

SUNDAY 12/15/19

677 Luda Street, Elgin | www.jccelgin.org

The Christmas PLEDGE

1. To remember those people who truly need my gifts.

2. To express my love for family and friends in more direct ways than presents.

3. To rededicate myself to the spiritual growth of my family.

4. To examine my holiday activities in light of the true spirit of Christmas.

5. To initiate one act of peacemaking within my circle of family and friends.

from Unplug the Christmas Machine. | by Jo Robinson and Jean Coppic

CONGRATULATIONS...

to Keri Wozniak on being selected to participate in the 2020 Honors Performance Series. She will travel to Vienna, Austria in June, where she will perform under master conductors.



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 *

JCC presents the message of Christmas in song through the Children's Choir, vocalists, and musicians. It will set the tone for your celebrations!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

JCC will feature traditional and contemporary songs of the Christmas season. This service will rekindle the Christmas story for you!

CONNECTION CARD

Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card

in order to "MEASURE" our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.





Dec 01 » God Has Given Us a Sign Dec 08 » God Has Given Us Hope Dec 15 » God Has Given Us a Child Concert & Message Dec 22 » God Has Given Us Great Joy



PRAYER REQUESTS

SALVATION Tom M.
☐ Jason G. ☐ Ray H. ☐ Gearen Family ☐ Stein Family
Brian H. Karen W. Rick L. Kirk Aricioglu
Benjamin G. Cheyenne W. Mike F. Dave S.
Ryan K. Dill S. Bato R.
► HEALTH ISSUES
Suzie S. » Health Issues Michael D. » MS Don H. » Health Issues
Kenny D. » Nuerological Keith M. » Cancer Valerie C. » Seizures
Shirley K. » Health Issues Craig B. » Leukemia Rafael » Cancer
Toni R. » Health Issues Corrine A. » Health Issues Tommy P. » Anxiety
Sam H. » Cardiac Issues Michael C. » Health Issues Marvin L. » Health Issues
☐ Danny R. » ALS ☐ Bethany » Health Issues ☐ Shirley B. » Health Issues
Ruth H. » Health Issues Art B. » Health Issues
Phyllis L. » Health Issues Denny G. » Health Issues
Jean G. » Health Issues Betty W. » Health Issues
OTHER

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave his only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life." —Corrie Ten Boom

METRICS THAT MATTER (12/08/19)

ATTENDANCE > 39 GIVING > \$1,410 GUESTS > 0

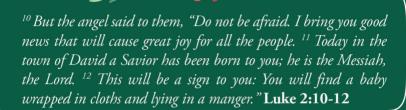
VOLUNTEERS > 21 DECISIONS FOR CHRIST > 0

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GOD HAS GIVEN US A CHILD



JOSEPH AND MARY ARRIVE AT THE STABLE

The first journey that came to a conclusion that night was the difficult journey Mary

and Joseph made from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

- · Mary and Joseph traveled more than 80 miles to comply with the census demanded by Caesar Augustus.
- · Mary was nine months pregnant.
- · God was behind this decree.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Micah 5:2

THE Sol of God ARRIVES WITHOUT FANFARE

Jesus was born in a poor circumstance for our sake.

 Jesus was born in a protected place where sheep were kept, perhaps a cave.



· Without fanfare or trumpets, God slipped into our world as a little baby.



· The mystery and the miracle: God encased in human flesh.

⁴ But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. ⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. **Galatians 4:4-5**

Shepherds ARRIVE UNEXPECTEDLY

- Off to one side sit a group of shepherds. They sit silently on the floor, perhaps perplexed, perhaps in awe, no doubt in amazement.
- Their night watch had been interrupted by an explosion of light from heaven and a symphony of angels. God goes to those who have time to hear him—so on this cloudless night he went to simple shepherds.

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." Luke 2:8-15





What appears to be an insignificant event can have eternal consequences.



Oftentimes God does His greatest work through unlikely people.



A person's value is not determined by his or her surroundings.