

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

December 2017 Issue

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATES

The Leadership Council has been meeting regularly to prayerfully consider the next steps of GSLC. Below are some updates we would like you to be informed about. Feel free to contact a member of the Leadership Council or Pastor Dawit if you have any questions.

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-The Voter's Assembly will be on February 11th after worship. We will be voting on the 2018 budget and electing 3 new Leadership Council members (1 English, 2 Tigrinya members).

- The Nominating Committee has been chosen for the upcoming Leadership Council election. They are: Cathy Roache (English), Meseret Gebrekristos and Tsegai Zwengel (Tigrinya).

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear GSLC Family,

The season of Advent is a season of hope. I would like for us to explore together what it means for us to understand that hope. To hope for something is to eagerly expect something new to happen. There are different levels of hope that we all experience in life. As children, we eagerly awaited and expected gifts on Christmas morning. As adults, we expect certain things as we enter into a covenant of marriage. We are filled with excitement about the unknown. We are filled with hope. Hope is always intertwined with our desires. Those desires may mature or change as we get older, but hope desires the best and eagerly waits for it to come to fruition.

The deepest desire of creation is to have a relationship with it's Creator. But because of deep sin, humanity has always struggled in growing in that relationship. The Almighty God came to fill that hole and meet that desire. We see it in his birth, celebrate it during Advent, and reflect on it as we wait for His second coming. This is our hope. Even in light of the last few weeks as we experienced the loss of our dear brother Derek Leibrock, we know that the hope of advent is true for his family and our church. Derek trusted in Jesus' promise of eternal life and knew that He would raise him in resurrection life one day. Today, we trust in that as well. And when our world seems to be shaking and it is hard to hope, we look back and remember the manger to help us trust that He will one day return and take us home.

God's blessings to you during this Christmas season!
Pastor Dawit Bokre

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will re-continue printing monthly event calendars with our January Newsletter.

Below you can find our schedule for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Dont forget! Wednesday (12/20) will be our last Advent service at 5:30PM.

CHRISTMAS @ GSLC

Christmas Eve (12/24)

10AM- Worship
(layperson led)

5:30PM- Pre-service Concert

6:00PM- Candlelight Service
(English)

7:15PM- Candlelight Service
(Tigrinya)

Christmas Day (12/25)

10AM- Worship

We hope you can join us!

GROWING IN FELLOWSHIP

We've enjoyed the opportunity to gather and have fellowship as a congregation through Advent services, LWML Advent Tea, and the Senior Shepherds' Potluck! Thank you to all who worked to put them together and to all who participated!



IMPACT CONFERENCE

GSLC will be hosting the yearly Youth & Young Adult Conference **"IMPACT" on January 12-15, 2018!**

IMPACT is a gathering of young people from throughout the country for worship, prayer and fellowship. This year's theme is **"Salt & Light."**

Miss a Sunday? All of our sermons are available for listening at gslchayward.org/sermons. You can also download the "Faithlife" App for Apple and Android and follow along.

Follow us @ "gslchayward"

