

# December 2018



## Church Cleaning:

1st—Brown  
8th—Reinhold  
15th—Wallentine  
22nd—Stoker  
29th—Thompson

## Annual Christmas Program

This year's annual Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 16th at 6pm at the Chubbuck facility. Come and enjoy the musical gifts of our congregation as we worship together! There will be a time of fellowship following, so bring your favorite decadent dessert with you to share! Contact Barry Hotrum at 208-220-6293 or Carol Hotrum at 208-220-6294 if you would like to participate or email at [hi-ca-rum-ba@juno.com](mailto:hi-ca-rum-ba@juno.com).

## Meal Help Sign Up

Interested in bringing a meal on occasion to those in need at UBC?

UBC has an online meal sign up! With the online sign up you can log on when there is a need and sign up on a day that is convenient for you.

If this is an area where you would like to help, please call/ email Julie Bieda at 208-899-2602 (no text available) [jewelie7@hotmail.com](mailto:jewelie7@hotmail.com) or the church office at 208-234-1971 [ubcsecretary@universitybible.org](mailto:ubcsecretary@universitybible.org)

Attention UBC Board Members!!!! The December board meeting will be on the 11th.



## New Adult Bible Fellowships

All classes start Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:45 am unless otherwise stated

### Theology 3

#### **Dan Reinhold – Worship Center**

What does it mean when we say Jesus died *for* our sins? How does God's sovereignty in salvation fit with our responsibility? Can salvation be lost? Who is the Holy Spirit? Are all the gifts of the Spirit still active today?

These are some of the questions we will be considering in the third of a series of four classes on theology. It is not necessary to have attended the first two classes to join the third class. We will cover the theology of salvation and the Holy Spirit.

### Who is Your God?

#### **Tara Potter – Adult Education Room**

Is God a demanding, angry despot or is He your faithful, trustworthy Father? We will be looking at several attributes of God and how they uphold and encourage women to walk daily for His glory. **This is a women's Sunday school class.**

### Ephesians

#### **Brad Thompson – Fellowship Hall**

**Starts December 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am**

You're a Christian. Now what? Paul's letter to the Ephesians has the answer. The church at Ephesus had been established during Paul's two-year stay. They heard the call, they believed, and they turned away from their old idols and practices. Now Paul writes to remind them of where they stand in the family of God and how to behave as members of that family.

## UBC Facebook



Like UBC on Facebook! Get updates on upcoming sermons, worship songs and events. It's a great way to stay connected!

## BUDGET

### Preliminary Figures on November Finances (Official Report will be posted mid-December)

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>November</b>	<b>\$27,993</b>	<b>\$35,417</b>
<b>For the Year</b>	<b>\$391,614</b>	<b>\$389,587</b>

## Bridal Shower for Mary Harris

Please join Mary in celebrating her upcoming wedding. Liz Harris will be hosting a bridal shower for Mary on Saturday, December 8th at 1:00 pm in the gym at the Chubbuck facility. If you have questions, contact Liz Harris at 208-637-1680.

## Book of the Month

Are you interested in reading good, biblical, transformative books but don't know where to begin? Each month we will feature one book from our resource center in the lobby. Check it out if you are looking for something to read!



### **This month's book is *The Pilgrim's Progress* By John Bunyan**

For more than 300 years only the Bible has sold more copies than *The Pilgrim's Progress*. John Bunyan's classic, first published in 1678, quickly became a hallmark among English readers and beyond, enduring down to our day as a unique resource for spiritual edification. Using the language of allegory steeped in Biblical references, Bunyan helps the Christian consider his or her spiritual journey.

## Upcoming Youth Group Activities

The UBC youth group has a fun filled fall/winter ahead of them! Mark your calendars with the following events to be sure not to miss out on any of them!

**December 1st & 2nd—11th & 12th Grade High School Retreat**  
**December 12th—Christmas Party**

If you have any questions about these events you can contact Brad Thompson at 208-251-0499 or at [brad.thompson@universitybible.org](mailto:brad.thompson@universitybible.org).

## Gluten- Free Communion

On the first Sunday of each month we celebrate communion at the end of our worship services. Gluten-free communion elements are available in the back of the worship center for those with dietary restrictions. Feel free to pick those items up before service begins or when the servers are distributing the communion elements to the rest of the congregation.

## I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day December 2018

In 1863 America was fighting herself. The Civil War raged, taking more American lives than any war since. The end of the war was still two years away, but of course those in the conflict couldn't even have known that. In that dark time Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the beautiful Christmas poem that became the carol, *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*. The pain and fear of a nation at war reverberates through the song. Longfellow felt tragedy close to home as well. In 1861 his wife of 18 years died when her dress caught on fire. He tried to extinguish the flames with his own body but was unable to save her. In 1863 his oldest son was severely wounded in the war. The bullet missed his spine by less than an inch.

Longfellow was a grieving widowed father of six and had nearly lost his son. When Christmas came in 1863 he wrote a poem that captured his mood. Author and historian Justin Taylor describes it this way:

*Longfellow . . . wrote a poem seeking to capture the dynamic and dissonance in his own heart and the world he observes around him. He heard the Christmas bells that December day and the singing of "peace on earth" (Luke 2:14), but he observed the world of injustice and*

*violence that seemed to mock the truthfulness of this optimistic outlook.*

His poem moved from observation of the sounds of Christmas to the bleak contrast of war. But then, like many of the Biblical psalms, he returned to the theme of hope.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
and wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

I thought how, as the day had come,  
the belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along the unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head  
There is no peace on earth I said  
For hate is strong and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men

Then rang the bells more loud and deep  
God is not dead, nor does he sleep  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail  
With peace on earth, good-will to men

Our world still groans under the weight of war. Disasters strike close to home as well. If you don't feel like celebrating this Christmas, perhaps like Longfellow, you need to be reminded that God is not dead, nor does He sleep. In the end, His right will prevail.



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