

## December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Every Sunday:</b> <b>9:00am Sunday school on Zoom.us for Adults</b> <b>11:00am Worship Service</b> <b>6:00pm Powerhouse at Night</b> (Covid-19 Schedule is in effect until further notice)					Please pray for the recipients of the shoebox gifts that go out to children all over the world.	
<b>11/29/20</b>	<b>11/30/20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – ‘Wonderful Counselor’			Women’s Bible Study on Zoom – 10:30am		Church Cleaning from 1 – 3pm	
<b>Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering through 11/29/20 – 12/06/20</b>						
		Mission Committee Mtg. on Zoom – 7pm	Prayer Service on Zoom.us – 6:30pm	Men’s Group on Zoom.us – 7pm		
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – ‘Mighty God’		Finance Committee Mtg. on Zoom – 7pm	See 12/02	See 12/05	See 12/04	
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – ‘Everlasting Father’		CMC Meeting on Zoom – 7pm	NO Women’s Bible Study on Zoom today See 12/02	See 12/05	See 12/04	
Lottie Moon Missions Speaker via Zoom – 7pm						
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – ‘Prince of Peace’			See 12/02	NO Programs Enjoy Christmas Eve	Merry Christ  Centered Christmas	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>01/01/2021</b>	
			Women’s Bible Study on Zoom – 10:30am  NO Evening Prayer Meeting	New Year’s Eve		



## **An Inconvenient Christmas**

By Pastor Tim Rempel

As American Christians we have become accustomed to convenience. We like to have our services inside with the air conditioned to just the right temperature. We like to sit on cushioned chairs, close to our family and friends. We like to have our kind of music played just the way we like it. We know very little about inconvenience or sacrifice.

This year things are different. Due to the Pandemic, our whole year has been filled with inconveniences. Unfortunately, our Christmas season will be filled with inconveniences too. We will have to maintain a healthy physical distance from each other. We will have to wear a mask. We will have to have our worship services outside. We have to have many of our meetings via Zoom. Every one of these things are inconvenient but so was the first Christmas!

The Governmental rulers of that time made tyrannical regulations. "In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world...And everyone went to their own town to register." (Luke 2:1&3) That was very inconvenient!

Consider what Mary and Joseph went through. They had to travel about 80 miles. Most likely Mary was sitting on the back of a donkey while she was almost nine months pregnant! When they arrived in Bethlehem, all the Inns were full. That was inconvenient too! They had to put up with a makeshift outdoor arrangement. Jesus was born in a manger which most likely was open to the outdoors.

Jesus birth was celebrated by the shepherds. While they are familiar to us, they were strangers to Mary and Joseph. This was an inconvenient way to celebrate the birth of God's Son. It was also inconvenient for Mary and Joseph who were just trying to be obedient.

Maybe God is trying to tell us something this Christmas. At that time, His people were willing to go through an amazing amount of inconvenience. What has happened to us? Are we not willing to put up with a little inconvenience to worship Him? Please think about this, and have a Blessed Christmas, even if it is an inconvenient one.

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## **Mission Notes**

By Kurtis McWilliams  
For the Mission Committee

It is the purpose of the Mission Committee of our church to plan and organize events to encourage our church in the spreading of the Good News of Jesus Christ to our local community, State, Nation, and the World. The Committee thought it would be good to publish a brief article to inform the congregation of these activities.

During the month of December our congregation will emphasize the spreading of the gospel through international missions. Our congregation is involved in international missions through the work of the International Missions Board and involvement in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. While the planned potluck had to be canceled this year due to health concerns, a missionary speaker will speak to us via Zoom.us on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please plan to join us on Zoom to hear this presentation and learn more about international missions.

Don't forget the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering received during the month of December and view the Lottie Moon Christmas Videos listed on the Church's website (<https://www.fbcnewman.org>).

The California Mission Offering was \$810.00 this year. We should praise God for the generosity of the people of this congregation and their willingness to partner with this state mission outreach.