



THE JOURNEY *of Christmas*

Monthly Newsletter of MMBC December 2019

THE JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS

This year the focus of Christmas will be on the journey we take to worship our Savior. Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. After hearing the angels proclaim the birth of Jesus, the Shepherds traveled to the manger. The Wise Men traveled by starlight to bring their gifts in honor of Jesus. Our journey may include distractions, obstacles, heavy burdens, or busy schedules. Hopefully, we take time to allow the Light of Jesus to guide us and lay our burdens down to worship the Savior!

December 1st “A Guiding Light”

A flashlight is an important instrument when traveling at night. It illuminates the path in front of us and provides the opportunity for us to see things that we are unable to see at night. The Wise Men followed the star through the night sky to reach the Christ Child. Upon reaching their destination, they bowed down and worshipped Jesus. During this Christmas season, what are you using to guide you? Is Christ the guiding light in your life?

December 8th “A Heavy Load”

As they followed the star to the manger, the Wise Men carried gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These gifts were provided as a way to show honor to Jesus. While many people will spend time filling stockings and packing gifts, they may also be carrying heavy loads of guilt, anger, worry and fear. Jesus said, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28; ESV).” The greatest gift we can give to God is our life. It may take laying our burdens before the Savior to give God our full attention.

Christmas Activities

Christmas Movie Night:

December 7 from 6:00pm-8:00pm. We will be hosting a Children's Movie Night for all families that want to attend. We will be watching "Christmas Chronicles". Menu will be pizza, chips, snacks, popcorn, etc. We encourage everyone to wear their pajamas and bring your favorite snugglies. We will have a Best PJs Competition!! Everyone is welcome to attend, even if you don't bring a child with you.

Wrapping Party

December 8th

We will be wrapping Christmas gifts for families in our community right after the worship service. Everyone including kids are invited to participate.

Family of Faith Breakfast

December 15th at 9:00am.

The Children's Ministry Team will be hosting the breakfast. More details will be provided for additional food items needed.

Children's Christmas Program

December 15 Morning Worship

Christmas Cantata

Dec. 22 Morning Worship

Christmas Eve Service

Dec. 24 6:00pm at MMBC

No Sunday Evening Worship Service

During the month of December there will be no Sunday Evening Worship Service. Please note the additional Sunday Activities throughout the month.

BELPRE AREA MINISTRIES

We will be collecting canned corn and canned pork & beans for families in our community. We are asking for 75 cans of corn and 75 cans of pork & beans. Items need to be donated by Dec. 15.

Christmas Gifts for Adopt A Family

MMBC has adopted one Family (with 4 children) for Christmas this year from Belpre Elementary School. We will be purchasing and wrapping gifts for the children. We are asking the congregation monetary donations only toward the purchase of the gifts. Please give your donations to Lisa Stone or Amy Fallon. You may also drop it in the offering plate designating that it is for the *Adopt A Family*. On *Dec. 8th*, after the morning service, we will have a light lunch (soups and sandwiches) and wrapping party for those interested in participating in this outreach.

Merry Christmas

Advent

The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The Advent wreath is a circular evergreen wreath. It has four candles in the wreath and a candle in the center. The circle of the wreath is symbolic of eternity. The greenery of the wreath is symbolic of the hope we have in God and of eternal life. The light of the candles reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and that we are called to be a light of God's grace to others.

Advent provides us with the opportunity to

- Look back at what God has promised and fulfilled.
- Look forward to the promises yet to be fulfilled, but with the faith that what God has accomplished in the past, God will fulfill in His promises in the future.
- We celebrate: Love, Joy, Peace and Hope
- Our response to Advent should be: 2 Peter 3:8-13
- We come to believe that God is still at work in heaven and that his work directly impacts what is happening on earth.
- We pray and live in that his will would be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10)



The color of the candles are represented below:

- Candle 1 (purple) Hope
- Candle 2 (purple) Peace
- Candle 3 (rose) Joy
- Candle 4 (purple) Love
- Candle 5 (white) Christ - *The Light of the World*



Harvest Dinner



We had a wonderful Harvest Dinner. Thank You to Sandy Kirk and the social committee for their work on the dinner. Thanks to everyone who donated food.

**Mullen Memorial Baptist Church
Balance Sheet
As of 11/31/2019**

Assets		Date	12/6/2019
	Current Assets		
Cash	Peoples Bank Checking		883.31
Cash	Peoples Bank Checking Education Fund		169.87
Cash	Peoples Bank Savings		4,552.76
Cash	Northwestern Dreyfus Funds		58.93
US Gov Stock	Northwestern Mutual Funds		72,423.47
C/D	Riverview Credit Union		10,269.94
	Total Current Assets		88,358.28
Liability			
	Current Liabilities		
Missions	ABC		516.00
Missions	BYF		172.00
Missions	BAM		172.00
Missions	Scout House Repairs		1,719.66
Taxes	Federal Payroll		808.65
Taxes	WV & Ohio Withholding		(9.43)
Taxes	Belpre City Withholding		(42.43)
	Total Current Liabilities		3,336.45
	Difference		85,021.83

Income Summary	Budget	Actual	Variance
	125,962.50	102,888.05	(23,074.45)
Revenue			-
Taxes	806.63	876.50	69.87
Expense			
Ministry	10,473.53	6,717.40	(3,756.13)
Operations	23,112.62	16,979.52	(6,133.10)
Staff	79,144.25	74,613.52	(4,530.73)
Utilites	11,366.74	14,377.84	3,011.10
Total Expenses	124,903.77	113,564.78	(11,338.99)
Other Income	91.63	3,796.54	3,704.91
Other Expenses	5.00	2,560.00	2,555.00
Net	1,145.36	(9,440.19)	(10,585.55)

SERVICES:

SUNDAY:

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship Service

WEDNESDAY:

6:00pm Bible Study

You can now access sermon videos and sermon notes on our website www.mmbcabc.org
Click the "Go Deeper" button on the front of the webpage then click the option you would like to view.

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Find us on the web at www.mmbcabc.org



Deacon of the Month: Joe Lowers 740-401-3005