

CHURCH OF GOD FOOTPRINTS



DECEMBER

2014

Schedule for December

3	Feed the Youth	6pm
6	Men's Breakfast	8am
7	Annual Holiday Dinner	
	Carry-in dinner after services	
9	Promise Keepers	7pm
10	Board of Trustees meeting	8pm
16	Ladies' group Christmas party	6:30p
21	First day of winter	
24	Christmas Eve	
25	Christmas	
31	New Year's Eve	

Ladies' Group Christmas Party

The Ladies' group Christmas party will be December 16 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship hall. This is a catered dinner and we need a count of who will attend, there is a sign-up sheet in the entry way. The cost of the meal is \$12. There will be a gift exchange (\$10 limit). Plan to attend and enjoy the fellowship.

Upside Down?

Even amid increased secularization, God makes the core Christmas message known. Take, for example, the story of a "winter pageant" a mother attended at her son's grade school. Songs of reindeer, snow and Santa included one titled "Christmas Love," in which the youngest performers held up letters as the song progressed: "C", "H", etc. When a little girl unknowingly held her "M" upside down, the older kids snickered and the adult audience smiled acceptingly. But as the song drew to a close and all the letters were revealed, surprised recognition struck the Christians in the room.

"CHRISTWAS LOVE", read the string of student-borne letters. God's truth had penetrated the human clutter and confusion around Christmas –as it has power to do throughout our lives: "Christ was love". And of course, he still is.

"Jesus did not come to make God's love possible, but to make God's love visible."
----Author Unknown



Birthdays

3	Kevin and Connie Hinderliter
16	Verle and Bonnie Brady
16	Tyler and Katie Willyard
18	Darren and Marisa Whitely
21	Clyde and Pat Chaffin
21	Melvin and Sherry Evans
22	Terry and Carolyn Hall
26	Don and Lois Sterba
1	Roger Burnidge
12	Jeff Easter
13	Donald Lee
18	Derick Graves
18	Joanne Price
19	Joel Fogelstrom
20	Rick Price
21	Jennifer Chaffin
22	Nikki Morris

Pastor's Corner

Celebrating the Holidays/Celebrating God

“O Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.” Thanksgiving should be directed toward God because He is the one to be honored and thanked. James writes that every good and perfect gift is from above. Paul asks, what do you have that you did not receive. And he continues to make the point by declaring that we should not boast in what we have because it all came from God.

Thanksgiving is right and good. We should be especially thankful for the religious freedom that we have in our country. We are allowed to assemble for the purpose of worshipping God. Most countries do not have that privilege.

We should be thankful for material blessings but even more our thanksgiving should be for the spiritual blessings and for Jesus.

That thought leads us to Christmas celebration. “Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord”. Isaiah looked forward hundreds of years prophetically and proclaimed, “Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The might God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Paul proclaims that there is salvation in no other because there is no other name given through which we may be saved. The apostle John helps us understand that, He that has the Son of God has life and he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Life in Christ gives us forgiveness of sin and a “New Life”. New Years day is time to

celebrate the beginning of the year but it is for many people a sense of a clean slate, an unblemished year to enjoy. We should thank God that He is the one who allows us fresh starts and beginnings.

Paul urges people to forget those things which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before. He speaks for himself but by inspiration to us to, “press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

An old fashioned term that we do not use much today is “the year of our Lord” (which is soon to be 215). The best way to celebrate the year is to commit it to God and to resolve that we will use the year honoring God in worship and service.

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years all are gifts from God. And we should live them in His honor.

Pastor Bob

Perhaps someone among us is lonely today, or sad, or scared. May their needs be made known to those of us, the church, who can meet them with God's Christmas love.

