



Mission Center Lights

Alabama - Northwest Florida Mission Center News
Community of Christ

4th Quarter

Volume 2, No 4

The lights are glowing on trees, in windows and around rooftops. The cold air tells us that winter has arrived. As you walk through the stores, you see the excitement on children's faces. As you sit in church, you feel the joy, hope, love and peace of the season. Christmas time is here!

While it is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of preparations for Christmas morning, let's not forget that we are celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. Let us always remember that on a quiet night in a small town, love to earth in the form of a little child. A child sent to set us free - free from our sins, free from our despair, free from our bondage.

I collect nativity sets, and as I do this newsletter, they surround me on three sides. I have big sets and small sets, ornaments and hanging balls, one-piece sets and sets with as many as 30 pieces. When I look at them, I see the love of Mary and Joseph for this little child they brought forth, I see the wonder of the shepherds as the gaze upon the baby come to set them free, and I see the reverence of the wise men as they bow before the child they searched so long for. What it must have been like to be there in that time and place, and to witness that amazing event.

As you go about your busy lives, preparing in your own special way for the celebration, try to take a moment to stop, put yourself in a stable in Bethlehem, and relive that blessed event.

As you share your holiday celebrations with your friends and family near and far, cherish those traditions and fellowships that make this time of year a unique and wonderful time. Take time to enjoy those friends and family close by, connect with those friends and family far away, and remember those who have gone before us.

May the blessings and joy of the Christmas season live in your lives throughout the whole year is my prayer for all.



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Bay Minette, AL Congregation

Greetings from Bay Minette Congregation. We hope you are all enjoying this wonderful fall weather as much as we are.

Since our last newsletter we have been blessed with several great guest speakers in our congregation: Joe Bagley, Glen Waldrop, Joyce Weedle, Betty Dixon, Benny Barnes, and Pam Cress. We appreciate them so much.

In the afternoon on August 20th we enjoyed having friends from Atmore and Huxford join us for an afternoon swim at the Foster's home, an indoor picnic, and an indoor campfire led by Tishia Johnson and Melissa Flowers. We look forward to our next get together with Huxford and Atmore.

The William F. Green Veterans Home was the scene of a birthday party for Mr. Lumbard on August 31st. Everyone enjoyed the cake, ice cream, etc. But most of all, we enjoyed spending time with Mr. Lumbard and his friends.

All the people on the coast that have suffered so much loss and heartache remain in our daily prayers. The Bay Minette congregation was privileged to offer whatever assistance we could (and we felt so inadequate in our efforts). There was one couple, Lloyd and Alisha Herbert, that came to us from the storm, who were expecting a child at any time. Our congregation found an opportunity to temporarily fill our minds with happy thoughts while preparing and giving a baby shower for the couple. Lloyd and Alisha's young son, Joshua Gabriel Herbert, was born September 23^d weighing 3 pounds 4-1/2 ounces. Joshua is now at home, weighs over 6 pounds and is doing well.

Heritage Day, September 18th, was Homecoming celebration for our church. First on the schedule, Tom Robinson gave a Power Point presentation of scenes from our past, while we gathered and had coffee, doughnuts, etc. This was followed by a hymn sing and the 11o'clock worship service with hometown girl Elder Sheila Steiner giving the message. After a full morning of fellowship and worship with our friends and loved ones from far and near, we all shared a lunch prepared by congregation cooks.

On October 2nd, Elder Talmadge Moody and Elder Pat Foster blessed Jayden Stephen Heathercock, son of Jennifer Stacey and Joshua Heathercock.

On October 16th we held our business meeting. Ray Eubanks was elected Pastor. An update has been submitted for the Mission Center directory.

Carson Foster Bassing, son of Rachel Foster and Adam Bassing, was blessed on October 30th by his great grandfather, Evangelist Don Baldwin and his grandfather, Elder Pat Foster. The location of this happy occasion was the North Atlanta Community of Christ.

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season fast approaches, we wish for all of you happiness, safety, and peace. Also, please let us remember to keep all the people in the military in our prayers.

Faye K. Warren
Reporting



Bellview, FL Congregation

The Bellview congregation is growing in their commitment and their ministry. We have our Church School teachers in place. We have four classes running for children and youth. We have a baptismal class with four young ladies committing their lives to Christ in the coming year.

We are now working on our children and youth Christmas program for December 18th with a Christmas dinner following.

Bellview is diligently make upgrades to our church building with great response. We are making the church a welcoming place for all who come to share with us.

The ROCK is part of the Bellview congregation's outreach ministries through the Food Pantry effort. We have assisted 30 people on the average each month in the past year. The needs are overwhelming in Escambia County, FL. Our congregation works for hours collecting and sorting foods through the Pan Handle Food Bank in Pace, FL.

Bellview is conducting a Covenant Discipleship Group. We have found that blessings are flowing with the spiritual awareness that is present in the lives of this small group of disciplined ladies. We have many testimonies of how the Spirit has worked with the group and in the lives of the congregation. Bellview would encourage every congregation to facilitate a Covenant Discipleship Group.

Bellview will provide a Covenant Discipleship Group workshop sometime in the month of February. It will be open to everyone. We will let the Mission Center know when this ministry will be available. The training will take a full weekend commitment on the part of the one who will facilitate CDG in their area.

God bless from the Bellview congregation.

Brenda Lenfestey, Reporting



Berrydale, FL Congregation

The Berrydale congregation wishes to extend a hello and an invitation to all the Saints in the Mission Center to stop by and visit with us some time. It seems like all we've been doing in the past year is cleaning up, repairing damage from, and trying to dodge hurricanes! We've had direct hits from two hurricanes and a tropical storm and hunkered down trying to dodge several more. We're still ducking our heads to get in our front porch where a tree smashed the roof in during Hurricane Dennis and awaiting a re-do of the roof repairs to our fellowship hall from Hurricane Ivan. We've gotten so paranoid, that we had all the trees cut around the church and cemetery, except for three live oaks in the front parking lot. So Berrydale looks a little different than it used to. Besides hurricanes, every family in our

congregation has really suffered this past year from accidents, injuries, illness and death. Our pastor's daughter tragically lost her husband to an automobile accident and now Brenda and Wayne have her and her four young sons living with them temporarily. Brenda has been a wonderful pastor and we love her! But with her hands more than full at home, Brenda felt like she needed to step aside as pastor. So, on October 30th, I was set aside as the pastor of Berrydale. It was a beautiful service with beautiful guitar and piano music by Bruce Richards and a stirring solo by Linda Watson. (We have some hidden talent at Berrydale – Linda and her husband Don are talented, professional musicians.)

With all the upheaval this past year, we really feel like the only thing we've accomplished is that we have withstood the hardships with the Lord's help, everyone's on the road to recovery at this time, and we're still hanging in there! And that in itself is a tremendous blessing. I do believe though, that we're a lot closer to each other for all that we've been through together and we have a "can do and want to do" attitude. We're going to do our very best with what we have and trust the Lord to lead us and bless our efforts.

Several of our ladies are looking forward to attending the women's retreat in November. We're going to be doing some visiting to distribute fruit and nut baskets with invitations to our Christmas activities. And we're planning a float for the Jay Christmas parade for our youth followed by a wiener roast and campfire. Last year, we were the talk of the town as Wayne Cook's rooster rode on the hood of the tractor and Leah walked beside the float carrying a pig!

We're excited about the leadership being provided by Betty Dixon, our Mission Center president, and feel like she's getting us headed in the right direction. As a first time pastor, I'm going to need all the prayers, support, guidance and help I can get. At first, I was fearful, but now I'm excited! Hope it lasts!

Susan Garrison, Reporting



Crestview, FL Congregation

[Author's Note: The following write-up covers the period of Jul 16, 2005-Nov 1, 2005]

Greetings to everyone from your brothers and sisters in Christ at the Crestview branch! We have had a very busy several months since the last newsletter!

One holdover from the previous newsletter – our Vacation Bible School students raised over \$107 during the week of June 5th. Since the theme for the VBS was “Serengeti Trek – Where Kids are Wild About God,” they decided to donate the money to the Roofs Over Africa project.

Our branch was blessed with not one, but two ordinations this quarter. Reba Martin was ordained to the office of Elder on August 28th, and Ryan Gilbert was ordained to the office of Priest on September 11th. Ryan has been busy polishing his oratory skills, as he's already performed his first wedding. We also had two baptisms this quarter, as Ann Sprague welcomed Richard Walton and Patty Scruggs to the family of God.

Members from our congregation developed two community booths for the Pensacola Regional Fair. The first booth was developed for the community of Crestview using the theme “Made in the USA.” It won first place, winning a cash prize of \$950. The other booth was developed for the community of Baker, FL, with a jungle theme “Wild About Agriculture.” It took second place, winning a prize of \$800. We're proud of both of these booths, not only for the positive representation of our communities, but because so many people from the branch contributed time, skills, and materials to get them built.

Our congregation continued to send care packages to our three current college students: Rachel Goodson, Ryan Gilbert, and Jessica Goodson.

One of our newest ministries is the Sunday School Weight Loss Class, now in session for almost a whole year. The class, facilitated by Eric Mitchell, reports a total weight loss of over 50 pounds among its 10+ members since the class's inception.

In September, we had a special service in honor of church Heritage Day. Tom and Denise Buscavage recounted some of the church's history of hymns, gracing the congregation with a number of hymns from days gone by, but which are no less relevant today.

Denise reports receiving lots of positive comments from those in attendance.

Rivalry was a-brewing among branch members on October 6th, as loyalty to friends and family was put to the test, when rival high school football teams found common ground at Community of Christ. Aaron Swire, who plays fullback for the Baker High Gators found himself up against friend Gabriel Goodson, who plays middle linebacker for the Crestview Bulldogs. Our church members came together in the spirit of fellowship for a cookout at Carl and Trish Hope's house, and to attend the game. Of course, everyone rooted equally for both sides.

Our annual Fall Festival took place Oct 26. Aiming for a true carnival atmosphere, the evening started with a hot dog dinner, followed by cotton candy, boiled and roasted peanuts, and popcorn. Then there was the kids' midway, featuring games of skill, a rubber duck pond, face painting, a fishpond, and to wrap up the festivities, the cakewalk to end all cakewalks.

Our Solid Rock Café came back off of summer hiatus in a big way on September 17th. We had over 30 kids in attendance at our first lock-in of the new season.

Our branch extended early good wishes to David and Becky Madsen in the form of a baby shower on Oct 27. Baby Madsen is expected to arrive in March. Speaking of young married couples, we have two new engaged couples at Crestview. Rachel Goodson became engaged to Jacob Blakesley, and they are planning a May 28th wedding at Bluff Springs Campgrounds. Missy Ford, daughter of Jeff and Wendy Werner, got engaged to Joey Lewis, and they are planning a church wedding for March 25th.

As of this writing, our Youth Department is beginning to make plans for their annual Christmas Parade float. The City of Crestview has made a bold and welcome move this year, choosing a parade theme that is actually in line with the spiritual side of Christmas. Our float-building team has already had its first planning meeting, and in our next report, we'll tell you what they built.

Several members of our congregation were very active in providing relief during the hurricane season. Carl Hope, Mallory Mitchell, Larry and Faye Shaw, Steve Shaw, Ernie and Reba Martin, and Ricky and Kim

Barberee among others, donated time and materials to haul relief supplies into the storm ravaged areas following both hurricane Katrina, and hurricane Rita. Between them, they made at least seven trips, bringing in such much-needed items as generators, gas, food, water, and clothing.

Our next newsletter inputs will be sometime in 2006, so we'll take this opportunity to wish everyone a most blessed holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! May God keep you all safe and happy through the next few months.

Until then, this is Jeff and Wendy Werner, reporting for the Crestview Florida Congregation!



Dixonville, AL Congregation

Dixonville Series a Success!!

The Dixonville Congregation series with Evangelist Gilbert Remington was enjoyed by many. To all of those who came from other congregations in the Mission Center, we say thank you for your support. Fourteen or our Mission Congregations were represented. We also had guests from Baton Rouge, Tallahassee, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa. Members from the Bay Minette congregation lived the closest, and Montgomery congregation lived the furthest away in our Mission Center congregations.

Our thanks also go to the Milton Men's Chorus led by Don Coleman for providing music for the song service one night, to Don Coleman for leading the Song Service several nights, to Bruce Richards for providing music one night at the song service, to the group who played and sang at the Friday night song service and Worship service, and to Jeff Faust who provided the music and specials during the week.

Refreshments served by the ladies of the congregation and visiting each other and Brother Gilbert after each worship service was enjoyed by all.

We appreciated the ministry brought by Brother Gilbert, who lives in Topeka, Kansas. Brother Gilbert is a gifted and enthusiastic speaker. He is just as enthusiastic about spreading the gospel at the age of 73,

as he was when he was a young man in his early twenties, when he first arrived in Alabama. He continues to be an avid student of the scriptures. We pray that he can continue to serve the Lord for many more years.

To each of you we wish a blessed and safe Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Glenda Ward, Reporting



Evergreen, AL Congregation

The summer months have come and gone but not without leaving the members of the Evergreen Branch with a lot of wonderful memories and ministries. On July 31st we engaged in the sacramental service of Blessing of Children. Two of Elaine Bookers' great nephews were Blessed on this day. Cruz Reed and Walker Griggers, sons of Elaine's niece Robin, were both Blessed in an unforgettable service. Then on September 11th we were 'doubling' up again. Melissa Covan Booker, Rogene's wife, and her father Roy Covan were both baptized in an outstanding spiritual service. Both were confirmed by the Laying on of Hands the following Sunday in another divine service. But we were not finished with our twosomes. On Sunday, October 9th, Elders Edsel Johnson and Ron Roberts blessed Damaja Prince and Kadajah Perry, godchildren of Edwin and Elaine Booker. These two precious little girls have become such an important part of our entire congregation in the past two years.

Our pastor, Diane Sosebee, "retire" from full time employment at the Evergreen Library the first of August. She still works a couple days each week at the library, but she is far from idle the rest of the time. She single handedly has started the Cooper Street Kids Project. She goes weekly to this underprivileged area of Evergreen to bring ministry to children of all ages in this Outreach Program. Diane also services as Vice President at Evergreen Medical Centers Volunteer Chaplain Association. There again she brings her unique ministry to patients and families who are hospitalized.

Saturday night September 24th our Branch hosted a "Community Cookout." Della Goodson was present to bring her one of a kind music ministry this night and the following day at the Sunday morning worship service.

Now I am going to step out on a limb and get myself in big trouble by saying how blessed our congregation is to have Edwin Booker. This summer as in the past several summers Edwin has taken the lawn care as part of his responsibility. Since we are located in such a prime location downtown, Edwin takes special pride in the image our Church building and lawn represents to the town and community. Diane has asked that I also add that Edwin makes it his mission to help the ladies in the Church and Community who do not have a male in the house out with their grass and yard work. I am told this means a lot to these ladies and they really do appreciate him looking out for them.

The Dorcas Club has been reorganized beginning the second Thursday in September. The Club will meet the second and fourth Thursdays at the Church beginning at 11:00. Several quilts for needy families have already been started.

It seems as if this summer our little Branch has been besieged with sickness. Our prayer list has been long all summer long. We are prayerful that Alice Salter, Elaine Booker, Gwyn Daniels, Frank Salter, Molly Booker, and Fred West are all finally on the mend. We are so small on numbers that even the absence of two or three makes an impact. But as I have stated in the past what we lack in numbers we more than make up for in spiritual blessing and the evoking of the Holy Spirit.

May God bless each of you and your congregation during the upcoming Holiday season. May each of us remember to take time to reflect on the holy importance of this time of year.

Your Sister in Christ,
Elaine Booker



Huxford, AL Congregation

Greetings from Huxford,

Wow, haven't we had some trying times. The Lord never leaves us. He is always there for us and always reminds us He is in control.

In July our friend Charlie Varner came to visit with Dick and Carolyn. He even weathered Hurricane Dennis with them. We always enjoy him.

In August, Pauline and friends went on a wonderful trip. They traveled to North Dakota to visit the International Peace Gardens. It is one of the most beautifully built gardens. It is located on the boundary lines of North Dakota and Manitoba, Canada. It truly depicts peace between the two countries. While there, they went through the Black Hills in Montana. They also traveled to Saskatchewan and Manitoba. They spent a day and night in each Province and were able to enjoy some sightseeing. We are really glad she got to experience this.

Eddie Kirby, Pauline's son, had to have heart by-pass surgery. He has recovered nicely.

Aaron Sharpless is playing junior varsity football for Northview. His positions are wide receiver and corner back. The team is doing great and he is doing a great job.

Brandon Sharpless is on the swim team and the cross-country running team. He will have a District swim meet on October 19th. We wish him luck and hope he goes to the finals in the backstroke and breaststroke. He is a great swimmer. Brandon received the Florida "Go the Distance" award for the varsity cross-country team on October 11th. Brandon, along with his parents, Jeannie and Glenn, attended the banquet at Pensacola Junior College.

Our Homecoming was wonderful. It was great to see old friends and enjoy fellowship. Gary Howard brought us a wonderful message. We look forward to him and his wife Marsha visiting with us again. Their ministry together is marvelous.

A special wedding ceremony took place on September 17th. Dick performed the marriage of his and Carolyn's granddaughter Michelle Scheurer. She was joined in Holy Matrimony to Bryan Kircharr. We wish them all the blessings God has in store for them. We love you.

Carolyn, dear Carolyn, attended the High Priest and Pastors meeting on October 1st. She was sick with bronchitis and therefore couldn't talk. She thinks everyone enjoyed this.

We will be hosting Atmore and Bay Minette congregations for our congregational get together on

November 6th. We look forward to seeing everyone. We have some fun things in store.

Our Christmas services will be held at 10:00 on December 25th. We will not have an 11:00 service. We wish everyone safe and happy holidays.

Our youth are back in school. We are very proud of them and all that they do. They are very smart and make good grades. Alisha and Brandon are Seniors this year. They both have great futures ahead of them.

As always, we hope all are well. Our prayers are with the hurricane victims.

Until next time,
Mary Lambert, Reporter



Lone Star, AL Congregation

Greetings from Lone Star,

We have had many wonderful speakers over the last few months: Carl & Trish Hope, Alan Odom and Bubber Buntz. They all did a wonderful job and are invited back anytime.

Pam and Mike Powell hosted a lunch for the Katrina victims staying in Monroeville. Lone Star Congregation provided the food. We had a wonderful time visiting with the people. Also, Pam Powell was named Employee of the Month at Vanity Fair. We are happy for her.

Our kids are very busy with football, band, soccer, and dance. Justin Chandler is playing varsity football – he hurt his knee but the doctors said it was fine and we are so happy. Ryan Dees is playing his last year of pee-wee football and Austin Chandler is playing his first year of tiny-mate football. Wesley McPherson is playing soccer at the YMCA. Tyler McPherson is still in Excel Band of Gold. Ali Dees is getting ready for a dance play called Christmas Wishes that will be in December. Brittany Raines is playing in the Big Orange Band at Monroe Academy. We are so proud of all our wonderful kids and all their many activities they do throughout the year. They are turning into wonderful young people.

Lone Star is hosted a Venture Forth for Christ the weekend of November 14th and 15th. We hope a great turn

out of youth from our congregation and the Mission Center. The youth had a wonderful time and put on a wonderful service for us on Sunday.

Until next time, God Bless,
Jodi Dees, Reporter



Milton, FL Congregation

The Mission Center youth under the direction of Jake & Della Goodson brought a very inspiring program to the Milton Congregation on September 11th. The congregation was blessed by the music and testimonies of the youth. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and noon meal that followed.

Our men's chorus, under Don Coleman's leadership, brought ministry to our Mission Center conference on the 15th of October.

Victoria Passmore will be baptized on October 23^d at the 10:00 hour.

One of our long time members, Richard Jernigan, went to meet the Lord on October 10th. He will be greatly missed by our congregation.

The weekend of January 15th, our congregation will have our Homecoming and 50th anniversary. Gilbert Remington will be our guest minister. Please plan to attend and celebrate and worship with us.

Wanda Marcombe, Reporting



Montgomery, AL Congregation

Greetings from the Saints in Montgomery,

This fall has been a busy time for all of us. We had our Homecoming with ministry provided by Jim Marcombe. It was great to have old members return and share in worship with us.

In December we held our 3^d Annual Holiday Bazaar. We all enjoyed getting to share the fellowship of each

other during setup, the bazaar and cleanup. For some of us, it was a great time to get some of those much-needed Christmas gifts for family and friends. We are already starting the planning for next year's bazaar.

Our youth have continued with Solid Rock Café the first Saturday of the month. They also attended the Hunger Fast lock-in in Mobile in October. Some of the youth have also gone to some of the Venture Forth for Christ weekends. With so many activities in the Mission Center, our youth could keep us on the road every weekend. Starting in January, our youth will have devotions every Wednesday night after our fellowship supper, Solid Rock every first Saturday, and a social night/event the 3^d weekend of the month.

Congratulations to Paul Houk on passing his Praxis II and Master's Comprehensive exams. He scored so high on the Praxis II (195 out of 200 possible) that he is in the top 15% of the nation. He has completed his final class for his Master's in Elementary Education and will do his Student Teacher Internship from January 17th to April 28th. He is set to graduate in early May and hopefully will be teaching in the fall.

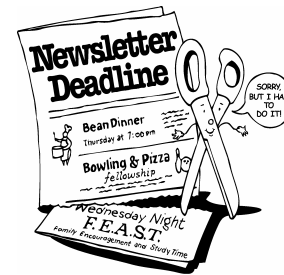
We also want to congratulate Cathleen Houk, Matthew Houk and Kimberly Vermilyer on passing the Math portion of the Alabama Graduation exam. They will have the opportunity to take the Science, English and History portions in the spring. This is an important step toward graduation.

We are sad to report the death of Karen Manning this fall. She had been struggling with leukemia and had had a relapse. We have done our best to reach out to Allen and his daughter during this trying time. We have also had the opportunity to share the fellowship of Allen's parents, Justice and Evelyn Manning, as they help care for Laurel.

We had to bid a sad farewell to Mildred Spearman in November. She has moved up to Hartselle, AL to live with Karen and Mike Stacy. We miss her greatly but know that she is happy with her family. If you would like to drop her a line, you can send it to:

Mildred Spearman
998 Parker Rd.
Hartselle, AL 35604

As we enter the holiday season, we hope that each of you has health and happiness during this blessed time of celebration. May the Lord watch over through the Christmas season and into the New Year. We here in Montgomery wish all of you a prosperous and joyous new year.



All articles for the next newsletter are due by March 15th. Please send information about events that have happened in your congregation as well as upcoming events. The newsletters will go out around April 1st. Please send your articles, flyers or announcements by email to goofypal0885@knology.net or mail to 2948 Willow Lane Dr., Montgomery, AL 36109.

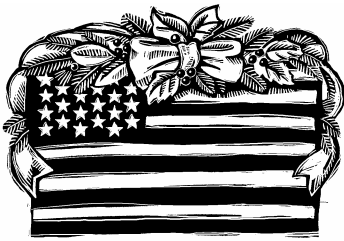
Because of an increased amount of junk mail, I will be closing the khweb1@yahoo.com email account. Also, I no longer have a fax machine at home. If you need to fax me something, you can fax it to me at work (334) 284-8035. Please make sure you identify it for Lisa Houk.



If you would like to receive the newsletter by email attachment, please send me an email request at goofypal0885@knology.net. I have had a number of people request this but have trouble reading their writing or the email address I have on file is old. If you change email addresses, please make sure to let me know so that I can change my address book.

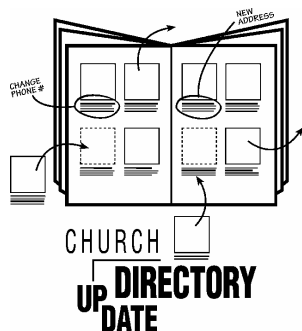
Please remember to send any changes in branch leadership to me after you have your branch business meetings. I need names, address & phone number, and email addresses if you have them.

I will plan to send an update directory to each Pastor and Communications Officer with the next newsletter.



Remember Those in the Military

During this busy holiday season, please take a moment to stop and remember our troops who are stationed far away from their families. They are on the frontlines of the world, preserving freedom and safety for us all. Thank you to all who are serving, here in the US and far away, and for those who have served. We appreciate your sacrifice for us all.



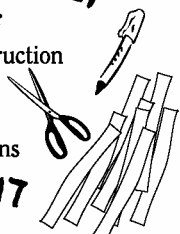
Countdown of Giving

25 24 23
As people remember the gift of Christ, let's remember those around us with little acts of giving.

22
Make an Advent paper chain to count down the days until Christmas.

21 19
What you will need:

- 5 sheets of construction paper (8" x 11")
- scissors
- markers or crayons
- tape or glue



Here's what to do:

1. Cut the construction paper into 1" x 11" strips (You will need 25 strips but you will have extra.)

2. Have fun thinking of 25 different acts of giving you can do for others. (Here are just a few suggestions: Make and send a card; draw a picture; make an ornament; give a hug or a smile; have a cheerful attitude (all day); call someone you haven't seen for awhile or send the person an e-mail; bake cookies to share. The possibilities are endless!)

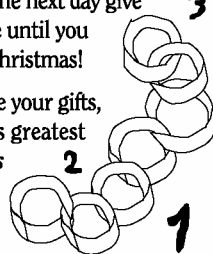
3. Number each strip with one number, numbering them 1-25.

4. Write one giving idea on each strip. You can repeat some.

5. Tape or glue strips into a paper chain, with number 25 first, counting backwards to 1.

6. Start on December 1 and give the gift on link 25. The next day give gift 24. Continue until you reach gift 1 on Christmas!

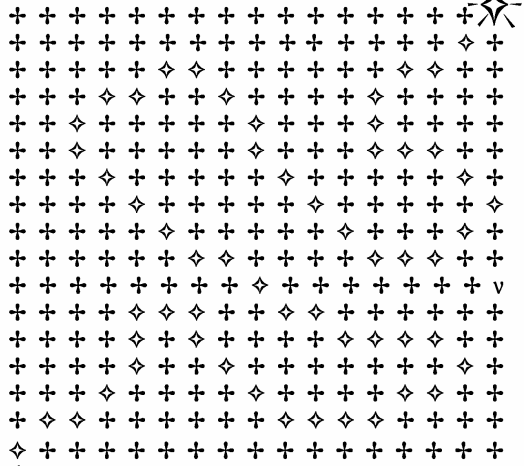
7. When you give your gifts, remember God's greatest gift to us — His Son Jesus.



The Star that Led to the King

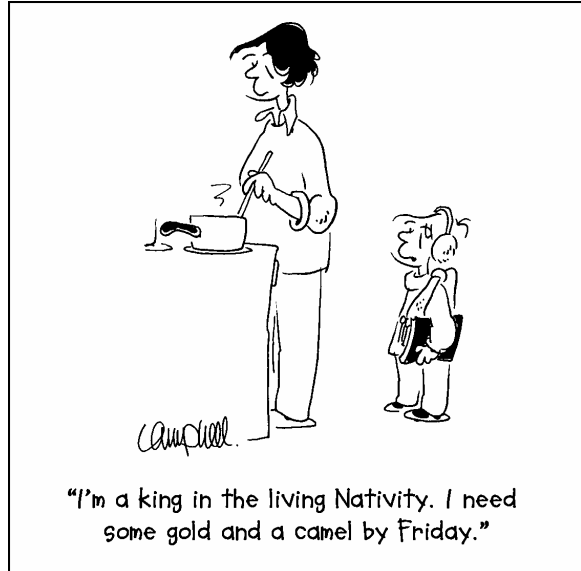
The wise men from the East saw a bright star. They followed it to the place where the child who would be King of the Jews was born. When they went inside, they saw baby Jesus with His mother, Mary. They bowed down and worshiped Him. (Read Matthew 2:1-11.)

Help the wise men follow the star path that leads to baby Jesus.



Use the code to fill in the blanks and find out what gifts the wise men brought.
 START ▼=A * =E †=I ○=O * =Y
 G _ LD FR _ NK _ NC _ NS M _ RRH

ANSWERS: GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, MYRRH



Let Your Light Shine!

Make this colorful candleholder as a reminder to *"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

(Matthew 5:16, NRSV).

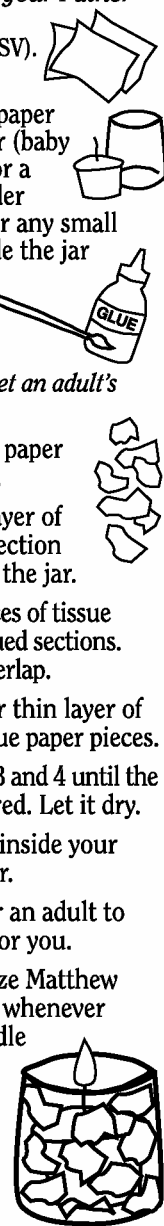
What you need:

- colored tissue paper
- clean empty jar (baby food or jam jar) or a votive candleholder
- votive candle or any small candle to fit inside the jar
- white glue
- paint brush

How to do it:

(Note: Be sure to get an adult's permission first.)

1. Tear the tissue paper into small pieces.
2. Brush a thin layer of glue on a small section on the outside of the jar.
3. Stick some pieces of tissue paper onto the glued sections. The pieces can overlap.
4. Spread another thin layer of glue over the tissue paper pieces.
5. Repeat steps 2, 3 and 4 until the entire jar is covered. Let it dry.
6. Place a candle inside your "stained-glass" jar.
7. Ask a parent or an adult to light the candle for you.
8. Try to memorize Matthew 5:16 and recite it whenever you see your candle lit. Think about how you are going to "let your light shine" through good works.



Just for KIDS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we begin a new calendar year, let us always remember who we should follow in this world.

Directions:

- Start at the circled letter "I." Follow the direction of the arrow and circle every other letter until you have gone around the world one time.
- Start at the circled letter "I" again, and write down the circled letters on the blank lines below.
- Beginning at the "W", write the letters or numbers that are not circled until you have gone around the world again. Read the message.

Answers: "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS. BUT WHO WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE." JOHN 8:12, NIV

Answers: "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS. BUT WHO WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE." JOHN 8:12, NIV

Just for KIDS

The Star that Led to the King

The wise men from the East saw a bright star. They followed it to the place where the child who would be King of the Jews was born. When they went inside, they saw baby Jesus with His mother, Mary. They bowed down and worshiped Him. (Read Matthew 2:1-11.)

Help the wise men follow the star path that leads to baby Jesus.

Use the code to fill in the blanks and find out what gifts the wise men brought.

START v=A * = E †=I o=O * =Y

G O L D F R A N K I N C E N S E M Y R R H

Alabama – Northwest Florida Mission Center

2005 Leadership Team

Betty Dixon	Mission Center President
James Marcombe	Mission Center Counselor
Bubber Buntz	Mission Center Counselor
Don Henderson	Mission Center Financial Officer
Craig Lenfestey	Financial Officer Counselor
Lisa Houk	Financial Officer Counselor
Kelly Blake	Recorder
Leslie Kelly	Missionary Director
Leslie Kelly	Congregation Expansion Ministries
Brenda Lenfestey	Congregation Expansion Ministries
Craig Lenfestey	Assistant to Field Apostle
Pam Cress	Ministry of Wholeness

Advisory Council Members

Jackie Crutchfield	Director/Administrative Assistant
Bubber Buntz	Accountability
Lisa Houk	Public Relations
Leslie Kelly	Evangelism
Vi Buntz	Resource Support/Temple School
Reba Martin	Young Adult Ministries
Della Goodson	Children/Youth Ministries
Richard (Dick) Dour	Events Coordinator/Pulpit Exchange

Bluff Springs Campground Board Members

2005 – 2007	Vi Buntz	Ernie Martin	
2006 – 2008	Bob Blake	Eric Mitchell	Ken Porter
Alternates	Steve Shaw	Mitch Smith	Jim Marcombe

Youth Camping Committee

Della Goodson	Josh Goff	Mitch Smith
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Youth Council

Della Goodson
Chuck Douglass

Josh Goff
Sherri Odom

Mitch Smith
Paul & Lisa Houk

Technology Ministries Committee

Rob Donofrio, Chair

Richard Roat

Eric Mitchell

Dwayne Walther

Small Group Ministries Committee

Pam Cress, Chair

Charlotte Parker

Jack Sanders

Brenda Lenfestey

Clusters & Leaders

Missionary Coordinator – Les Kelly

North & Central Cluster Coordinator – Bubber Buntz

East & West Cluster Coordinator – Bill Rollings

North Cluster – Team Leaders: Jim Marcombe & Fred
Salter

Montgomery, McKenzie, Evergreen, Lone Star, Troy

Central Cluster – Team Leaders: Benny Snyder & Benny
Barnes

Brewton, East Brewton, Dixonville, Atmore, Huxford, Bay
Minette

East Cluster – Team Leaders: Wayne & Angie Blocker &
Doris Kelly

Milton, Berrydale, Crestview, Holley-Navarre, Ft. Walton
Beach, Panama City

West Cluster – Team Leaders: Les Kelly & Brenda
Lenfestey

Pensacola, North Pensacola, Bellview, The Rock, CCM-
Milton, Cantonment

Alabama – Northwest Florida Mission Center Mission Statement

To witness to the people of Alabama and Northwest Florida as an expression of God's love and grace by experiencing God, seeking His will, responding to His call, and being the Body of Christ in word and in deed.

Alabama – Northwest Florida Mission Center Mission Statement

We have a vision of the time that the Kingdom of God is a reality in the Alabama-Northwest Florida region – when the Community of Christ comprises a prophetic people and a witnessing community and when each congregation reaches out to the community as an expression of God's love and grace. We envision a time when all people, as servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, have a passion for the Christ and love as He loved; when they demonstrate the gospel principles in their daily living, when they utilize their giftedness in godly pursuits, when they recognize the worth of all peoples, and when joy abounds and peace prevails.

Azalea Festival Reunion
March 19-24, 2006
Bluff Springs Campground
McDavid, Florida

Guest Ministers: Apostle Linda Booth, Presiding Evangelist Danny Belrose, Elder Penelope Belrose
Director: Don Coleman 850-626-6886 d&tcoleman@erec.net
Registrar: Jim Marcombe 850-623-4678 JMarcombe@aol.com

Registration is on Sunday afternoon, March 19, starting at 3:00 p.m.
Checkout will be on Friday afternoon, March 24, at 1:00 p.m.
Adults of any age are invited. No children's program will be provided.
Offerings will be taken for Outreach International and Assistance International.

The fee of \$ 150.00 covers meals (15), lodging, insurance, and miscellaneous expenses.

Facilities include a 60-bed dormitory (12 rooms), (heated/AC), 10 two-family cabins (heated/AC), holding up to 5 people on each side, and RV/motor home sites with facilities. Bring your own pillow and bedding for single size bunks, and other personal items.

Detach registration form below and mail with a deposit of \$ 25.00 (refundable) to
Jim Marcombe 6087 Happy Hollow Drive Milton, FL 32570

You may also register by e-mail to "JMarcombe@aol.com". No deposit necessary.

REGISTRATION FORM
AZALEA FESTIVAL REUNION
March 19-24, 2006

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Priesthood Office(s) _____

Lodging Preference (mark choice with an X)

Dormitory _____

Cabin _____

RV site _____

Diet Restrictions _____

Send registration form and \$ 25.00 to: Jim Marcombe



CALENDAR

January

13 – 21 Work Week
Bluff Springs Campground

14 – 15 Venture Forth for Christ
Huxford

20 – 21 Listening Circle Facilitators Tng
Bluff Springs Campground

21 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03

28 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

February

4 High Priests Meeting - Brewton
Apostle Linda Booth, Guest

4 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00

11 – 12 Venture Forth for Christ

18 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03

25 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

March

4 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00

11 – 12 Venture Forth for Christ

18 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03

25 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

April

1 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00

8 – 9 Venture Forth for Christ

15 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03

22 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

May

6 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00

13 – 14 Venture Forth for Christ
Evergreen

20 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03

27 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

June

- 4 – 10 Sr. High Camp – BSCG
Director, Mitch Smith
- 10 – 14 Camp ISO – BSCG
- 19 – 24 Mission Center Reunion
Director, Reba Martin
Apostle Mary Jacks-Dynes
- 25 – July 1 Jr. High Camp – BSCG
Director, Josh Goff

July

- 2 – 8 Jr. Camp – BSCG
Director, Liz Crabtree
(subject to change due to conflict with Gulf
Mission Center reunion)
- 12 – 16 Camp SKAMP – BSCG

August

- 5 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00
- 19 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03
- 26 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

September

- 2 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00
- 16 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03
- 23 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

October

- 7 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00
- 21 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03
- 28 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

November

- 4 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00
- 18 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03
- 25 Solid Rock Cafe
Pensacola, FL 6:0 – 9:00

December

- 2 Solid Rock Cafe
Montgomery, AL 5:43 – 9:00
- 16 Solid Rock Cafe
Crestview, FL 5:33 – 9:03
- 28 – Jan 1 New Year's Work Retreat
BSCG – Grades 9 – 12

I MAY NOT BE A "WISE MAN," BUT AT
LEAST I NEVER GOT SO LOST I HAD TO ASK
HEROD FOR DIRECTIONS.



**COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
FRIENDS OF BLUFF SPRINGS CAMPGROUND
ETCHED BRICK PROJECT**

Bluff Springs is a multi-functional campground set up to provide a variety of opportunities for our members and friends to experience the living Christ. To keep it in optimum condition for use, many expenses are incurred. A new option to help promote contributions for the Development fund (such as to help with expenses for new buildings) is offered here. This donation is income tax deductible so if you need a written receipt, please check the box on the form. We will cement the bricks in a walkway such as the one recently built between the dining hall and chapel. Complete the form below and send it with your donation of \$125.00 per brick to the Campground Manager. Checks should be made payable to Bluff Springs Campground and earmarked for the Brick Project.

Bluff Springs Campground
1300 Liahona Trail
McDavid, FL 32568
Phone: (850) 256-2767

Yes, I need a receipt
Donation Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Address: _____

Congregation (if applicable): _____

I would like to order _____ brick(s) etched with the following information on two lines. I understand the bricks are 4" x 8" and will hold no more than 14 spaces per line. I will include a donation for \$125.00 per brick ordered. The drawing is smaller than the actual brick. You may list each brick's name or message on the backside of this form or attach a separate sheet of paper with the desired information.
