

THE NEWSLETTER

A Ministry of Cornerstone Fellowship of Coatesville Pennsylvania

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AN EVENING WITH KINDRED CROSS



On Saturday, November 5, at 7pm, KINDRED CROSS will be performing a live concert at Cornerstone Fellowship. The concert is FREE. This is a GREAT time to invite friends and family who might not accept your invitation to a church service to join you here for this wonderful evening of music, while exposing them to the Good News of God's Love.

Please save this date and come to enjoy this evening of music. Thank you, Kindred Cross!

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

November

- 1 Ezekiel 1 & 2; Song of Solomon 3; Hebrews 13
- 2 Ezekiel 3 & 4; Song of Solomon 4; James 1
- 3 Ezekiel 5 & 6; Song of Solomon 5; James 2
- 4 Ezekiel 7 & 8; Song of Solomon 6; James 3
- 5 Ezekiel 9 & 10; Song of Solomon 7; James 4
- 6 Ezekiel 11 & 12
- 7 Ezekiel 13 & 14
- 8 Ezekiel 15 & 16; Song of Solomon 8; James 5
- 9 Ezekiel 17 & 18; 1 Peter 1
- 10 Ezekiel 19 & 20; 1 Peter 2
- 11 Ezekiel 21 & 22; 1 Peter 3
- 12 Ezekiel 23 & 24; 1 Peter 4
- 13 Ezekiel 25 & 26
- 14 Ezekiel 27 & 28
- 15 Ezekiel 29 & 30; 1 Peter 5
- 16 Ezekiel 31 & 32; 2 Peter 1
- 17 Ezekiel 33 & 34; 2 Peter 2
- 18 Ezekiel 35 & 36; 2 Peter 3
- 19 Ezekiel 37 & 38; 1 John 1
- 20 Ezekiel 39 & 40
- 21 Ezekiel 41 & 42
- 22 Ezekiel 43 & 44; 1 John 2
- 23 Ezekiel 45 & 46; 1 John 3
- 24 Ezekiel 47 & 48; 1 John 4
- 25 Daniel 1 & 2; 1 John 5
- 26 Daniel 3 & 4; 2 John
- 27 Daniel 5 & 6
- 28 Daniel 7 & 8
- 29 Daniel 9 & 10; 3 John
- 30 Daniel 11 & 12; Jude

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a fundamental tenet of our Christian faith. Here

are some thoughts to consider:

1. God has provided enough for the world's hunger, but there will never be enough of anything for the world's greed.
2. Although money is involved in one's stewardship, it is not an end but a means by which the church can actualize the ministries and mission of Christ.
3. American children ages 4-12 spend some \$9 billion annually and influence their parents to spend \$130 billion; teens spend another \$95 billion annually. Games, toys, CD players, clothes, skateboards, computers - you name it, they've got it.
4. Let's stop denying our wealth. Let's look at the large picture. Rather than comparing ourselves to others like ourselves, so that we can always claim comparative poverty, let us become world citizens, looking at ourselves in relation to all humanity. Those who own a car are among the world's upper class. Those who own a home are more wealthy than 95 percent of all the people on this planet.
5. We are, of course, used to the way in which the Bible makes sharp contrasts: good and evil, light and darkness, a broad way and a narrow way. When we hear the words about two masters, the choice is between God and money. Wealth is God's opponent; riches are the false god.
6. Money seems especially gifted at fracturing relationships.
7. The Bible does not ask us to "give all you can." The emphasis is, "give all, you can!"
8. People give their generosity and their compassion, not their income.
9. The good news is that the poor have always been the most generous contributors to the ministries of the church. Today, they still give proportionately more than the rich.
10. There are people who believe that money is the most powerful thing in the world. Christians know that it is powerful in two ways: it can either help send man's soul to hell, or it can be a great servant.
11. Human tendency is toward an attitude of scarcity - no matter how much money a person makes. In fact, the more wealth one has, the more fear they are likely to have over losing wealth, and the more anxiety they have over it running out.
12. Affluence is the problem to fix - not poverty.
13. If God has no partnership in a man's earnings, if he is not permitted to determine the use of a man's pocketbook, he has no real hold on the man himself.
14. A life of generosity is counter cultural life.
15. The impetus behind the Biblical tithe, and still a motivation, was that if a person set aside a percentage of money for the church, God would prosper that individual and the church.
16. Time is money.
17. It is the heart attitude that matters, not whether we are in fact rich or poor. You can be poor and greedy, or rich and free from greed and the need to cling to your riches.
18. Christian tradition puts the issue starkly: God gives, those who identify themselves with God's cause must also give.
19. We need Jesus. Everything about stewardship hinges on Jesus
20. The offering is first and foremost an act of worship.
21. Living as God's firstfruits offering means living as entrepreneurs of the Gospel. It means putting our money and our time to use as

signs of the kingdom of God. It is offering to God from the first of what we receive, before calculating the risk or counting the cost, before deciding if we can afford to be God's kind of steward.

22. It's funny how a dollar can look so big when you take it to church and so small when you take it to the store.

OR – How about the following...

Funny, isn't it, how \$20 looks so huge when you put it in the offering plate and so small at the grocery store?

Funny, isn't it, how generous an hour looks when you offer it to the service of God and His Church and so small when you want to play bridge or watch TV?

Funny, isn't it, how tough it is to read a chapter or two in the Bible and how easy it is to read several hundred pages of a best-selling novel?

Funny, isn't it, how we say we don't know what to say when we pray, and how we can go on for hours visiting on the phone or by email, texting, tweeting or facebooking?

Funny, isn't it, how we just can't seem to fit an hour's worship that feeds spiritual growth into our weekly schedule, yet we can always find time for activities and events that often drain us of emotional and physical strength?

Funny, isn't it..... or is it?

THE COOKIE THIEF by Valerie Cox

*A woman was waiting at an airport one night
With several long hours before her flight.
She hunted for a book in the airport shop,
bought a bag of cookies and found a place to drop.
She was engrossed in her book but happened to see
That a man at her side as bold as could be
Grabbed a cookie or two from the bag between
Which she tried to ignore to avoid a scene.
She munched cookies and watched the clock
As the "gutsy" cookie thief diminished her stock.
She was getting more irritated as the minutes ticked by
Thinking, "if I wasn't so nice, I'd blacken his eye."
With each cookie she took he took one, too.
With only one left, she wondered what he'd do.
With a smile on his face and a nervous laugh
He took the last cookie and broke it in half.
He offered her half as he ate the other.
She snatched it from him and thought, "Oh, brother!
This guy has some nerve and is also rude.
Why he didn't even show any gratitude."
She had never known when she was so galled
And sighed with relief when her flight was called.
She gathered her belongings and headed to the gate,
Refusing to look back at the thieving ingrate.
She boarded the plane and sank in her seat
Then sought her book which was almost complete.
As she reached in her bag she gasped in surprise.
There was her bag of cookies in front of her eyes.
"If mine are here," she moaned with despair
"Then the others were his and he tried to share."
Too late to apologize she realized with grief,
that she was the rude one, the ingrate, the thief.*

NOVEMBER 1

Many churches and denominations celebrate November 1 each year as All Saints' Day. It is a day when we recall those who have died in the faith throughout history.

Obviously there would be no Christianity without faithful disciples of Christ who have held fast to their faith in good times and in bad. There have been countless martyrs who have died witnessing to the love of God and the saving grace of Christ. And sad to say, in some parts of the world, Christians are still persecuted and even slain for their beliefs.

Take time to think of our Christian heritage, and remember with thanksgiving those who have held fast to their faith no matter what.

THANKSGIVING ATTITUDES

It has been suggested that one of the ways that genuine Christianity differs from some of the other religions of the world is that true Christians exemplify the spirit of THANKSGIVING. As we come to yet another Thanksgiving Day, we Americans make more of Thanksgiving than any other people in the world, perhaps in part because of the precedent set by our faith. Our Lord teaches us that we ought to have humble and thankful hearts. We ought to have an appreciative attitude. So, let us consider three **Thanksgiving Attitudes**. A man is known by his attitudes. People like or dislike us because of our attitudes. How often have you said, when you have disagreed with someone, "I don't like his attitude." People usually take one of three attitudes toward the giving of thanks.

NO THANKS AT ALL

There are many people in the world who are completely ungrateful, who seldom, if ever, thank God or anyone else for anything. Gratitude is a neglected art. Well-taught in other directions, many are woefully lacking in this necessary grace of expressing thanks. Turn and look at Luke 17:11-19 and 18:9-14. Here Jesus was met by ten lepers *which stood afar off and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."* When Jesus saw them He said to them, *Go show yourselves to the priests. And it came to pass that as they went they were cleansed.* One of them when he saw he was healed, turned back to thank Him. By the miraculous power of our Lord, **ten** lepers were made whole and clean of their most dread disease. But **only one** returned to offer thanks.

Why only one? Is this the proportion of ungrateful people - nine who are ungrateful for every one who gives thanks. Nine who are unappreciative for every one who is thankful? Are those nine not typical of the great majority of people today? Do you think the number of those who fail to offer thanks is too large for our day? It is so easy to be forgetful? When the Pharaoh's wine steward forgot Joseph, he was guilty of thoughtless ingratitude.

As far as many people of our day are concerned we might just as well change the name of Thanksgiving to "Feast Day," or "Turkey Day," or "Sports Day." When we change the custom and the purpose of the day, we should be consistent and change the name to be in keeping with the custom. For it is most misleading to call this day "Thanksgiving Day" and then observe it by doing everything else but giving thanks. In how many homes in America will they even stop for a perfunctory custom of saying grace before diving into the feast? Many people will spend Thanksgiving Day doing almost everything else under the sun but thanking God, and in thinking of almost everyone but God, the giver of all good gifts. The most forgotten person on Thanksgiving Day - and indeed almost every other day, in many cases - is God. And yet, Thanksgiving to God for His goodness was the paramount note struck by the Pilgrims as they celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day. And so it should be with us.

SELF-RIGHTEOUS THANKS

Jesus told a most rewarding story almost immediately following the experience of the Ungrateful Nine. It is the story of the two men who went up to the temple to pray. The first said *I thank thee that I am not as other men are: extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week; I give tithes of all that I possess.* This is the thanksgiving of a proud and haughty heart. What was the burden of this prayer? Was it not the glorification of himself, his class, his group, his inner circle?

Look at this prayer for a minute. He recognized God. He was supposed to be praying to God, but Jesus said that he was praying with himself. He could not get away from God, but neither could he get near to God. He had an intellectual conviction, but that does not make contact with God. He began, *God*, but he was so much occupied with himself that he could not get away from himself. He never made another reference to God at all. It was *I...I...I...I*.

There is a sense in which every grateful heart should use the words *God I thank thee that I am not*, but not in a self-righteous attitude. When we look about us and see some with sore affliction...we are constrained to cry out in deepest gratitude to God and with the utmost humility, *God, I thank thee*. When we see such stark tragedy being visited upon so many around the world today, and when we compare our own good fortune, and ask "Why are we so favored?" we are compelled to cry to God with tears in our eyes and in our souls, *God, I thank thee*. And when we think of the many who this Thanksgiving Day will not have a feast spread before them, we must cry out, *God I thank thee*.

HUMBLE THANKS

The one who stood afar off, who would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but smote his breast saying, *God be merciful to me, a sinner!* represents an attitude of thanksgiving that we could and should well adopt on this Thanksgiving Day. That is the offering of humble thanks to Almighty God for His manifold blessings towards us. The tax collector's prayer was not technically a prayer of thanksgiving, but any prayer of thanksgiving that does not embody the attitude of humility expressed here is pretty apt to be the wrong kind of thanksgiving. Some boastful thing that bucks up our pride, makes us think of ourselves as more exalted than we are, or that feeds our self-pity is the wrong kind of thanksgiving. The Pharisee's center of the world was himself, but the tax collector's center of the world was God.

Our world, which is self-centered in its grasping attitude and in its worship of success, does not easily bend to the humble, thankful heart which is needed to approach God. The true and ever-living God, the God of Jesus Christ, is a different God than many of us have. Are you one who worships idols, such as Success, Pleasure, Things, Ease, Comfort? Or do you truly worship the God of the ages? Remember the words of one of our favorite Thanksgiving hymns:

*No gifts have we to offer
For all Thy love imparts,
But that which Thou Desirest,
Our humble, thankful hearts.*

We have much to be thankful to God for today. But God is not interested in our boasting or our self-pity, or our worship of the false God called "success." He is still interested in the humble, contrite, thankful heart!

THANKSGIVING DAY is November 24. It is a secular holiday in

our country. But this year make it a sacred day as well. Practice gratitude to the LORD! Please don't see the day as ... a day off work, a day to sleep in, a day to watch football, a day to plan your shopping trip for the next day's sales, a day to stuff yourself full of food. Instead, get on your knees to praise God for His sovereign majesty. Thank the LORD for His abundant blessings to you and even for the adversities from which you can grow closer to Him. Thank Him for life, for home, for food, for a country where we may worship as we are called. Ask Him to show you how you need to change to grow closer to Him, then resolve to do it. And pray for all those places where people are not able to thank the Lord, and even for all those who do not acknowledge Him. **The fact that some people do not acknowledge that God is the Creator, Jesus is the Savior and Redeemer and the Holy Spirit is the Sustainer does NOT make it not so!** And thank the Lord for His greatest gift – the Lord Jesus Christ who died for the sins of the world – your sins and mine!

*In gratitude for all your blessings to us, O God,
and in devotion to your son, Jesus Christ, we
dedicate our lives to the service of others and
the glory of your holy name.*

**FAITH SEES THE INVISIBLE,
BELIEVES THE INCREDIBLE AND
RECEIVES THE IMPOSSIBLE!**

THE FIVE FINGERS OF PRAYER

Your thumb is nearest to you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember – PRAY FOR YOUR LOVED ONES.

The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

The fourth finger is your ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need our prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

And lastly comes your little finger, the smallest finger of all, which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

DID YOU KNOW...

- The average family spends \$400 more than it earns each year.
- Consumer debt has now reached a level where 23% of the average person's take-home pay is already committed to the payment of existing debt (not including a home mortgage).
- Statistics show that people spend approximately one-third more when they use credit cards rather than cash.
- The more television you watch, the more you spend.
- The more you look at catalogs and magazines, the

- more you spend.
The more you shop, the more you spend.

A QUOTE TO THINK ABOUT

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."
—Helen Keller

SOME INTERESTING FACTS

- ▶ Children between the ages of 5 and 13 have a 32 percent probability of accepting Jesus Christ as Savior. At ages 14-18 the probability drops to 4 percent. Above 18 the probability rises to 6 percent.
- ▶ Only about half of born again Christians think that it is their personal responsibility to tell others about their faith.

UNITED STATES MAP

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like.

Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to Shelby and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show your our whole country today."

After a few minutes, Shelby returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together."

Wow – from the mouths of children – If our country would just put God back where He belongs, it would come together!!!

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

A Searing Lesson in Forgiveness

(This article by John Grogan appeared in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* several years ago – Remember!?)

THINK ABOUT IT!!!

In hindsight, I realize I was driving too fast, especially given the rain-slicked roads.

Ahead of me at an intersection, a car was stopped with its left blinker on. I bore down, expecting it to turn out of my path at any second.

But the car did not turn. By the time I hit the brakes it was too late. I skidded and slammed into its rear end, catapulting it into cross traffic.

Miraculously, the other vehicles all avoided the car, but I realized instantly my moment of poor judgment could easily have resulted in the death of an innocent stranger.

Across the intersection, we both pulled into a parking lot. The man inside looked like he could have been a bar bouncer, large and intimidating.

He wasn't hurt and neither was I. His car did not even have a dent where I hit it.

"Man, you almost got me creamed," the driver said.

I apologized profusely. He had every right to be angry, and I was braced for him to get in my face, poke a finger in my chest and dress me down with a string of obscenities. People had been beaten up, even shot, over lesser transgressions.

Then he did an amazing thing. The stranger shook my hand and said, "It was an accident. Don't worry about it."

That was years ago, but the moment has stuck with me because it put me on the receiving end of an important lesson. I had erred and he had forgiven.

Forgiveness.

We all want to think we are capable of it. And for most of us, most of the time, we are.

We can forgive a child who disobeys. Or a delivery driver who accidentally knocks over our mailbox. Perhaps even a thief who takes what is ours.

But what about an offense far worse? Unspeakably, unimaginably worse?

What about a stranger who barges into a country schoolhouse, lines up 10 innocent children against the chalkboard – and opens fire?

What parent, what community, could forgive that?

We now know the answer. REMEMBER?! It wasn't that long ago.

Within hours of Charles Carl Roberts IV's murderous assault on the Amish school in Lancaster County on October 2, 2006 the local Amish community was already expressing forgiveness.

Even before they had a chance to bury their dead daughters. Even as they huddled bedside as other victims clung to life by the most tenuous of threads. Complete and total forgiveness.

What was done was done, and the killer, too, was now dead. No amount of anger or vengeance-seeking would bring the children back or the killer to justice. The Amish had two choices: Descend the dark staircase into bitterness, or follow the tenets of their faith and rise above it. They believe all acts, even one as monstrous as this, are part of their God's inexplicable plan.

And so they forgive.

Amish neighbors went to the killer's home to console his wife and other relatives. They attended his funeral, and invited his widow to attend at least one of the murdered girls' funerals. As thousands of dollars poured in from around the world to help the families of the victims, the Amish set up a fund for the killer's own children.

Unbelievable!?!

Unbelievable and somehow beautiful all at once.

It is the stuff sermons are built around. If the Amish can forgive such a ghastly violation, can't we all try to be just a little more forgiving of the slights and hurts and wrongs of daily life?

The simple people know what many of us still have not figured out, that the ever-escalating violence of vengeance has no end, and that the acid of revenge etches the human heart with deep and permanent scars.

Imagine if the ethic of unilateral forgiveness could envelope the Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq, the Catholics and Protestants in Ireland, the Jews and Palestinians in Israel. Imagine if it could permeate the streets of America, where rival gangs kill over colors and young men settle scores over respect with 9mm Glock's.

The Amish have found the road to a higher place. The rest of us could do worse than to be a little more like them.

We Christians have a mandate from our Lord – *Forgive and you will be forgiven; and again, For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. How are you doing in the forgiveness department – REALLY? Do you pretend or do you REALLY forgive!?*

SHOULD CHRISTIANS VOTE

Tim Wildmon

The Founding Fathers considered voting a sacred responsibility. Voting is a privilege, a freedom and an opportunity that millions

in other parts of the world can only dream about. Yet, many Americans strangely choose not to vote. Less than half of those eligible to vote actually do so in any given election. In fact, out of 60 million evangelical Christians in America, nearly half failed to vote in recent elections.

Are there critical issues that should unite Christian voters? The answer is a resounding "YES" when we consider the vital issues of our day – issues such as constitutional free speech rights, free enterprise, national defense and Judeo-Christian values including the sanctity of life and one-man-one-woman-marriage. And then there is the extremely important issue of appointing federal judges (who are appointed for life), including Supreme Court justices, who are nominated by the president.

As a Christian voter, how do I know who to vote for? As a model, I like what I've read about how Dr. Tony Evans, acclaimed black pastor of racially diverse Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, evaluates candidates by making three columns listing the positions of Democrat candidates, Republican candidates and God's Word. He then votes for the candidate most aligned to God's positions.

If you lack the time or resources to look up all of the necessary information to wisely determine candidates' values on critical issues in light of God's Word, the American Family Association has done a lot of the work for you by providing a voter guide. These guides are available on line at AFAAction.net or at church. This guide DOES NOT endorse specific candidates, but does evaluate the candidates on the basis of belief in constitutional government, free enterprise, strong national defense and traditional Judeo-Christian values such as the sanctity of life and marriage.

So, please evaluate the candidates in light of God's word. Then, vote God's values.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH

H	Y	W	T	N	V	W	J	L	A	T	W	O	C	V
S	O	N	H	B	S	M	I	R	G	L	I	P	J	I
Y	C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	O	W	O
K	A	G	N	F	S	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	S
I	M	M	K	O	N	Y	Y	B	F	B	F	R	L	A
Z	N	K	S	O	F	R	I	V	A	W	I	L	T	E
F	M	D	G	T	H	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S	P
L	A	V	I	B	U	Q	L	C	R	R	E	X	T	A
C	D	M	V	A	F	F	I	E	K	H	G	G	S	J
N	W	O	I	L	N	R	F	Y	N	V	I	R	E	N
G	L	R	N	L	E	S	E	I	O	T	D	H	V	V
K	H	V	G	M	Y	K	D	E	N	O	Y	D	R	P
X	V	M	A	R	R	H	F	R	D	G	O	C	A	Q
O	N	U	M	U	K	X	C	Q	N	O	G	W	H	Q
L	V	F	T	O	C	X	K	F	F	L	M	S	T	Q

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|--------------|
| America | food | horn of plenty | rolls |
| blessing | football | Indians | stuffing |
| corn | freedom | peas | Thanksgiving |
| cranberries | gravy | pilgrims | turkey |
| family | harvest | potatoes | vegetables |
| | | | yams |

LOOKING AHEAD

UPWARD BASKETBALL & CHEERLEADING comes back to Cornerstone this fall/winter. Registration and evaluations will be held in November, with practices to follow and a game schedule from January through March 2017. Upward Sports is dedicated to introduce children, grades K-6, to Jesus Christ while teaching them the fundamentals of basketball & cheer. For more information, or to register your children/grandchildren, please see Peter Jensen. **Please sign up to help with evaluations that will be held on November 14 & 15. We NEED COACHES & ASSISTANTS! Will you help?**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT HIBERNIA MANSION, Friday, December 2, 6-9pm. Join others from Cornerstone as we Christmas Carol for those visiting Hibernia Mansion.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - Sunday, December 4
You are invited to come to Cornerstone's annual Christmas Program. This year we will again share in the JOY of the Christmas season through this service of word and song. You won't want to miss this highlight of the Advent/Christmas season. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – Sunday December 4 at 4pm.

SO – please invite your friends, family and neighbors to join you for this special Christmas program. Following the program will be a time of refreshment and fellowship. Come one, come ALL! Watch for FREE tickets to be available for you to use in inviting your friends!

SWAG NIGHT - Ladies & Men -- are you looking forward to SWAG night? The date is Monday, December 5. Come to the church to create your own holiday swag. Bring your greens, ribbons, decorations, etc., (there will also be some supplies available to share) and enjoy this evening of fellowship and creation. We had a GREAT time last year. Plan on coming this year. It's OK to bring a friend. Watch for the sign up sheet so we have an idea of how many to set up for.

A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS - Friday, December 9, at 6pm. Children in grades K through 5 are invited to spend *A Night Under the Stars* (a lock-in at the church), culminating the next morning at Breakfast with the Wise Men. Registration is required.

BREAKFAST WITH THE WISE MEN - Saturday, December 10, at 9am. Children up through 5th grade are invited to come to the church to enjoy breakfast with our special guests, **Balthazar, Gaspar and Melchior**.

PUNK ROCK CHRISTMAS PARTY - Wednesday, December 14, at 7pm. Come to the church for a **GREAT TIME** of worshipping and caroling. **EVERYONE SHOULD COME!!!!**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
A FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

December 24, 2016 - 4 pm

Bring the whole family for a wonderful puppet show to welcome in the Lord's Birthday.

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

December 24, 2016 - 11 pm

We will gather around the Lord's Table for a service of candles, carols and readings from scripture as we welcome in the day of our Lord's birth.

This very special service is also an opportunity for you to invite family and friends to join you!

THIS IS THE VERY BEST WAY TO BEGIN YOUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE THE LORD IN YOUR CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATIONS! Christmas is on Sunday this year. What better way to thank the Lord for His indescribable gift than to worship Him on that day. Cornerstone will have services at 8:15 and 10:45 am, with Bible classes at 9:30am.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD! Before you watch the Mummers or Rose Parade and before the Bowl games begin, join your church family as we begin the year 2017 praising the Lord! What better way to begin the year than to thank God for His many blessings, especially our Cornerstone Family. Cornerstone will have services at 8:15 and 10:45 am, with Bible classes at 9:30am. See YOU then!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Once again this year, we will provide the opportunity for you to purchase Christmas poinsettias in honor or in memory of your loved ones. We will be purchasing branched plants in 6" pots from Ford's Greenhouses. You may select red, white or pink plants. The cost of each plant will be \$7.75. Please use the form in the weekly worship folder. Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 20th.

ADVENT BEGINS ON NOVEMBER 27

Please use the following readings to enhance this year's Advent season.

THE GIFT OF HOPE

Sunday, November 27	Romans 8:18-25
	<i>Unseen hope</i>
Monday, November 28	Psalms 130
	<i>Waiting in hope</i>
Tuesday, November 29	Matthew 12:15-21
	<i>Hope in Christ's name</i>
Wednesday, November 30	1 Corinthians 15:16-22
	<i>Hope for eternal life</i>
Thursday, December 1	Titus 2:11-14
	<i>Our Blessed Hope</i>

Friday, December 2	1 Peter 1:3-9
	<i>Born anew to a living hope</i>
Saturday, December 3	Psalms 146
	<i>Our hope is in our God and Lord</i>

THE GIFT OF LOVE

Sunday, December 4	Isaiah 54:7-10
	<i>God's steadfast Love</i>
Monday, December 5	1 John 4:7-11
	<i>God loved us and sent His Son</i>
Tuesday, December 6	John 3:13-17
	<i>God so loved the world</i>
Wednesday, December 7	1 John 3:1-3
	<i>The Father's love</i>
Thursday, December 8	1 Corinthians 13:8-13
	<i>Love never ends</i>
Friday, December 9	Romans 12:9-13
	<i>Let love be genuine</i>
Saturday, December 10	Ephesians 2:1-10
	<i>God's rich mercy and great love</i>

THE GIFT OF PEACE

Sunday, December 11	Isaiah 52:7-10
	<i>Publish the good news of peace</i>
Monday, December 12	Colossians 1:15-20
	<i>Peace by the blood of His cross</i>
Tuesday, December 13	John 14:25-27
	<i>My peace I give to you</i>
Wednesday, December 14	Romans 5:1-5
	<i>We have peace with God</i>
Thursday, December 15	Isaiah 9:6-7
	<i>The Prince of Peace</i>
Friday, December 16	Philippians 4:4-7
	<i>Peace that surpasses understanding</i>
Saturday, December 17	Luke 2:8-14
	<i>On earth peace</i>

THE GIFT OF LIFE

Sunday, December 18	Isaiah 38:17-20
	<i>You have delivered my life</i>
Monday, December 19	Romans 6:20-23
	<i>The free gift of eternal life</i>
Tuesday, December 20	John 1:1-5
	<i>In His was life</i>
Wednesday, December 21	John 10:7-15
	<i>Abundant life</i>
Thursday, December 22	1 Corinthians 15:50-58
	<i>Eternal life in Christ</i>
Friday, December 23	1 John 5:11-15
	<i>Whoever has the Son has life</i>
Saturday, December 24	John 20:30-31
	<i>Life in Jesus' name</i>



HAVE A BLESSED AND JOYOUS THANKSGIVING!