



TERRITORIAL

December 2012

"Helping People Experience Heavenly Joy through Spiritual Growth"

8421 E. Wrightstown Road • Tucson, AZ 85715 • 520-298-1245 • SunriseChapel.org

HAVE HOPE AT CHRISTMAS

By Nathan Gladish

The story of the Lord's advent is a story of hope. Throughout the Old Testament times, over many years, people's faith in God was sustained through hopeful prophecies of His coming into the world. It was important to pass that hope on from generation to generation.

When the time arrived for the Lord's birth, the hopes of specific people emerged. The angel Gabriel optimistically assured Mary that "With God, all things are possible". Mary expressed her hope that she could be an instrument in the hands of God, saying, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be to me according to your word." The shepherds must have been filled with hope when the angels gave them the news of the birth: "They went in haste" to see the baby with their own eyes. And consider the wise men, who held onto their hopes of finding the young child in spite of the fact that their guiding star disappeared from their view when they got to Jerusalem. Their hope returned when the star reappeared: "They rejoiced with exceedingly great joy!"

The Lord wants us all to experience hope—lots of it, throughout life. He wants His advent into our lives to be a hopeful experience, something to look forward to again and again with anticipation.

His gospel is good news. Jesus said, "Be of good cheer!" His doctrine is all about hope—the hope of spiritual growth, maturity, repentance, reformation and regeneration, the hope to be of useful service, the hope for true marriage love, the hope for a heavenly eternal life.

The teachings of our church emphasize that even in temptation, "the Lord preserves in each person a sense of hope and trust, which are fighting strengths from within that enable a person to offer resistance" (Heavenly Secrets 6097). In fact, the Lord's constant effort is to bring each person "into a bright state of hope and the comfort this brings, and also into a state of happiness" (Heavenly Secrets 8165).

In the Psalms, David declares his hope this way: "I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD; for with the LORD there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption" (Psalm 130:5-7). "Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us, just as we hope in You" (Psalm 33:22).

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of hope!

Our Hopes at Christmas

My wife and I join in wishing you all a very hopeful Christmas season! May it be enriched with enjoyable conversations and the blessings of sharing the gifts of the spirit in many special ways. I pray that the Lord's light of wisdom touches us all through the story of His advent and its significance in the various states of our lives. Nathan and Elise Gladish



Poinsettias for the Chancel

It has been our custom to decorate the chancel during the Advent Season with Poinsettias, given in memory of a loved one. If you would like to make a donation toward one of these poinsettias please contact the church office or Élise Gladish. The name of your loved one will be listed in one of the holiday bulletins.



Christmas Trees for the Chancel

We would like to grace our chancel with the sight and scent of fresh evergreen trees for our Christmas Services. Please consider making a donation toward these special decorations. If you write a check, please write a descriptive note on the memo line. Thank You!

Christmas Party

Friday December 14, 6:30 PM - Friendship Hall

Sunrise Chapel welcomes you to our Christmas party! This is a chance to put aside the season's hustle and bustle, relax with friends and enjoy some special entertainment in the form of music, poetry and a Purp story by Frank Rose! Come visit over a cup of hot mulled cider or hot chocolate, and a Christmas cookie. Enjoy singing or listening to some Christmas Carols. If you like, make an ornament or decoration to take home. RSVP to Élise or Betsy Gladish

Christmas Services

Monday, December 24

- Family service at 7:00 pm (with gifts for the children and holiday refreshments afterwards)
- Candlelight service at 10:00 pm

Tuesday, December 25

- Christmas Day service at 11:00 am

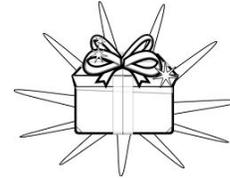
THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH CORNER: GIVING

By Betsy Gladish

It all started with the Wise Men. They brought gifts to the baby Lord, gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Now thousands of years later we celebrate this birth by giving gifts to each other. I wonder if the Wise Men felt pressure the way we do today. "Is it the right gift? Will He like it? Will it travel well? Will it get there on time?" The Holidays are definitely a time for spiritual work!

As a child my gift giving was simple and from the heart: home-made cards, funny looking bowls and vases from clay. I would be so excited to give the gift that I always gave it early. Three years in a row I gave my mother an ash tray. In her eyes it was "just what she wanted" even though she never smoked. Her love and acceptance taught me the joy of giving.

So what about God's gifts to us? He is the Ultimate Gift Giver. Each day He chooses the exact blessings that will make us happy, help us to grow, and bring us closer to Him.



Often it seems that the degree to which He gives to us is based on the difficulties of our circumstances and our willingness to depend on Him for help. It is as if He has His arms filled with "packages" to present to us when we are ready. Our most challenging days are opportunities to receive more of His power, more of His gifts than usual.

Do we make it easy for Him to give to us? Do we make it easy for others to give to us? How do we react to the ugly sweater from Aunt Myrtle or the fruitcake from our neighbor? Can we look beyond the worldly gift and see the love with which it is given?

The real magic of Christmas happens inside of us when we make the connection between giving and receiving. It is a time to open ourselves to the unlimited flow of love, compassion, and understanding. God gives us these gifts every day. May we pass them on to each other and have a generous Christmas and New Year.

*Your Friends at Sunrise Chapel join in wishing
you the blessings of this Christmas season!*

George and Cheri Reynolds

Nenah Moeller

Marian Lane

Dan and Ruth Goodenough

Dee Fletcher

Bryan, Joy, and Sadie Almond

Glenn and Mary Alden

Clarence Lindstrom

Lex and Grace Waddell

Marina Ebel

Trish Wann

Steve and Betsy Gladish

Bob and Jean Ross

Joy Confer

Raymond and Marni McDaniel

Mike and Lynn Brown

Frank and Louise Rose

Jack and Billie Baty

Mickey and Sharon Zoyetz

Bob and Pat Maginel

Kerry LaBombard

The Tidwell Family

Howard and Virginia Osmus

Kim Osmus and Claudia Wood-Osmus

Vern and Carolyn Wehr

Wes, Sue, and Matthew Babcock

Jerry and Maria Marzinsky

Roberta Hamet

Nathan and Élise Gladish

Art and Carol Watson

The Graffam Family

Louis and Kelly Woofenden

Wil and Johanna Von Mayr

Val Thim

Ken and Jennifer Lee

Kitty Aughey

Janet and Art Lee

Tom Bell

Stanford Lehne

Carmela Barker

The Dave Synnestvedt Family

Bill and Anne Fuller

Dorothy Jeffries

Herb and Dottie Ridlon

*For unto Us,
a Child is born...*



INSPIRATIONAL READINGS FOR THE DAILY CHRISTMAS SEASON

To add meaning to your celebration of Christmas, consider a short inspirational reading each day (December 1-25). The staff of the Glenview New Church has once again prepared a set of Christmas readings, this time gathered around the theme of "Good Success." This theme is expressed in the Book of Joshua as follows: "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success" (Joshua 1:8). This Scripture calls us to reflect on the differences between Lord's view of success and our view of success. The Lord's view will always include a look to eternity and what matters most. Ours will sometimes focus on the here and now, so much so that spiritual concerns may get pushed to the periphery.

This program is designed to invite meditation on the Word of God. Each daily reading features a quotation from the Christmas story, followed by other readings which apply it to some aspect of our walk with the Lord. A reflection is also offered, along with a few questions or a simple task.

Each reading presents some quality or some action that is exemplary of the life that the Lord would have us live, or ways in which we can be responsive to His leadership. The hope is that we will be able to see more of the Lord's will for our lives--more of the "success" that He calls "good"--by means of these readings.

You can either get a printed copy (\$3 contribution) from Sunrise Chapel, or you can subscribe (free) to a daily email by going to www.newchurch.org/materials/programs/holiday-



WHY GIVE?

By Art Watson, Treasurer

There are many reasons to be thankful for our church. The loving, supportive community is nurturing. The teachings from the Lord are a valuable part of our daily spiritual growth. And the opportunity to serve and minister to people in various ways is enriching and satisfying.

At this season and as the end of the tax year approaches, please consider giving a meaningful gift to Sunrise Chapel to help sustain and grow these efforts that help people experience heavenly joy through spiritual growth.

far this year (as of October 31st), our income has been slightly ahead of schedule, and our expenses have been slightly below; and our commitment to the General Church has been met. I, for one, am pleased with our financial developments, for it seemed in the past that every article I wrote emphasized shortfalls. Our budget calls for improving our income stream through donations and increased rentals and also for keeping our expenses in check. With your generous help, I am optimistic that we will continue to work towards our financial goals.

I wish each and every reader the most joyous of holidays as we reflect on this past year and motivate ourselves in preparation for the New Year.



NEWS NOTES

By Billie Baty

Congratulations to the Women's Guild for another successful Boutique and Craft Fair held the weekend of November 2 and 3. What a great way to shop for those specially made Christmas gifts and to have a chance to visit with old and new friends at the same time. It was especially delightful to see our dear friend Anne Fuller. For many years Anne was very much involved in the craft fairs. She not only helped organize, but made wonderfully crafted gifts to sell by at the Women's Guild table. We especially miss her homemade jellies. Thanks Anne for all you have done!!

Visitors

It was nice to have Nathan and Elise's son, David, spend some time here in Tucson where they could enjoy some of the wonderful weather that southern Arizona has to offer.

Betsy and Steve Gladish were delighted to have their son Dave here from San Diego to celebrate Thanksgiving.

It was a pleasure to meet Paul and Kathy Rodgers, along with their son Jeff who were visiting Tucson after visiting Paul's mother in Phoenix. Paul and Kathy are from the Oak Arbor congregation where Nathan and Elise are previously from. Their son Jeff lives in California

Dorothy Jeffries was in Tucson with son Frank Spracklin for a short visit. We were hoping that Dorothy would be able to stay for a longer period of time, but this year she has decided to stay closer to family in her home state of Washington. We are certainly going to miss her around here.

Birthdays

We had some very special milestone birthdays to celebrate in November. We wish a big happy Birthday to Clarence Lindstrom who turned 88 on November 2, and to Herb Ridlon who turned 83 on Thanksgiving Day!!

Also a big Happy Birthday to Fran Blaesing who celebrated her 80th birthday back east with family.

After coming home to Tucson, her take on the trip was that that if she had known how much fun she would have that she would have turned 80 much earlier. Love her humor" :-)

Hospital

We are so pleased to see that Louise Rose is recovering well from bypass surgery on November 13. She was in good hands from the beginning. She had a wonderful surgeon, and lots of love and support from family members. Daughter Liz Zeno from Minnesota, who is also a nurse came for the surgery, and has been a huge help and support during these first couple of weeks. Son Alan from California was also here for a few days and the family delighted in celebrating Thanksgiving together. Son Jonathan from Bryn Athyn, PA came in for a few days. The Sunday before Liz left to return home to Minnesota, she and her father Frank Rose gifted the Sunrise Chapel with singing a beautiful duet.

Our dear friend Jean Ross was in the hospital for a couple of days.

It is good to hear that George Reynolds is recovering well from knee surgery he had at Tucson Medical Center on November 19.

Condolences - Our love and prayers

Stan Green, a longtime member of Sunrise Chapel passed away on November 8th. Our love and prayers go to his family and especially his children: Betsy, Steve and Scott. The entire family are very big sports enthusiasts. During football season you could always find Stan in front of the TV set. His son Scott is a referee for the NFL #19. A lovely memorial service which included a moving Flag presentation to his family honoring his many years of dedication to the military was held at Sunrise Chapel on Saturday November 17th. Reverends Nathan Gladish and Frank Rose officiated.

Kerry LaBombard's father passed away back east and Kerry was able to go back for the memorial and spend some time with her mom and family.

Rose Leach's beloved aunt Theresa passed away on November 3. Rose traveled to northern California to take care of her aunt's personal affairs, and will probably need to do a return trip to finalize the estate sometime in January.

NEWS NOTES cont.

It is a pleasure to see our winter residents begin coming back for the winter months. We are already enjoying having Art and Janet Lee from Wisconsin, Mickey and Sharon Zoyetz from Canada and Bob and Jean Ross who live some of the time in Oregon. We look forward to seeing Vern and Carolyn Wehr around the end of December.

Congratulations to Kevin and Christine Morey on the birth of their beautiful, healthy twin sons Clayton and Zachary born on November 9th. Proud Grandma Linda Waddell was in Tucson to give lots of love and support while awaiting the birth and afterwards. Big brother Shawn and sister Sadie are proud siblings.

Seven people from Sunrise Chapel delighted in helping to serve Thanksgiving Dinner to several thousand people at the Gospel Rescue Mission on Wednesday Nov 23.

WOMEN'S GROUP

We are taking a break from our discussion group for the month of December. Enjoy the holiday season! We will resume meeting in January on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 2:30 pm in the Sunrise Chapel library.



The Sunrise Chapel Journey Leaders Team is continuing to plan for the best Journey program to date, starting the of February 3, 2013.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday morning, Dec. 4 at 7am**. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Kelly Woofenden or Nathan Gladish.

Utopia?

Opinion Piece by Dawn Graffam

No one but God can lead us toward Utopia, or heaven; yet people put their faith in other people to lead us to a more earthly paradise. Let's not get confused when at church we promise "heaven on earth." This world is not our home. It is broken, and we cannot expect our time in this world to be an easy journey. We should, therefore, strive to overcome this place, and plan for a place in heaven. Aren't we supposed to work hard on becoming better people, leaders in our community or families, and listen to God in order to do His will? No one can execute this task alone. We have to become humble, come to the end of ourselves through effort, before realizing that we need Jesus to share our burden and get us through this. We are but one body in Christ, notes Romans, and each member belongs to all the others.

Praising God and noting His wonderful presence in church on Sunday is often times overlooked when we focus on our needs, desires, and how much God loves us unconditionally. Let's sing a song of praise without "us" in it. Thank God that He's in charge, not we short-sighted mortals.

There is nothing we can do to deserve mercy, but the Lord gives it to us anyway. To make the most of what the Lord offers, we pray, listen, obey His will, and repent for our sins. We can find happiness by choosing to be the hands and feet of Jesus. So, give what you can to the poor, feed the hungry, help the sick, let someone help you, lend a hand, encourage someone, give to missionaries, pray for widows and orphans, and / or volunteer at church. That's my idea of heaven on earth: People helping and serving people, but all the while looking to heaven for guidance and strength to do His will.



December 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Path to Bethlehem 4:30-5:15pm Cast Supper 5:45 Cast take positions 6-8pm Presentation 8:10 Afterglow Party
2 11am Worship Service 12:45pm Women's Guild	3 6pm Meditation	4 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	5 2pm Prayer Group	6 7pm Men's Group	7	8
9 11am Worship Service	10 6pm Meditation	11 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	12	13 7pm Men's Group	14 6:30pm Christmas Party Friendship Hall	15
16 11am Worship Service 12:45pm Board Mtg	17 6pm Meditation	18 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	19	20 7pm Men's Group	21	22
23 11am Worship Service	24 Christmas Services 7pm Family 10pm Candlelight	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i> 11am Christmas Service	26	27 7pm Men's Group	28	29
30 11am Worship Service Holy Supper	31 <i>Happy New Year</i>					

AA & AL-ANON

Monday AA 6pm

Tuesday AA 11am

Wednesday AL-ANON 9:30am, AA 7:30pm

Thursday AA 6am

Saturday Men's AA 8am, Women's AA 11am

Sunday AA 5pm, AA Meditation 7pm

Other Regular Events

Monday & Thursday 9am - Yoga

Tuesday 5:30pm - Self Defense

1st & 3rd Thursday - Global Chant

Friday 6:30pm - Buddhist Meditation



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Come Walk our Path to Bethlehem

Saturday, December 1 anytime from 6-8 PM

