

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

December 25, 2016

A warm Christmas welcome to each one this Christmas morning.

In the busyness of the season, it's easy to lose sight of the miracle of Christ's birth. Yet, 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied that He would be born of a virgin.

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel (7:14)

His very name, Immanuel, means "God with us." This is God's grace in that Jesus came to bear the punishment for our sins.

Christmas is a time to rejoice. It's about redemption and hope because "He [Jesus] will save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21).

May we renew our wonder and awe of God's miraculous gift and keep those truths central in our celebration of the Savior.

Today's Schedule

Our worship today will consist of a half-hour of Christmas carols and a half-hour message from the Word. Children should stay with their parents since we will not have Children's Church. The building



will close at noon.

Listening to God

As Gil often reminds us, the Bible is God's Word to us. Our Lord wants us to know Him and to know His will for our lives, but that takes some effort on our part—it means we have to listen.

Heeding the Lord begins when we meditate upon His Word. Whether we are in church, learning under Gil's teaching, or reading the Scriptures alone, we must listen to what God is saying.

And, God is waiting for us to listen. He wants an intimate relationship with us—like He had with Moses, David, and Paul.

Would you like to have an intimate relationship with God? If so, go to His Word and listen prayerfully to the Truths He places on your heart.

Virgin Birth Is Foundational

Gil Rugh

The virgin birth of Christ is a foundational doctrine. If Jesus Christ is not the virgin-born Son of God, then no one can gain salvation through Him.

If Christ was not God, it would not matter how great a man He was or how tremendous His accomplishments were. If Christ was the greatest man who ever lived but nothing more, He could not pay the penalty for every man's sin by dying on the cross.

The virgin birth is God's statement that His Son is more than a man; He is God. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the penalty

for the sins of the world. This enables God to offer salvation as a gift to anyone who will accept it. Whoever believes in Christ has eternal life.

Mary Married Joseph

When Joseph discovered that Mary, his betrothed, was pregnant, it would have been quite a shock. It wasn't until God sent an angel to him that he understood what had happened and what he was to do.

Matthew said Joseph was a righteous man, who believed and heeded the angels. "And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as

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Virgin Birth

the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife” (Matt. 1:24).

Joseph’s response indicates his faith. After the angel explained to him that Mary had conceived by the Holy Spirit, he took Mary as his wife and, “kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus” (v. 25).

Mary and Joseph had no sexual relations until after Jesus was born. Perhaps this was to leave no doubt that Joseph was not the physical father of Jesus.

Jesus Is God and Man

John tells us that Jesus is God. “In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1).

It is remarkable that God should choose to become a man.

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).

Purpose in Becoming Man

The Word became flesh. The Word is not only God, the Word is also man—humanity, flesh—and we beheld His glory! “For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form” (Col. 2:9). Jesus is not only man—He’s God.

Jesus had to be both man and God. It was necessary for Jesus to become man so that He could be an acceptable substitute for humans and pay their sin penalty. It was also necessary that He be God so that He could offer forgiveness of sins to everyone. It is crucial that we understand the significance of the virgin birth. In that process, God became a man so that God Himself, in the person of Jesus, the God-Man, could become man’s Savior by personally paying the penalty for man’s sin.



New Year's Day Worship

January 1 • 10 a.m.

We will not meet for Sunday School or Sunday Night Church.
Coffee will not be available. The building closes at noon.

A Note from the Treasurer

Carroll Lavalleur

Offering Envelopes. The 2017 offering envelopes are available next to Sound Words. They are individually labeled in alphabetical order and may be picked up at your convenience. If you don't have an offering envelope you can have one issued to you at Sound Words.

End of Year Giving. A friendly reminder, all giving must be received by December 31 in order to qualify as an income tax deduction for 2016. December 31 falls on a Saturday so plan accordingly.



Carroll Lavalleur

Last Minute Giving. Using the church's website (www.ihcc.org) is a convenient method of doing last minute giving toward General Offering, Sound Words, or Equip Project.

WINTER INSTRUCTIONS

As cold, snow and ice storms move in, Jeff Horn and Kevin Wheat will try to keep abreast of the weather and road conditions.

Weather forecasting is tricky—even the professionals don't always get it right—but with the help of local meteorologists, our men will try their best to make sure we are not driving when it would be best to stay home.

Church cancellations or delays will be posted on the church website: www.ihcc.org



Family News

Thank You everyone for all your prayers and visits after my accident. I cannot express how much we appreciate it. Thanks to the boys for getting us moved in record time. God is so good!—Ted & Barbara Krzycki

New Address. Ted & Barbara Krzycki: 1540 N. Cotner Blvd. #123, Lincoln, NE 68505

Hospitalized. Jessica Satterthwaite was a patient at Bryan West.

Children's Studies

Sunday School did not meet today.

Children's Church did not meet today.

Information

Used Toy Donations. On January 17, Titus Tuesday will be holding a used toy swap for toys in good condition. If you are de-cluttering and would like to contribute, there will be a drop off location in the southeast foyer on January 8, 10, and 15. Books, puzzles and costumes are welcome. Questions? Call Jeri' Moser at 402-805-1651.

Wednesday night class. Perry Beard will be teaching through the Book of Ruth on Wednesday nights starting on January 11.

Awana is on Christmas break. We will resume on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:45 p.m.

A Teacher and Song Leader are needed on the first Sunday of the month at Country House (70th and O) starting the first Sunday in February. A teacher and song leader are also needed at The Arbors in north Lincoln on the fourth Sunday of every month, starting in January. Please contact Tom Price at mathmanprice@gmail.com for more information.

Titus Tuesday Ladies. We will not meet again until January 10, 2017. Enjoy the break and this special time with your loved ones.

Nursery Workers are needed for the second hour. Please contact Cheryl Slade, 402-770-3055, if you would like to help.

Nursery Workers are needed Sunday morning during the Sunday school hour. Call Stephanie Dowding, 402-416-9868.

Cleaners are needed to vacuum an area of the church once every five weeks. If you would like to help, call Jennifer Gadeken at 402-438-4671.

Used Book section is available at Sound Words. You may contribute to or make purchases of discounted and hard-to-find books. Our shelves are growing and the stock is constantly changing in both the fiction and non-fiction categories.

VBS 2017 is already in the works. Next year's title is "The Greatest Show of Heaven on Earth," and circus is the theme.

Hospitalizations. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and notify Pastor Aaron Nicholson or Curt Kuster of all hospitalizations and births. They would love to come pray with you.

Girls' Choir (fourth–twelfth grade) is on Christmas break. We will resume rehearsal on Wednesday, January 11 from 5-6:15 p.m. in the choir room.

Worship Service Online. If you are unable to attend church on Sunday and would like to worship with us through the internet, log on to www.ihcc.org and click on Resources at the top of the page. Then, click on Live Stream. The services start at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Weddings & Funerals. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and ask for Pastor Duane Nelsen or Pastor Aaron Nicholson for wedding and funeral arrangements.

Lending Library. Winter is a great time to introduce your kids to the church Lending Library. We have all kinds of books for both children and adults. Consider making this a “reading winter.”

Home Bible Studies. If you are looking for a Home Bible Study, or are interested in hosting a study in your home, contact Duane Nelsen at 402-483-4541.

Weather Alert. If you are wondering if the church will be open or closed due to the weather, check www.ihcc.org.

Learning New Songs. Would you like to learn the upcoming songs we sing each Sunday during the week? Visit our church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/IndianHillsCommunityChurch) and see the corresponding post *or* write these links down and visit these pages each week. On each page, click on the “Youtube” button to hear the song.

Sunday Morning Services Page:
tiny.cc/sundayam

Sunday Evening Services Page:
tiny.cc/sundaypm

Welcome Bags are available for first time visitors. If you brought a visitor today, be sure to visit the information center with them so they will receive their Welcome Bag.

Tornado/Storm/Fire Alert. Kevin Wheat has posted maps (with both fire and tornado escape routes noted) in each of the classrooms. Should an emergency arise, teachers will lead their students to safety using the prearranged routes.

Nursing Home Door-to-Door Evangelism. If you'd like to help, call Adam Flaugh, 402-580-3014

Last Week's Message

Dec. 18 AM. Gil Rugh. GRM 1172.
The Greatness of the One Who Came. John 1:1-18

Dec. 18 PM. DN 10. Duane Nelsen
The Attitude of Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:5-8

This Week's Events

Sunday

Morning Worship 10 a.m.
No Coffee Available
No Sunday School
No Sunday Night Church
(Building Closes at Noon)

Monday

Building Closed
No Sisters 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

No Titus Tuesday 9:15 a.m.
No Mansion Builders 7 p.m.

Wednesday

No Girls' Choir 5 p.m.
Orchestra 6 p.m.
No Awana 6:45 p.m.
No Junior High 6:45 p.m.
No Choir 7 p.m.
No Issues . . . World 7 p.m.
No Wednesday Night Study 7 p.m.
No Mansion Builders 7 p.m.

Thursday

No Alpha Omega Study 7 p.m.

Saturday

Building Closes at 3 p.m.

Future Events

January 1

Morning Worship 10 a.m.
No Coffee Available
No Sunday School
No Sunday Night Church
(Building Closes at Noon)

January 2

Building Closed
No Sisters 6:30 p.m.

January 10

Titus Tuesday Resumes

January 11

Wednesday Programs Resume

January 21

Boys of Faith Archery Clinic

January 27, 28

Boys of Faith Lock-in &
Archery Clinic

February 4

Boys of Faith Archery Clinic

February 10

Mother/Daughter Tea

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www.ihcc.org