

## Sunday Morning Worship Services

8:30 am & 11:00 am

9:30 am Fellowship/Coffee

## Church Office Hours

Monday 8:30 am—2:30 pm

Tuesday to Friday 8:30 am— 3:30 pm

Phone # 712-324-4894

E-mail: sheldonfaithmain@gmail.com

Web Address: www.sheldonfaith.org

## Church Staff :

<b>Pastor</b>	Kevin Gingerich
<b>Children's Ministry</b>	Michelle Noack
<b>Youth Director</b>	_____
<b>Worship</b>	Wil George
<b>Organists</b>	Pam Kobbe
<b>Secretary</b>	Rosa Koerselman
<b>Custodian</b>	Ron Noack

# Faith Community Church

## December 2023 Newsletter



**Our Vision:** "To open our hearts and doors to all people with love and acceptance; inviting them into a relationship with Christ, and each other; encouraging and empowering them as followers of Christ to love as He loved us; and sending them by the power of the Holy Spirit to live the word of God in our homes, community and world."

### Our Mission:

*"To Glorify God By Making Disciples For Jesus Christ"*

### Pastor's Corner:

In 2019, I had the privilege of traveling to the Holy Land in February. On the trip I took this photo of one of the caves in the Shepherd's Fields near Bethlehem, the place where Jesus was born. (Read Luke 2:1-15) Bethlehem was noted for raising "spotless lambs" to be sold at the Temple which was only a few miles away. This is not the manger Jesus was laid in, but it represents the kind of stable which existed in Bible times. As we near Christmas, and consider the "lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" was born in the same place that raised the lambs for Passover and temple sacrifice, it puts the event into a deeper perspective for me.

Jesus was the pure and spotless sacrifice that allows us to enter the presence of God. He truly made a way through the manger. He became flesh and made his dwelling among us, not in some palace, but as a servant who can relate to everyone.

Join with Faith Community as we travel through Advent together. Joy to the World.

Pastor Kevin Gingerich



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Otto Lawson, Derick Roos, Karrine Dykstra, Gloria Morris, Bonnie Baartman, Patsy Zoet

Jim( Skip) Schipper Duane Wahlstrom

Stephanie Fowler ( Daughter of Steve & Bernadette Fowler)

Donna Whitfield (Mother of Michelle Noack)

Eli Sims (grandson of Rich Haack)

Jo Anne Fowler (mother of Steve Fowler)

Sheila Lienau (sister of Karin Vanden Berg)

Duane Gingerich (Faither of Pastor Kevin and Sue)

Sue Radke- (Mother of Matt & Jody Radke)

Julie Majerus (sister of Jon S)

Please keep our service men and women in your prayers

**AIR FORCE:** Luke Kobbe, Steven Bylsma, Kevin Meinecke, Justin Wolthuizen

**ARMY:** Daniel Mulder, Jeremy Post, Jesse Meendering

**MARINES:**

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Dr. Ryan Becker, Dr. Josephine Dunn Junuis,

Jeffrey Heithus, Reese Van Meeteren

**NAVY:** Dave Sarnoski, Greg Weiman, Drew Lidster

Please keep our missionaries in prayer

Otto & Robin Lawson- 1015 W. Sam Houston #101 Pharr, TX 78577

e-mail- ottotlawson@gmail.com

AMSHA- Mary Muchiri

Nicole Sims- nsims@umcmmission.org

Please pray for and visit our members in the nursing homes & assisted living facilities

**Fieldcrest Assisted Living:** Ray Rohlfs, Mollie Parry, Marilyn King, Jeanette Reekers, Thelma Van Nyhuis, Julia Merley,

Duane Wahlstrom, Leona Sauer

**Christian Retirement Home:** Lucy Hoppe, Gerald Kroon, Mildred Robinson, Clarence Meinecke, Nancy Burley, Janus Martin, Linda Heiliger

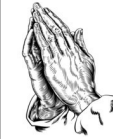
**Other Homes:** Jervis Sterler, Sherry Vander Pol, Bob Sterler, John Van Olst, Eleanor Poppema

**ATTENTION:** In the new year 2024, the church is going to be implementing a new Church Management software program called Planning Center. This will integrate all the different systems that we are using now. We are working hard to get this up and going. Hopefully the transition will go smoothly. We may be asking people for email addresses. Those in VANCO (online giving) may be asked to resubmit their information. There will be more information as we roll out this program. Please be patient as we change over. Thanks.

## Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday School has begun an advent series called “Who Needs Christmas” by Andy Stanley. If you want to learn more about the Christmas Story, and take a different look at it, please join us during the Sunday school time. We believe you will enjoy this take on the Christmas story.

Thank you to those who came out for the movie, popcorn, and hot chocolate. It was a great time of togetherness. We can't wait to do more family events in the upcoming months.



Our condolences to the Sterler family on the loss of Robert Sterler.

## GIVING 2023

We ask that all financial gifts that are to be credited to 2023 be into the offering December 31 by 5:00 PM. Monies received after that will be applied to the 2024 giving. Thank you.

DECEMBER 17TH  
11:30 AM

IMPACT Youth Group

SOUP FUNDRAISER

FREE WILL OFFERING WILL GO  
TOWARD UPCOMING MISSION PROJECTS





**ADVENT 2023 — WAIT WATCHERS**

During Advent we will have a sermon series titled Wait Watchers. We are called to be waiting and watching for Christ to return. Many 1st century Jews were waiting and watching for Messiah to come, and they missed his first coming. They are still waiting. They missed it. We want to be ready, so we wait and we watch.

**Here is our Sunday schedule:**

December 3: 1st Sunday, candle of Hope, Mark 13:24-37 “What We Wait For”

December 10: 2nd Sunday, candle of Love, Mark 1:1-8; John 1:6-8, 19-28  
 “Where Do We Begin?”

December 17: 3rd Sunday, Candle of Joy, Inn Crowd and Stable Few (children)

December 24: 4th Sunday, Candle of Peace, Luke 1:26-38, “Why Mary, Why Me?”

December 24: Service of light, Christ Candle, Luke 2:1-14, “Worth the Wait”

**Worship Times:**

December 3, 10 and 24 = regular worship times, 8:30 and 11:00

December 17 = 1 service at 10:00 a.m.! (includes the Children’s Christmas Program)

December 24 = Christmas Eve Candle Light service at 5:00 p.m.

December 31 = New Year’s Eve 1 service at 10:00 a.m.!

**GIVING 2023**

We ask that all financial gifts that are to be credited to 2023 be into the offering December 31 by 5:00 PM. Monies received after that will be applied to the 2024 giving. Thank you.



# December Birthdays



Dec. 1	Easton Ennema	Dec. 17	Pam Buysman Henry Dykstra
Dec. 2	Darrel De Jong	Dec. 18	Otto Lawson Tayler Ann Weber Charlotte Lode
Dec. 3	Jamie Reemtsma	Dec. 20	Tricia Van Meeteren
Dec. 4	Salina Davis	Dec. 22	Paige Weber
Dec. 7	Brennan Radke	Dec. 23	Brynnlee Hoogland
Dec. 8	Brett Young	Dec. 25	Bob Meendering
Dec. 10	Sandra Roelfs	Dec. 26	Blanca Struyk
Dec. 12	Fred Grein	Dec. 27	Susan Missman
Dec. 13	Chad Hamill Graig Johnson	Dec. 29	Julia Merley Greg Getting
Dec. 14	Chris Subart	Dec. 30	Jeanine Dorsman
Dec. 15	Stewart Cooper Maggie Lloyd	Dec. 31	Zander Noack Coralee Ennema Andy Getting
Dec. 16	Sheryl Storm William Frahm		

## Childrens Christmas Program

Please mark your calendars for this year's **Children's Christmas Program**, "Inn Crowd and Stable Few", directed and led by Tricia Meendering. The program will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> at **10 AM**. Please note this will be the only service on this day, and the entire thing be will lead and performed by our youth and children ranging from 3 years old up through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Following the program please stick around to help support our youth. They will be doing a Soup luncheon to raise funds for all their youth activities and missions. Cake will also be provided. It will be a wonderful morning of celebration, worship, music, bell ringing, puppets, food, fundraising, and fellowship.

### Madison Van Meeteren's Summer Trip: Central Asia

#### WHY I'M GOING OVERSEAS WITH SALT

Central Asia has very limited access to the gospel, with only 4% of the population claiming to be Christians. The most popular religion within this area is Islam. While my team and I are here, we will be paired with long-term missionaries who partner with the Salt Network to share the gospel in the cities year-round. I am humbly asking if you would consider supporting me on my overseas trip. I am in need of both prayer and financial support. I am looking to raise \$5,800 to cover the entirety of my 8-week trip. I personally am committed to putting \$500 towards my trip and Cornerstone Church has committed to match that. I am hoping to raise the other \$4,800 through the support of my friends and family who love me and the Kingdom work I will be a part of. If you would like to support me financially, you can give whatever amount you feel called.

Please consider giving to this trip that will have an eternal impact on my life, and the lives of so many others!

If you would like to contribute, you may give to Faith Community and designate in the memo line to Madison Van Meeteren mission fund and they will send it to Cornerstone for me, or go to my personal fundraising link, here... <https://fcsmnstry.io/c71/YCyHDZFPIT>

In order to reach my support raising deadline, please send your gift by March 1st. As a point of clarity, your contribution is being given toward the global ministry of Cornerstone Church. If for any reason I am not able to go, your contribution will remain in the global ministry fund of Cornerstone Church to be used for other global purposes. After giving online, you will receive an email to keep as a receipt for your tax-deductible gift.

### College Connections 2nd Sunday of each Month 5:00-9:00 PM

December 10- Taverns and cake

Christmas games/Crafts

## Areas of Service Decembers

### Liturgist:

3. Ardis G  
10. Steve F  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Matt R  
31. Barb M

### Song Leader:

3. Ardis G  
10. Ardis G  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Bill B  
31. Ardis 10 AM

### 8:30 AM Sound:

3. Stewart C  
10. Mike Mc  
17. Tony H  
24. Tony H  
31. Tony H

### 24. 5:00 PM Sound:

Sherri M

### 24. 5:00 PM Projection:

Bill B

### 8:30 Am Acolyte:

3. Jack B  
10. Benjamin/William F  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Eli B  
31. One 10:00 AM Service

### 11:00 AM Acolyte:

3. Caleb S/Wyatt G  
10. Aubrie K/Jadelyn S  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Tallulah/Lydia O  
31. One 10:00 AM Service

### 8:30 AM Projection:

3. Niki C  
10. Kyler M  
17. Deb H  
24. Deb H  
31. Deb H

### 8:30 AM Greeters:

3. Julie B  
10. Chris & Liz S  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Julie B  
31. Steve F

### 11:00 AM Greeters:

3. Peter & Karin VB  
10. Jason & Amanda N  
17. Christmas Program  
24. Heath & Rosa K  
31. Steve F

### 11:00 AM Sound:

3. Heath K  
10. Heath K  
17. Bill B  
24. Bill B  
31. Bill B

### Coffee Bar Clean up:

3. Peter & Karin VB  
10. Henry & Carolyn D  
17. No Coffee Bar  
24. Heath & Rosa K  
31. No Coffee Bar

### Communion

3. Verilyn Schilling & Pat Merrill

### 11:00 AM Projection:

3. Sherri M  
10. Sherri M  
17. Sherri M  
24. Sherri M  
31. Sherri M

**The IMPACT youth group would like to give a big thank you for supporting them in the wreath and garland fundraiser. They sold a total of 326 items!**

### **Faith Community Annual Meeting:**

We adopted the following four goals:

1. Strengthen our youth program and hire a youth director.
2. Have a ministry team develop a regularly schedule FCC night.
3. Find projects locally that we can all work side by side on.
4. Begin an adult class offered some time other than Sunday morning.

Faith Community Church will continue to meet to vision and plan together to increase the influence of our ministry. We will rise from our slumber and begin to be the place where we will invite others to come and be with us! Every member needs to invite others to come along and be a part. When a project is announced, we are all responsible to communicate with friends and family to see that we are aware of ministry together! Leaders, rise and take the lead!



## Mark Your Calendars to Join Us January 31

### The Banquet in Sioux Falls

Faith Community has reserved the date of Wednesday January 31 on the calendar of the Banquet in Sioux Falls to serve a warm meal on a cool evening. We need 6 persons to help prepare food at 2:00 p. m. And then an army of 30 to help serve the meal. There will be a sign up sheet at the church for those who wish to join us. This outreach is a perfect way for our youth to work alongside adults and spread the love of Jesus.

### Faith Community Church Fall Soup and Pie—Recap

The election day soup and pie was very successful. It takes the entire church family to help prepare and serve 300 people. Thank you to all the volunteers. \$2965 was placed in the soup kettle that night, and many of you supplied items for the soups, or supplied the deserts. Thank you. After the expenses the women will have over \$2000 to distribute to some mission projects in the church and in the community and beyond. Again, Thank you!

### Faith Community Women's Christmas Bake Sale:

Saturday, December 16th beginning at 9:00 AM - ???.. We are asking you to do your baking at home and bring it to the church by NOON on Friday, December 15th. Please bring your favorite Christmas or other treats for the Faith Community Women to sell for others to enjoy. If you would like recipe ideas, there are sheets with recipe ideas at the Friendship Center.



### Love Offering

The Administrative Council invites you to help show our appreciation and love to our church staff members this Christmas season. With the resignation of our youth pastor and technology support person, our current staff members have graciously stepped into different roles to continue our ministries beyond their own job demands. You are invited to increase those blessings with your own love offering. Please mark any donation you choose to give as "Staff Love Offering".

### Operation Christmas Child:

Thank you to all who supported Operation Christmas Child. Together we were able to assemble and send 137 boxes. A special thanks to Ashley Hoogland for taking the boxes to Sioux Center to be transported on to their destination. Keep praying for the children who will receive the boxes.

### 2024 Calendars

The Church office has some Conquering Cancer 4 O'Brien County calendars available for \$10.00. All the pictures in it are done by our local photographer Dean Hanson. All the proceeds stay local. They make a great Christmas present.

### Mark Your December Calendars!

As December seems to fill up very quickly, here are some dates to put in your calendar.

- 16th- Faith Community Women's bake sale
- 17th – Children's program and just a 10:00 AM service led by the children
- 17th– IMPACT soup fundraiser following the children's program
- 24th—No Sunday school, 8:30 traditional service, 11:00 AM modern service, and 5:00 PM candle light service
- 25th - Office closed
- 26th-28th - No Kids Club, Confirmation, or IMPACT
- 31st - No Sunday school and one 10:00 AM service

### Kids club

We have been having a great year so far. Our average attendance was around 25 children. After coming back from our break, we are down to around 20 children. What we have been learning about for the last 3 weeks is a series called Heroic covering the early church, learning about the mission Jesus gave His disciples. Then we moved into a series called City of Angels which is a 4-week series from the Gospels on Christmas. We will have a Christmas party on our last days in December on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will have a 2-week break for Christmas. When we start back, we will have no breaks, and finish up at the end of March.

# December 2023

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
<b>3 Communion</b> 8:30 AM Traditional 9:30 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Modern 2:00-8:00 PM Downstairs reserved	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-5:00 PM 3rd/4th Kids Club	<b>6</b> 9:30-11:00 AM Mom to Mom 2:30-4:00 PM Confirmation 4:00-5:30 PM Jr High IMPACT 5:00 PM Bells 5:30 PM Education 8:00-9:30 PM SR High IMPACT	<b>7</b> 3:30-5:00 PM 5th/6th Kids Club 6 PM Love INC.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:30 AM Traditional 9:30 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Modern 4:00-9:00 PM College Connections	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-5:00 PM 3rd/4th Kids Club	<b>13</b> 2:30-4:00 PM Confirmation 4:00-5:30 PM Jr High IMPACT 5:00 PM Bells 6:30 PM One Board 8:00-9:30 PM SR High IMPACT	<b>14</b> 3:30-5:00 PM 5th/6th Kids Club 6 PM Love INC.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:00-??? Faith Community Women's Bake Sale  6:00 PM Downstairs reserved
<b>17</b> 10:00 AM One service led by the Sunday School Christmas Program	<b>18</b> 6:30 PM Youth Council	<b>19</b> 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-5:00 PM 3rd/4th Kids Club	<b>20</b> 9:30-11:00 AM Mom to Mom 2:30-4:00 PM Confirmation 4:00-5:30 PM Jr High IMPACT 8:00-9:30 PM SR High IMPACT	<b>21</b> 9:30 AM Quilters 3:30-5:00 PM 5th/6th Kids Club <b>NO</b> 6 PM Love INC.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:30 AM Traditional 9:30 AM Fellowship <b>NO</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Modern 5:00 PM Candle Light Service	<b>25 Office Closed!</b> 	<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Staff Meeting <b>NO</b> 3:30-5:00 PM 3rd/4th Kids Club	<b>27</b> <b>NO</b> 2:30-4:00 PM Confirmation <b>NO</b> 4:00-5:30 PM Jr High IMPACT <b>NO</b> 8:00-9:30 PM SR High IMPACT	<b>28</b> <b>NO</b> 3:30-5:00 PM 5th/6th Kids Club 6 PM Love INC.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>NO</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM One Service						