



November 2020

# HOUSE OF FAITH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

"Taking JESUS to neighborhood children, youth & families since 1994"

## Christmas — Essential Then, Essential Now

By Kevin Reynolds,  
Executive Director

It had to happen. There was simply no getting around it. That first Christmas just had to happen.

We read in Hebrews 2:17-18 that Jesus "HAD TO BE MADE LIKE PEOPLE, FULLY HUMAN IN EVERY WAY. Then he could serve God as a kind and faithful high priest. And then he could pay for the sins of the people by dying for them. He himself suffered when he was tempted. Now he is able to help others who are being tempted." Heb. 2:17-18 NIV (emphasis mine).

Jesus, **God's one and only Son**, could not have come in any other way and still be God's gift of eternal life for those who believe in Him and serve as payment for the sins of the world (Jn. 3:16).

All of it. The virgin birth, the humble surroundings, actually being in Bethlehem, shepherds, angels, gifts, all of it. It was all part of the plan from the beginning of the world and essential to God's plan of redemption, the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Fast forward these 2,000 plus years and the message of that first Christmas IS STILL ESSENTIAL!!!

Even in a world racked by a pandemic? YES! And especially so!

Even in a season of increasing societal breakdown? YES! And especially so!

The message of the Good News about Jesus is NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER as there are so many confused and scared children, youth, and families.

As always we are applying our God-given creativity and tireless innovational machine to create a memorable Christmas experience to do our part in reinforcing the timeless message of the very first Christmas.

As many of you know, the city has made the decision to cancel Christmas at Old Fort Concho due to COVID-19. However, the Fort Concho Board of Directors have also graciously agreed to allow House of Faith to hold our Christmas celebrations December 7-10 on the grounds of Fort Concho.

As always, we will be using strict safety and health protocols with appropriate social distancing and sanitation supervised by medical professionals.

We are already preparing to safely process, pack and distribute around 1800 gifts, and where normally we



focus on children and youth, this year we are specifically targeting the entire family.

This Christmas experience will, as always, include gifts and treats to children and families who are part of House of Faith. We will be hosting these events as a drive-in program in order to keep our families, staff and volunteers safe. We are excited about the opportunity to be creative in our approach to "Take JESUS to neighborhood children, youth and families" this Christmas!

We really do believe the message of Christmas is essential, both then and now, and simply could never do this without all of you.

I quote these final two paragraphs from my article last month that shows in these regards, nothing at all has changed.

"It is because of this life changing power of Jesus Christ that we continue to pivot as needed, shift as we have to, show up when we can, diligently teach those who come sit at our feet, give thanks to The Lord who is so good, and monthly, thank you, our faithful partners."

"Taking JESUS to Neighborhood Children, Youth and Families" has known many challenges over the years, but with your help, the work continues."

Thank you so very much. We love you and pray for you often.

In Him and for them,

Kevin

# Memorials & Testimonials

## IN MEMORY OF:

Gordon Bennett  
By: Jimmy & Sharon Pond  
By: Steve & Cindy McCloy  
Blake Edwards  
By: Lillian Allen  
Harold Farmer  
By: Sharon & Billy Hollis  
Sylvia Hernandez  
By: Steve and Cindy McCloy  
George Hill  
By: Greta Hill  
Neta Lancaster  
By: Mr. & Mrs. Rod Winn  
Mike Little  
By: Peggy Little

## IN HONOR OF:

Rob Taylor  
By: Sharon & Billy Hollis  
Wade Tinkler  
By: Jerry & Kay Tinkler  
Winnie Tune  
By: Stella Miller  
Sandy Whitley  
By: Jim & Nancy Hughes

## IN HONOR OF:

Pamela Marshall  
By: Esther Smith  
Kathy Morehead  
By: Bill & Joy Morehead  
Erika Napoles  
By: Susan Phillips-Adames  
Ruby Nock  
By: Sharon & Billy Hollis  
Charles Owens  
By: Marilyn Golihtly  
Rosalee Richardson  
By: Marilyn Golihtly  
Fred Rossman  
By: Basil & Jonnie Jordan

## IN HONOR OF:

First United Methodist Church Youth  
By: Harris Ave. Baptist WMU  
By: Jeanie Elder  
Main Street Café Employees  
By: Karen Pattillo

House of Faith  
321 Montecito Dr.  
San Angelo, TX 76903

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# Christmas Volunteer Opportunities!

December 7th, 8th & 10th  
5:30pm-8pm

IF YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH OUR  
**FUN, FESTIVE, FAMILY**  
CHRISTMAS PARTIES, PLEASE CALL US AT 325-486-8637  
AND TALK TO ANNIE OR E-MAIL US AT  
VOLUNTEER@HOFMINISTRIES.ORG!

THERE ARE ALSO OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELPING WITH PACKING AND SET UP, SUN, DEC. 6.  
WE WILL BE FOLLOWING ALL CITY AND STATE SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR THESE EVENTS.

**\$25 sponsors a student for Christmas!**

Donations due by December 4th

\* Online: hofministries.org  
\* Mail or bring to: 321 Montecito Dr. 76903

I will sponsor ☐ students

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_