



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 185

December 18, 2018

O Breath of Life

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Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 24th Christmas Eve Candle light Service starts @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 26th & Wednesday, January 2nd W.O.W. is dismissed

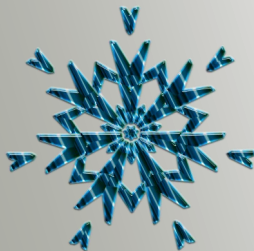
Monday, December 31st New Years' Eve service & party for the church family starts @ 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1st Church office is closed for the holiday

Thursday, January 3rd Elders meet @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 6th Calvary Baptist Food Pantry items are soup, crackers, cereal or your choice

Tuesday, January 8th Women's Ministry will meet @ 6:30 p.m. in Beebe Hall



Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

Do you hear what I hear? When Christmas time rolls around, I hear the songs that I have heard for years and that convey the message of Christmas. Some of you may be tired of hearing the Christmas songs blaring on the radio, but bear with me. In this and the following paragraph, I have shared some thoughts about Christmas and within these words have included the titles of 25 different Christmas songs. See if you can find all of them.

We (Irma and I) wish you a merry Christmas! As we think about Christmas and the wonderful gift God gave to us in the person of His Son Jesus Christ, there are many thoughts that might come to mind. To some, it's the most wonderful time of the year, but to others it can be a really blue Christmas. Christmas is a family holiday and since there's no place like home for the holidays many promise themselves and their family that "I'll be home for Christmas." Many of the things we associate with the holiday such as a white Christmas, winter wonderlands, and sleigh rides have more to do with the weather of the season rather than with the meaning of the season. To many, Christmas is about Santa Claus coming to town and keeping an eye out for Rudolph the red nosed reindeer. Unfortunately we forget to keep our eyes peeled for the Savior who may come at any time. His first coming brought joy to the world on that silent night so many years ago. Will His second coming be welcomed by people today regardless of whether it comes at mid-day or even if it came upon the midnight clear? Good Christian Men, rejoice at the news but be sure to go tell it on the mountain so that everyone may be ready for our coming Lord and not be left wondering, "What child is this that was born in that little town of Bethlehem?" To be able to say that I heard the bells on Christmas day whether those are silver bells or just jingle bells will not be sufficient; we must also know the One for whom those bells ring. O come all ye faithful Christians and proclaim the glad news that the Savior was born and be ready to welcome Him along with all the angels from the realms of glory. So once again, may we encourage you to have a merry little Christmas or as some might say have a holly jolly Christmas!

I hope to see each of you this coming Lord's Day morning!

C U N Church,
David



Serving In December

Elder: Delaine Donaldson, Don Thoele & Dennis Bushue alternating
Deacons: Terry Harper, Vernon Jamison, George Shouse, Jacob Beavers
Deaconesses: Bev Thoele & Mimi Bushue

<i>12/9/18 Attendance & Giving</i> Total: \$5,813.55 includes Faith Promise Offering	<i>12/16/18 Attendance & Giving</i> Total: \$3,633.10 includes Faith Promise Offering
Worship: 92 Sunday School: 25	Worship: 119 Sunday School: 14
Faith Promise Missions: \$2,915.00	Faith Promise: \$1060.10
Building: \$40.00 Initial Offering: \$1.00	Building: \$40.00 H.I.S. K.I.D.S. Van: \$25.00
Sunday School: \$20.00 H.I.S. K.I.D.S. Van: \$175.00	Sunday School: \$16.00
Greeters for December 23rd: Larry & Sue Thomason	Home Communion for December 23rd: Chris Denoyer & Jeff Akeman
Greeters for December 30th: Vernon & Shirley Jamison	Home Communion for December 30th: Jon Zerkel

Youth & Young Adults



Friday, December 21st

Meet @ 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
for Christmas Supper. Come for
fellowship and good food to
share together.



Christmas Eve Candle Light Service

Monday, December 24th

Time: 5:00 p.m.

You all are invited to the Candle Light Service which will end
with a circle of candle light around the auditorium

The service will be followed by Caroling at St. Anthony Hos-
pital if you would like to join us.





Prayer List



Homebound and Nursing Home: Marie Waddell, Bonnie Koester, Wanda Morgan, Holly Arney, Marie Fulk, Don VanDeveer, Elinor Wolford, Darlene Zimdars, Dorothy Locke, Bonnie Thomas, Shirley Barry, Elfrieda Zerkel

Cancer: Laura Knierim, Sharon Douglas, Shirley Strickland, Ron Anderson, Tatum, Ashley Judd, Barb Eaton, Patty Willis, Alayna Plank, Renae Metke, Andy, Mike Page, Gary Lewis, Brandy Harper, Tiffany Dunaway, Brad Arney's Great Grandson Parker Burns, Susie Mast, Nancy Koester, Patrice Runyon, John Arnold, Carley Tull, Robert Barkauska, Jessica Baker, Nikki Szynonik, Misty Ulmer, Lanny Grove, Joshua McConnell, Rosemary Niemerg, Ruth, Barb Gaddis, Elizabeth Weidner, Wyatt Smith, Dallas Parkhurst, Ray Bushue, Bill Dentln, Jane Ann's Friend, Joy Gamber, Gene Moeller, Arlene Mullen, Joe Stoops, Jill Fiddler, Scott Chalcant, Dallas Hurst, Caleb, Sandy Brockett, Travis Stine, Diane Slone, Ken Roley, Lois Bartels, Cindy Meitzner, Mat Reed, Adam Stoops, Allen Griffin, Joyce Jordon Griggs, Mitchell Coffin, Steve Sabens, Reenie's Cousin Teri, A.J.'s Grandmother, Hanna Henning, Marissa (Walton) Banovz, Ashley, Bob Pike, Bill LeCrone, Janet (Dennis Young's Friend), Doris Percival, Malcolm Jollivay & Family, Sandra Helmink, Norma Buehler, All Kids with cancer, Keaton Gabel-13 year old, Raeleigh-7 year old, Kristen Avotea, 2 year old boy, Jill Fidler, Stephanie Packer, Brad Hockman, Aiden-2 year old, Sue Martin



Special Needs: Darlene & Gary Elliott, LeAnn Spruell, Sarah Gremo, Craig Lattig, Phyllis Mitchell, Jody Scribner, Sandy Grimsley, Chris Hutcheson's nephew, Melissa Ross, Vicky Stout, Brad Arney, Danny Vasquez, Gary Elliott's Sister-Evelyn, Aline Lewis, Lucien Grey Valdez(6 month old), Sarah (Alex's friend), Debbie Apke, J.C. Packer, Pat Clark, Lois Ooton, Mildred Rankin, Cathy Weiffenbach, Morgan Turner, Dennis Reynolds, Gary Carr, Linda Shaw, John Donathan's uncle, Bill Fry, Phyllis (Bev Thoele's Sister), Ken & Velma Thomason, Bob Pike, Rhodes Gephart, Gary Banks & family, Marsha Smith, Roberta Washer, Sharon Caylor, Bobby Spracklen, Roger Wyckoff, Emily Griffin, Cal Gremo, Rory Miller, Ken Wolke, Mike Niebrugge, Sarah Blume, Victoria Gifford, Cathy Lane, Jim Schroeder, Wilbert Schaefer, Richard Cameron, Cathy Lane, Shirley Jamison, Emmie Jane Sidwell-2 year old, Sonya Davis, Thelma Kirchoffer, Krissy Moore, Anthony Jamison, Tracey Scoggins, Nancy Larimore

(These names will remain on the prayer list for one month. Then, we need an update to put their names back on this Special Needs list.)



Missions: Operation Christmas Child, The Salvation Army

Military: Troops in Harms Way; Tyler Cross in the Air Force, Zach Apke

Grieving Families: Gene Bartels Family, Vernon Stiffler's Granddaughter's Family, Stormy Dilley Family, Jeremy Richardson Family

New Years' Eve

Monday, December 31st

There will be a service and a party for all who wish to attend. Bring your favorite appetizer or finger food to share. Bring your favorite board game as well.



January 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 No W.O.W.	3 Elders meet @ 9:00 a.m.	4	5
6 Calvary Baptist Food Pantry items due	7	8 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m. Women's Ministry meets @ 6:30 p.m.	9 W.O.W. begins @ 5:30 p.m. for all ages	10	11	12
13	14	15 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m.	16 W.O.W. begins @ 5:30 p.m. for all ages	17	18	19
20	21	22 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m.	23 W.O.W. begins @ 5:30 p.m. for all ages	24	25	26
27	28	29 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m.	30 W.O.W. begins @ 5:30 p.m. for all ages	31		

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

1-Lois Ooton BD

1-Mark & Sharon Knaus WA

3-June Ashley BD

4-Eden Griffin BD

8-Loretta Miller BD

10-Gary Elliott BD

11-Alexis Smith BD

12-Linda Packer BD

16-Larry & Sue Thomason WA

16-Laurie Akeman BD

21-Ruby Tabor BD

22-Sharon Knaus BD

27-Jon Zerkel BD

30-Billy Fry BD



Thanks For Decorating

Beautiful Church

Thanks to the talented team that put it all together: June Ashley, Marcie Shouse, Nancy Harper, Claudine Rush, Richard Raber, Art Belbrank and Bev Thoele.

Thanks to Cleone for keeping the flowers watered. Special thanks to those who shared poinsettias: ~LeAnn Spruell for her husband, Elbert ~Elsie Palmer for her husband, Paul ~Rich Raber for his wife, Karen, and his son, Rod. ~Cleone Bloemker for her husband, Rocky, and her parents and mother-in-law.

Decoration Committee
Cheryl Bloemker



Young @ Heart

Tuesday, January 1st

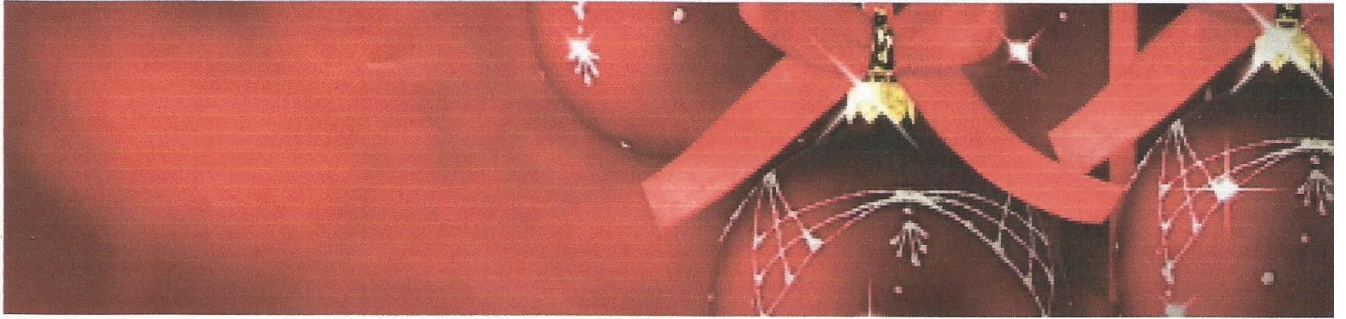
(No Young @ Heart Scheduled)

Tuesday, January 8th

Young @ Heart Resumes

Come @ 9:00 a.m. to share in coffee/tea, fellowship and prayer in Beebe Hall





Merry Christmas Wishes
From
The Church Family

Velda Cunningham
Bew + Don Shuler
Ken + Barb Jamison

Reenie Miller
Linda Packer
Doug + Debra Ellist
Cecil + Charlotte Wright
Mari N Long
Elsie Palmer

Cheryl Bloembergen
J.T. Bloembergen

Phil + Barbara H. Kamen
Lynia Northrop

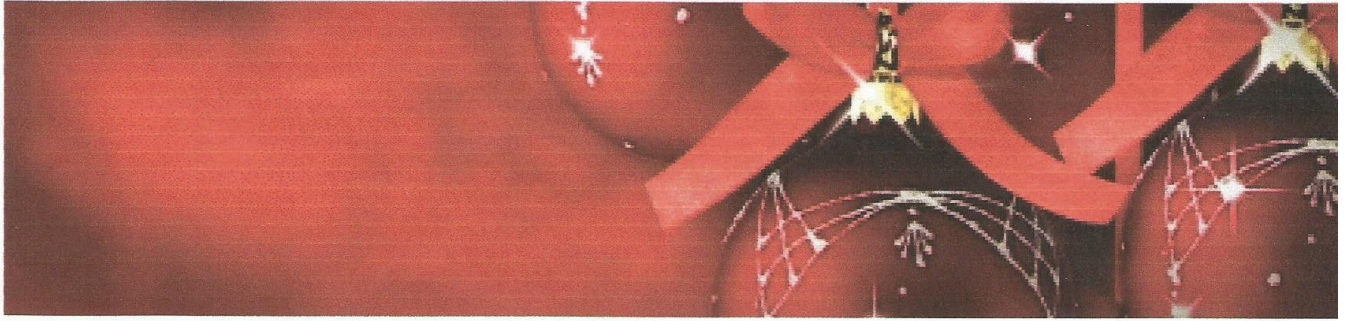
Sherry + Gene Rife
Dulaine + Sandi Sholderen
F. Reyes

John + Mary
April + Kiel Miller
Joshua L. Rife
Bonnie + Dale Nordstiehl
Alex, Aaron, Lane, Jacob
Rylee, Annelise

Dennis Young
Lynna Weddle
Dandy Trimsley
Judy Tapp
George and Marini Shouse

Kristleton
Cleone

Merry Christmas Claudine Bush



*Merry Christmas Wishes
From
The Church Family*

Gabriel Reyes

Zach Reyes

David & Anna McCoxell

Laurie Jeff Rachel & Layne Akema

Troy & Marsha Bloemker

Holly Bloemker

Lach & Kelsey Bloemker

Tracey & Kent Scoggins

Tracey & Trenton



Elders Meeting



Thursday, January 3rd

NOTICE: NEW TIME AND DAY:

Elders will meet @ 9:00 a.m. for their meeting

Calvary Baptist Food Pantry

Sunday, January 6th

Soup, crackers, Cereal
or your choice are due
in Beebe Hall



Women's Ministry

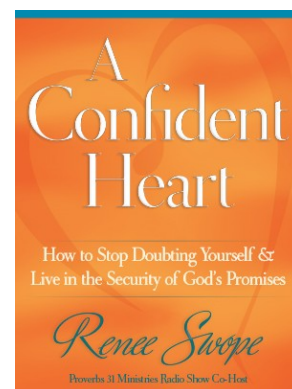
Tuesday, January 8th

All ladies invited to join us @ 6:30 p.m. Lesson 4—Discovering the Plans God Has . . . in A Confident Heart by Renee Swope will be presented. Come for fellowship, prayer and a snack

If you wish to join the Secret Sister for 2019, please fill out a Secret Sister form and place in the basket on the Secret Sister table.

Mission Statement: "For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing."

II Corinthians 2:15 NIV

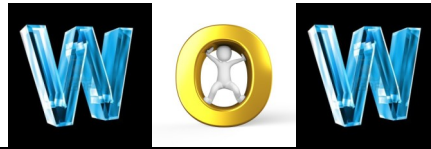




Worship On Wednesday

Wednesday, January 9th

All ages meet for Worship On Wednesday which resumes at 5:30 p.m. for supper then Worship & Bible study till 7:30 p.m.



Faith Promise 2018/2019

Faith Promises Received

A total of \$35,070.00 for the year 2018/2019.

Received So Far: \$9,085.10

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

1 Peter 4:10



December Book of the Month

Matthew

A **study guide** is available on the foyer table.

Pastor David will be preaching from **Matthew** during the month of December

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible &
Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



