

The Source

December 2017

FINDING PEACE IN A TIME OF BUSY-NESS



It's that time of year again! The time when we honor Peace and Good Will, Joy and Giving to Others...and at the same time, our stress levels go up, our anxiety increases, and we can't seem to find time to sit down, much less relax!

It's Christmas Time!

Why is it that we try to honor the coming of the Prince of Peace with such contrary lifestyles? How can we find peace in a time of uber busy-ness?

Simple: we have to MAKE space and time for rest and contemplation. I like the word "ponder" because it is what Mary did as she processed bearing the Son of God (Luke 2:19). So in the midst of the shopping, decorating, party-going and party-giving, let's take some time to ponder what God has done in sending His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.

I like to sit in the living room, look at the decorated Christmas tree, listen to soft Christmas music, and just ponder the season, the Incarnation, the memories, the hopes and dreams...all of it. It's even better if I can hold Cyndy's hand and share the moment together! Whatever works for you, I want to encourage you to take the time to rest, ponder, pray and reflect on the Miracle of Christmas. Don't let the season's rush consume you! Instead, let the Season's Reason embrace you this Advent/Christmas.

On behalf of the entire staff of The Fount and FVUM Preschool, may you and yours be blessed richly and profoundly this Christmas and New Year!

In Christ,

Pastor Glen



THE FOUNT

A United Methodist Community

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Giving Update	2
December Meeting Schedule	2
Advent Sermon Series	2
December Events	3
Hanging of the Greens	3
Parsonage Open House	3
Messy Caroling!	4
Children's Christmas Pageant	4
New Benches	5
Bible 102	5
What is Advent?	6
Preschool News	7
A Message From Frontiers	8
Messy Church	9
UMM To the Rescue	10
Prayer Requests	10
December Birthdays	11

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 9:00 am—Classes
- 10:15 am—Awakening Hymn Sing
- 10:30 am—English Service & La Cima Service
- 10:50 am—Children & Youth Sunday School
- 3:00 pm—Vietnamese Evangelical Church of Fountain Valley



GIVING UPDATE

Listed below is the financial data for The Fount. This data is through Oct. 2017.

Actual Oct. Envelope Giving	\$ 26,226
Budgeted Monthly Envelope Giving	\$ 22,470

Actual Loose Plate Giving Jan. thru Oct.	\$ 5,187
Budgeted Loose Plate Giving Jan. thru Oct.	\$ 3,000

Actual Envelope Giving Jan. thru Oct.	\$230,116
Budgeted Envelope Giving Jan. thru Oct.	\$224,700

DECEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

Human Resources Team	December 3	12:00 pm
Messy Caroling	December 15	6:00 pm
Church Council Meeting	December 17	12:15 pm

The events above are currently listed on the church calendar. Please check with the team leaders to confirm the dates/times of these meetings.

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Pastor Glen will launch a sermon series entitled “What Child is This?” on December 3rd to begin the Advent season. This series will prepare the congregation for Christmas and is based on a series of videos featuring major players in the Christmas story.

DECEMBER EVENTS

- December 1** Hanging of the Greens
- December 10** Parsonage Open House (3:00—6:00 pm)
- December 12 –13** Preschool Christmas Sing
- December 15** Messy Caroling! (6:00 pm)
- December 16** La Cima Christmas Party (6:00 pm)
- December 17** Children’s Christmas Pageant (6:00 pm)
- December 24** Regular Sunday Service (10:30 am)
Christmas Eve Service (6:00 pm)



HANGING OF THE GREENS

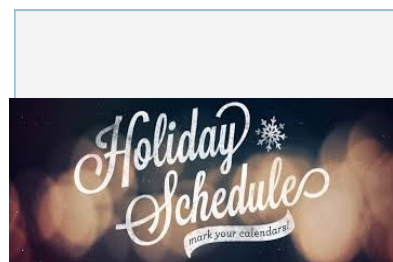
Make plans to help us decorate the sanctuary for the upcoming Christmas holidays. We will be gathering on Friday evening, December 1st at 5:30 pm. Those assisting will also enjoy a soup supper. Please come and help us adorn the sanctuary in holiday splendor!



PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE DECEMBER 10TH

Glen, Cyndy and Nathan Haworth invite The Fount family to their home for the annual Parsonage Open House on Sunday, December 10th. Come any time between 3:00 and 6:00 PM and enjoy holiday hospitality, conversation, Christmas music and goodies!

The address of the parsonage is: 9662 Nightingale Ave., Fountain Valley. Call 657-204-9139 if you need directions.





MESSY CHURCH
Creatively build for and with you

NEXT
Messy Church
Dec. 15th
6-8pm

DINNER
COMMUNITY
CREATIVITY



~~MESSY CHURCH!~~ CAROLING!

Our next “Messy Church” will be on Friday December 15th. We will be bagging cookies and going caroling in the neighborhood. A light meal will be provided, but we are asking that everyone bring two dozen “easy to pack” cookies. We will be passing these out to our neighbors as we carol!

WHAT: Messy Church Carol Sing

WHEN: December 15

TIME: 6:00-8:00pm

WHERE: The Fount (The Multi-Purpose Room & the Sanctuary)

WHO: *All People.* Bring the kids, grandkids, neighbor kids or no kids at all.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Children from our preschool, church, La Cima and the Vietnamese congregations will be presenting “*A Journey to Bethlehem*” on December 17th at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

This will be a great time to meet members of the Vietnamese and La Cima congregations as well as some of the parents of the preschool students involved. Plus what a fun event to attend! It will surely get you in the holiday spirit!



NEW BENCHES: EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

If you've been on The Fount campus lately, you no doubt have noticed the nice new benches on the grass area between the Sanctuary and the Preschool. These sturdy benches are the result of an Eagle Scout project by Micah Nehrbass, grandson of Marilyn Nehrbass, a member of The Fount. The benches are a welcome addition to the campus and are especially appreciated by the guests of Welcome Home on Saturday mornings!

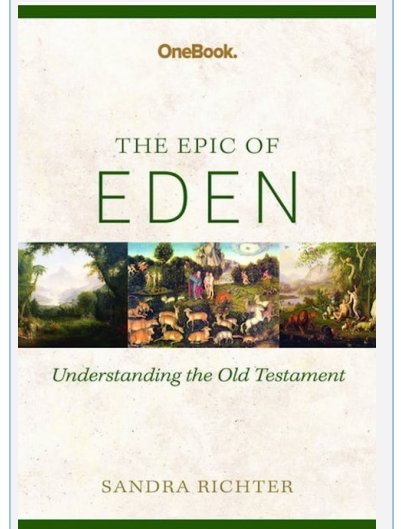


BIBLE 102: UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT

Our basic Bible studies continue in the New Year with a closer look at the Old Testament. Having completed Bible 101, which was an introduction (survey) of the whole Bible, the next offering will focus more in depth on the Old Testament. Using the study book, *The Epic of Eden*, by Sandra Richter, this 12-week class will help participants understand the Old Testament from a Christian perspective.

Bible 102 will begin with an introductory meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00. The weekly classes will be held on Tuesday's starting at 7:00 PM in Room 205 and will last for 90 minutes each. The cost for the study is the cost for the study book. If you order (and pay) through the church office by December 12th, the cost will be \$21, including shipping. Otherwise, the cost is \$22.95 plus shipping from Seedbed.com.

Call (714-962-2593) or email (office@thefount.church) to reserve your spot!



WHAT IS ADVENT?

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” or “visit” and begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians. Although we are accustomed to celebrating Christmas on a single day, in both Christian tradition and on the Church calendar, the Christmas season lasts sundown on December 24 (Christmas Eve) through Epiphany of the Lord (January 6). This is sometimes popularly referred to as “the twelve days of Christmas.” During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

The first faint traces of Advent emerged in popular piety and custom in various places by the early fourth century. In Spain and Gaul (equivalent to the area we now call Western Europe), Christians observed a period of fasting and preparation for baptism. The region had close links with Eastern Christianity’s (Syria and other eastern Mediterranean areas) celebration of the feast of Christ’s birth on Epiphany (January 6) as a day for baptism.

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these “last days” ([Acts 2:17](#), [Hebrews 1:2](#)), as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: In exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God’s past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ’s coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ’s kingdom when he returns for his people. In this light, the Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” perfectly represents the church’s cry during the Advent season:

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

While Israel would have sung the song in expectation of Christ’s first coming, the church now sings the song in commemoration of that first coming and in expectation of the second coming in the future.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

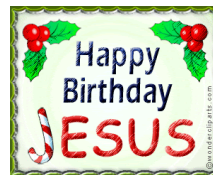
The preschool is beginning to prepare for the upcoming holiday season. The staff has several events planned for December.

First, the children will decorate their Christmas cottages December 7th and 8th. The creativity shown by the children in decorating their cottages is wonderful and fun to watch.



On December 12th and 13th the children will present their Christmas Sing at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Family members, friends, neighbors, and all are invited to come see and hear the children sing traditional Christmas songs and some fun holiday tunes as well.

The children will attend Happy Birthday Jesus parties on December 21st and 22nd. These parties help them understand the true meaning of Christmas.



The preschool will be closed for the holidays starting December 25th and won't re-open until January 8th. The staff of the preschool wish everyone at The Fount a peaceful and safe holiday season.

Merry Christmas





In the Spotlight

A MESSAGE FROM FRONTIERS

Frontiers is one of the missions group The Fount supports. Below is a message from Bob Peckham, CEO/US Director of Frontiers.

"I'll never forget a remarkable day when I saw the Lord display His love and power through answered prayer. A co-laborer in Asia was suddenly stricken with a terrifyingly high fever. We were far from any place where we could find skilled, responsive medical help. So we gathered as a team around this beloved man, praised the Lord for His love and mercy, and asked Him to remove the fever and strengthen our brother. Imagine our joy as this gifted colleague was restored to health and fruitful ministry the very next day.

Prayer is also central to our work of making disciples and planting churches. In fact, persistent prayer has proven to be a common factor in most of the movements to Jesus Christ that are currently happening among Muslims. As faithful Christians cry out to God, we see the Gospel advancing into even the hardest corners of the world.

And though hundreds of unengaged Muslim people groups are still without a Gospel witness, we continue praying and do not lose heart, for we trust that God will not delay long (Luke 18:1-7).

Your partnership with Frontiers strengthens the workers you've sent to the field and enables us to recruit, train, and send even more teams to reach Muslims with the Good News of eternal life in Christ.

Our passion for prayer, however doesn't stop with Muslims. At Frontiers we are honored to pray for you too!"

MESSY CHURCH

In November at Messy Church we taught about how God helped his people after Jesus left us.

Jesus promised that His father would send a helper, His Holy Spirit, to be with us forever. Without the Holy Spirit we're not able to do anything, but with His power, we're assured we can do just about anything. One of the ways we demonstrated this was by popping corn on a flat griddle. Just like the corn kernels, we're not able to do a whole lot. But when exposed to heat, the kernels become active.

Next month we'll be blessing the residents at Rancho La Siesta with some Christmas Carols and cookie packages. Come at 6 for dinner and we'll join our voices together in joyful song to our King!



MESSY CHURCH

Creatively build your family's faith



UMM TO THE RESCUE

A reminder, the United Methodist Men (UMM) have begun a new ministry to assist those in need in our community, and they need your help. They are looking for opportunities to build, repair, paint, fix, install, clean, or whatever else it takes to help people who need those services. If you are not sure if they can help, give the church office (714-962-2593) a call and they will contact the UMM to see if they are able to be of assistance to you.

Also remember, if you would like the UMM to help you with hanging Christmas lights this year (nothing fancy or too big, please) the UMM will assist with that as well. Just call the office and let them know you need assistance.



PRAYER REQUESTS

We have received requests for prayer for the following people: The Boger family, Linda Donley, Joy Metcalf, Carol Stewart, the Laffoon family, Bill Speicher, Nancy Jarachovic, Mendy Nehrbass, Grace Yamashiro, Merna Young, Mercedes Friedrich, Kathleen McFarland, as well as friends/family/coworkers of many of our church and staff members.

Please also pray for our church, La Cima, the Vietnamese Evangelical Church of Fountain Valley, those serving in the armed forces, the church staff, the preschool staff and the small groups meeting at The Fount.



THE FOUNT

A Biblical family of joyful servants, sharing the love of God in a broken world.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Brian Donley	3
Forest McFarland	7
Sylvia Stambol	10
Grace Yamashiro	31

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The ministers of our church are its members. They are assisted by:

Rev. Glen Haworth

Lead Pastor

Jonathan Kupper

Worship and Music

Ric Seaver

Family & Children

Coleen Kaae

FVUM Preschool Dir.

Stephanie Parsons

Childcare

Pat Storks

Administrative Assist.

