

December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy!

This morning, Pastor Charlie will be preaching in the 9:00am service and Pastor Jonathan will be preaching in the 10:30am service. They will be sharing on today's Advent theme, "Good News! Joy!"

Missionaries of the Week: Larry & Sharon Smith, Southern Asia.

MINISTRIES

Young Adults Ministry at The Barn

- ❖ For the Third Sunday of Advent, Matt Clark will be sharing God's word.

ET Youth Ministry

- ❖ Congratulations to the ET Teen Bible Quiz team who competed last weekend in the Missouri Classic tournament held at Central AG here in Springfield. Team members competing were: Austyn Burgess, Kelise Braithwaite, Kambria Braithwaite, Luna Cooper and Kara Peters. The team was coached by Josh Clark. Friday evening was a one-on-one individual competition, where Austyn Burgess and Luna Cooper made it to the final round. Austyn finished in 4th place. Saturday was a team competition where our team played 9 rounds and finished in 2nd place. Kelise was the 3rd individual high scorer and Kara was the 5th individual high scorer. So proud of our TBQ Team!

ET Kids Ministry

- ❖ Today in the Kids Church Room, all kids K through 5th grade will be playing Christmas Bingo and Christmas Minute to Win It games, and then all kids will join their families in the 10:30am service for Family Sunday.

Developmental Learning Center

- ❖ This week, DLC Pre-K students will be celebrating Christmas with programs and activities on Thursday, December 15th and Friday, December 16th. Pastors Jonathan and Melia will be serving as narrators for the programs on Thursday and Friday, respectively.

NOW HIRING! We are currently hiring for nursery/preschool paid staff positions to work an average of two Sundays and one or two Wednesday evenings per month. If you are interested or would like more information, please stop by the nursery or email Amy Sutton at amy@etchurch.org. We would love to talk to you about joining our team!

Proposed Budgeted Weekly Income: \$22,438 **Last Week's Giving:** \$50,807

Proposed Budgeted YTD: \$1,099,462 **Giving Received YTD:** \$1,143,991

Capital Campaign Total: \$942,951

Wednesday Evening Fellowship Meal

Serving Time: 5:15-6:15 pm Place: ET Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$4 (Adults); \$2 (Children); \$12 (Family)

Dinner and Dessert

To All Participants in the Christmas Presentation: We consider every one of you important ministry partners and we want to thank you all for the "Good News of Great Joy" you presented last Sunday. Your efforts and talent brought us into the presence of God and helped our community of faith celebrate the Advent season with great wonder and awe. To God be the glory!

Christmas Love Offering Today, a special Christmas love offering for the pastoral staff will be received in both services, to express our love and appreciation for their care of the ET Church family. Special offering envelopes are available in the bulletin.

Women's Ministries Christmas Party Thank you to all of the ladies who participated in our Christmas Party this year. We were able to donate 50 duffel bags and gifts for teens in the foster system. Praise God!

Upcoming Holiday Events at ET

- ❖ **TODAY** – Handbell Concert at 4:30 pm
- ❖ Saturday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Service at 5:00pm: We will serve communion during this service. Seats fill up quickly, so plan to arrive early AND don't forget to bring your "jingle" prop to ring out the close of the service!
- ❖ Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service at 10:30 am (One service)
- ❖ Sunday, January 1st – New Year's Day Service at 10:30 am (One service)

Monthly Prayer Service is tonight at 6:00pm in The Barn. The prayer focus this month will be on those who find the Christmas season to be a difficult time of the year. Please come and pray for those who need a special touch from the Lord!

Christmas Eve Service In an effort to make all guests feel welcomed, please do not save seats. If you are expecting guests, please wait for them in the lobby so you can all be seated at the same time. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank you! Many thanks to all of you who sent cards and prayed for my family when my son, Donnie passed away. I so appreciate my ET family!

--Lynne Novak

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people". Luke 2:10 (ESV)



Advent theme | Luke 1:34-37 | This past summer, a man from Florida named Kevin Chandler was overcome with the desire to tour Europe. Many of us desire to travel, to see new things, to experience life in other parts of the world. There was one major challenge facing Kevin. Due to spinal muscular atrophy, Kevin's arms and legs are crippled and paralyzed. It's impossible to travel to another country without the use of your arms and legs! Well, it is possible with help. Kevin's friends decided they would help him achieve his dream. They spent 10 days in Europe, each taking turns carrying a special backpack on their back, taking in all of the sights. Kevin could have known the joy of travel without the help of his friends. Sometime joy can be a received gift, not a manufactured feeling. When Mary first received the news that she would be the mother of Jesus, her heart was full of questions. She asked the angel, "How can this happen?" (Luke 1:34) The Angel told her, "Don't worry, you're going to have help! Holy Spirit will be with you, and you won't have to do this in your own strength." (Luke 1:35) When she humbly received help, she was able to say with full confidence, "I am the Lord's servant." (Luke 1:38) If joy feels impossible for you this Christmas season, you must reach out to the God who makes all things possible. Joy can be found in surrender, when we say, "I simply cannot do it all on my own strength." As a family, ask each other what struggles each person might be facing right now. Take time to pray, to ask God for help, to receive His blessing of joy this season.



A Resource of ET Kids Ministry
 December 11 2016
 Pastor Melia Jesch