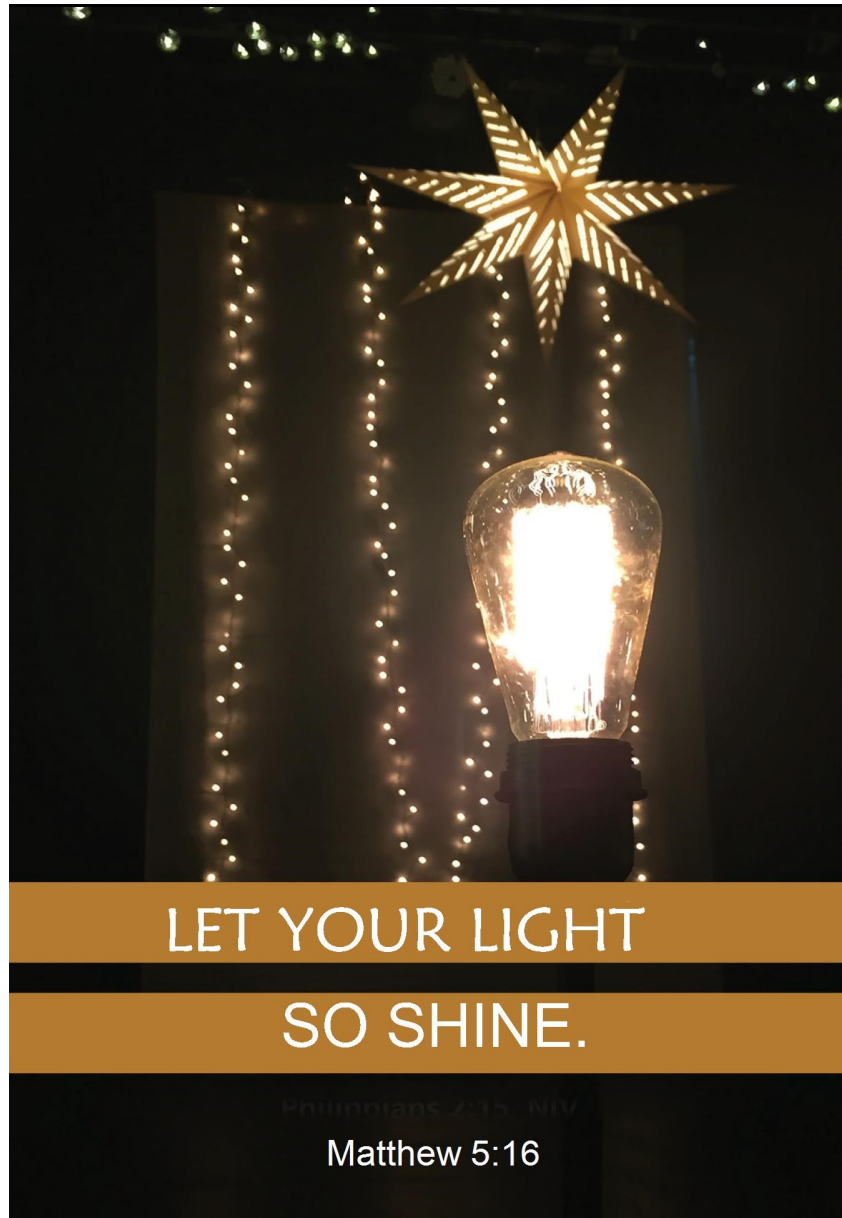


NEWS FROM THE PEWS

The Greenville Alliance Church Newsletter



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Pastor's Corner

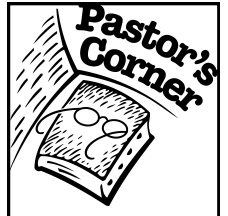
December 2017

Growing up one of my memories is going to my grandparent's house for Christmas. My grandfather loved Christmas time and really jumped into decorating. I can remember some of the over-the-top Christmas trees he would put together. One year he sprayed the Christmas tree white so it looked like it was covered with snow. But one of the special memories was the year he made a simple wooden plaque with the words "Joy to the World the Lord is Come." It was brown stained wood with gothic style letters filled in with gold leaf paint. It hung on the mantel above the fireplace. Years later my father made a copy for all of us kids. Seeing that simple phrase reminded us all of what Christmas was all about. Do you ever stop and meditate on how wonderful the coming of Christ was and is? Does joy fill your heart, mind and soul?

Possibly right about now you are singing the Christmas hymn, "Joy to the World." Might I remind you of another phrase the lines say—*"Joy to the world the Lord is come, let earth receive her King, Let every heart prepare Him room."* Did you catch the last part? What do you think Isaac Watts was getting at with the words "Let every heart prepare Him room?" I believe he was reminding us we all need to be purposeful in this Christmas season. We need to take time to prepare for Christmas. I'm not talking about wrapping gifts or throwing parties or gathering together for amazing meals, I'm talking about purposeful planning for moments of reflection and worship. Maybe it's having an advent wreath on the table and lighting a candle before each dinner together, or talking about "God with us" or it might mean beginning a new tradition of reading the Christmas story before you open your gifts on Christmas morning. Yes, the kids might moan, but they will live and they might just realize Christmas is about our King and Savior. At the very least, could you take a few moments each evening and simply stop and sit and notice the Christmas tree and the lights and the ornaments and thank God for providing us a Savior. Preparing room in our hearts means breaking the cycle of busyness that so easily captures our lives and it is the norm in today's world. So would you prepare this season? Purposely plan on stopping for a few minutes each day, be still and ask God to change your life in this Christmas season. Hey, why not put a sticky note on the door you go out of each day with that simple phrase "Joy to the World the Lord is Come" and see if it impacts how you experience life this year!

Blessings,

Pastor Nathan



Pastor Nathan
Seckinger



Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. Luke 2:14

Prayer Walk

Saturday—December 4, 2017 At Edinboro Camp and Retreat Center



We had a Prayer Walk at Edinboro Camp and Retreat Center on Saturday, November 4 from 8 to 10 am. I told the Lord I'd be very excited if one person showed up. Well, Praise the Lord!! We had 12 total who showed up to pray along with those who said they'd pray at home. Thanks to all who prayed!! God is doing great things.

We'll meet every first Saturday of the month. Hope to see you December 2 and/or January 6 between 8:00 am and 10:00 am.

If you **CAN** attend: Meet at Loomis Lodge between 8:00 am and 10:00 am.

Pray 2 minutes or 2 hours. Pray by yourself or with others. Pray inside or outside.

I'll have a Prayer Sheet you can use during your prayer time. Feel free to add you own requests.

Eat some Doughnuts while you are here and have a drink (Coffee, Tea, Juice, Water).

If you **CANNOT** attend: I'll e-mail you a Prayer Sheet before the Saturday if I have your e-mail.

I will also put it on Facebook. Then set aside some time to pray when it is convenient for you.

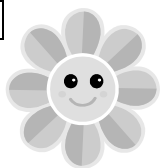
Thank you! I look forward to seeing you all!

Pastor Blair Blakeslee — Executive Director — 814-882-9816

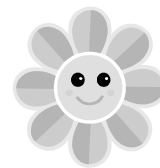


	Kitty Fenton Rollie Fenton Faith Noelle Gibson Ray Hammond Sandy Hammond Elaine Hanson Fran Lazzar	Carl Long Betty Marsh Alice Myers Scott Shaffer Phyllis Smith Twila White	Gloria Bardella Norma Beckdol Jim Blair Shirley Brown Maxine Clark Donna Crawford Mable Heffer Alice King Jane King
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Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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Greenville Alliance Women



"ANGELS AMONG US"

Alliance Women Christmas Celebration Dinner

Tuesday, December 5 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The meat, beverage and table service will be provided and we ask that you bring a large dish (salad, hot dish or dessert) to share. All ladies of the church and their guests — mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, friends are invited.



2017 Christmas Collection for the Greenville Salvation Army

.Listed below are ideas of items that could be purchased for the Salvation Army Christmas gifts for teens.

Conditioner

Wash Cloths

Dental Floss

Finger Nail Polish

Finger Nail Clippers

Polish Remover

Perfume

Hair Accessories

Clothing items...

Hooded Sweatshirts

Socks

Scarves

Shower Gel

Finger Nail Files

After Shave

Shaving Cream

Brushes

Mouthwash

Tooth paste

Tooth brush

Shower Sponge

Moisturizer

Lotion

Combs

Makeup

Hair Spray

Hacky Sack Balls



Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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 **Bob & Cheryl Fugate -- Mexico**



A Huge Welcome to all our new prayer partners!



Thank you for warmly receiving us in your churches and homes and sharing our vision 5 / 5 / 25 to pierce the Circle of Silence in Mexico!



Cheryl and I split up to cover more churches and reach more people these months in the US and we have done just that, reaching an amazing **36 churches in just 3 months**. No one knows how much coffee I have had but thanks to all of you who kept my cup full and listened to me long into the night.



We now turn our eyes toward our **return to Mexico on December 17th** to our young congregation and Project SouthPointe that is just getting going.

These are times of harvest in Mexico and before we head south of the border again we want to INVITE you to join our **Vision 5 / 5 / 25 -- to pierce the circle of silence in Mexico with the gospel**. Some of you know that, as I have travelled into the high Sierra Madre mountains to better understand the needs of the indigenous peoples living there, I was given two names without ever disclosing the missionary nature of my visits. The first was, "*he who talks with spirits*," and the second was the "*tip of the arrow*." Cheryl and I believe that the Lord is calling us to motivate Mexican believers and US supporters to join hands and together bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the circle of silence.

Our objectives are to plant churches in the city of Guadalajara which is strategically located in the heart of the circle of silence, and then, using the church plants as support, to mentor and coach 5 church planting groups in the five least evangelized states in Mexico. All the while, discipling Mexican leaders to plant viable churches for the indigenous peoples high in the Sierra Madre mountains.

We call this strategic plan - Vision 5 / 5 / 25

**A Vision for 5 church plants in Guadalajara,
and 5 church planting groups in five surrounding states by the year 2025.**

OUR TARGET AREA IS KNOWN AS - THE CIRCLE OF SILENCE IN MEXICO -

that portion of Mexico that has least access to the gospel and has the least percentage of evangelicals anywhere in the country. This is an area comprised of 6 states where the Gospel has been largely silent. There is an **average of 1.82% evangelical believers** in the six states. **(2010 Mexico Census data)* Even more unbelievable are the several indigenous groups in this area that have **no viable witnessing churches for their evangelization of some 60,000 - 100,000 people**. The city of Guadalajara, 5,000,000 population, is strategically located in the middle of the circle of silence and will serve as an ideal base for 5 / 5 / 25.

Continued on Page 10

Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAY - DECEMBER

2. Carol Williams
3. Mindi Douglas
4. Sally McDonald
5. Fred Williams
7. Jeanette Ferguson
8. Kaitlin Liska
9. Barb Kremm
Naomi Miller
12. Levi Brewer
13. Cyrus White
17. Deanna McLaughlin
19. Amy Babcock
Steve Tyson
23. Jane Brocius
Hannah Winklevoss
24. Sarah Mallek
25. Autumn Babcock
26. Jordan Williams
27. Mark Hoffacker
29. Bonnie Prugh
30. Lonnie Ferguson
31. Amanda Brewer



ANNIVERSARY - DECEMBER

16. Rick and Ruth Chapman
Jeff and Melissa Villard
20. Nate and Joyce Seckinger
22. Lynn and Joanne Gruber
29. Ben and Jill Winklevoss



THE BELIEF SERIES

January, 2018

Alliance

Life Center



BIRTHDAY - JANUARY

1. Derek Sulick
Jill Winklevoss
2. Mark Madden
Ken Stuyvesant
7. Kael McLaughlin
8. Dick Miller
10. Kim Banic
11. David Reeves
Becky Williams
13. Ernie Clark
Pat Liska
Emma Powell
16. Allyson Kremm
17. Stacy Miller
18. Joan Grinnell
Rebekah Jones
19. Tyler Shoaf
22. Grace Augustson
Kristen Lumley
Eric Rinella
24. Charles New
26. Lydia Godinich
Brian Mody
27. Alice Myers
Jean Sernik
28. Nathan Stuyvesant
29. Phyllis Smith
30. Andria Mody
Riley Villard

ANNIVERSARY - JANUARY

14. Jamie and Annie Ball
16. Dan & and Shawneen
Scharmer
26. Jay and Barbara Kremm



Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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We give our sympathy to Teri Rose and her family as her father, **WAYNE MARSTELLER**, passed away October 20.

We give our sympathy to Sue Bee as her daughter-in-law, **ANNA MCNEELY**, passed away October 25.

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of **DON LEAX** as he passed away October 25.

We give our sympathy to Bob Ramp and his family for their recent loss. His Mother, **GLADYS ESTER**, passed away November 19.

We give our deepest sympathy to Sandi Mowry as her husband, **DENNIS MOWRY**, passed away November 22.

SUNDAY FOLLOW-UP — The pastor gives an overview of the message from Sunday in a write-up called “Sunday Follow Up”. This is posted on the church website under the “Watch & Listen” (the first item under the Resources tab) and on GAC Facebook. You can go to the website and read this anytime. If you would like to receive the “Sunday Follow-Up” e-mail from the senior pastor, please complete a sign-up slip on the table in the lobby. Once you have completed the card, please put it in the box that is on the table in the lobby or return it to the church office. Thank you.

BENEVOLENT FUND—The GAC has a benevolent fund which is a ministry where gifts of money are available for those in need in our own church body. People in our own congregation can give to help others by marking “benevolent fund” on the offering envelope. Contact one of the deacons — Jamie Ball, Jonathan Jones, Ben Winklevoss or Gary White.

Congratulations to Lucas and Julia Morian on the birth of their son **SAMSON MICHAEL MORIAN**. He was born October 27 weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 21-1/2” long. Blessings to the family.



THANK YOU to the church family for your kind words, encouragement and thoughtful expressions of thanks during Pastor (Ministry) Appreciation Month. Your love, concern and prayer support are very much appreciated.

Blessings — GAC Ministry Staff



THANKS—Greenville Alliance Church Dear Loved Ones, Thank you for the beautiful flower. Also thanks to those of you who have prayed and sent cards. Thanks for the many kind acts that have been expressed in these many months. Your love has been greatly appreciated by our family.

The Shaffers — Ann, Judy and David

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK the church for all the prayers and for the meals that were brought. I am blessed to have wonderful people in my life.

Kaye Spence

I WANT TO THANK my church family for the many birthday cards and flowers. Also, for the special treat from “Loving Hands”.

Twila White

Guarding the front of the nativity scene under the Christmas tree was a small armored figure with tape over its mouth. When asked who it was, Kyle said, “That’s the silent knight!”

—from Church Chuckles

Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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J.O.Y. Fellowship is for all adults 50 years of age and over. Join us for this wonderful celebration.

Christmas Party
Thursday, December 14
at 11:30 a.m.
at
Carini's Restaurant
Greenville

Join us for ...



A Catered Lunch ~ from Carini's Restaurant.

The cost of the meal is \$10.00 per person.



A Gift Exchange ~ Bring a gift (\$7.00 value)
appropriate for your gender.



Fun and Fellowship

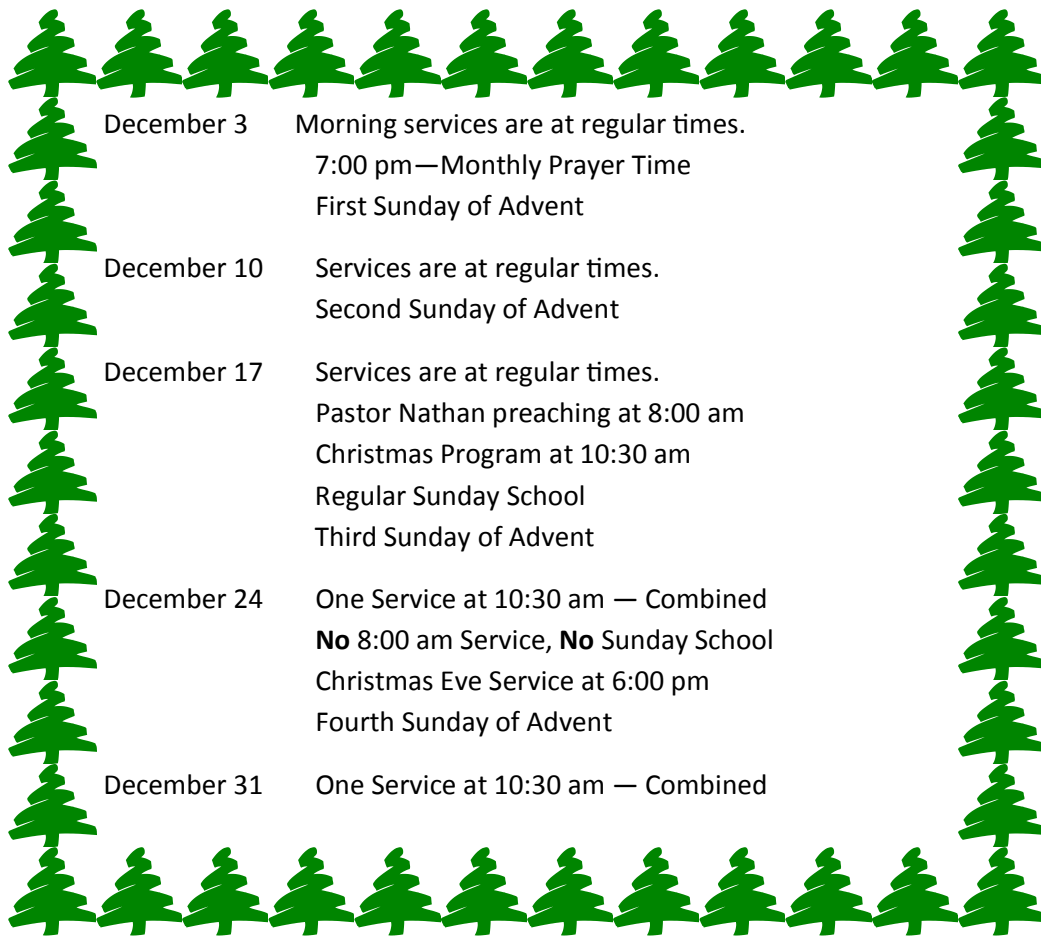
Sign up before December 4 if you plan to attend.

For any additional information please contact

Pastor Jerry or Lois Hunter.

Schedule of Services for Holiday Season 2017

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December 3	Morning services are at regular times. 7:00 pm—Monthly Prayer Time First Sunday of Advent
December 10	Services are at regular times. Second Sunday of Advent
December 17	Services are at regular times. Pastor Nathan preaching at 8:00 am Christmas Program at 10:30 am Regular Sunday School Third Sunday of Advent
December 24	One Service at 10:30 am — Combined No 8:00 am Service, No Sunday School Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 pm Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 31	One Service at 10:30 am — Combined



For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

George Frideric Handel — The Messiah, Part 1:12

Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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Continued from Page 5

Central México is the region with the greatest population and the least percentage of evangelicals in all of Latin America

Of the 31 states in Mexico, these 6 states have a combined population of over 16,000,000 - this zone is the least evangelized of all Mexico and the Alliance is strategically located in the middle of this zone to plant churches and pierce the circle of silence in the surrounding states.

5 / 5 / 25 - IS A **VISION** that is at once both inspiring and daunting. Join us by becoming part of our 5:25 prayer team.

We know that it is by the power of prayer that the circle of silence will be pierced by the gospel of Jesus Christ. Please consider dedicating a short time each day at 5:25 (am or pm) to pray for us, our safety, our ministry and for the Lord to move in mighty ways in the circle of silence. Thank You!

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. For the continued rebuilding of homes and some churches in the southern part of Mexico, the first to be hit by the earthquakes.
2. For both Bob and Cheryl as they finish up their tours in November and spend quality time with family. Grandchild number 9 is due in two weeks and this will be the first time that Cheryl has been in the US for the birth of a grandchild, she is so excited.
3. For our lay leaders core group in Mexico. The three couples have been doing all the ministry in the church since our departure in July of this year. Pray for Eduardo and Sarahi who are called into pastoral ministry with Breath of Life. She is due in December and we are hoping to make it back for the birth. Pray for finances for the church to be able to start paying a small salary to Eduardo who will take on increasing ministry responsibilities and form a pastoral team with Bob.
4. For our building project-- that the Lord will provide the funds needed to begin construction in 2018!
5. For an amicable resolution to a water well on our church property. The well is not registered with the government and needs to be, but it supplies three families with water and some of these households are known associates of drug cartels. Bob has already had several encounters with these owners, assuring them that we do not plan to cut their water off, but at the same time, the church must find a way to legally register the well with the government, no matter what may be the result.

Thank you for supporting us through the C&MA.
Bob and Cheryl Fugate

Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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Church Community Ministries & Bible Quiz

Good Shepherd Needs

The Good Shepherd request for **DECEMBER IS BOXED OR CANNED MEALS**. Please bring donations to the church and put them in the Good Shepherd Center container marked **GOOD SHEPHERD** by **DECEMBER 10**. We should all try to participate as this is a ministry of our church to those who need a helping hand.

Remember the local **SALVATION ARMY** donations. Suggested items rice, canned vegetables, canned fruit, tuna, gravy, mac 'n' cheese, spaghetti sauce or boxed dinners. A variety of food items is always appreciated. Please put any donations for the Salvation Army in the appropriate bin in the coat closet at the top of the stairs off of the lobby. Contact Esther Loucks.



Worship & Prayer Night

Sunday, December 3

7:00 P.M. in the Worship Center

Come join us for a time devoted to prayer.

First Sunday of Advent



THE DEACONESS MINISTRY is available to help our growing church family.

If you are in need or know of someone within the church family who is need of care in the month of **DECEMBER**, please contact **KITTY FENTON @ 724-588-6627 OR ESTHER LOUCKS @ 724-932-3978**. These members of the body are ready to serve when needed.

PRAYER FOR GREENVILLE

Downtown Ministries invites you to meet at Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse as they join together to pray for Greenville Tuesday, **December 19**, at 5:30 PM.



BIBLE QUIZ PRACTICE

Sundays at 5:00 PM






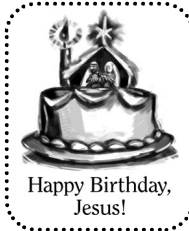

Anyone in the 4th through 12th grade who is interested in Bible quizzing is invited. The material to be covered this year is I and II Corinthians. Parents are invited as well to see what quizzing is about and to get the schedule. If you have questions about quizzing or future practices, please contact Brenda Liszka at 724-977-9543 or 724-932-5311.

Bible Quiz Saturday, December 2 in Erie, PA



Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>In him was life, and that life was the light of men.</p> <p><i>John 1:4 NIV</i></p>					1	2
						Bible Quiz - Erie, PA <i>*Fellowship Hall Reserved</i>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
 4:00 pm - Student Ministry Gym 4:00 pm - Bible Quiz Practice 6:00 pm - 4 Twelve Groups 7:00 pm - Monthly Prayer Time	9:00 am Pickle Ball <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved</i>	<i>Hall Reserved</i> 6:00 pm-GAW Christmas Celebration Dinner	6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice 7:00 pm - Ladies L.I.F.T.	9:00 am - Pickle Ball 10:30 am - Bible Study 6:30 pm - KidZone 6:30 pm - Prayer Mtg.		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
4:00 pm - Student Ministry Gym 4:00 pm - Bible Quiz Practice 6:00 pm - 4 Twelve Groups 6:00 pm - Pinterest for the Soul	9:00 am Pickle Ball <i>*Fellowship Hall Reserved All Day and Evening</i>		<i>*Fellowship Hall Reserved All Day</i> 6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice 6:30 pm Gov. Authority Mtg.	9:00 am - Pickle Ball 11:30 am - J.O.Y. Christmas Party 6:30 pm - KidZone 6:30 pm - Prayer Mtg.		7:30 am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:00am-1:00pm - Worship Center Reserved <i>*Fellowship Hall Reserved Afternoon</i>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:00 am - Regular Service 10:30 am - Children's Christmas Program 4:00 pm - Student Ministry Gym 4:00 pm - Bible Quiz Practice 6:00 pm - 4 Twelve Groups 6:30 pm - Elders Meeting	9:00 am Pickle Ball		6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice	9:00 am - Pickle Ball 10:30 am - Bible Study 6:30 pm - KidZone 6:30 pm - Prayer Mtg.		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
No 8:00 am Service No Sunday School 10:30 am - Combined Christmas Worship Service Christmas Eve Service-6:00 pm		NO GAW Prayer Time	6:30 pm - Worship Team Practice	9:00 am - Pickle Ball No AM Bible Study NO Evening Ministry Activities		
31						
No 8:00 am Service Regular Sunday School 10:30 am - Combined Worship Service						

Merry Christmas

And

Happy New Year

Jesus is the reason for the season!

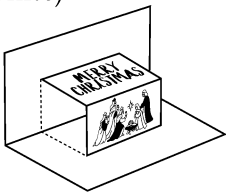
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POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

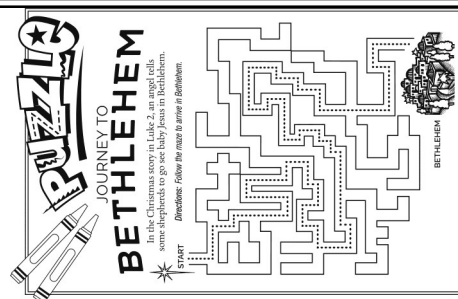
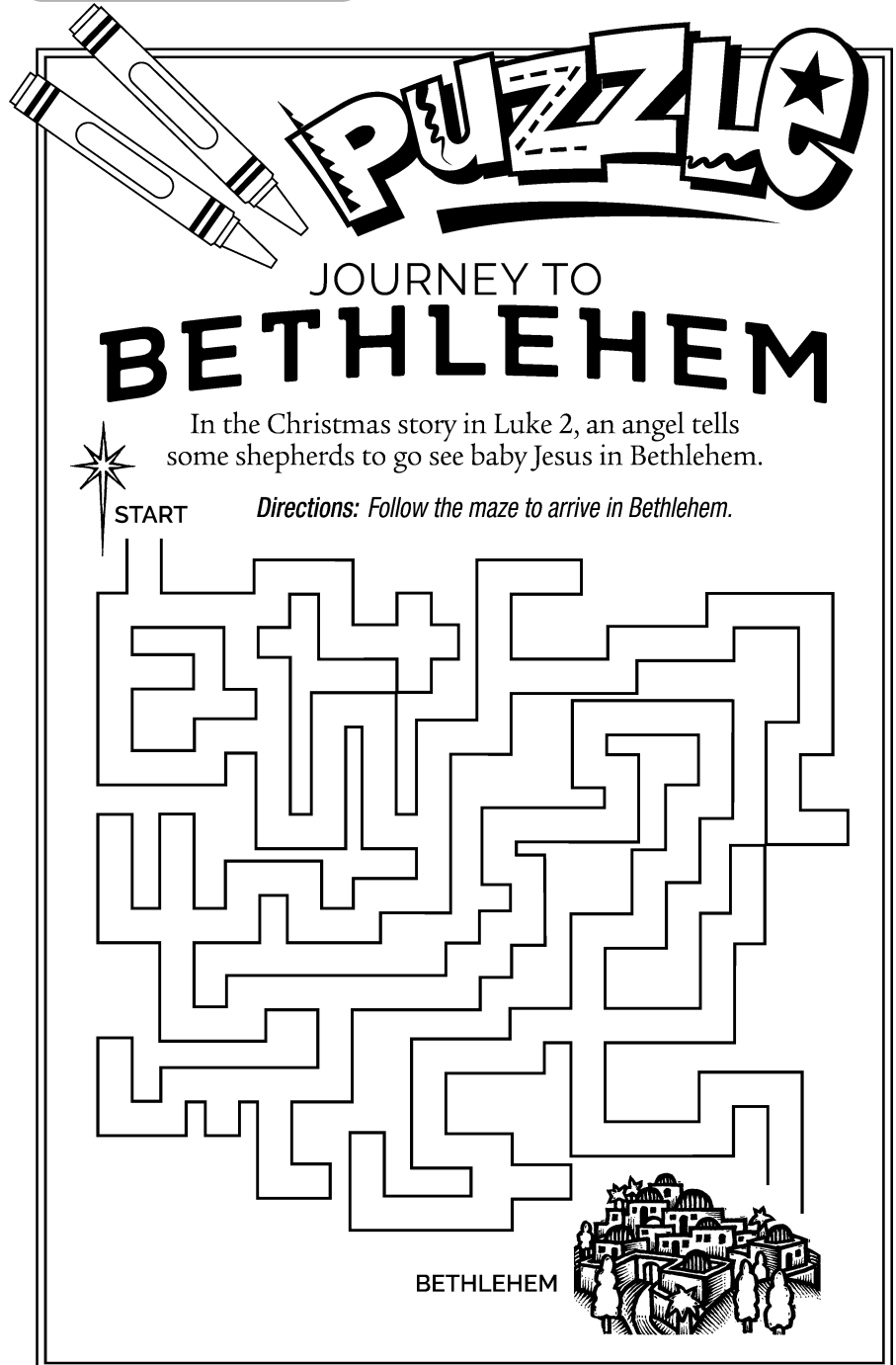
What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.



Memory Verse of the Month: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
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GREENVILLE ALLIANCE CHURCH

63 Conneaut Lake Rd.
Greenville, PA 16125



GREENVILLE ALLIANCE CHURCH

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Website: greenvillealliancechurch.org

Church Secretary E-Mail: info@greenvillealliancechurch.org

E-mail for newsletter only:

newsletter@greenvillealliancechurch.org



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you have information that you would like put in the January, 2018 newsletter it must be submitted by December 15. Please put the information in the blue folder by the computer in the library, or use the newsletter e-mail address (listed above) to submit information.