this season of giving, let us extend our hands in acts of kindness and generosity. Whether it's reaching out to a neighbor in need, supporting local charities, or simply offering a word of encouragement, let the love of Christ inspire us to be channels of blessings to others.

#### **Upcoming Christmas Events:**

- **December 17 at 11am**: Christmas Candlelight Service Join us for a special service filled with carols, scripture readings, and the lighting of candles a puppet show by the students of Wilson Moore.
- **December 24 at 11am**: Christmas Eve Service Come together for a festive gathering to share in the joy of Christmas with worship, and fellowship.

As we immerse ourselves in the spirit of Christmas, let us remember that the true magic of this season lies in the love we share, the hope we embrace, and the joy we find in the presence of Christ. May this Christmas be a time of deep reflection, renewed faith, and boundless love for one another.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed and Merry Christmas!

In Christ's love, Doyle Rowan





# Born of the Virgin Mary From ligonier.org

#### By: R.C. Sproul

Along with the great theologian and philosopher Anselm of Canterbury we ask the question, Cur deus homo? Why the God-man? When we look at the biblical answer to that question, we see that the purpose behind the incarnation of Christ is to fulfill His work as God's appointed Mediator. It is said in 1 Timothy 2:5: "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself . . ." Now, the Bible speaks of many mediators with a small or lower case "m." A mediator is an agent who stands between two parties who are estranged and in need of reconciliation. But when Paul writes to Timothy of a solitary Mediator, a single Mediator, with a capital "M," he's referring to that Mediator who is the supreme Intercessor between God and fallen humanity. This Mediator, Jesus Christ, is indeed the God-man.

In the early centuries of the church, with the office of mediator and the ministry of reconciliation in view, the church had to deal with heretical movements that would disturb the balance of this mediating character of Christ. Our one Mediator, who stands as an agent to reconcile God and man, is the One who participates both in deity and in humanity. In the gospel of John, we read that it was the eternal Logos, the Word, who became flesh and dwelt among us. It was the second person of the Trinity who took upon Himself a human nature to work out our redemption. In the fifth century at the Council of Chalcedon in 451, the church had to fight against a sinister teaching called the Monophysite heresy. The term monophysite is derived from the prefix mono, which means "one," and from the root phusis, which means "nature" or "essence." The heretic Eutyches taught that Christ, in the incarnation, had a single nature, which he called a "the anthropic nature." This the anthropic nature (which combines the word theos, meaning "God," and anthropos, meaning "man") gives us a Savior who is a hybrid, but under close scrutiny would be seen to be one who was neither God nor man. The Monophysite heresy obscured the distinction between God and man, giving us either a deified human or a humanized deity. It was against the backdrop of this heresy that the Chalcedonian Creed insisted Christ possesses two distinct natures, divine and human. He is vere homo (truly human) and vere Deus (truly divine, or truly God). These two natures are united in the mystery of the incarnation, but it is important according to Christian orthodoxy that we understand the divine nature of Christ is fully God and the human nature is fully human. So this one person who had two natures, divine and human, was perfectly suited to be our Mediator between God and men. An earlier church council, the Council of Nicea in 325, had declared that Christ came "for us men, and for our salvation." That is, His mission was to reconcile the estrangement that existed between God and humanity.

The Logos took upon Himself a human nature, the Word became flesh to effect our redemption by fulfilling the role of the perfect Mediator between God and man.



## Born of the Virgin Mary (Cont.) From ligonier.org

It is important to note that for Christ to be our perfect Mediator, the incarnation was not a union between God and an angel, or between God and a brutish creature such as an elephant or a chimpanzee. The reconciliation that was needed was between God and human beings. In His role as Mediator and the Godman, Jesus assumed the office of the second Adam, or what the Bible calls the last Adam. He entered into a corporate solidarity with our humanity, being a representative like unto Adam in his representation. Paul, for example, in his letter to the Romans gives the contrast between the original Adam and Jesus as the second Adam.

In Romans 5, verse 15, he says, "For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many." Here we observe the contrast between the calamity that came upon the human race because of the disobedience of the original Adam and the glory that comes to believers because of Christ's obedience. Paul goes on to say in verse 19: "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous." Adam functioned in the role of a mediator, and he failed miserably in his task. That failure was rectified by the perfect success of Christ, the God-man.

We read later in Paul's letter to the Corinthians these words: "And so it is written, 'The first man Adam became a living being.' The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man" (1 Cor. 15:45–49).

We see then the purpose of the first advent of Christ. The Logos took upon Himself a human nature, the Word became flesh to effect our redemption by fulfilling the role of the perfect Mediator between God and man. The new Adam is our champion, our representative, who satisfies the demands of God's law for us and wins for us the blessing that God promised to His creatures if we would obey His law. Like Adam, we failed to obey the Law, but the new Adam, our Mediator, has fulfilled the Law perfectly for us and won for us the crown of redemption. That is the foundation for the joy of Christmas.

### **ARTICLE LINK**



#### Adventure > Character > Leadership

Rekindled Church of Albemarle is chartering a Trail Life USA troop! If you are interested in your son(s) participating, please reach out to Braden.

#### Let Boys Be Boys

Too many boys are turning to virtual worlds of television, video games, digital media, and the internet to find realms they can conquer and areas where they can excel. The result of this virtual conquest is often apathy, apparent rebellion, or outright resistance to real-world challenge.

Trail Life USA is where boys thrive! Adults are equipped to lead a program in a structured outdoor environment where boys are engaged in real-world challenge and experience camping, hiking, and fishing; they develop skills in riflery, archery, and canoeing; and learn character and leadership in a practical hands-on manner that is naturally engaging.

In the outdoors, the experience of adults is never obsolete; boys find mentors, fathers and sons connect, important relationships are fostered, and boys find opportunity to achieve significant accomplishment.

Trail Life USA partners with churches and parents across America as the premier national character development organization for young men which produces generations of godly and responsible husbands, fathers, and citizens. In over 1,100 churches in all 50 states, fathers and sons are connecting, relationships are deepening, and legacies are beginning as a new generation of godly leaders rises up.

#### **Our Vision**

Our vision is to be the premier national character development organization for young men which produces godly and responsible husbands, fathers, and citizens.

#### **Our Mission**

Our Mission is to guide generations of courageous young men to honor God, lead with integrity, serve others, and experience outdoor adventure.

#### Motto

"Walk Worthy"

Colossians 1:10 "... that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;..."

#### TRAIL LIFE WEBSITE





# A WORD FROM PASTOR WILSON

First of all, thank you for so much! Thank you for a great Thanksgiving, and I praise the Lord today for how wonderful you made my birthday recently. You all know how to make a Pastor feel special. There are no other people I would rather share my day with. The Lord has been real good to me these 46 years.

We are now entering the Christmas season. Gifts, presents, parties, and happiness. We must remember the reason we celebrate, and also remember that the holidays are not always all of those above things for everyone. Sometimes the Holidays hurt for others. Please find ways to intentionally bless and help the hurting. We as a church are going to do the same. Not just at Christmas but all the year long...but here is where YOU come in.

On December 17th, I am asking you, along with the Elders of Rekindled Church to pray. Pray for the Lord to direct you on how you will bless others for next year in 2024. This year we took a huge step of faith, and moved to Moss Springs Road. Our journey here has already been an absolute blessing. We are doing so much for the Lord, and meeting so many new faces here. As with all moves, and all steps of faith, comes sacrifice. As a church, we are financially doing great things, and have greatly increased our giving. Moving however does raise our monthly needs, and we have simple upkeep, etc. that we did not have at the Parks and Recreation. We can not simply pay the rent, and walk out each week. I have said it many times, the Gospel is FREE, but ministry does have a cost.

Jesus paid for our salvation, but we have to understand that as we go about ministry, there are always things you must account for.

On December 17th, we will be receiving an Outreach offering. This is not your regular tithes. This will be an offering that you will receive a special envelope for, and it will be used for one thing: ministry. This will go to supply money for mission trips, Bible School, Homeless shelter



# A WORD FROM PASTOR WILSON (Cont.)

needs, and many more things. On this day, we are asking you to pray about what God would have you give. At Rekindled we don't talk much about money, because I know that our needs will be met, but this offering will be so important to our church family. Just as you are buying your gifts this year, the church family is asking you to give sacrificially to help fund missions. This church is responsible with our money, and always will be. We want to love our community, and world well, but it does take money.

So as December 17th approaches, I am asking you to please pray. Pray what the Lord would have you give. You will receive a special labeled envelope for this offering, the week prior, and seek the Lord that week for what he would have you give this Christmas season to further the Gospel of Jesus through Rekindled. There is no other better way to honor the Lord, than to keep the Gospel alive and working in our town, country, and world.

I am looking forward to all the missions we will do next year!

So as I close this Pastors letter, pray for one another, pray for your contribution to the mission offering, and pray for the church to love well this Holiday Season. I am a blessed pastor, and I wish you an extremely Merry Christmas season!

Love Pastor Wilson & Tessa Moore



\*If you have any ideas or would like to contribute an article, insight, good news or anything to the monthly newsletter, please let Doyle or Tessa know! We welcome your ideas and your help.

If anyone is interested in taking over sending out the cards and welcome cards, it is welcomed. The church provides the cards and stamps, you just have to write an encouraging note and send to people.



# BIBLE BUNGER

WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM





Mishag

# Candle Light Service

# DECEMBER 17TH AT 11AM



# Christmas Ever \* SERVICE

12-24 AT 11AM



# **DECEMBER**

1
WILSON MOORE

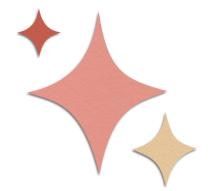
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TALIA HUTTON

23 ROBERT PUCKETT JR

28 AMANDA FORREST

> 31 DALE CLARK

> > 31 STEVEN B





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105 MOSS SPRINGS ROAD ALBEMARLE, NC

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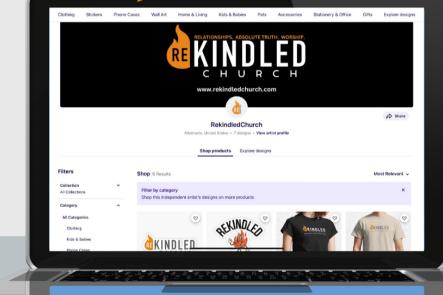


Adventure > Character > Leadership



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For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon
his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of
Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

