



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

December 2018

Dear Southwest Family,

It's that time of year again folks – the time when you lose your favorite radio station for an entire month. Instead of hearing your favorite genre, you'll be inundated with reindeer, sleighs, bells (of both the jingly and silver variety), mistletoe and holly, Frosty, and of course old Saint Nick. As opposed to a single day celebration, as on Valentine's Day or Independence Day, we have an entire season to mark Christmas. Andy Williams famously sang: "It's the most wonderful time of the year. With the kids jingle belling, And everyone telling you, "Be of good cheer," It's the most wonderful time of the year."

It really is the most wonderful time of the year . . . except when it's not. Because it's also the time of year when all the heartaches and hardships of life are illuminated by the shining lights of the season. The truth is, the "most wonderful time of the year" is often a time of increased depression, stress, anxiety and sorrow. For many people, the Christmas season is a time of financial concern. We often burden ourselves by spending too much, even going into debt to fill up the space under the tree. For others, Christmas is a time when grief over lost loved ones is intensified. Family strife and discord rears its ugly head in many families during the holidays. Old hurts are resurrected, and family gatherings produce stinging arguments. The wounds of addiction, divorce, estrangement and separation burden many families. For some, the pain of a recent health diagnosis can rob the season of all its joy.

Beloved, even as you're reading this, I know that many of you are going through some of these very struggles. Please allow me to give you a word of encouragement. If your focus this Christmas season is on all those things mentioned above: reindeer, sleighs, bells, etc., this will never be the most wonderful time of the year. While none of those things are bad, none of those things will give you the lasting joy, the deep-seated peace and the circumstance-conquering hope that is available in Jesus Christ. And that's because the real news of the Christmas season is that God wasn't willing to leave us alone in our brokenness; He wasn't willing to leave us alone in our struggle and sin. Instead, the glorious news of the Christmas Gospel is that God chose to pour out His grace, to shine His light and to rescue the rebellious by sending His One and Only Son into the world!

What truly makes this the most wonderful time of the year is more appropriately found in the words of another famous song, *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*: "And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, Look now! For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing: O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!" Beloved, take heart, for amidst the crushing load and painful steps of this life comes a heavenly announcement: "*Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord*" (Luke 2:10-11 KJV).

Peace and Goodwill,

Nathan A. Robinson

Monthly Figures

Date	General	Missions	Building	Benevolent	Attendance
10/28	2681	245	40	45	102
11/4	4275	755	90	190	118
11/11	2451	350	135	170	107
11/18	1693	205	65	130	97
Average:	2775	389	83	134	106

Weekly Need: General: \$3,047

Monthly Need: Missions: \$1,915

Church Directory: Very Important- Revisions are still needed to update our directory. Please see the list in the lobby to verify your address, birthday, and anniversary. The directory is the main source of information we use to contact our members.

Faith Promise Sunday: On December 2nd, Earl and Ruth Anne Haubner of the Central Brazil Missions will be here to talk about their missionary efforts in Brazil.

Adult Christmas Party: Friday, December 7th 7:00pm – 9:00pm. Bring a gift valued at \$5 to exchange. Sign-up to bring an appetizer or dessert for the meal. Also on the sign-up sheet, please note if you require childcare and for how many.

“Senior Moment” Group Outing: There will a Senior Moment Christmas Party at noon on Tuesday, December 4th. Ham will be provided, please bring a side dish to share. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

Women’s Bible Study: Tuesday morning and WNL ladies classes began a 14-week bible study in November, which includes a DVD, “Having a Mary Spirit: Allowing God to Change Us from the Inside Out” by Joanna Weaver. Books are \$9 each. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

Soup Kitchen: Southwest members served at the soup kitchen on Nov. 29th. The next opportunity to join the group will be on January 10th. Thank you for your willingness to serve for Christ’s kingdom!

Scrapbooking: There will not be a meeting for the month of December. See everyone in January.

Wednesday Night Live: The WNL program begins at 5:30pm with dinner and fellowship; followed by study groups starting at 6:30pm. All ages are encouraged to attend, as there are classes for Pre-K, grades K to 6, grades 7 to 12, Women’s Study, and Men’s Study.

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item for October: side dishes (instant potatoes, rice, noodles, and helpers)

Rahab Ministries: There is a box under the coat rack by the fellowship hall for donations. The items most needed for this ministry are: Life Recovery Bibles, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash, deodorant, ground coffee, paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags, laundry detergent and liquid fabric softener.

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.



Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus

Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
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www.swccbarborton.com

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women’s Bible Study 10am

Wednesday Night Live 5:30 to 7:30pm



December 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."</i> Micah 5:2 (NIV)</p>						1
2 Faith Promise Deacon's Meeting	3	4 Women's Bible Study "Senior Moment"	5 WNL	6	7 Adult Christmas Party	8
9	10	11 Women's Bible Study	12 WNL	13	14	15
16 Lost-N-Found Musical Group	17	18	19	20	21 Youth Group Christmas Party	22
23	24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve	<p><i>"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."</i> Matthew 1:23 (KJV)</p>				

BIRTHDAYS:	
12/1	Victoria Friedrichson
12/4	Daniel Wilson
12/6	Mary Bradford
12/8	Meghan Sapper
12/16	Jonathan Friedrichson
12/22	Mikayla Sapper
12/23	Sharon Weinsheimer
12/25	Freda Brouse

ANNIVERSARIES:	
12/28	Roy & Charlotte Suder

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to kbusch1@neo.rr.com and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading **The HARVESTER**? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
John 1:14

Spend time with the Lord each day this month by reading the following scriptures. To help commit them to memory, write in a journal or notepad and review daily.

- DEC 1: Isaiah 7:14-17
- DEC 2: Isaiah 9:6-7
- DEC 3: Isaiah 11:1-5
- DEC 4: Isaiah 11:6-10
- DEC 5: Isaiah 40:1-5
- DEC 6: Isaiah 52:7-10
- DEC 7: Jeremiah 33:14-16
- DEC 8: Psalm 72:1-7
- DEC 9: Psalm 72:8-14
- DEC 10: Psalm 72:15-20

- DEC 11: Psalm 95:1-3
- DEC 12: Malachi 3:1-3
- DEC 13: Matthew 1:18-20
- DEC 14: Matthew 1:21-25
- DEC 15: Matthew 2:1-6
- DEC 16: Matthew 2:7-12
- DEC 17: Luke 1:26-29
- DEC 18: Luke 1:30-34
- DEC 19: Luke 1:35-38
- DEC 20: Luke 1:46-50

- DEC 21: Luke 1:51-56
- DEC 22: Luke 2:4-7
- DEC 23: Luke 2:8-12
- DEC 24: Luke 2:13-16
- DEC 25: Luke 2:17-20
- DEC 26: Galatians 4:4-7
- DEC 27: Philippians 2:5-8
- DEC 28: Philippians 2:9-11
- DEC 29: James 1:16-18
- DEC 30: Titus 3:3-7
- DEC 31: John 3:16-21



Scripture list courtesy of www.swtblessings.com

Kids Korner

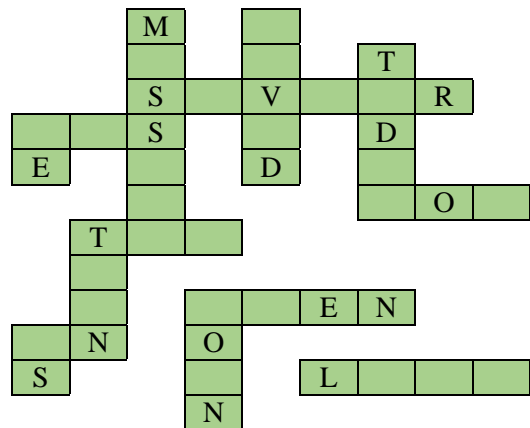


“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” **Luke 2:11**

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

O	2	L	S	A	V	I	O	R	A	H	E
T	14	B	R	I	M	S	T	O	N	A	E
O	L	O	V	E	D	G	H	J	K	S	B
D	A	V	I	D	L	N	M	P	Q	U	O
A	V	W	Y	Z	N	B	E	C	Y	D	R
Y	3	12	E	W	F	G	S	I	K	O	N
L	N	P	O	R	T	V	S	X	Z	A	U
I	N	T	B	N	D	F	I	H	J	L	N
C	R	H	E	W	S	N	A	Y	O	U	A
D	U	E	A	I	7	L	H	N	9	2	11
K	B	J	L	O	R	D	X	L	U	K	E

Fill in the blanks with the underlined words from the verse above.



To show us how much he loves us, God sent his son to earth to save us from our sins. Christ’s birth was the beginning of our salvation. What does Christmas mean to you?



Please join us in welcoming musical group Lost-N-Found. They will be coming to Southwest Church of Christ on Sunday, December 16th!

Lost-N-Found will be singing Christmas music, as well as some of their original songs during Worship Service. After the service, they may collect a love offering to support their mission.

Lost-N-Found's primary goal is to use its unique sound to deliver a message, that God has made the ultimate sacrifice through Jesus Christ, and to provide a positive alternative to the negative influences of mainstream music.

Genre: Christian, Acapella

Band Members: Matt Bortell, Bryan Crum, Tom Lodato, Stephen Givens, Andrew Moore,
Mike Oblisk

Hometown: Parkersburg, WV



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

