### **Sermon Notes:**



#### Sunday, December 1, 2024

As we polish off the remains of the Thanksgiving feast, many have already transitioned to the celebration of Christmas. I am personally very thankful for Christmas because Christmas is a special time of the year for all believers. It is the season that we have chosen to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. The season is filled with laughter, joy, and the presence of family, which all contribute to a time of wonder.

Yet, not everyone is so joyful about this moment. Many years ago, George Bernard Shaw invented a society for the abolition of Christmas. For him Christmas was simply a "nuisance," supported by the "mob" as a "carnival of mendicity, gluttony and drunkenness." But after years of campaigning, Mr. Shaw had to admit his society was a failure. "So far," said he, "I am the only member. No matter the efforts of this world, you cannot remove the reality and the splendor of the birth of our great Saviour!

Kastor John M. !

**EABORERS TO GETHER** 2024 SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE IS ROMANS 12 There is still time for you to quote Romans 12. You can do it!

#### Missionary Spotlight Lighthouse Children's Home—Myanmar

The last two months have been busy with schoolwork and studies. The children are at the local school during the day, and evenings are filled with more studying with a tutor. There is a lot of memorization required to pass the bi-monthly exams. It's not a good system, but it is what the government requires. The kids work hard and do their best to keep up with all their classes.

On a more fun note, let's answer one of our most frequently asked questions: What is on their faces? Thanaka is a traditional cosmetic. Girls and boys wear it on their faces as a sunblock and skin protectant. The smell is also said to repel mosquitos! Thanaka is made from a special wood ground on a stone with water until it forms a paste. It is then applied to the skin however the wearer wishes. Our children love to use it and would not be ready for the day without it!

## **Today's Schedule:**

- 10 am—Connection Groups—Adult classes meet in the Sanctuary
- **11 am**—Morning Worship Service with Ronnie Warren Ministering
- **4:30 pm**—Green Team in the Youth Room

4:30 pm—Choir Practice in the Sanctuary

6 pm—Evening Service

Diaper Shower for Maddy and Caleb Dedmon in the Chapel following the Evening Service

## This Week:

- WednesdayMid Week Service at 7 pm in the Sanctuary<br/>Master Club for kids at 6:45 pm in the Chapel<br/>FOCUS for Teens at 6:45 pm in the Youth Room
- Saturday Memorial Service for Jim Davis at 10 am in the Sanctuary



## **Altar Results**

Liberty Bell was Baptized

## Christmas at Hillside

The Tale of the Drowsy Shepherd Kids Christmas Program Cookie Reception to follow Sunday, December 15th, 6 pm

Gradle the King with Praise—Adult Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 22nd, 6 pm

> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Tuesday, December 24th, 6 pm

No Mid-Week Service on Wednesday, December 25th



# A Look Ahead:

Sunday, Dec. 8 Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Kid's Christmas Program Practice 3-5 pm

Wedding Shower for Faith Weisbrod and Payton West at 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 10Single Seniors Christmas Luncheon at 11:30 am at<br/>Mexican Villa on South Campbell

Wednesday, Dec. 11 Master Club and FOCUS Award Night at 7 pm in the Sanctuary

# **CHURCH WIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY**

### Saturday, December 14th, 12-2 pm

At the Sac River Cowboy Church—6448 State Highway EE, Springfield

- Ugly Sweater Contest with a prize for the winner
- Bring your favorite Christmas side dishes and desserts
- If you can provide a cooked and sliced ham, please sign up in the foyer



• Each child and teen will receive a gift from their church family (\$20 budget). There are still a few names available.

| Attendance, Offerings and Missions |     |  |            |
|------------------------------------|-----|--|------------|
| Attendance Last Week               |     | 2025 Missions Goal                       | 300,000.00 |
|                                    |     | Missions Received (wk 4)                 | 23,843.28  |
| Wednesday, Nov 20                  | 123 | Building Fund Total Received             | 295,856.23 |
|                                    |     | Last Week's Totals (11/18/24 - 11/24/24) |            |
|                                    |     | Tithe/General Offering                   | 12,461.57  |
| Sunday, Nov 24                     |     | Missions Giving                          | 5,573.32   |
| Connection Groups                  | 189 | Building Fund                            | 1,270.00   |
| 11 am Worship                      | 260 | Other                                    | 59.76      |
| 6 pm Service                       | 140 | Total Offerings:                         | 19,364.65  |