

Christmas in 3 Words:

LIGHT

INCREASE

SALVATION

Isaiah 9:1-7

December 15, 2019
Ralph Nygard, Lead Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church family,

One of the things that I miss at this time of year is the long days of sunshine. Living in the Sunshine State for the majority of my life, I am not a fan of the shortened days of daylight. What I am glad about is that Christmas pierces the darkest season of the year with its light. During this time of year a lot of people are facing dark days of disappointment, distress and depression. Even though Christmas is a time of joy, it also can be a time of terrible sadness. In the midst of despair, Christmas brings good news for anyone struggling with dark days during this season. The truth is, God doesn't just want to pat you on the back and say, "Cheer up". God wants to use your dark days to help you learn new attitudes, new choices, new thoughts, and new approaches. God doesn't want to just help survive the holidays He wants to change you. God doesn't just want to chase away the darkness this Christmas. He wants to turn on the lights!

The Bible says, "***It is even possible . . . for light to turn the thing it shines upon into light also***" (Ephesians 5:13 PHILLIPS). When the light of God shines on my life, it changes everything. It takes me out of that pit of despair and fills me with God's light. Through his light in me, God shines his light on others.

The good news about Christmas is that now there is a light in the world that can drive away the darkness, a light that can drive away your darkness. Jesus-whom the Bible calls the "light of the world"- will walk with you no matter what you're going through. Hold on to God's promises in the book of Isaiah: "***I will be with you when you pass through the waters, and when you pass through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you. You will not be scorched when you walk through the fire, and the flame will not burn you***" (Isaiah 43:2 CSB).

In fact, that's why Jesus was born. God saw our sin, our pain and our failures so he came to earth as a helpless baby, as *Immanuel*, "*God is with us.*" Think about the first Christmas. I'm sure many people saw the same star that the wise men saw. It may have been millions and millions of people who saw an unusual light in the sky, but most people didn't do anything about it. But the wise men followed the light. I don't want to minimize whatever you're going through this Christmas. But as we celebrate Christmas this year, I pray you'll do what the wise men did. I pray you'll follow the light because that's where Jesus will be this Christmas.

In His Light,

PASTOR RALPH

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We are so glad you made it today!

Grab an info packet in the lobby and a Bible from the information desk.

There is a mother-baby suite in the NE corner of the Worship Center

Babies and Preschooler can join us in the preschool area.

1st-6th Graders, your groups meet at 9:15-10:15AM, and you'll be released to "Uprise" from the 10:30 Service.

Our Guest Wifi Password is: 87654321

UPCOMING EVENTS

Offering Envelopes Available TODAY!

2020's Offering Envelope Boxes are ready to be picked up. If you have an assigned offering envelope number, please pick your box up from the tables outside the Library! If you don't have assigned envelopes and want one please sign the clipboard.

Ecuador Child Sponsorships

So Far we have 10 out of 25 children sponsored! You may contact Pastor Matt with any of your questions at 254-2339 x 15.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering: Our Goal \$20,000

100% of your generous gifts provide missionaries the services they need to live among the unreached peoples they serve.

Youth Christmas Party: Tonight December 15 @ 5 PM

Bring a white elephant gift. (Girls bring dessert and Guys bring a 2 liter soda/drink)

Special Called Church Conference: December 18 @ 6PM

There will be a Special Called Church Conference on Wed. Dec. 18th at 6:00 pm for the purpose of approving the 2020 Church Operational Budget.

Youth Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser Today!

Stop by the tables in the lobbies or by the kitchen to pick up a delicious cinnamon roll this morning!

The rolls are \$3 and help our youth get to camp and mission trips!

Church-Wide Caroling: Sunday, Dec 22 @ 3 PM

Join us as we go to local nursing homes and homebound folks to spread some Christmas Cheer!

New Class Begins in January

Are you the parent of a teenager or older child? We now have a Bible Fellowship Class designed especially for you that will be an extension of our youth and kids ministry! Brian and Mary Miller will be teaching this group every Sunday morning at 9:15 am in the choir room. This is a discussion based class, studying the same passages as the youth ministry each week.

OUR MISSION:

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, SHARE JESUS, REACH THE WORLD

THIS WEEK AT EG FIRST

Sunday, December 15:

Pastor's Prayer Team: 8:30 AM (Rm 104) Open to All
Prayer First: 8:30 AM (Conference Rm)
Library Open: 8:45 - 9:15 AM & 10:00 - 10:30 AM
Revolution Bible Study: 9:15 AM (Youth Zone)
Sunday School & Bible Fellowships: 9:15 & 10:30 AM
Traditional Worship: 9:15 AM
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM
Youth: 5 PM (Youth Zone)

Tuesday, December 17:

Ironmen Bible Study: 9:15 AM (Rm 301)
Library: 9:30 AM - Noon
Boutique: 10 AM - Noon
Food Pantry & Community Assistance: 10 AM - Noon

Wednesday, December 18:

Men's Life Group: 1:30 PM (Conference Room)
Dinner Served: 5:00 PM (Worship Center)
Library Open: 5:45 - 6:15 PM
Special Called Church Conference: 6 PM
Wednesday Night Programs: 6:15 PM
 Kidz Midweek (Uprise Room)
 Hooking on Hump Day (Crocheting) (Rm 104)
 Seekers of the Word (Conference Room)
 Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting (400 D & E)
Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30 PM
Traditional Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 PM

Thursday, December 19:

Boutique: 10 AM - Noon (Rm 200)
Food Pantry & Community Assistance: 10 AM - Noon
Iglesia Bautista Eau Gallie: 7:30 PM (Rm 400 D & E)

Friday, December 20:

Dominos: 6 PM (Fellowship Hall A & B)



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24th @ 4pm and 6pm

Childcare Available for Children 2ys & under

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/22: Brenda White

12/23: Ali Schluter, Barbara Harpold, Robert Simcox

12/24: Bonnie Scarpate, Katherine Pearson,
Hezekiah Phelps

12/26: Sedina Bush, Carol Bush, Donovan Rogers

12/27: Betty Farlow, Rodney Lee, Monica Hall

**Lottie
Moon
Christmas
Offering**



**Our Goal
\$20,000**

IN MEMORY OR HONOR

To the Lottie Moon Offering:

In Memory of her mother, Bea Colletterte

By: Bebe Ballard

SYMPATHY

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Barbra Mccalla and family in the passing of Jimmie Mccalla.

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Brad and Amy Beckmann in the passing of Brad's mother, Lorraine Louise Beckmann.

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Patricia Swett in the passing of Patricia Swett.

Facts and Figures December 08, 2019

**Weekend Worship Attendance
516**

<u>Weekly Budget Needed</u>	18,629.15
Budget Offering	11,824.39
Designated	1,783.15
Lottie Moon	1,200.00

To Date Figures

Budget Goal	912,828.35
Received	902,230.72
CTB Year	12,430.00
Lottie Moon to Date	5,371.00

Fellowship Supper Wednesday, Dec 18

**Suggested Donation
\$5 Adult \$3 Child \$15 Family**

"Special Christmas Dinner"

No Entree Salad

No Reservations Needed

Deacons on Call Dec 15 - Dec 21

Ray Kotowski	321-693-0942
George Miller	256-426-6431
Bob Eisenhauer	321-634-2811
Roger Wiseman	321-626-7322

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"For the Lord is a faithful God. Blessed are those who wait for his help" (NLT) Isaiah 30:18

WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

Blank Sermon Notes available on tables near entrances.

9:15 AM Worship with Orchestra and Choir

Choral Praise: "The People Who Walk In Darkness"

Message in Song: "A Strange way to Save the World"

Worship Songs Today:

"Come on , Ring Those Bells"

"One Small Child"

"Light of the Stable"

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

"Emmanuel"

"Child in the Manger"

"Joy to the World"

10:30 AM Worship with Praise Band

Born Is The King

Light Of The World

King Of Heaven

Noel

Glory In The Highest



321.234.1284

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