



The Baptist Bulletin

December 2020

Focused on Joy

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Prayer Requests:

Associate Pastor of Wor-
ship / Youth search

Nation & Leaders

All Our Ministries

Health of those with or
exposed to Covid 19

As we celebrate the Advent Season, as we celebrate Christmas, we should have a perspective reminder in our lives. We already know what Christmas means and learned what it is really about the moment we heard the Gospel. The Apostle John summed it up very perfectly in John 3:16.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Read those words. Let them sink in. That truth is life changing. God loved us, His sin-fallen creation, so much that He didn't leave us. He gave His Son, Jesus, to this broken world. The word gave is very specific in this passage. It means that Jesus is a gift. Not a privilege that we earn. Not a right that we deserve. He is God's love made manifest (1 John 4:9). Jesus came to redeem humanity. To pay the price that we couldn't. He came to appease the wrath of God, with His life. Through Jesus Christ, we no longer live with the bounty of sin over us. We live with the hope of grace.

The greatest truth of the Advent Season is Jesus was born. His birth is the hope of all of creation. For He is our Redeemer. The Savior of all of that is broken by sin. No longer do we live attempting to work hard enough to be saved. Now we live saved as we trust in the redeeming work of the King of kings.

Hold to the joy that God gifted the world on Christmas Day. Rest in Christ, for in Him alone is the miracle of Christmas possible: redemption. Merry Christmas.

*Eve
Candlelight
Service*

Bring the Family!

5:30 p.m.

Missionaries of the Month—Doug & Stephanie Lewis, Cameroon

Merry Christmas from our house to yours!

His clothes and face had a tan hue from the covering of dust. Roads in the dry season are very dusty, and riding a motorcycle does not offer any protection. Manases' oldest son came for a visit, and it was so great to see him! We asked him to tell us all the news from Takui village and the stories of his family's experiences since we left two years ago.

He also told us how the church is beginning the work of building a parsonage next to the church. Even with no current plans to call a pastor, the church is optimistically planning for the future. This gives us hope.

Praise the Lord for teaching opportunities. Earlier this week I (Doug) was able to teach ten people about what the Scriptures say about blood and sacrifices. Next week I am planning on traveling four or five hours to a village where I will teach one day on ruminants, and another day on chickens.

Our family members are healthy, Mom in Omaha; James and Becca in St. Louis, and John and Megan in Chicago. We are grateful they were able to have a visit, and for technology that helps us to stay in touch.



Praises and Prayer requests:

-We are grateful that COVID has not been an issue so far here in Banyo. No one wears masks, and people are starting to shake hands again.

-There was some trouble in Takui two weeks ago. No one was hurt when gunfire occurred late one afternoon. That is the first time in many months there was gunfire in Takui. There are some small signs the conflict is diminishing in the western part of Cameroon, but in region where Takui is located the conflict continues with no end in signs. Manases reports that they often hear gunfire off in the distance. Thanks for praying for peace.

We want to say a very special thank you for your financial support of our ministry this year. We know you are praying for us and keeping us well supported.

We are so thankful for each one of you.
Merry Christmas to you all.

Doug and Stephanie Lewis

New Ladies Bible Study Beginning January 11th

See Kim Crisman by Dec 27th to order a book for the Precept study of Zechariah by Kay Arthur. Kristin Hastings will be leading this study at 6:30 p.m. on Monday nights. Cost will be between \$18-\$20.

You may also attend without a study book.

Birthdays ~ ~ ~

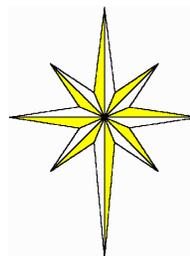
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|------------------|--------|
| Jaxson Mercer | Dec 2 |
| Marla Fattig | Dec 19 |
| Kim Crisman | Dec 19 |
| Jody Nelson | Dec 20 |
| Phila Young | Dec 23 |
| Leon Vogel | Dec 26 |
| Clayton Sitorius | Dec 27 |

Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$140,102.06
Fiscal Year ended 2/28/21

Offerings Received for 9 months:
\$94,830.70

Expenditures Paid for 9 months:
\$92,767.50



Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Harvey & Betty Wing | Dec 17 |
| Clayton & Karen Sitorius | Cec 28 |



Jesus Christ was God's gift to the world and to each and every person, not only on Christmas Day, but all the year through. Happy Christmas wishes to you!

**Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!
2 Corinthians 9:15**



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MONTHLY SCHEDULE

- Dec 1 Management Finance—8 pm
- Dec 2 Sparks Club Party—6:30 pm
- Dec 3 Women’s Council meeting—1:30
- Dec 6 Ladies Christmas—7 p.m.
- Dec 8 Elder Board—7 pm
- Dec 13 Caroling / Christmas Party—4
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service—5:30 pm

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Sunday Worship Service
9:45 am
Sunday School
11:00 am
- Monday Moms in Prayer
1:00 pm (During the school year)
- Tuesday MOPS / Moms2Moms
9:30 am (1st & 3rd weeks of month)
- Wednesday Awana Sparks (K—2nd grades)
6:30 pm (On break until Jan 13th)



Ladies Christmas Party
Sunday, December 6th
7 p.m.

Our ladies will celebrate together with fun and games and a devotional from Karen Sawyer. Hope you will join us!

Church Caroling & Party
Sunday, December 13th
4:00 p.m.

Meet at the church with your family to carol outside several homes before returning to the church for soup & sides and gift exchange game.

Bring a pot of soup or a side and a wrapped, white elephant gift for each person in your family

