

The Spotlight

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December 2009

Advent Sermons

Advent is the season during the church year which focuses on the first coming of Christ as God's "salvation, which he prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to God's people Israel," (Luke 2:30-32)

Over the years we've had sermons on the men of Christmas, the women of Christmas, the angels of Christmas and so on. This year I'm focusing on the Christ of Christmas using the great creedal statements of the Nicene Creed written some 1700 years ago.

This creed was hammered out during a time of great controversy over the person and nature of Christ. A bishop named Arius denied that Jesus was deity,

claiming he was just a created being- an extraordinary human being, but nevertheless, created. Out of the debates and battles the Roman Emperor Constantine I called a Council meeting in Nicea in the year 325 where church leaders from all over the world came and affirmed the deity of Jesus Christ and condemned Arius' views as heresy. However, Arianism is still around in several so-called Christian groups. Do you know which?

Each week we will explore a portion of the Nicene Creed as it refers to the person of Christ, noting how the Church expressed itself in this regard and why it's important for us to know and affirm these statements today.

Getting in the Rhythm of Life and Church

The November issue of *The Covenant Companion* had an article that caught my attention a few days ago. It was titled '*Learning the Biblical Rhythm.*' I've been talking about developing a rhythm for life for years now and found it intriguing that there will be a series of articles in *The Companion* touted as "a way to expand our life with God by attending to the cycles of the church year."

I'm finding that there is a growing desire in the Covenant and among the

younger generation to explore the significance of spiritual disciplines and how the church year should shape our lives. Most of us know that the Advent Season is around Christmas, that Lent has something to do with Easter, and Pentecost follows somewhere.

I've been reading a lot of church history the past several years and am gaining a greater appreciation for why I should order my life and worship around a biblical framework of daily, weekly,

New Women's Bible Study Coming in January

Seeking Him, Experiencing the Joy of Personal Revival

by Nancy Leigh DeMoss & Tim Grissom

Are you tired of trying to be a good Christian? Are you overloaded and worn out with church activities? Do you sometimes feel as if you're just going through the motions of the Christian life? Do you often find yourself running on empty spiritually? Do you experience heaviness or shame more than joy and freedom in your Christian life? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then perhaps God is calling you to something deeper. Maybe you're ready to experience personal revival!

Dates: Tuesdays, January 26 - April 27
(no class March 30th)

Rhythm of Life (cont.)

monthly, and yearly disciplines.

During the adult Sunday School class this winter we'll stroll through the Christian year examining each season of worship, what it means, and why it is important. We'll see if this statement from the Companion article is true:

"Marked by holy days, and structured by Scripture, the cycle of the church year is a daily reminder that life with God is a present anchor and a future promise."

Pastor Mark

(Copies of the *The Covenant Companion* are in the library.)

Morning Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Morning Place: Fireside Room at SRCC

Evening Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. *

Evening Place: Karen Danielson's home *

Childcare: Provided, mornings only

Contact to sign up: Lisa Lucas at 285-5074 or chelliglo@charterinternet.com

Please purchase the book for this study on your own. You can obtain this study from the Christian Bookstore here in town, or go to www.cbd.com to purchase online.

*Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to attend the evening session. We would like to have a minimum of eight signed up for this study.

Lisa Lucas

Church Memorials

Memorial money was given to our church in memory of three members of our church, Dick Webster, Earl Carter, and Wayner Halbmaier. Here is an update on the expenditures.

For Dick Webster, money will go towards recreational equipment. Dick's career was in physical education for Rochester schools, so this was his area of special interest.

A camera and printer has been purchased in memory of Earl Carter. Earl enjoyed photography so this was a good choice.

For Wayne, something will be purchased that ties in with our sound system, as that is where he served in previous churches.

Christmas Dinner

We hope you will join us on December 6th at 5:30 p.m. For our annual Christmas Dinner which will be at Willow Creek Golf Club, 1700 48th St. SW. Tickets are on sale through November 29 for \$15. The buffet menu includes Chicken marsala, slow roasted pork loin with cinnamon apples, pasta salad and mixed green salad, baked potato, green beans, rolls, coffee, and apple cobbler.

Bible Quizzing

Our SRCC kids are on three Bible Quizzing teams this year. Little League team members include Ashton & Taylor Hanson on the team, *Bought at a Price* and Faith Boyum on Theophiloi. Kohl Hanson, Grace and Seth Boyum are on New Batch of Dough in the AB League.

November results: Ashton and Taylor's team placed 1st. Taylor placed 2nd for individuals.

You are welcome to come and observe (cheer) for any part of the matches on the 2nd Saturday of the month through March. The next quiz is at 1:00 p.m. on December 12th at Emmanuel Baptist Church on 18th Ave. NW

Thanks from Boyums

We want to thank Salem Road for your prayers and gifts toward the National Bible Bee competition in November. It was the trip of a lifetime for Grace and Faith, and it wouldn't have been possible without your encouragement and support.

The Boyum Family



- 1 - Chuck Lucas
- 1 - Danielle Hanson
- 2 - Grant Reimer
- 3 - Emily Schobel
- 7 - Lee Bredeson
- 16 - Marty Wolfe
- 17 - Lynda Capps
- 19 - Shaylan Johnson
- 19 - Seth Robinson
- 27 - Marilyn Riegler
- 30 - Charles Taylor

December Anniversaries

- 23 - Dave & Jeannie Byer
- 27 - Lee & Tricia Bredeson
- 27 - Matt & Patty Iott



Set Up

- 6- C. Roberts
- 13- Zerbe
- 20 - Wolfe
- 27 - Bjaastad

Ushers

- Reimer
- Engstler
- Therneau
- Hanson

Greeters

- 6 - Bredeson
- 13 - Stewart
- 20 - Bjaastad
- 27 - Lewis

Nursery

- Hanson
- Driscoll
- Evinger
- Robinson