

WELCOME



If you are a first time visitor please fill out one of our **Information Cards** available at the Information Center or in the Sanctuary. We want to thank you for joining us today as we celebrate God's grace and goodness together. Please be sure to introduce yourself to us and thanks again for coming.

This is the day the Lord has made!

Pastor Mills will be sharing from the Scriptures today.

***Wed. Worship, Bible Study, and Prayer gathering Wed. Dec. 9, at 7:00 PM. A Study of 1, 2, and 3 John.**

ROCC Youth Gatherings—Friday Nights @ 7:00 PM SEE PASTOR MARCO!

Part Four "Christmas with Style" Video Series for youth NEXT WEEK.

Christmas Eve Service: Dec. 24th 7-8 pm, celebrating our Savior's Birth!

The anniversary date for our church mortgage is December 17, each year. It is at this time that we are able to apply extra funds directly against the principal without penalty. As we reduce and eventually eliminate the debt it releases more funds for ministry. We have this Sunday and next Sunday, Dec. 13, to give towards this. The extra funds must be sent on Dec. 17. If you can give extra towards debt reduction today, would you please mark that clearly on your offering envelope. If you need more time or have questions please see the treasurer, Ben Banfield. Thank you!

JUST FOR KIDS

Our children join us for worship in the main Sanctuary until they are called to the altar area for prayer. They will then attend Sunday School and will be supervised by our capable workers. Their special Bible lesson will conclude at the same time as the adult service.

On the first Sunday of each month (Communion Sunday) our children will stay with their parents in the main sanctuary for the entire service. Nursery will function as usual and be available every Sunday.

Nursery is supervised and available when the children are dismissed from the sanctuary.

Over the next few weeks we are going to examine several reasons why we believe that God became man! Truthfully, that is the primary reason believers began to celebrate what has become known as Christmas. Christmas is a birth celebration but no ordinary birth. It is the **"Advent"**; the arrival of God in flesh!

In the rural fields of Bethlehem adjacent to Jerusalem, angel beings came to announce a very special and long awaited message to shepherds. (Luke 2) These shepherds were tending sheep that in all likelihood were temple sheep; select sheep carefully chosen for sacrifice. John the Baptist referred to Jesus as **"The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"** (John 1: 29)

This incredible encounter was no coincidence but part of God's eternal plan of salvation; bridging the great prophecy of Isaiah and the reality of the virgin Mary giving birth. **"Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."** (Luke 2: 10-12)

Notice that the angel said that this Baby is a gift to all people. Christ came through the Israelites and He is a gift to the entire world. The good news of Christ the Savior has reached billions.

F.Y.I.

Our new chairs will be arriving in January.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes: Thank you for making a difference in the lives of over 40 children this Christmas. The Christmas shoe boxes were delivered to the designated Distribution Centre. Along with many others they will be sent to children all over the world. Thanks for your help!