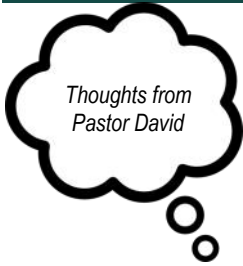


Communiqué

As a fellowship of Christ's followers, our mission is to fashion our lives after Christ's and to embrace our world with God's transforming love.

Volume 20, Issue 12
December 2017



Thoughts from
Pastor David

For the past few weeks I have turned my attention toward the Advent season. Advent is that season when we as a church find ourselves eagerly anticipating the full embrace of the Kingdom of God right here and right now. Like the Israelites at the end of the Old Testament who looked back and remembered how God led them out of Egypt and then called and pleaded to God to act in a similar way by providing the Messiah, we look back at Christ's first coming and call out to God to act again. We yearn for the return of Christ so that the reign of the Kingdom of God is fully

realized.

Recently, I have been reflecting on a poem by Madeleine L'Engle that has helped prepare me for this Advent season. Sometimes I read the poem to myself in my head. Other times I read it out loud. Then there are times when I only focus on a line or two. Each time that I read it, though, there is a different word or section that causes me to give pause. I have to slow down and reflect on what the Spirit is trying to speak to me in that moment. Maybe this Advent season you would consider joining me in calling out to God by allowing the poetry of L'Engle to center yourself as we all anticipate the coming of Christ's kingdom:

Ready For Silence

Then hear now the silence
He comes in the silence
in silence he enters
the womb of the bearer
in silence he goes to
the realm of the shadows
redeeming and shiving
in silence he moves from
the grave cloths, the dark
tomb
in silence he rises
ascends to the glory
leaving his promise
leaving his comfort
leaving his silence

So come now, Lord Jesus
Come in your silence
breaking our noising
laughter of panic
breaking this earth's time
breaking us breaking us
quickly Lord Jesus



Missions Moment

During the Advent and Christmas seasons, you are invited to give to the Offering for Global Missions. Giving to this offering ensures the long-term presence of CBF field personnel around the world. This year's theme is "Cultivating Beloved Community". Through this offering, field personnel who are called to serve around the globe are cultivate beloved community alongside local leadership. When you give, you help care for refugees around the world, welcome refugees to the U.S., and care for people who need help. Through your giving you welcome people, share the gospel, and create Beloved Community.

CULTIVATING BELOVED COMMUNITY



Our goal for the offering this year is \$5,000. On Dec. 17th there will be missions offering envelopes in your bulletins, and you may contribute anytime until Jan. 14th. In the coming weeks we will highlight some of the amazing work done by CBF field personnel in worship, through social media, and in our weekly emails. Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to the Offering for Global Missions.

Christmas Store

Our first annual Christmas Store for Center families will be December 14-16 in the gym. Thanks to all who are donating gifts or money, and/or volunteering! This store will allow parents to pick out gifts for their children at a significant discount, letting them keep the dignity and self-worth that comes with providing for their loved ones.

Contact Anna Holladay with any questions:

anna.holladay@holmeswood.org, 816-942-1729.



Advent Schedule of Events

December 3: Service of Remembrance,

4 pm, Prayer Garden. While the Christmas season is meant to be a time of anticipation and celebration, this time of year can also be hard. Sometimes we mourn the death of a loved one or of a relationship. We will gather in the Prayer Garden to remember together. We will sing some songs. We will hear some poetry. We will light some candles. We will offer thanks to the God of Life for those who died before us, whether this past year or any previous year.

December 10: Advent Eat-vent, 11:30-1, Gym. As a church, we will come together for an Advent potluck and have the opportunity to learn more about this season. There will be Advent learning activities for all ages!

December 24: Family-friendly Worship, 10 am, BFGs optional. This service will include a Children's tableau, a special moment in the service where children will dress as the characters of the Nativity Story and sing in celebration of Jesus' birth.

December 24: Christmas Eve service, 11 pm

December 31: Sunday Worship, 10 am, BFGs optional

Food Pantry

Thank you, Holmeswood, for helping the Center community by donating items to our food pantry. From November 3 to November 24, 45 bags of food were distributed to 15 people. Thank you for continuing to help keep our Food Pantry well stocked.

Best Choice Labels

When donating to the Food Pantry or doing your personal shopping, please consider purchasing "Best Choice" products, found at Price Chopper or Apple Market. Place them in our "Best Choice" baskets located in the Narthex and Galleria. These labels help support our partnership with Hillcrest Ministries.



~ December 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9a-10a Worship Service - Advent 1 - Communion (Sanctuary) 10a-10:15a Blood Pressure Check (Narhex) 10a-10:15a Coffee & Community 10:15a-11:15a Bible Fellowship Groups (Classrooms) 11:30a-12:30p Christmas Store Volunteer Meeting (Parish) 11:30a-2p Mixed Adults BFG Luncheon (Fellowship Hall) 12p-3:30p ICC Bible Study & Worship 4p-9p ICC Meal (Gym) 4p-5p Service of Remembrance (Prayer Garden)	4 Deacon on Call: Dawn Payne	5 10a-11a Staff Meeting (Conference Room 2) 11a-11:30a Pastoral Staff Meeting (David's Office) 6:30p-9p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	6 4p-5p HBC Community Chorus (Choir Room) 5:30p-7:30p Children's Faith & Fun (Fellowship Hall) 6:10p-7:20p Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room) 6:30p-8:30p ICC Bible Study 7:30p-8:30p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 8:30p-10p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	7 7a-8a Men's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 2) 7a-8a Women's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 1) 6:30p-8:30p Pickleball (Gym)	8 4p-10p AC-7 Dinner (Fellowship Hall)	9 Minister on Call: Anna Holiday
10 9a-10a Worship Service - Advent 2 - Handbell Program (Sanctuary) 10a-10:15a Blood Pressure Check (Galleria) 10a-10:15a Coffee & Community 10:15a-11:15a Bible Fellowship Groups (Classrooms) 11:30a-1p Advent Eat-vent (Gym) 11:30a-1p ICC Bible Study & Worship	11 Deacon on Call: Phil Daniel 9a-12p Prayers & Squares (S204) 5:30p-6:30p The Seekers BFG (AC-7) to Forest Ave Baptist Church (Off Site)	12 10a-11a Staff Meeting (Conference Room 2) 11a-12p Pastoral Staff Meeting (David's Office) 11:30a-1p Quarterly Staff Lunch (Off site) 6:30p-9p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	13 6:30p-8:30p ICC Bible Study 8:30p-10p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	14 7a-8a Men's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 2) 7a-8a Women's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 1) 6p-8p HBC Christmas Store (Gym)	15 Newsletter Deadline 5p-9p HBC Christmas Store (Gym)	16 Minister on Call: Allen York 9a-11a Christmas Store (Gym) 11a-2p Lydia BFG (AL-1) Christmas Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
17 9a-10a Worship Service - Sanctuary Choir Christmas Carols (Sanctuary) 10a-10:15a Coffee & Community 10:15a-11:15a Bible Fellowship Groups (Classrooms) 12p-3:30p ICC Bible Study & Worship	18 Deacon on Call: Denny Fowler 5:30p-6:30p Lydia BFG (AL-1) to Forest Ave Baptist Church (Off Site)	19 10a-11a Staff Meeting (Conference Room 2) 11a-12p Pastoral Staff Meeting (David's Office) 6:30p-9p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	20 6:30p-8:30p ICC Bible Study 8:30p-10p Play & Play Basketball (Gym)	21 7a-8a Men's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 2) 7a-8a Women's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 1) 10:45a-1:15p Andros Luncheon (Fellowship Hall) 6:30p-8:30p Pickleball (Gym)	22 10a-2p Kids Day Off (Fellowship Hall)	23 Minister on Call: David McDaniel
24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10a-11a Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11a-12p Optional Bible Fellowship Groups (Classrooms) 12p-3:30p ICC Bible Study & Worship 11p-12a Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)	25 CHRISTMAS DAY - OFFICE CLOSED Deacon on Call: Ted Harrison	26	27 6:30p-8:30p ICC Bible Study	28 7a-8a Men's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 2) 7a-8a Women's Prayer Breakfast (Conference Room 1) 6:30p-8:30p Pickleball (Gym)	29 Newsletter Distributed Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.	30 Minister on Call: Laurel Cluthe 5p-8p City of Fountain's?
31 NEW YEARS EVE 10a-11a Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11a-12p Optional Bible Fellowship Groups (Classrooms) 12p-3:30p ICC Bible Study & Worship						

FAITH COMMUNITY HEALTH TEAM

What to do with grief at the holidays

Dealing with loss during the holidays can be a difficult situation.

Here are some ideas to help cope with the sadness that one might experience during this time.

- **Set realistic expectations for yourself.** Can you still handle all the responsibilities that you have had in the past?
- **Surround yourself with people who love and support you.** Share your memories with others of holidays spent with your loved one by telling stories and looking at pictures.
- **Allow yourself to feel joy, sadness, anger**—allow yourself to grieve.
- **Draw comfort from others.** Perhaps adopt a needy family during the holiday season. Create a new tradition for your family to remember your loved one. There is no right or wrong way to celebrate the holiday season after the loss of a loved one, the best way is to plan ahead, get support from others and take one day at a time.

-Kathy Lockyer, Faith Community Health Team

ANCHORS

December 21, 2017 10:45 am



Cost: \$8.00

Theme: Christmas

Program: Fred Hartman— Rome, Italy: "The Eternal City"

Service Project: KC Rescue Mission

Menu: Ham, cheesy potatoes, mixed vegetables, slaw, rolls & butter, assorted cookies

We extend Christian sympathy to:

The family of Tammie Kresse-Lowry upon the death of her mother, Lillian Kresse, on November 8. Services were held November 14 at Concordia Baptist Church.

The family of Patty Frank upon the death of her mother-in-law, Janice Frank, on November 30. Service details are pending.

In appreciation:

Holmeswood Friends,

I have seen God's face, heard His words and felt His touch from each of you during this time of sorrow at the death of my mother and I thank each of you.

-Ella Burnett and family



December Birthdays

12/01	Allison Harrison
12/02	Doug Hartwell
12/03	Norman Chatfield, Bonnie Dysart
12/04	Melissa Hartwell
12/06	Keren Colon, Kamey Wilson
12/07	Jackie Loomis
12/09	Kayleigh (Fowler) Aytes
12/10	Bob Durbin
12/11	Jackson McCoy
12/12	Mark Garrett, Shirley Isaiah, Davis Miller, Taylor Riggs, Diana (Strack) Jefferson
12/14	Heather Rhoads, Allen York
12/15	Cindy Drake, Mary Latteman, Chisa Wilcoxon, Sam Wilcoxon
12/16	Mary Kay Carter
12/17	Audrey Hartwell, Rita McCrary
12/18	Barbara Kessler, Miranda Lyman-Hager, Madelynn Seidelman
12/19	Lynette Samborski
12/20	Carole Zahnd
12/21	Jack Adams, Joe Johnson, Christine Rockwell
12/22	Jean Clemons, Bill McMein
12/24	Aaron Cubie
12/26	Pauline Karnowski
12/28	Vernon Reid
12/29	Brenna Dougherty, Larissa Dougherty
12/30	Mary Brackens
12/31	Ilene Bartley



Statistics

October 22

9:00 a.m. Worship Service	187
Bible Friends/Bible Fellowship	151
Pledge Received	\$10,335

October 29

9:00 a.m. Worship Service	165
Bible Friends/Bible Fellowship	152
Pledge Received	\$12,443

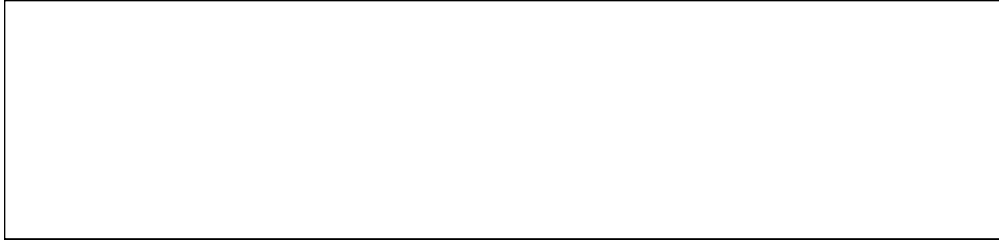
November 5

9:00 a.m. Worship Service	251
Bible Friends/Bible Fellowship	153
Pledge Received	\$9,483

November 12

9:00 a.m. Worship Service	181
Bible Friends/Bible Fellowship	147
Pledge Received	\$9,842

Community



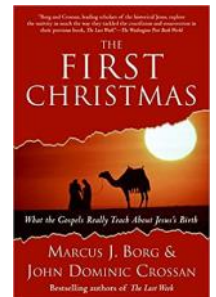
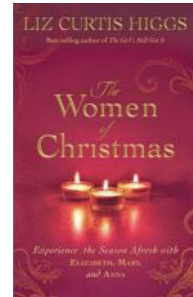
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

HOLMESWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
9700 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131-3215
WWW.HOLMESWOOD.ORG

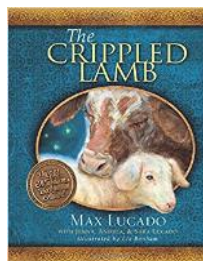
MEDIA LIBRARY NEWS

Sunday, December 3, is the first day of Advent. During these Advent weeks, read the Bible and one of these books where the story of the Christ Child awaits you:

The Women of Christmas: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary and Anna by Liz Higgs
The First Christmas: What the Gospels Teach About Jesus Birth by Marcus Borg and John Crossan
The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem by Adam Hamilton



Christmas Fiction
A Dog Named Christmas by Greg Kincaid
The Christmas Box by Richard Evans
Shepherds Abiding by Jan Karon



For Children:
The Pine Tree Parable by Liz Higgs
The Crippled Lamb by Max Lucado
The Christmas Candle by Richard Evans
Mary, Did You Know by Mark Lowry
The Candy Makers' Gift by Helen and David Haide

New Fiction in the Library: *To Be Where You Are* by Jan Karon. Re-visit Mitford. This new book by Karon is the 14th in the Mitford series featuring Episcopal priest Tim Kavanagh and the characters who live in Mitford.

The Library Creche collection will be on display in the gallery during December. Enjoy! Thank you to each one who contributed to the Library this year. Blessings,
-Pat Tension

