

Helmar Heartlines



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From the Pastor's Study

"A baby changes everything!" I suppose my wife and I heard that comment several times from people before the birth of our first child. And, guess what? They were right! We found out that the tiny creature that now shared our teeny apartment would make a huge impact! Things would certainly be different. This baby would need to eat but I couldn't just show her the refrigerator and say, "Help yourself." Also, she would need to be changed and something called diapers were now a necessity. In addition, her sleep schedule didn't jibe with mine, but that's another story. Our tranquil life was shaken by a new reality. We would never be the same again. And, we wouldn't have had it any other way!

We are beginning the Advent/Christmas season. A baby is on our minds. We will again journey to Bethlehem and thrill to the angel's message: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

Talk about change. This baby really changes everything!

....Salvation by grace not works.
.....Forgiveness of guilt, sin, and shame.
..... The blessed confidence/hope of heaven
.....Death conquered by resurrection life.

Because the baby grew up, died on a cross, was raised from the dead, we have all the above and more...through Jesus, the Son of God, our Savior and Lord! Let's worship Him this season as never before. He is worthy. Praise be to His holy Name!



If this baby hasn't changed your life, why not now in this time when we celebrate Christ's birth, call upon Him who loves you and wants you with Him for all eternity. I would be glad to talk and pray with you. Call me.

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Steve

Christmas Is A Loving Time

Christmas is a loving time,
God started it that way;
When He gave His only Son
On that first Christmas Day.

It seems the air is filled with love
The angels hover near;
Children laugh and old folks smile
For Christmas time is here.

It's God's love that makes us happy
For no greater love could be;
Than that which sent our Savior down
To die on Calvary.

Ah yes, Christmas is a loving time
God planned it all that way;
When LOVE came down to you and me
On that first Christmas Day.

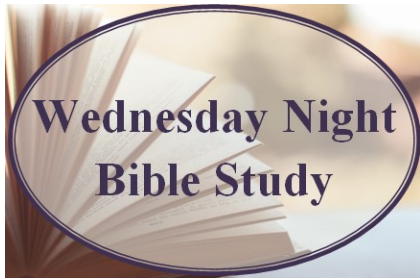
Mary Z. McHenry



Offering Envelopes

If you would like offering envelopes for the 2020 year and aren't already using them, please let Sue (in the office) know ASAP. Your giving will be recorded, even if you don't use an envelope if you write a check. Another option for giving is thru the new Helmar App!


2020 Giving Statements will be sent out in early January. If you signed up last year, you'll receive a statement this year. If you are new at Helmar or didn't receive a statement last year, but would like one, please let Sue know by December 20th.



With the weather getting colder and always that possibility of snow, we are moving the adult Bible Study to the Fireside Room. If we outgrow that, we could possibly move to the basement.

Kumla Dinner

Lord willing, our annual Kumla Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 16th, 2021. It will be carry out only. Please be thinking about ways to help with this fundraiser. All proceeds will go to the Helmar Food Pantry. More details will follow in the January newsletter.



Door Offering

On December 13th, we will have our free will offering of thanks for our volunteer music people who put in many hours of service throughout the year.



Unfortunately, due to Covid, we will not be doing the annual Youth Christmas Card Delivery this year. Thanks for your understanding and hopefully we can resume next year!

Birthdays and *Anniversaries For DECEMBER

- December 1**
Lucas Geistler
Mia Geistler
Jeff and Beth Goins*
- December 2**
Clyde Borneman
- December 3**
Brad Mathre
- December 4**
Teri Osmond
- December 7**
Tessa Cryder
Joyce Ward
- December 8**
Jon & Melissa Hageman*

- December 9**
Connie Punke
Sheila Marie Urton
- December 10**
Allison Pilon
- December 12**
Ruby Chelsen
- December 13**
Jared Mathre
- December 14**
Charlie Niles
- December 19**
Elmer Leifheit
- December 20**
Jonathan Pilon

- December 23**
Carter Chelsen
Ellie Chelsen
- December 27**
Brad Boe
Capri Sucher
- December 29**
Judy Anderson
- December 30**
Betty Anderson
- December 31**
Vickie Wayne

*Wedding Anniversaries



This year's FLBCS Christmas Concert will be presented virtually. The video should be available starting December 11th at 7pm at flbc.edu/Christmas2020. We encourage you to watch the concert online with friends and family.

Christmas Candlelight Gathering



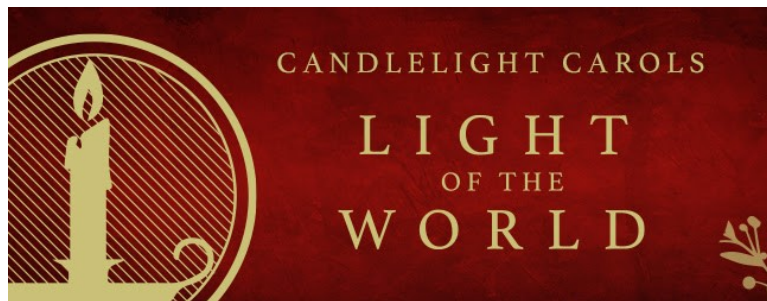
Our Annual DWWC Christmas Candlelight Dinner is now a Gathering! A gathering of ladies/daughters seeking fellowship, some time in God's word, singing and an uplifting message by Melissa Lombardo. Just what we need to end the year 2020! **Please sign-up at** the Welcome Center counter. We will meet in the FLC with social distancing. Each lady will be given a special "bakery" treat and a bottle of water. If you feel comfortable, please join us on Thursday, December 3rd at 6:30pm.



In order to safely seat as many as possible for our Christmas Eve service this year, we are asking you to email the church to reserve seating. This will enable us to put together the correct groupings of seats. When you arrive, you will sit in a grouping that matches your number. This is similar to how we did when Covid first arrived. No one will be turned away, but this will help us fit more families with social distancing.

We will send out an Announcement when reservations are open, possibly a week before.

- God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead...so why should you?
- God didn't promise a calm passage. He promised a safe landing.
- The only thing you can lose by politeness is a seat on the bus.



We will be livestreaming Candlelight Carols in the FLC on Saturday, December 5th at 7pm. Enjoy wonderful music by the Moody Chorale, Moody Gospel Choir, Worship Collectives, Campus Orchestra, and more-plus a brief Christmas message from President Mark Jobe! You may also live stream it from home if that works better for you.



Quilters Report



Even during a pandemic, our quilters were able to complete 76 full size quilts, 20 lap robes and 43 baby quilts. These were distributed to Urban Youth Ministries (Wayside Cross Mission), New Beginnings, PIC and baby blankets to our new babies at Helmar Lutheran.

We praise God for this opportunity to minister to those in need and honor our new babies and their families. We are also thankful for the many bags and boxes of material that have been left in our quilting room along with the completed quilts that have been left. They are much appreciated.


Also, at least 100 face masks have been made for use by our congregation!

Congregational Meeting

Just a reminder for the **Day After Christmas....** please start thinking about the Annual Report that you will need to turn in. We will need the following reports: Pastor's, Cemetery, Treasurer's, Deacon's & Trustee's, **(from those with expiring terms)**, Youth, Missionary Fund, Family Life Center (expenses & receipts for 2020), and Sunday School. All reports need to be turned in by January 11th so the reports can be available on Sunday, January 17th before our meeting on the 23rd.

December 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Music Practice in gym: Tues. @ 2pm Wed. @ 5:15pm Thurs. @ 12-3pm</p>	<p>Every Wednesday: 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>1 4-6pm Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>2 6:30am Men's Fellowship @ Southern Belle's 1:45pm Dessert Fellowship & Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Adult & H.S. Bible Study, BLAST & JAM</p>	<p>3 4-6pm Adult Pickleball 6:30pm Ladies Candlelight Gathering</p>	<p>4 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball 9am Ladies Prayer Hour</p>	<p>5 8am Men's Bible Study 5pm Worship 7pm Moody's Candlelight Carols in FLC</p>
<p>6 9am Confirmation 10am Worship</p>	<p>7 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>8 4-6pm Adult Pickleball 6:30pm Deacon's Mtg. 7pm Trustee's Mtg. 8pm Council Mtg.</p>	<p>9 6:30am Men's Fellowship @ Southern Belle's 9am-2pm Quilting 2:00pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Adult & H.S. Bible Study, BLAST & JAM</p>	<p>10 4-6pm Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>11 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball 9am Ladies Prayer Hour 5pm Food Pantry 6:30pm Jr. High</p>	<p>12 8am Men's Bible Study 5pm Worship</p>
<p>13 9am Confirmation 10am Worship</p>	<p>14 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>15 4-6pm Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>16 6:30am Men's Fellowship @ Southern Belle's 2:00pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Adult & H.S. Bible Study, BLAST & JAM</p>	<p>17 4-6pm Adult Pickleball 7pm Faith Circle</p>	<p>18 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball 9am Ladies Prayer Hour</p>	<p>19 8am Men's Bible Study 5pm Worship</p>
<p>20 9am Confirmation 10am Worship</p>	<p>21 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>22 4-6pm Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 4:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas!</p> 	<p>26 5pm Worship</p>
<p>27 9am Confirmation 10am Worship</p>	<p>28 7:30-10am Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>29 4-6pm Adult Pickleball</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> 