



Happy New Year! January 2022

Upcoming Events

- January 16
Men's Wing
Night
- January 19
Grocery
Giveaway
- January 19
Fellowship
Dinner
- January 21
Card Making

Attendance

<u>Date</u>	<u>8am</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>10am</u>
Nov. 28	46	54	104
Dec. 5	57	52	98
Dec. 12	42	--	57
Dec. 19	53	52	149
Dec. 26	37	23	87

Message from Pastor Terry For the Birds

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat.... I realize you will be reading this just after Christmas but I wrote it just before the holiday! Take it accordingly. The song reflects a time when the Goose was the choice for the, arguably, most important feast of the year – the celebration of Christmas. Actually, the goose served as the centerpiece for December feasts well before the incarnation of Christ. Geese have been domesticated for at least 5000 years and, as you know, there have only been a couple thousand Christmases so far. As to why Geese have figured in December fare for so long, well, the song had it right. The goose was getting fat about that time. It takes about nine months to raise a goose to perfect table size and the geese (being largely free range) got their best feed following the harvest, combing the fields for dropped grain. These scattered kernels didn't amount to enough to be worth the farmer's time on hands and knees with tweezers – which is about what it would take for the farmer to gather them. It was easier for the geese – who had nothing else particular to do anyway – and even a pint or two of grain is well worth a goose's time. So, a spring hatched goose was just right for the table in December. When the date for Christmas was set in that month, the goose already being a December staple became a Christmas staple all across Christian Europe. What happened to change that? We did – that is to say the colonization of America did. American colonists discovered turkeys. Turkeys have about the same maturation rate as geese, produce more meat than geese and – the majority of people think – taste better. Some people blame Charles Dickens for the shift from goose to turkey. In The Christmas Carol Dickens more or less depicted the goose as the meal for a family of modest means – like the Cratchets – and, when Scrooge decided to bless that family to an extra degree, he sent a street urchin off to buy them a big fat turkey. I think Dickens only chronicled a shift rather than sparking it. The turkey was an imported novelty while the goose was an old domestic staple to the Victorians. Prices reflected that. These days, I can tell you, you will pay considerably more than double turkey prices if you want a Christmas goose! How times change! But anyway – either bird figures into the holiday feasts as a matter of timing – they are ready for the table at just that season of year. This also I can tell you about Christmas: Christ came at just the right moment; as the Bible has it, in the fullness of time. Galatians 4:4-5

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Sunday Services
8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Youth Group

The Book of Chronicles

Chapter 305 in the ongoing annals of the people on the hill.

With the paper gathered for recycling in November we crossed the 35 ton line and officially checked off the last of the 2021 goals! God is so good. May these efforts bring glory to Christ!

We will shake the formula a bit for the new year with **22 ways to glorify Christ in 2022**.

1 million pounds of scrap – for the history of the program.

2 tons of food for the pantry.

2 thousand dollars for a second water well in India.

1 thousand dollars worth of walnuts.

7 hundred pairs of glasses for the Cross-Eyed Mission.

5 hundred pairs of shoes for Heart and Sole Ministries.

4 thousand pennies for VBS.

22

December, as always, was quite a month. We enjoyed gathering up Christmas gifts for a local family, the youth Christmas play, a Christmas concert by the Diggles and the Christmas Eve service! Mostly, we enjoyed the celebration of the incarnation of Jesus. We were thrilled to welcome new Members Diane Michaels and Dick & Sue Pero. We have been blessed to see Jim & Flo Shephard, Bill Costello and Thomas Grimm recover from Covid. Praise God! And we said goodbye for a time to our faithful sister Jane Thorn. Pray for the family and look forward to seeing Jane again at the throne. God bless you till chapter 306.

Scripture Search for January

Here are last issue's answers.

1. Deborah.
2. Naomi to Mara.
3. Samuel.
4. Andrew.
5. Capernaum.



Lynn Schaeffer and Russell E. Thorn (with one miss for Russ on question #3) know their Bibles a little better for having sought out those answers. Join them in this new search on – resolutions (in honor of the new year). Depending on the version you read you may need to look up words like 'resolve', 'vow' or promise.

1. Who vowed, should God give him victory over his enemies, to offer to the Lord the first person or thing that passed the threshold of his tent?
2. Who used a vow as a pretext to sneak off and set up a rival kingdom in Hebron?
3. In what city did Paul get his hair cut because he had taken a vow?
4. How many men were under a vow to starve until they killed the Apostle Paul?
5. According to John, what is the promise made to us by God Himself?

When you know the answers and the references, get them in to the church office and remember, you cannot know your Bibles too well.



"My work team and I have been waiting with bated breath, the outcome of the stay put on the OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard. Administration of the ETS will be an overwhelming burden on already exhausted workers and we hoped to be saved from the long hours and sleepless nights it will bring.

But this anxiety makes me think of something people were hoping for over 2000 years ago. This hope wasn't saving us from endless tracking and angry employees. This hope was saving us from eternal death. This hope was and is Jesus and although the season for celebrating His birth is behind us, it reminds me that we should daily anticipate His return and celebrate that we are his children and have eternal life through Him. Matthew 24:36

Happy January,
Stacey

Upcoming Events & Items of Interest

*Card making on January 21st @ 9am. Be sure to bring lunch.

*Freezer Meal Party will have a new date announced soon!

*Tulip Tea date coming soon!

beDriven

1 Timothy 1:1-5

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope, 2 To Timothy, my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 3 Just as I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, to remain on at Ephesus so that you would instruct certain people not to teach strange doctrines, 4 nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to useless speculation rather than advance the plan of God, which is by faith, so I urge you now. 5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from a sincere faith.

Why we need teaching...

As Paul begins his instruction to his disciple Timothy, his "true son in the faith" (v. 2), he warns him about false doctrine (v. 3) and useless arguments (v. 4). He contrasts such false teaching with his own teaching, the goal or "end" of which is threefold.

First, Paul would like to see his ministry produce an agape love out of a pure heart. This is God's kind of love that He has granted us, undeserving as we are. Once He has purified our hearts and taken up residence there through the power of His Spirit, we can love with such a love.

Second, proper teaching should lead us to "a good conscience." Our lives must be free of unconfessed sin and uncluttered by wrongs not made right with others. The false teachings and improper attitudes and actions Paul is condemning (vv. 3-4) frequently lead to strife and fabrications.

The response to these must be strong, but with good motives.

Third, a sincere faith without hypocrisy, should result. It must be our own faith and not that of others, not even family members. We have a reasonable faith shored up by a great weight of evidence and logic, and proper teaching should strengthen and confirm it.

May God continue to gift the church with godly teachers like Timothy, "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12-13).

In Christ,
Eric