



A Few Thoughts From A Shepherd

This has been a very troublesome year by almost any standard. There is the hope of a vaccine on the horizon; though it will probably be a few months before most of us will be able to get it. As we approach the year's end, how would you objectively view it. Is your evaluation based on how the world sees things or has this year's event helped you to see and appreciate how God is working in our lives? Are we reflecting the world or are we allowing God's light to shine on the world? In troublesome times, many in the world become seekers. They may not know what they are seeking, but they persist. Some will turn to drugs, alcohol or other pleasures of this world.

Now is the time that Christians should be sharing the hope and peace that Jesus brings. Hearts are itching to hear the good news. This holiday season provides additional opportunities to share the story of Jesus. The first step is to follow what Jesus said in John 13:34-35"

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Who is the 'one another'? In a simplistic reading, it would be brothers and sisters in Christ. But if we read the passage with the heart of Christ, it is everyone ... family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, even strangers. We need to show God's love to each person we meet. We can show love for them through gratitude, appreciation, respect and with an eye for identifying a need and how we might help them. This may be as simple as opening a door for someone, smiling and speaking kindly to them. Watch for opportunities to show love (maybe a larger tip at a restaurant along with a note that they are appreciated and loved for their service). Take it one step further, get with your family or friends and identify a way to show love to someone(s) and then as the Nike slogan says "Just do it".

Reach out to those around you and show God's love ... it may lead to a conversation that will enable you to talk about Jesus and how he has changed your life. You may never know how an act of kindness may be the seed that leads to their salvation.

May God bless and comfort you, Richard Baskin

Prayer Requests:

- ◆ Johnnie Mae McGee—Continued prayers.
- ◆ John Long—Please pray for John to be able to regain his strength and stamina as he continues his journey.
- ◆ Quinn Britt—Continue to pray for him and his rehab.
- ◆ Marsha Dowell—Chris texted negative and Stephanie is recovering from Covid. Sid has no fever; just low appetite and a bit tired. We thank God for continued health and for your prayers.
- ◆ Jimmy Carr—Pray for him and his recovery from surgery. He is still in the hospital and we pray that he will be able to come home soon.
- ◆ Nelan Bahlman—David Teague's uncle, passed away on Wednesday. Please pray for all of his family and friends as they mourn their loss.
- ◆ Todd and Judy Burton—Have both tested positive for Covid. In addition, Judy's cancer is back and she will resume chemo two weeks after she is free of Covid. Please continue to pray for their granddaughter, Evie, who is fighting cancer and strokes, and as well as Judy's parents Don and Beverly who are no in assisted living.
- ◆ Sandy Goodman—Be praying for my brother, Tommy, as he is recovering from surgery this week.
- ◆ Mark Snider—Is being treated for a wound on his foot. Because he is a fragile diabetic, the wound isn't healing properly. Please be praying that it begins to heal and he doesn't run the possibility of amputation.
- ◆ Mel Carter—The husband of long time friends of David and Twila, is in the hospital fighting Covid. They are waiting for some of his numbers to come down so they can do a tracheotomy and get him off the ventilator. This procedure is scheduled for this week if all goes well. Please pray for him, his family, and all the doctors/nurses that are taking care of him.
- ◆ Bruce Wilks—In the hospital recovering from a severe lung infection. As soon as he is cleared, he will be placed on the transplant list. Please be praying for he and his wife, Ginger. She cannot be with him currently because no visitors are allowed in the hospital at this time. They have many NW friends.



A huge Thank You to everyone that had a part in our Angel Tree. Because of you, these kids will have a wonderful Christmas.

Thank you to Fred & Peggy Massey for delivering our gifts to Pharr.



NO BIBLE CLASSES

DECEMBER 20TH & 27TH

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 21ST-24TH**

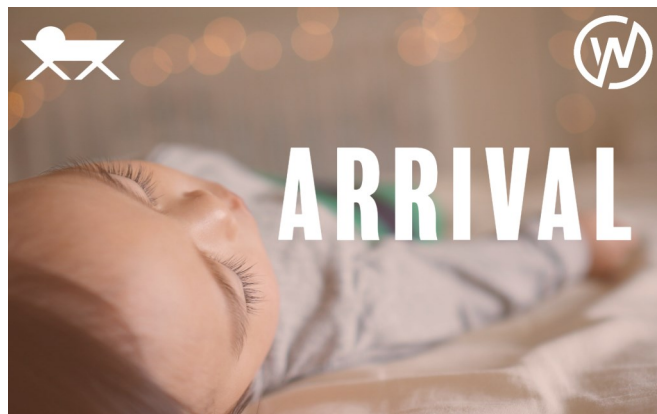
CAMPFIRES & CAROLS
Sunday, December 13th 6:00-7:30pm

JOIN US FOR S'MORES & CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE YOUR CAR WE WILL BROADCAST THE CAROLS THROUGH THE FM TRANSMITTER SO EVERYONE CAN JOIN THE FUN!

Audio Visual Help Needed

Are you interested in Audio-Visual work? Do you have a passion for serving? Are you a team player? Are you responsible and trainable? We need to train some people to help Bob Beavers and Ron Reinhard with our video production. If you are interested, contact them, any minister, or the church office.



Join us for a new sermon series surrounding the arrival of Jesus the whole month of December!



**Diaper Shower
For Our
New Babies**

We have been so richly blessed during this pandemic with 5 new babies. We would like to honor them and their parents by helping with diapers and wipes.

Everett & Beckett Mahoney size 3
Parents Mike & Stephanie Mahoney

Carson Stevens size 6
Parents Tyler & Sarah Stevens

Christine Senenda size 1
Parents Lubula & Eveline Senenda

Rowan Tressel size 2
Parents Anthony & Briana Tressel

You may drop off your donations in the nursery foyer on the table under the TV.