

## December 2019 Newsletter

### From Heaven's Heart

#### “What Does Christmas Mean to You”

- Does it mean the excitement of the packages under the tree?
- Does it mean the excitement of seeing the kids, grandkids & family opening their gifts?
- Does it mean the Christmas music?
- Does it mean the aroma of the wonderful meal being prepared touching all your senses?
- Does it mean ridding through the neighborhood seeing the beautiful lights and the really tacky decorations? The tackier the better for me. I love the colorful, creative, wild, tacky decorations...in the neighbors yard.
- Does it mean coming to the candlelight service on Christmas Eve with more of the family than usual?
- Does it mean having the kids home from college or everyone home for your once or twice a year celebration?
- Does it mean wearing your credit card out so your kids or grandkids can have the things you wish you had but your parents couldn't afford it?
- Does it mean dreading the credit card bills arriving in Jan?

- Does it mean taking time to think about the Savior of the world coming to save us from ourselves?

What does Christmas mean to you? What do you treasure the most about Christmas?

Luke 2:13-21 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

**14** “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” **15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” **16** So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. **17**

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were

amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary

treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had

been told. <sup>21</sup> On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise

the child, ***he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.***

Would you join me in taking the time to make a note on your cell phone with your alert set for everyday of the year? Just enter the name **Jesus**. Close your eyes. Say His name. Allow **Jesus** to speak to you. Be silent. Let Jesus fill your heart, soul and mind with His Spirit. **Jesus**...Feel His strong hands lift you up from the pain, heartache, loneliness, troubles, disappointments, concerns. **Jesus**. Breath in His grace and forgiveness! **Jesus**. He came and He will return once again to settle all the matters of this world. **Jesus**.

**Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!** Let all Heaven and earth proclaim. Master, Savior, **Jesus**.

Merry Christmas...and may His presence fill you up with all He promises to those who have confessed their sinfulness and believed that He is the Son of God, came to earth to prove to the world He is who the Bible says He is. He came to earth, suffered, died and on the third day, He rose again from the grave...now **Jesus** lives forever.

What does Christmas mean to you?

From Andrea and me, Christmas means thinking of the way you have loved us both unconditionally...just like **Jesus** loves us all.

Love you forever,

Pastor Steve

PS Almost forgot...Christmas means having Andrea's chicken and dressing. Yes!