

December 201

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		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
					1 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Karate @ 10am Spanish @3pm
	4 Praise B. Rehearse Fellowship @ 9:45am Worship Service @ 11am Children's Church 10:50 China Christmas Banquet	5 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Ballet @ 2:30pm	6 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Children's Chapel @9:30 Prayer Group @ 10:30am Spanish 3pm Creative Chaos 5:30	7 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Men's Small Group 6am Teen Small Group @6pm Choir rehearsal @6pm	8 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Karate @ 10am Spanish @3pm
	11 Praise B. Rehearse Fellowship @ 9:45am Worship Service @ 11am Children's Church 10:50 Christmas Cantata	12 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Ballet @ 2:30pm	13 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Children's Chapel @9:30 Prayer Group @ 10:30am Spanish 3pm Creative Chaos 5:30	14 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Men's Small Group 6am Teen Small Group @6pm Choir rehearsal @6pm Preschool Christmas play	15 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Karate @ 10am Spanish @ 3pm
	18 Praise B. Rehearse Fellowship @ 9:45am Worship Service @ 11am Children's Program White Christmas offering	19 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Ballet @ 2:30pm	20 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Children's Chapel @9:30 Prayer Group @ 10:30am Spanish 3pm Creative Chaos 5:30	21 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Men's Small Group 6am Teen Small Group @6pm Choir rehearsal @6pm	22 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Karate @ 10am Spanish @ 3pm
	25 Praise B. Rehearse Fellowship @ 9:45am Worship Service @ 10am	26 Preschool CLOSED Office CLOSED	27 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Children's Chapel @9:30 Prayer Group @ 10:30 Spanish 3pm Creative Chaos 5:30	28 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Men's Small Group 6am Teen Small Group @6pm Choir rehearsal @6pm	29 Preschool 6:30am-6pm Karate @ 10am Spanish @ 3pm
	Adult Life Gro Join us as we wrap up a g celebratory Christmas pa drinks will be provided. Sin ornament to swap (per p held at the McGahee res men for directions at 706.	great year with a inty. Food and mply bring a \$5 erson). The party is sidence. Call Car- a sho	becember 18th the children will sing several songs during tren's church meets from 10 unday mornings. We enjoy so ort sermon and piece of scrip a lot of fun learning about	of Wood- g service. 50am-11:15 ongs, crafts, oture. We At The Dc *Each bag one to c	awn logo Bac illy Bread Café on Sun \$5 per bag purchased allows us guests or a new mem



Family Ministries

What Will You Do With Christmas?

If you google Christmas and its origin or traditions you will find an overwhelming amount of information and opinions. Such as in America, Christmas is considered a "cultural" event more than a religious occasion. Did you know that in the United States, Christmas is a National Holiday, whereas Easter and Good Friday are not? Unfortunately, you won't find scripture to back up the celebration of Christ's birth.

So, what will you do with Christmas? Put up a tree, decorate the house, go shopping and maybe attend a party or two? These are all ways we celebrate Christmas in America but how will you and your family make sure Christ is shared on this national holiday?

Maybe place the names of Christ on the tree to remind all who gaze at it's beauty to ponder who He is. While you decorate the house, possibly place a manger scene on the front lawn for all who pass by to see His story.

Gift giving can be done in such a way that it is instructive, meaningful and in keeping with biblical teaching concerning stewardship. I've heard some friends say they give their children only three gifts to represent the three gifts of the Wise men. You may use this time of year to have the family pick a way to give to someone less fortune. Try sharing the gift of Christ while you're out shopping. Who knows; this may be the first time someone you encounter hears of who Christ is and why He was born.

Tacky Christmas Sweater parties are all the rage, so maybe a twist on this could be the Best Christstory Sweater party. Conversations starters like "What do you do to try to keep Christ in Christmas?" or "Why do you think Jesus came to earth?" or "Why do you think people started celebrating the birth of Jesus?" could be used while at a Christmas party. Yet another party idea could be to head up a Christmas Caroling Party for shut-ins.

So, What Will You Do With Christmas?



Preschool

Luke 2:12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.

Thanksgiving Lunch: Thanks to all of you who made it to our Thanksgiving Luncheon. We had a great turn out and I think it was awesome! We will do it again next vear.

SAVE THE DATES: The center will close at 3:00 December 23rd. We will also be closed Monday December 26th in observance of Christmas Day. We will be closed Monday January 2nd in observance of New Years Day.

Christmas Program: Our annual Christmas Program will be December 14th from 5:30-7:00pm. If you and your child are not participating in the program please plan to be here early to pick up so that the teachers will be able to help with the program.

"Because I've Been Blessed I'm Going To Be A Blessing!"



*Ren Jacobs during the Preschool Thanksgiving Program

Rooted In Faith

Attention Woodlawn seniors and retirees: Our Christmas Drop-In is scheduled for December 21st at Joan Satcher's house from 2:00pm Until 4:30pm. Light refreshments will be served as we have an opportunity to enjoy Christmas time and reflect on the true meaning of the season. Joan's address is 676 Glen Abbey Drive which is part of The Abbeys at Westlake. Take Furys Ferry Road and turn right on Evans-to-locls Road. The house is on the right hand side as you drive down the main road into the sub-division. See you there!

THE TIDINGS **Woodlawn United Methodist**



Mary's Hallelujah

This week we begin preparing ourselves for Advent - the most counter-cultural season of the Christian Year. Why countercultural? Because the readings and themes of the lituray call us to wonder and wait, while all around us, the culture presses us to celebrate. The days are coming, but are not yet... So, when all around us are the sounds of Christmas, let's remember to wait: to ponder the promises, to prepare our hearts for the miracle.

During Advent I will present one song each week, in a variety of arrangements and settings. This week, we stand in awe with Mary as she receives and accepts the news of the coming Messiah.

If you are reading this newsletter on your computer, mobile phone or tablet, click on this link: https://m.youtube.com/watch? list=PLrzGci7bdi7daZo9EnuKvWtCasm1gLLZi&v=dO5wmFi9sfA

If you are reading the printed version then enter in your internet browser: Gabriel's Message: Good Shepherd Band

Gabriel's Message (arr. Edgar Pettman)

1 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; 'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

2 'For known a blessèd Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee, thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers forefold; most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, 'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said, 'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name': most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas mom, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say 'Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Let us wait: to ponder the promises, to prepare our hearts for the miracle.

Rev Jim

December 2016

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