

# Newsletter

#07 | December 1, 2023



## Kirksville First Assembly of God

### From Bobbie's Desk...

#### The Most Treasured Gift

I have to say it: I ABSOLUTELY LOVE Christmas. It's my favorite time of year. I don't like the hustle and bustle, but I do love the celebration of Christ's birth. The older I get, the more and more I appreciate what Christmas really means.

Nothing is more important to me than being with my family and reflecting on why we celebrate to begin with. Coming from a dysfunctional home, I strived to find my own path as an adult - feeling I didn't NEED my family. Which, in some ways was good for me because I found my identity in Christ, but in other ways, I lost out on years with my family.

Through the years, I learned to forgive and grow closer to my family. When my dad passed away in 2011, I realized then just how much family was truly important. Christmas time isn't the same these days because my dad is gone, but that's bitter-sweet. The Christmas before he died, my dad went to Christmas Eve service with me at church - a dream come true for me. Being a daddy's girl, I was overjoyed.

Christmas has always been about Christ's birth, no matter the circumstances. I'm just thankful these days I spend it celebrating with my loved ones. I cherish my family. We give gifts, pray, eat, fight, laugh, enjoy each other's company, etc. We give thanks to God for providing His one and only Son - the most treasured gift of all.

None of us are promised tomorrow. I think about people who lose their loved ones right around the holidays and my heart goes out to them. I'm thankful to know my dad is in heaven and I will see him again one day, but can we say that for everyone we know? So, as we are hurrying about this season to get all the presents, to decorate, and to prepare meals, etc., let's all take time to give the most treasured gift of Jesus. He truly is the reason for the season.

#### What's Inside

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# Ministry Updates

## *She Believes Ministry*

The She Believes Ministry is getting busy again. We've ordered t-shirts and hoodies with a new logo and scripture. If you'd like a shirt and/or a hoodie, let the office know. In December, the ladies are hosting the High Hope Christmas Party.

Volunteers are needed. Please see Tiffany Ellis if you are able/willing to help. This party is possible because of the proceeds of the rummage sale we had in the summer. The ladies will also be having their Christmas party disclosing their secret sisters for the year.

## *KidMin*

Angela is working with the kids to put on a Christmas program for the month of December. Join us December 17 at the 10:45 a.m. service.

## *Missions/Outreach Ministry*

The Missions/Outreach Ministry is at it again. We have been collecting items for Angela Miller (she and her mom used to attend until her mom passed away in September) for a Christmas package. Angela is now living with her brother and his family in Iowa. We wanted to let Angela know we love and miss her.

Through the month of December we're planning to do a few things to reach out to our community. We'll keep you posted as we do them.



# Pastor's Thoughts

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A disciple of Jesus will live a Christ-centered life. In the first place, they have made a personal, public confession of their loyalty to Jesus. As a result they try their best to live a life that embodies that loyalty and takes center stage of all they do and say and think. A Christ-centered disciple is not the result of a one-time prayer, but rather an ongoing life dedicated to personal and public displays of both prayer to God through Jesus and worship of the Trinity. As a result of their loyalty to Jesus, they seek to make more disciples who will commit to live a loyal, Christ-centered lives.

-Pastor Shawn



# Dates to Remember



**Sunday, December 10, 2023:** She Believes Christmas Party  
3:30 p.m..

**Sunday, December 17, 2023:** Kid's Christmas Program



**Tuesday, December 19, 2023:** High Hope Christmas Party  
11 a.m.

**Sunday, December 24, 2023:** Christmas Eve Morning Service at 10:00 a.m. **Mary Farwell will be speaking.** Candlelight Service at 5:00 p.m. **Eldon Tracy will be speaking.**



**Monday, December 25, 2023:** Christmas Day

## Birthdays

## No Anniversaries

- **Mary Farwell** 12/15
- **Tiffany Ellis** 12/27
- **Chelsea Ragland** 12/28



2023

# December

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1	2
	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Connection Groups</p> <p>10:45 a.m. Worship</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Connection Groups</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Overcoming Strongholds</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 p.m. College/Career</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Family Night</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Section 5 Pastors Brunch @ Colton's.</p>
<p>3:30 p.m. She Believes Christmas Party</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Connection Groups</p> <p>10:45 a.m. Worship</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Overcoming Strongholds</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 p.m. College/Career</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Family Night</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>Mary Farwell</b></p>	<p>16</p>
	<p>17</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Connection Groups</p> <p>10:45 a.m. Worship</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Connection Groups</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Overcoming Strongholds</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00 a.m. High Hope Christmas Party</p> <p>7:00 p.m. College/Career</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Family Night</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Christmas Eve</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Service</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Christmas Day</i></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Tiffany Ellis</b></p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>Chelsea Ragland</b></p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>New Year's Eve</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Connection Groups</p> <p>10:45 a.m. Worship</p>						