

December Calendar 2024



Date:	Family to Pray For:	Scripture Reading
1	Ronnie Carpenter	Genesis 2:8-25
2	Chad, Marglen, Canaan & Rylee Clark	Genesis 3
3	David, Laurel, Nathan & Jacob Clark	Genesis 22:1-19
4	Leonard & Beverley Clark	Exodus 11
5	Mark & Wanda Clark	Exodus 12:1-30
6	Stella Clark	Leviticus 16
7	Dave & Ann Condon	Numbers 21:1-9
8	Ron, Tammy & Ryan Counts	Joshua 24:1-28
9	Richard & Jody Craddock	Ruth 1 & 2
10	Seth, Beth, Emilia, Briele, Thea & Truett Dame	Ruth 3 & 4
11	Jason, Christy, Nathan, Micah & Anna Fender	2 Samuel 7
12	Steve & Diane Fenton	1 Kings 8:14-53
13	Shane Fury	Psalms 22
14	Ranelle Garber	Psalms 110
15	Sandra Haynes	Isaiah 11
16	Jared & Cassie Hayslett, Emmalyn	Isaiah 52
17	Larry & Joanne Hayslett	Isaiah 53
18	Lonnie & Cindy Hayslett, Kevin	Jeremiah 23:1-8
19	Dale & Debbie Heath	Jeremiah 31:23-40
20	Kelly & Crystal Hostetter	Daniel 3:19-30
21	Lucy Hostetter	Daniel 7
22	Fred & Lucille Johnson	Jonah 1 & 2
23	Pam Johnson	Micah 5:1-5
24	Sandy Jones	Zechariah 3
25	Donnie, Kelly, Christian & Caylin Kern	John 1:1-18
26	Arnold & Sheila Keyser	Matthew 1
27	Kae Lacy	Luke 1
28	Clarence & Doris Lavender	Luke 2:1-20
29	Shawn, Cori, Micah & Isaiah Layman	Matthew 2
30	David & Connie Liptrap	Luke 2:21-52
31	Ronnie Liptrap, Sr.	Luke 3

December Birthdays

1	Roy Brown	17	Samantha Woodson
1	Wilson Webb	18	Don Blanchard
2	Brad Speer	21	Wesley Williams
5	Kandace Speer	22	Joan Strausbaugh
12	Teresa S. Nicely	31	Mya Tomblin

December Anniversaries

Lonnie & Cindy Hayslett	6
Shawn & Cori Layman	17
Greg & Cindy Smith	23



December Newsletter 2024

Happy Advent,

Advent means arrival or appearance. Thus, the season leading up to Christmas is called Advent as we focus on and celebrate His arrival to earth as the Christ Child. While we declare the message year round, this is the season when great attention is given to the incarnation, the fact that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We rejoice over the good tidings of great joy given to all peoples that Christ the Savior is born. We draw strength from the fact that His name is called Immanuel, meaning *God with us*. We are grateful that He is the Prince of Peace who offers the peace which this world cannot give. As we focus on the 1st Advent, we live in expectation of the 2nd Advent, the blessed hope and glorious appearing (again) of our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

One of the gifts of Advent is that it encourages us to set aside days, in this case 24, to prepare our hearts for His coming. Like you, I'm aware that on December 25th, (we don't know the exact day He was born) He's not coming again as the Christ Child. However, as we take the time to ponder His advents, we may have a fresh advent/encounter with our Lord.

We could all make a list of many gifts and blessings which have come to us as a result of His coming to dwell among us. Yet it is possible to know these gifts in our minds and not really be moved by them in our souls and spirits. Just as He intended for His first Advent to make God known to His humanity, He desires to use this advent season as a time for us to come to know Him in a more intimate way.

It would seem logical that since the entire Christmas season is about His birth, there should be a natural pathway for us to grow in intimacy with our Lord. Yet in all the business of the season, it is rather easy to fall into the trap of knowing the truth of Christmas in our heads without experiencing Immanuel in our inner person. In Psalm 23 David said, "He restores my soul." The Holy Spirit wants this advent season to be a time of His restoring your soul. Notice, David said, **The LORD restores my soul**. There is so much to enjoy around the Christmas season, but it isn't things that can restore your soul. Only the Lord can restore your soul. Each of you would agree that Christmas is about Christ. Yet it is very possible when the season ends for us to feel very distant from Him.

I challenge you to make a choice at the beginning of Advent to be intentional about spending time with the Christ Child, the resurrected King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Here are a few suggestions to help your soul be restored in His presence:

1) Each day set aside some quiet time to simply sit and ponder the events around His birth or to meditate upon the meaning of one of His names. Meditate on what Scripture has to say about Him. I can hear some of you moms with young children saying, "You tell me where to find that quiet time." It doesn't have to be a great length of time. A few minutes of silence meditating upon Him can do wonders for our souls.

2) As you play the Christian Christmas songs in your house, seek to take some time to be quiet and consider the meaning of the words.

3) For those of you who use the internet, there are many free advent devotions online.

4) Choose worship privately & corporately.

5) Realize it's alright to say no to some things so that you have time to say yes to the best.

I pray there will truly be room in your heart this year for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas, I love you,



Pastor Mike

December Calendar 2024

December Events:

Sunday, December 15th: Christmas Social, 5:30pm, Life House

Monday, December 23rd: Christmas Candlelight Service, 7:00pm, Church

Wednesday, December 25th: Christmas!



Weekly Events:

Tuesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:00am, Life House

Wednesday: Youth Group, 6-8pm, Life House

Men's Bible Study, 6:30pm, Church

Friday: BSF, 9:30-11:30am, Life House (No meeting 12-27-24)

CHRISTMAS SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters to find the Christian Christmas words.

ABYB	_____	ABML	_____
OJY	_____	FTIG	_____
ASRT	_____	YRPA	_____
LDGO	_____	SUEJS	_____
AGENL	_____	SCTRHI	_____



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O K F A Z B T B B I B G I F T S P N
 H P C I C W E J P P I G O D V F B Q
 Z F M G O L D T F H R E T X D L E O
 J U C I X J O A H L T A C D A O M R
 B Q S Z Y O G T J L H S D U V C E H
 X Q A F T S A Z H E E T T D I K R V
 P L V B H E B H R E S H J A D S C Y
 O V I W R P R H U V S U E I R T Y A
 X F O Q O H I Z T L B O S M F W G N
 H V U N N N E D H L A Y C T I R V V
 I T R X E I L F S H E P H E R D S J
 Q J E C F J E G Y P T C A T T L E P

SHEPHERDS
 BETHLEHEM
 SAVIOUR
 GABRIEL
 CLOTHES
 JOSEPH
 CATTLE

BIRTH
 GOLD
 STAR
 EAST
 GOD

THRONE
 FLOCKS
 JESUS
 MERCY
 GIFTS
 EGYPT
 DAVID



Fill the grids so that each horizontal row, vertical column and subgrid contains each letter exactly once.



ADVENT

	T	D			
		A	T	N	
	E				N
A		N			T
		E		T	
V	N			A	

JOYFUL

Y		O			
	J			O	Y
				U	F
	F			Y	L
U	Y			J	
L			T	F	

