

# The Messenger

A Publication of Community Bible Fellowship

December 2018



But the *angel*  
said to them,  
"Don't be afraid! I am  
here with *good*  
news for you,  
which will bring great  
*joy* to all the people.  
This very day in  
David's town your  
*Savior was  
born - Christ  
the Lord!*"

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Luke 2:10-11

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## Don't Miss Out!

### A CHANGING OF THE GUARD



CBF is happy to welcome the Karsten family to our church family. Taking over the reigns as

pastor of CBF is Paul Karsten. Pastor Paul, Kelli and their 10 year-old-son, Caleb, are coming to us from Redmond, Oregon. Pastor Paul's ministry objective is to "shepherd God's people into a deeper relationship with the knowledge and truth of God's Holy Word, so that we may live a life in tune with the Holy Spirit, in order to have a greater understanding of God's will and purpose for our lives." We look forward to the exciting things he will bring to CBF. Look for more details about the Karsten family in a future edition of *The Messenger*.

Pastor Pauley has faithfully been our shepherd at CBF since October of 2000. He has given so much of himself to our congregation over the course of these past 18 years. With much love, we wish him blessings as he begins this next chapter of his life.

Please pray for our church family and two pastor families as we all go through this transition together.

### MISSION OF HOPE: HAITI ~ GUEST SPEAKER



Unfortunately, John Short's November visit was postponed. Hopefully, we'll be hearing from him later this month.

To recap, Mr. Short is a representative from Mission of Hope: Haiti, based in Texas. This is the non-profit Christian organization that has worked with our recent Haiti missionaries. We'll be taking up a love offering for his cause when he visits.



### ADVENT 2018

Join us and bring a friend for each of the 5 Sundays of Advent, as biblical figures share their dilemmas surrounding the birth of our Savior.

The Dilemma of Doubt.....Dec. 2  
The Dilemma of Saying Yes.....Dec. 9  
The Dilemma of Joy.....Dec. 16  
The Dilemma of Belief.....Dec. 23  
The Dilemma of Obedience Dec. 24

### HOLIDAY PHOTO BOOTH



The holidays are upon us! CBF is excited to be adding to the holiday spirit this year by offering a holiday photo

booth every Sunday during Advent. This will offer you the perfect place to snap some fun pictures here at church during this special time of year. There will be a selfie stick available each Sunday for taking your own fun photos, and Margaret Puckett will be available on Sunday, December 9th, to snap a few

pictures for you if you'd like a more professional photo taken. Adding to the festive mood, our Hospitality Team will have a hot chocolate and hot apple cider bar set up on these special Advent Sundays. It'll be a great time to chat and connect with one another – and take some fun photos at the same time!



### GIFT COLLECTIONS

Would you like to show Jesus' love this season? The Outreach Team is collecting items for three local families, a veteran, teens from the Family Crisis Center, and children from the Prison Fellowships Angel Tree program. Christmas gift tags are now available on the Outreach table in the foyer for various collections. Be sure to check the table often; more tags may be added weekly. If you'd like to help, please have your unwrapped gifts to the church by 1:00 PM on Sunday, December 16th.



### SALVATION ARMY BELLRINGERS

Have you noticed that iconic red

bucket and would like to help? Watch for the coming sign-up sheet or talk to the church office about available bell-ringing sign-up times.

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR



The children of CBF will be making a special presentation in song during worship service on December 16th. Be sure to join us for this memorable occasion!



### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join us as we take the joyous sounds of the season to our local nursing homes and care facilities. The singing will begin at Brookstone at 12:30 PM, and to warm your bones before we head out, there will be a light lunch for all carolers in the Chapel immediately following worship service.



### CANCELATIONS

Due to the winter holidays, both choir rehearsal and Bob Hoffman's The Book of James Bible Study have been canceled for the Wednesday evenings of December 26th and January 2nd. Ensemble will not

rehearse in December. In addition, all Sunday school classes will be breaking for the holiday season; classes will not meet on December 23rd or 30th.



### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 ~ CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

The Hospitality Team will be serving a special breakfast in the Chapel on Sunday, December 23, beginning at 9 AM. Please remember there is no Sunday school that morning; instead, plan to join us for fellowship and a holiday breakfast!



### MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 ~ CHRISTMAS EVE

Join us the evening of December 24th at 6:00 PM for our Christmas Eve service. It is a beautiful candlelight service that celebrates the birth of our Savior.

## Member News

We celebrate the recent baptism of two of our congregants!



Paige Odeen was baptized by her father, Roy Langley, on October 28, 2108.



Mike Harland was baptized by Pastor Pauley on October 28, 2018.

We give thanks to our Lord and Savior for our sister and brother in Christ!

## Member Spotlight:

### Jeff & Rachel Turner



Hi, we're the Turners, and we have a story for you.

I started working at HON when I was eighteen, year 2014. A few

months in, I met my husband Jeff. He was nice, flirty, and wanted to date me. I, at the time, felt too busy. I had plenty to do and didn't want to fit more into my life, so I told him as much. I sound so mean, don't I?! Don't worry! You all know this has a happy ending...

I didn't want to date, but I had a feeling I should invite him to church. Even after me snubbing him, he agreed to come and kept coming. I asked him later if he just came to church for me. He said at first, but the teaching he received made him see that CBF was the place he needed to be. God was working in both of us.

We became friends and spent a lot of time together; he fit right in. I guess I did have room in my heart. We began dating in February 2015, got engaged in

February 2017, and married in September 2017. He made me wait two years, people! He's pretty dang close to perfect, but I would have married him that first summer, if he'd asked. I can be a handful; I was at the beginning anyway and had plenty of bad hair days, or maybe months. But, he continued to love me and was always making me look at the positive. I thank God he sent me a patient man. He knew I'd need one.

Working together was really quite wonderful. I didn't realize how spoiled I was until Jeff was blessed with another job in the Quad Cities where he is now a new employee. I'm still at HON Oak lam, and I don't like it a lot to tell the truth, but man I am grateful I met my husband there.

Everything was so well orchestrated by our Lord! Besides, I would have flubbed it up if I had followed my path. Praise God he knows us better than we know ourselves and His timing is perfect.

We love you all and are so grateful to be a part of CBF!

-Jeff and Rachel Turner





## Why Do We Need Christmas?

by Edward Sowden | [www.fevr.net](http://www.fevr.net) | 14 December 2017

Sure the presents and songs are great, but have we forgotten the real exciting news?

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!*

*Let men their songs employ;*

*While fields and floods, rocks, hills  
and plains*

*Repeat the sounding joy...*

I love Christmas carols! Singing about Jesus coming into the world. Singing about the birth of a Savior. But hold on, why do I need saving? There is all this talk of Jesus coming to rescue us but rescue us from what?

The Answer: Sin.

The Bible tells us that we all fall far short of God's perfect standard of living. We read that we all try to run life our own way and in doing so reject God. A letter to the church in

Rome makes it very clear:

There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God.

*All have turned away  
(Romans 3:10-12)*

*For all have sinned and fall short of  
the glory of God (Romans 3:23)*

This rejection of God, known as sin, creates a barrier between God and us. So this is where Jesus comes in. He came to earth on the 'first Christmas' as a human. He was fully God and fully man. Then he grew up living a perfect life of obedience to God (that we all fail to do). Then he died on the cross, taking on all our sin and the sins of the world. He died and was buried. Then he rose from the dead and offers forgiveness from sin and eternal life with God, a renewal of our

relationship with God.

Too often we can be comfortable in our own little world. We compare ourselves to murderers and thieves and think we are good people. But you and I still reject God in thought, word and deed; putting idols before God; living for our own selfish ambition rather than the glory of God.

So this Christmas, sing about our Savior with repentance and joy, knowing that you have sinned but thankful that God sent Jesus to forgive you, to save you!

*God rest ye merry, gentlemen*

*Let nothing you dismay.*

*Remember, Christ, our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas day.*

*To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray.*

*O tidings of comfort and joy...*



## ***Five Ways to Glorify God on Christmas Day***

It's the perfect opportunity to give thanks and start some conversations.

[www.fevr.net](http://www.fevr.net) | 18 December 2017

How are you going to spend Christmas day? Here's a few ideas that will help you celebrate Jesus and share His love with others.

### **1. As soon as you wake up on Christmas day, stop and give thanks.**

Don't worry about the rest of the day just yet, just sit up and thank God for Jesus.

### **2. Pray for those people you will meet with.**

Ask God that you might have an opportunity to talk about Jesus with them. Christmas day is THE EASIEST day of the year to talk about Jesus!

### **3. Remember your brothers and sisters in Christ.**

Think about those Christians

around the world who aren't able to celebrate Christmas freely. Maybe they are persecuted for their faith - maybe they are the only Christian in their community. Pray for them.

### **4. Volunteer to say grace.**

Even if you're not in a Christian family, ask if you can say a little prayer before the Christmas meal with your family or friends. Perhaps you or your family doesn't normally do that kind of thing. Tell them it's just for Christmas day. Thank God for your family, friends, Jesus and the food.

### **5. Start a conversation.**

If you are around people who don't know much about Jesus, try some discussion starters. "Do you think it's weird that we celebrate the birth of a baby born over 2000 years ago?" Or how about, "Did you know Jesus was probably born between 6 and 4 BC and not on the 25th of December?" Or you can try something else that may be more natural for you. Try and use the opportunity of Christmas, and see if you can strike up a conversation to share the story of Jesus' birth with those around you.



# CHRISTMAS

joy

Make this fun decoration as a reminder of the joy Jesus brings.



### What you need:

- Pencil
- Poster board
- Scissors
- Craft pompoms (red, white, green, silver, gold)
- Glue

### What you do:

1. Trace large capital block letters J, O and Y on the poster board.
2. Cut out the letters.
3. Glue pompoms on one side of each letter, completely covering it.
4. Share JOY by displaying the letters in your home.

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

|       |                   |       |                  |
|-------|-------------------|-------|------------------|
| 12/05 | Spencer Andresen  | 12/18 | Don & Anna Dowd  |
| 12/07 | Bob Figanbaum     | 12/22 | Ben Dowd         |
| 12/08 | Paige Odeen       | 12/22 | Delainee Downing |
| 12/10 | Jinnie Johnson    | 12/22 | Maggie McDaniel  |
| 12/10 | Brant Kelly       | 12/23 | Navi Pauley      |
| 12/11 | Madison Frieden   | 12/27 | Dawn Lee         |
| 12/12 | Marilyn Masengarb |       |                  |

## Mark Your Calendar

- 12/02, Sun | YA Bible Study w/Nathan & Jeanette | 2 PM  
Sipes' Residence
- 12/05, Wed | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman  
7 PM | Room N2
- 12/08, Sat | Family Movie Night | 6 PM | Sanctuary
- 12/09, Sun | HS Youth Group | 4 – 5:30 PM | Activity Room
- 12/12, Wed | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman  
7 PM | Room N2
- 12/16, Sun | CBF Christmas Caroling | 12:30 PM
- 12/16, Sun | YA Bible Study w/Nathan & Jeanette | 2 PM  
Sipes' Residence
- 12/19, Wed | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman  
7 PM | Room N2
- 12/23, Sun | Christmas Breakfast | 9 AM | Chapel
- 12/23, Sun | Jr. High Youth Group | 5 – 6 PM | Activity Room
- 12/24, Mon | Christmas Eve Service | 6 PM | Sanctuary
- 12/30, Sun | Potluck Luncheon | 11:30 AM | Sanctuary

## CBF Financial Report – October

|                      | MONTHLY     | YEAR TO DATE |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total Income         | \$13,136.18 | \$171,273.13 |
| Total Expenses       | \$13,215.76 | \$154,954.58 |
| Net Operating Income | \$(79.58)   | \$16,318.55  |



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