

December 4, 2008

## WFMCC Weekly

### Humility and Love



"I am the Lord's servant, Mary answered, May it be to me as you have said. Then the angel left her."

... Luke 1:38

Dear Friends

Advent is a great time of expectation and joy. But, at the same time it can be a time of loneliness and depression for some. There are people in our community and congregation to whom this time is anything but joyous. Our challenge, as a congregation, is to be more alert to people who are lonely and hurting during this season. Try to be more aware of the unspoken needs of these people and reach out to them in love and compassion.

Remember, we will "Deck the Halls" this Friday night at 6:30, and we hope to see everyone there!

This from Pastor Mary.....

*"All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time."*

*1 Peter 5:5b-6*

*Well, that's what scripture tells us about being humble! But remember the old country song: Oh, Lord, it's hard to be humble when you're perfect in every way? I think sometimes we live by the country song rather than by the scripture...at least*

*there times in life I have! I was having lunch with a pastor friend of mine one day and whining about rules and whining about others....and she looked at me and firmly said: You suffer from the sin of pride. I looked at her and bowed up and thought: Not me! There are many things that come between us and God....pride being one of the biggest sins yet one of the most difficult to recognize and work to remove. During this advent season you are encouraged to prepare to receive Christ in a new way. Yet, how can you receive anything if you're all bowed up, caught up in self? If you suspect pride could be a wedge between you and God, take a moment to pray that God reveal those places to you that you live out the country song. Let prayer be a huge part of your preparation time during advent for the coming of Jesus at Christmas....so that God can fulfill God's desires of grace for your life....Grace, peace, hope, joy, and love to you all! Pastor Mary*

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**6. December Birthdays**

*If your birthday is in December and isn't listed here, please send the info to me at*

[racketwarrior@sbcglobal.net](mailto:racketwarrior@sbcglobal.net)

Dorothy Mann 12/8  
Kathy Carr 12/14

**1. End of the Year Giving**

The end of the year is fast approaching, and we would like to encourage you to consider giving to the building fund before we begin 2009. We have several projects in the works such as tree trimming and stump removal. If you give before December 31, you can take that off your income taxes as a charitable deduction and help your church at the same time. Please give as you feel God leading you.

**2. Tristen's Baptism**

Martha and Kathy would like to invite everyone to the baptism of their grandson, Tristen, Saturday, December 6 at 5:00 pm. The ceremony will be held at the church and officiated by Rev Margaret Walker of Abilene.

**3. Deck the Halls**

Sheryl Bishop 12/15  
Jeri Wilkes 12/19  
Linda Hoagland 12/28  
Don Gamlin 12/28  
Kandi Faulkenberry 12/30

Join us Friday, December 5 as we get together to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. The festivities begin at 6:30, and there will be lots of fellowship as well as hot chocolate and goodies.

#### **4. Christmas Cantata**

Mark your calendars for December 14 at 6:30 pm. That's the date for this year's Christmas Cantata. So make plans to be here and be inspired by our wonderful Voices In Praise choir, as they sing in the Christmas season.

#### **5. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests**

Add your Thanksgivings and Prayers Requests to the Prayer Book in the foyer at church or email them to [racketwarrior@sbcglobal.net](mailto:racketwarrior@sbcglobal.net) .

Thanksgivings for... joy and peace; my family; God's grace; the gift of unconditional love that God provided through our pet companion Harley, as a reminder of His love for us; Tristen's upcoming baptism; all the gifts God has given to us; may we become an observant people, offering up thanks; those who are committed to the mission of this church and volunteer their time and energy consistently; Pam, Cookie's mother, and her wonderful recovery from surgery; Rev. Mary Cantrell and her willingness to serve;

Prayers for ... Velinda, after her fall; equality; Trish's health; safe travel; those who are hurting during this Holiday season for loved ones lost; our troops and their families; those who are struggling financially; prayers for Rev. Margaret Scales and her healing; travel mercies for Steve Cash; a special brother to find a lifetime companion.

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