

2500 Parrish Street, Waco, TX 76705

Building a community of Faith, Hope and Love; Where people meet Jesus and learn to walk with Him.

Schedule of Services: Bible Class 9:30am; AM Worship 10:30; PM Worship 6:00; PM Wednesday 6:00

Date: Sunday, December 31, 2017

The Birth and Childhood of Jesus (Part 2)

Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

Mary's encounter begins with greetings, favor, and assurance of the Lord's presence. When singing, "Mary Did You Know?" please remember that she did know because Gabriel told her! When she reacted, the Angel reassured her the child would ascend the throne of David! What better news for a Jewish mother? Further explanation reassured her that the Holy Spirit would cause conception. Then she received the greatest reassurance of all time (Matthew 1:37). Mary declared her servanthood and praised God for all He would do. Her faithfulness is astounding.

Wise Men (2:1-12)

The wise men from the east finally made their way to Jesus and His parents by God's providence. They confirmed the lineage and royalty of Jesus with their gifts. Then God warned them to avoid Herod's wrath when they did not report the child's location. Those who seek Him will find Him (Matthew 7:7).

Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)

The angels announced the birth of Christ to lowly shepherds. No one told Herod, or the Emperor. These shepherds rejoiced properly and visited the new King. Christ's message resonates with the humble in circumstance and disposition. God wants all to be saved but He also knows who is ready to hear.

Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:25-38)

Jesus went through the ritual process of dedication at the temple and two individuals who had been waiting patiently for Him finally received their reward. Simeon highlighted Christ's mission to both Jews and Gentiles and Anna prophesied of His future glory and work. They waited faithfully and were blessed by seeing the Christ. Can current day Christians who want to see the Christ be rewarded for such faith?

Names

In that time, names were thoughtfully chosen to evoke powerful images, lessons, and dedications.

Jesus (Matthew 1:21, 25; Luke 1:31-33)

God Himself chose Jesus to be savior. He also chose Joshua to save Israel and lead them into the promised land. Thought their names are the same Jesus is better! Gabriel described Jesus as elevated, "Most High," and eternal, reigning forever over the kingdom with no end. Christ's dedication is clear from beginning to end. He was focused on the Father's will, not His own.

Immanuel (Matthew 1:23)

"Immanuel" reinforces the lesson that God is with us, in human form as Christ became flesh dwelling with Israel, and in spiritual form as the Holy Spirit dwells within hearts of followers, as the church (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20).

Jesus in His Father's House (Luke 2:41-52)

Quality over quantity describes the record of the childhood of Jesus. When He was twelve His family traveled to Jerusalem for Jewish customs and lost track of Him on the return trip. Any parent would search frantically but insider knowledge gave these parents added incentive! Jesus amazed people at any age. He was discussing deep religious topics with impressive theologians in His Father's house! He wasn't being disrespectful but keenly focused and aware of His mission. Was this divine perspective or human realization? Either way He submitted Himself to his parents and grew in wisdom, stature, and favor physically and spiritually. He waited on God's timing to be revealed showing his ultimate faithfulness and dedication.

Speculation about what happened next is mute. Jesus focused on seeking and saving the lost. If a stranger told you this story it might not matter, but this historical account can be verified. An impressive accumulation of faith building evidence is available (Hebrews 11:1). That preponderance of evidence points people in the right direction so faith can be informed but the question still stands: Do you believe, and will you obey the words of Jesus the Christ (John 14:15).

Thoughts from Chris Wheat

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pearl Garza starts her treatment on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Melissa Saucedo, Joe Saucedo's sister in law, is home recovering from surgery.

Saucedo's prayers for wellness. Heather Fisher has kidney problems. Trish, Shela Havard's friend, has cancer.

PRAY FOR

➤ Danny Paschal, Ever Johnson, Larry Havard, Sr.Joyce Ross, Cotton & Charlotte Lindloff; Arthur Mae Maloy; Shela Havard, Lottie Washington. David Banda, Dick & Barbra Decker, Ed Frields (cancer) David Anderson (cancer Karen Freyer (cancer), Bea Stewart, Sherlynn Erwin, Kathy Mitchell, Karen McKenzie (brain tumor) Glenda Tynes (cancer) Wendell Davis (cancer) Ronnie McDaniel (health issues) Nita Wingate (cancer) Kim Bond (caner) Leo Kirkland, Jessica Tomlinson, James Lewis, Ronnie Branstetter (cancer), Emma Greenawalt, Eve Rasberry, Gene & Bobbie Southerland, Betty Mars, Horace Litton, Jane & Sam Munn, Allison Whited, Jackson Pratka, Charlotte Griffin, Von Ben, Lorene Allen, Tyran Williams, Donna Blahuta, Karen Weaver, Joe Cook (cancer), Joyce Cunningham (cancer), Dixie Frost, Kim Bledsoe (cancer) Tommy Cross (cancer), Sherril Polansky (cancer).

OUR SHUT-INS

The Atrium of Bellmead Betty Johnson, Ruby & Billy Evans Ridgecrest Gladys Snyder Lake Shore Estates Eugenia Olson

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jonah Eubank (4th) Martha Willis (10th) Kailey Moore (11th) Angela Meyer(12th) Mike Olson (13th) Pete Commander (16th) Joyce Minchew (16th) Krystal Michal (18th) Carson Moore (22nd) Merlene Warren (23rd) Nathan Warf (27th) Clara Wheat (31st).

James & Jackie Walker (2nd) Angela & Billy Carev (6th) Donna & Ed St Clair (11th)

OTHER NEWS

New Years Eve game nightl tonight in the FAC after evening worship. Bring games, sandwiches and finger foods.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 31st New Years Eve game night after evening worship. Bring sandwiches and finger foods.

January 1st FAC reserved for Dolores Davis.

January 12th - 14th Winterfest in Arlington, TX.

January 13th FAC reserved for Lana Richardson.

January 20th FAC reserved for Shela. January 27th FAC reserved for Shela. February 4th Pot Luck after morning worship. No evening services.

February 14th – **18**th Marriage Retreat in Pigeon Forge, TN.

February 16th **-18**th Winterfest in Gatlinburg, TN.

March 11th Change time (spring forward)
March 25th Pot Luck after morning
worship.

April 1st Easter

April 5th **– 7**th FAC reserved for garage sale.

April 21st FAC reserved to Eastern Star (Donald Holland)

Children ages 2-7 are invited to the front of the auditorium during the singing of Jesus Loves Me for children's time.



10:30 Assembly

Welcome

Song Order:

Prayer: Aubrey Minchew

Song Order:

738 – Take the Name of Jesus With You 382 – Why Did My Savior Come to Earth

Communion:

Karl Helpert Randy Eubank

Truman Burrow Charlie Scott

Song Order:

"Jesus Loves Me"

Children go to the front of the auditorium.

Song Order:

Sermon by Chris Wheat "Do You Wish To Get Well?"

Invitation Song

(Opportunity for responses to the message)

Closing Prayer: Phil Bancale

If you are visiting with us we extend you a warm welcome!

	Week of Dec 17	Monthly Average
Bible Class	<u>44</u>	<u>59</u>
AM Worship	<u>98</u>	<u>96</u>
PM Worship	<u>o</u>	<u>32</u>
Wednesday PM	<u>21</u>	<u>49</u>
Contribution	<u>\$3868</u>	<u>\$3321</u>

Northside Leadership		
<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	
Phil Bancale	Truman Burrow	
Chris Borland	Randy Eubank	
Aubrey Minchew	Karl Helpert	
Nelson Moore		
<u>Minister</u>	Worship Leader	
Chris Wheat	Chris Borland	
806-216-0342	254-495-5508	

Please let the church office know any news or information you would like to see in the newsletter.

You can email, fax, phone or write your information. Visit our website

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Words of Wisdom



The disciplined life is able to look discouragement in the face, and move beyond it.