

December

Dec 18 Children's Christmas Caroling

Dec 19 Men's Fellowship & Bible Study; 6:00 p.m. in basement

Dec 25 No Wednesday Night Services

Dec 29 5th Sunday Fellowship after services

UPDATE! CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Our Christmas caroling event is canceled for this afternoon. We will now meet Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Anyone who would like to join us is welcome to meet at the building at 6:00 and we will carpool. We will meet back at the building for treats afterwards. If you have questions, see Jordyn or Kendall.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & BIBLE STUDY

Men of the Church, join us this Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. for a night of great food and fellowship. **We will be meeting in the basement.** Please respond to Wes so food can be planned appropriately. Call, text, or email Wes at (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com.

BLESSING BOX MINISTRY

Church family, thank you for your continued support of our Blessing Box Ministry! Our storage shelves are running very low—especially in this colder weather we want to keep our box filled. Please help us refill our storage shelves as we continue to serve our community in Jesus' name! Thanks in advance!

Priority Needs!!!

Non-Perishable Food Items:

Canned goods w/flip top lids/can openers

Boxed Meal/food that only needs water to cook it

Granola Bars/Fruit Cups or other on-the-go snack items that can be divided up easily

Wrapped Plasticware/Sandwich Baggies

Hygiene Items:

Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

Shampoo/Conditioner

Body Wash/Body Lotion

Deodorant

Lip Balm/Facial Tissue

Seasonal Warm Items:

Gloves

Stocking Caps

Gloves

Scarves

Handwarmers

*You can also put together individual "kits" in quart or gallon sized baggies with "travel size" basic toiletries or snack bags that are ready for visitors to grab-and-go.

*Our storage shelves are housed in the nursery/study in the west hallway. If you ever see the box empty when you come to church, you're welcome to stop in and grab a few items to restock it!

Don't let the ugly in others destroy the beauty in you.

FROM THE PREACHERS DESK

The Endless Pursuit

Most people believe wholeheartedly in the right to pursue happiness. It's even written in The Declaration of Independence that the pursuit of happiness is our right.

I'm no different. I'm a fellow pursuer of happiness. The problem is that there are many things in life that we pursue in our never-ending pursuit of happiness, most of which will never bring us happiness, many of which bring us the opposite.

One of the most deceitful pursuits is the pursuit of material possessions. The reason why it's deceitful, is because when we get something material that we want, it does bring some temporary happiness. The more we like the thing, regardless of what it is, the longer that good feeling lasts. But typically, the good feeling is gone sooner than we would've believed possible.

The solution? Get something else. Get something newer and nicer. And the cycle never stops. Unless. I don't recall what age I was when I discovered that having more stuff didn't make me happy. I still like new stuff, but the difference is now I'm not surprised that it doesn't have the power to give me sustained happiness and so I don't pursue things for happiness anymore. At least I try not to.

So where is happiness found? It's found in the least likely of places. In Matthew chapter 5, Jesus teaches that happiness is found by those who humble themselves before God and mourn because they know they are sinners. Happiness is found in being gentle. It's found in the pursuit of righteousness. It's found in showing mercy to others. It's found in living a holy life and in making peace where there is conflict.

And in the least likely of places, Jesus teaches that happiness comes from being persecuted because we follow Jesus and seek to live like Him.

How do those things bring happiness? It's a happiness not like any other in this world, so it shouldn't surprise us that the happiness in which Jesus speaks of doesn't come from this world, but from God.

This holiday season, let us seek the true happiness that comes from God alone!

Much love!

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com

FAMILY NEWS

Joshua Lewis—had successful surgery and is home recovering. Continue prayers for his healing.

Prayer List: Jim DeJarnett, Wynetta Weston, Joshua Lewis, Larry Helton, Mary Ellen Garver, Marilyn Bartlow, Patsy Pierce, Gary Bodine, Bob & Beth Brownlee, Richard Wartick, Kylie Lock

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to Jace Deffenbaugh on the passing of his grandmother, Almetta Iverson. Jace is the grandson of the late Gene & Lila Deffenbaugh.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Our Theme for Children's & Teens Bible Classes for December is "God Delivers His People." Here is a peek at this month's lessons, the Big Picture Question and Bible Verse.

Dec 15—Moses Parted the Red Sea (Exodus 13-15)

Dec 22—God Provided for His People (Exodus 15-17)

Dec 29—Moses Led the Israelites (Exodus 17-18)

Big Picture Question:

Q: Why does sin separate us from God?

A: Because God is holy, sin has broken our relationship with God. *"The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles."* —Psalm 34:17

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

December

Dec 15—Audra Hudspeth

Dec 29—Darlene Cooney

Dec 22—**Need Volunteer!**

January

Jan 05—**Need Volunteer!**

Jan 19—**Need Volunteer!**

February

Feb 02—**Need Volunteer!**

Feb 16—**Need Volunteer!**

Jan 12—Linda Wartick

Jan 26—Darlene Cooney

Feb 09—Linda Wartick

Feb 23—Darlene Cooney

If you can volunteer, please see Darlene Cooney!

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
—Luke 2:14 NIV*

*If you are visiting today, welcome!
We are glad that you have joined us in worshiping our God.*

