

Christmas in 3 Words:

LIGHT

INCREASE

SALVATION

Isaiah 9:1-7

December 22, 2019
Ralph Nygard, Lead Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church family,

One of the main concerns most people have when it comes to the Christmas Celebration is in the area of giving. We hope to buy the perfect gifts for our family and friends, and often because we wait until the last minute, we get stressed about the whole giving experience. When it comes to giving, maybe it is time to refresh our minds with a truth from God's word.

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7; NIV).

Only when we give cheerfully at Christmas can we emulate the great Gift of Christmas. **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16, KJV).** Was our Father cheerful that night He sent His Son to be born in an obscure little town cradled by a feed trough in a stable? I'm not sure. He undoubtedly wept as He traced Jesus' path to the cross's torture and triumph. Like Jesus, **"Who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross..." (Hebrews 12:2),** the Father tempered His pain with His anticipation of the happiness and freedom which would surprise the recipients of His Gift upon opening.

And so God gave, not reluctantly or because He was forced by popular opinion, but because He loved. God set the bar high when he gave us our Christmas gift. He gave the only possession that we don't have and really need. He did not give a trinket or an object. He gave Himself--a costly Gift in the extreme, so expensive that many reject the Gift because of the obligation they know they incur upon acceptance.

Herein lies a Christmas mystery. Only by opening the first Gift may we truly comprehend what is the real significance of giving and receiving gifts. May this season not cause us to stress and worry, but release us in an eager cheerfulness to give. We give because He gave, and the gift that he gave will last for eternity. Merry Christmas!

Love through Jesus,

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 still available on 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.

Church-Wide Caroling: Sunday, Today, December 22 @ 3 PM

Caroling is open to all who would like to participate! Please meet in the choral room at 3 PM for a short orientation. The group will then split into 2 smaller groups to carol for the healthcare facility residents and for those who are home bound. Join us as we celebrate Jesus' Birth in song to these dear people.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24 @ 4 PM & 6 PM

Come Let Us Adore Him! Please invite your friends and family to join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service! Childcare is available for children 2 yrs and younger.

Happy New Year January 1, 2020:

No Wednesday Night Activities

Sunday, January 4th Starts A New Series

Victory in the New Year! A study in the book of Galatians.

Ironmen Bible Study will resume classes with a new series: January 7, 2020

Threads of Love will resume meeting January 9th

Melbourne Gospel Jubilee: January 11, 2020 @ 7 PM Tickets: \$10.00

Tickets will be available for sale at the front desk December 28th!

New Class Begins January 12th:

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 22:

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

Church -Wide Caroling: 3 PM (Meet in Choral Rm)

Tuesday, December 24 :

Christmas Eve Services: 4 PM & 6 PM

Wednesday, December 25:

Happy Birthday Jesus!

SERVANTS NEEDED

Our **Kids Ministry** is waiting for you! Now is your chance to join the team! Babies, Preschool, Elementary, Month-on, Month-off positions available or serve one Sunday a month. The Team needs you!

Email JJinright@egfirst.org for more info.

**Lottie
Moon
Christmas
Offering**



Our Goal
\$20,000

Total TD
\$7,689

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services**
December 24th @ 4pm and 6pm

Childcare Available for Children 2ys & under

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/27: Betty Farlow, Rodney Lee, Monica Hall
12/28: Lou Ann Stapleton, Mike Schmitt,
 Vincent Temaats, Patrick Albanese
12/29: Linda Wells, John Urqhart, Janet Still,
 Corbin Conley
12/30: Kay Wilden, Tamyra Dawson, Sherry Keene
12/31: Jackie Wallace, Richard Dawson
01/01: Todd Skirvin, Tony Costa, Tiger Shung
01/02: Wesley Dage, Joshua Clement
01/03: Dorman Fowler, Barbara Springstroh,
 Charles Krininger, Taylor Burgess

IN MEMORY OR HONOR

To Benevolence:

In Memory of her husband, Adrian
 Cutliff and parents, M/M H.L.
 Perkins.
 By: Nancy Cutliff

To the Bereavment Ministry:

In Memory of Jimmie McCalla
 By: Richard & Sharon Kiser

To the Food Pantry:

In Memory of Jimmie McCalla
 By: Chin Turck

In Memory of Jimmie McCalla

By: the BASIC Class
 By: Nancy Hunt
 By: Richard & Connie Korte
 By: Jess & Wanda Sala

To the Lottie Moon Offering:

In Memory of Jimmie McCalla
 By: Phil McCutcheon

SYMPATHY

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the family of Robert Bird
 in his passing.

Facts and Figures December 15, 2019

Weekend Worship Attendance
456

<u>Weekly Budget Needed</u>	18,629.15
Budget Offering	20,145.00
Designated	3,686.15
CTB Debt Retirement	130.00
Lottie Moon	2,318.00

Total Offering: 26,279.15

To Date Figures

Budget Goal	931,457.50
Received	922,375.72
CTB Year	12,560.00
Lottie Moon to Date	7,689.00

Fellowship Supper Wednesday, Dec 25



Deacons on Call Dec 15 - Dec 21

Martin Lamb	541-7310
Jim Gilbert	501-1926
Richard Hayes	243-3939

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people." Titus 2:11(NTL)

WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

Blank Sermon Notes available on tables near entrances.

9:15 AM Worship with Orchestra and Choir

Choral Praise: "'Tis a Wonderful Thing"

Fellowship Song: "Come on, Ring Those Bells"

Message in Song: "Immanuel"

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

"Mary Did You Know"

"Away in a Manger"

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

"Good Christians Now Rejoice"

10:30 AM Worship with Praise Band

My Soul Magnifies The Lord

Glory In The Highest

Light Of The World

Who You Say I Am

King Of Heaven

Silent Night



321.234.1284

App: Easytithe



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WAYS
2
GIVE

egfirst.org/giving

Place in Offering Plate

Unlimited Access to Movies for Children & Adults

rightnowMedia

over 14,000 Bible Study videos.....
and it's FREE



OR

Text:
RIGHTNOW EGFB
to 41411

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