

Presbyterian 'Connection'

DECEMBER 2014 Volume 21 Issue 12

A Word from Dr. Fred

ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS

Beginning with the first Sunday in Advent, we are On The Road With Jesus, a journey through the Gospel of Luke. Now is a good time to begin reading the Gospel of Luke, taking in its richness and grace.

We are faced with a lot of decisions in life. The one's that are of key importance are those that determine the direction our life is going to take morally. The one's that set our standard of living. In Proverbs 4, we are reminded that we have the choice of choosing right or choosing wrong. We can take the high road or we can take the low road. The road we choose is a reminder of a road sign from the early days of the automobile that went something like this, "Be careful which rut you get into. You will be in it for the next 5 miles." Reading and absorbing the teachings in the Gospel of Luke will help us to be "On The Road With Jesus."

Living "On The Road With Jesus" is like walking or running on a safe road, one that is free of obstacles. It leads to getting to where you really want to go if your heart is right. It's the way to go. Something this essential needs to be enthusiastically sought.

The road of wickedness leads to destruction. It perverts the heart of the person that opts for it. It so possesses and enslaves the mind that it becomes addicted to evil. It becomes so possessive that the person making that option for living can't rest or sleep until the evil on the mind goes into action. It must be avoided like the plague.

Where does this all fit into the Christian life? The first thing is that we must choose to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and let him put a right spirit within us, the Spirit of God. The road we take must be the Jesus Road. We are called upon to "turn our eyes upon Jesus." In Ephesians 6:10 we read, "Be strong in the Lord and his mighty power."

This all comes from turning our eyes upon Jesus. It is a searching by the heart and mind for his righteousness. To seek after and live by the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ is the goal of the Christian life. When we do that the rest of life will fall into its proper place. Paul had this prayer for the Christians at Philippi:

This is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ--to the glory and praise of God.

Turning our eyes upon Jesus is the wisest thing that we can do in life. The Christ centered life is taking the high road, the Jesus Road. It is taking our eyes off of instant gratification and placing them on the Eternal. As we have seen on cups, bookmarks, and other items at Christmas time, "Wise Men Still Serve Him!" I close with this proverbial teaching found in the refrain of a poem set to music as a hymn.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full into His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.*

"On the Jesus Road" with you!
God bless! Fred

Keep Christ in Christmas! Have a blessed holiday!



ZWANI.COM

October Income - \$3,835.87

October Expenses - \$8,175.06

Cards for Jane Anderson could best be sent to her home at;
P.O. Box 155 Bull Shoals, AR. 72619

Rich & Frieda Danderson's new phone # 417-501-1558 & address;
3328 S. Barrington Ave. Springfield, MO. 65807



Coffee & Fellowship

Be sure to drop in for coffee, maybe a Danish or cookies and wonderful fellowship on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Memorial Hall!

Presbyterian Women would like to share the following timely Devotion given by Irene Bere at the November 11th meeting. It is a poem that was shared many years ago by Father Peter, Executive Director of Boy's Town, Nebraska, with the children of Boys Town and with supporting friends of Boys Town.

~We thank God for our many, many blessings!~

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS INSTEAD OF YOUR CROSSES

COUNT YOUR GAINS INSTEAD OF YOUR LOSSES

COUNT YOUR JOYS INSTEAD OF YOUR WOES

COUNT YOUR FRIENDS INSTEAD OF YOUR FOES

COUNT YOUR SMILES INSTEAD OF YOUR TEARS

COUNT YOUR COURAGE INSTEAD OF YOUR FEARS

COUNT YOUR FULL YEARS INSTEAD OF YOUR LEAN ONES

COUNT YOUR KIND DEEDS INSTEAD OF YOUR MEAN ONES

COUNT YOUR HEALTH INSTEAD OF YOUR WEALTH

COUNT ON GOD INSTEAD OF YOURSELF.

Submitted by PW - Irene Bere

Connection Online

If you would like to read the "Connection" newsletter online, go to our website;

<http://www.presbyterianchurchofbullshoals>

Click on the 'Info Center' tab at the top, then on the drop-down menu, click on "Presbyterian Connection", then choose the month of the newsletter you would like to read. The most recent newsletter will be at the top.

Our church face book page

<https://www.facebook.com/presbyterian.shoals>

Our church email address

presch@suddenlinkmail.com



WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER 7th
"The Road to Being God's Servant"
Luke 1:26-38
Isaiah 40:1-11 & 2 Peter 3:8-15a
COMMUNION



POT LUCK



DECEMBER 14th
"The Road to Blessedness"
Luke 1:39-56
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
POTLUCK



DECEMBER 21st
"The Road to Calling God Blessed"
Luke 1:57-80
2 Samuel 7:1-11 & Romans 16:25-27
BLESSING OF THE FOOD PANTRY
MINUTE FOR MISSION
"CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING"



DECEMBER 24th
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
6:00 p.m.
The Baptist Church will celebrate with us.

DECEMBER 28th
"The Road to Consecration"
Luke 2:21-40
Isaiah 61:10, 62:3 & Galatians 4:4-7



CHURCH USHERS/GREETERS

December 7 - Ken Hobart & Dick Sass
 December 14 - Irene Bere & Betty Craig
 December 21 - Linda Allensworth & Sandy Erickson
 December 24 - Sandy Erickson & Meg Simons
 December 28 - Ed & Peni Lloyd

COMMUNION SERVERS

The Choir

PRAYER LIST FOR CONGREGATIONS, PRESBYTERY OF AR. - 2014

December 7 - Mountainburg Church, Mountainburg	Retired Ministers & Educators
December 14 - Laotian Ministry, Ft. Smith	First, Stuttgart
December 21 - Memorial Church, Atkins	First, Walnut Ridge
December 28 - Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay	One-O-One Church, Gamaliel

PLEASE NOTIFY PAT ERLEWINE IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO SHOULD BE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.



BIRTHDAYS

December

December 5 - Lee Powell
 December 6 - Shirley Lowe
 December 8 - Linda Allensworth
 December 11 - Jewel Riley
 December 20 - Bruce Powell



January

January 2 - Dot Pitts
 January 9 - Mary Kerr
 January 19 - Bob Hobbs
 January 19 - Rich Danderson

ANNIVERSARIES

December 30 - Bob & Gloria Wiles



January 10 - Freida & Rich Danderson
 January 28 - Ray & Pat Erlewine

LIBRARY LINES DECEMBER 2014



The Christmas Books, videos and CD's will be located on the library cart in the Children's Library. The Children's Christmas books and videos will be displayed on the Children's Library book shelves.

We have two new fiction Christmas Books: **AN AMISH SECOND CHRISTMAS** by Beth Wiseman, etc. and **THE WESTWARD CHRISTMAS BRIDES COLLECTION** by Wanda Brunstetter, etc.

The book of the month is: **THE WESTWARD CHRISTMAS BRIDES.**

"Only the brave--or foolhardy--would attempt a westward journey during the winters of the 1800s. But the promises of a new life are strong for those taking wagon trains, stagecoaches, or passenger trains to new settlements, as well as those using any excuse to run from their pasts, gain adventure, and find a place to call home. In this exclusive collection of nine Christmas romances, readers will experience unique Christmas celebrations along with historical characters penned by some of Christian fiction's beloved authors, including New York Times bestselling author Wanda E. Brunstetter."

Enjoy the books and a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year to all.



Faye Brackett, Librarian

MISSION MINUTE

DECEMBER-2014



One thing that has encouraged me about the emergence of the church in various countries in Central Asia is seeing the young age of many believers. In one country I met a young lady who grew up in a strong Muslim family. When she graduated from the university, she got a job translating Christian materials. As she worked, she argued with the Christians she was helping, saying that the things she was translating were not true. Then one night God came to her in a dream, asking her why she wouldn't follow Jesus. She became a follower!

By the time I met her, she had started 30 house churches in her home city and surrounding area. She was still in her 20's! She was mentoring three or four young men and women, including her younger brother, to take over discipleship in those churches. Four years later I learned that she had moved on to another area to plant churches.

All of the above has been happening in a country where followers of Jesus are under attack from the central government. Leaders are jailed and fined. Missionaries are not allowed into the country. Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship continues to connect very carefully with local believers through email and occasional visits by one or two people. Don't feel sorry for us, and don't pray that we will have no problems. Pray that we will be faithful!

Rev. Bill Young, executive director, Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship. Reminder: The Christmas Card tree will be out again this year in the Narthex. We will continue with the Christmas Joy offering through Dec. 21st.

Thank you,
The Mission Committee

“TILL WE SPEAK AGAIN”

Tw'as the night before census and all through the land, not much was stirring but a donkey, a woman and a man.

The couple was very weary, traveling far from Nazareth to reach Bethlehem, only to be told there was no more room in the inn.

The man was desperate, he begged for anything available. The innkeeper told him he just put fresh hay in the stable.

That child was born and placed in his bed, a manger. At least it was warm and safe from any danger.

In the fields there were shepherds watching their sheep, when angels appeared, singing praises to the new-born King, now asleep.

The shepherds went to hold the wondrous site. They found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus in the stable that night.

A star shining bright in the sky overhead, marked the place of the little baby's manger bed.

Wise men from the east came following that star. They brought gifts fit for a king, which is why they traveled so far.

When all was quiet as it was at the start, Mary thought about all that had happened, and she pondered it in her heart.

**Merry Christmas,
Luv, Millie *aka-Meg***

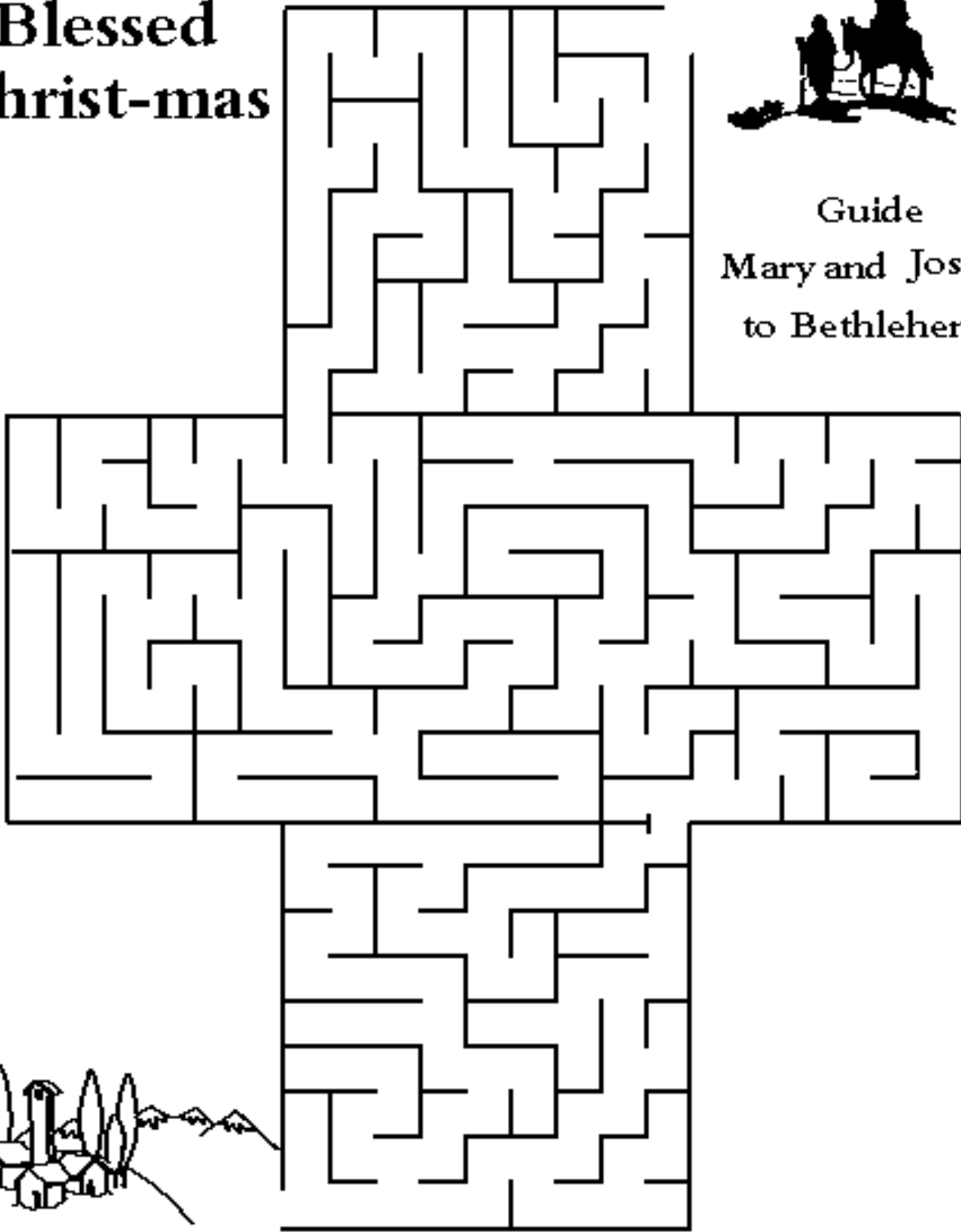


DECEMBER PUZZLE

Have a
Blessed
Christ-mas



Guide
Mary and Joseph
to Bethlehem.





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

As the north winds blow, the leaves fall from up above, and the temperatures start to drop, we can only look back at the great year the Presbyterian Women have had.

We started the year with a great Ice Cream Social, followed by our No Bake, Bake Sale and then our great Potato Bash. Thank you to Jini Sass for all she did to put together meetings, helpers, and a few good men of the church to help set up tables, place signs and wash dishes. Let's not forget all our church lady friends who donated toppings for the potatoes, (plus wash the taters, oil and wrap them) and wonderful cakes, all home made! Our income this year was \$1,029.00, but our net profit was \$805.00. Good job! Thanks again everyone!

Our hostesses for the November meeting were Amy Johnson and Linda Allensworth. Irene Bere gave the devotions. It was a timely devotion from Father Peters at the Boys Ranch. Thank you girls.

This year we all have enjoyed several men who have joined us at our meetings. It was great to have you Steve Broskovak, Fred Taylor, Bill Jeffery's and Bill Kerr. Please continue to attend with us and bring a friend. Help us to keep P.W., church strong.

A sad announcement came from Bill & Ada Jeffrey who will be leaving to go home with their son and family. For many years they have not only been active in our church, but in P.W., as well. We will miss you both and wish you both well and in good health.

We are starting our last project for the year. It is our Head Start Christmas. We are asking for donations from our friends to help cover the large expense it will take. There are 20 children this year; ten boys and 10 girls. A rough guess is about \$25.00-\$30.00 per child. If you would like to donate, please make your check out to Presbyterian Women, and down on the memo line, you may write "Head Start" there. Thank you everyone!

At the next meeting which is our last for the year of 2014, all who attend are asked to bring a jar of peanut butter, so we can donate them to the Food Pantry. Remember also ladies, to bring your other donations to the Food Pantry.

May everyone have a 'Blessed Christmas' and a 'Very Happy New Year'! Stay safe, and keep a smile on your face and a song in your heart!

God Bless,
Mary Kerr
Moderator

RECIPE FOR DECEMBER

ANGEL FOOD CAKE "VARIATIONS"

Ingredients

Base: 1 box of 1-step Angel Food Cake Mix



Directions

12 PIECES & FREEZES WELL

Mix the angel food cake mix and desired flavor ingredients together and beat by hand until blended. Pour into an ungreased 9 x 13 pan and bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes until golden brown. Cool upside down for best results.

Variations

LEMON

1 CUP WATER
5 T. LEMON JUICE
2 t. GRATED LEMON PEEL

ORANGE CITRUS

1 CUP ORANGE JUICE
3 T. WATER
2 t. GRATED ORANGE PEEL

CHERRY

1 CAN (20 OZ) CHERRY PIE FILLING

BLACK FOREST

1 CAN (20 OZ) CHERRY PIE FILLING
1/2 CUP COCOA

COTTON CANDY

1 SMALL PACKAGE (3.4 OZ) JELLO
1 1/4 CUPS WATER

MARGARITA

1 CUP + 2 T. WATER
2 T. FRESH LIME JUICE
1 1/2 t. GRATED LIME RIND

PINEAPPLE

1 CAN (20 OZ) CRUSHED PINEAPPLE AND THE JUICE

PINA COLADA

1 CAN (20 OZ) CRUSHED PINEAPPLE AND THE JUICE
1 T. COCONUT EXTRACT
1 T. RUM EXTRACT

PUMPKIN

1 CAN (15 OZ) PUMPKIN
3/4 CUP WATER
1 T. VANILLA
1 1/2 t. CINNAMON
1/2 t. GINGER
1/2 t. NUTMEG
1/4 t. GROUND CLOVES

****Submitted by Pat Erlewine**

THIS WE BELIEVE for DECEMBER

"For God So Loved the World That He Gave His Only Begotten Son, That Whoever Believes In Him Shall Not Perish But Have Everlasting Life."
"John 3:16"

~MISSION STATEMENT~

"We will be scripture-based to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and spiritually led to guide all people to be active doers of the Word"

Approved by Session on November 16, 2007

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Fred Taylor, Clerk of Session: Vicky Bair, Church Treasurer: Ken Hobart,
Secretary: Christi Partee, Financial Secretary: Dick Sass, Asst. Financial Secretary: Elaine Miller

DEACONS

Class of 2014

Ed Lloyd
Amy Johnson

Class of 2015

Pam Hobart
Dick Sass

Class of 2016

Sandy Erickson
Pat Erlewine

ELDERS

Class of 2014

Meg Simons
Peni Lloyd

Class of 2015

Ken Hobart
Steve Broskovak

Class of 2016

Vicky Bair
Jini Sass

Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals
P.O. Box 305
Bull Shoals, AR. 72619