

Prayer Updates

JOY & BLESSINGS

Ryan & Adrienne Gomes welcome baby boy Ashton James, Born December 14. Ashton is in the NICU after an early delivery; pray for the family as Adrienne begins cancer treatment. Ryan and Adrienne also have a 15-month-old child at home.

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Jay Fred – pancreatitis following gall bladder surgery

Kevin Muir – bone spur surgery resulted in infection

Michael Pegoda – back surgery

Recent hospitalizations /surgeries: Joseph Carota, Bernice Bergman, John Kihorany, Matthew Brunetti, Trudi Jackson, Bob Walters

Hospice care: Dorothy Thrash

HOME WITH THE LORD

Love and prayer are extended to those who have lost loved ones, which is especially difficult this time of year...Theresa Gilbert, her father, Thomas Keane; Stan Przybylinski, his mother; Liz Bishop, her auntie.

GriefShare, a special 13-week support group, begins with new curriculum Wed., Feb. 7, 10:30–Noon in the Aud. Video/Cry Room Prayer Updates are available at the Info Desk. Please pick one up after the service.

THE KAWAMOTO TRIPLETS ARE WALKING!

Share HIS Care has served the Kawamoto boys the first year of their life. Diana would appreciate help with Kai, Noa and Luka's bathtime and lunchtime. Help is needed from 10am–noon, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 818-2515.

THROUGH CANCER WITH CARE

Connect with others who understand, personal interaction & resources, encouragement & prayer. New times & place – first & third Thursday, begins with refreshments at 6:45, at TLC Gym, Rm. 104. Call Jan, 462-2271 or Gerry, 476-8735, or go to www.tlc.org/care

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups – call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center.



“Come Home for Christmas”

Message by René Schlaepfer
December 23 & 24, 2006

The angel's message in Luke 2:10-14 is an invitation home...

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” Luke 2:10

1. Come home to God's _____

“I bring you good news of great joy...” Luke 2:10

2. Come home to God's _____

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11

“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20,21

“God showed how much He loved us by sending His only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love... He sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.” 1 John 4:9-10

3. Come home to God's _____

“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.’” Luke 2:13,14

“Behold, a virgin shall bear a son and his name shall be called Emmanuel, which means, ‘God is with us.’”

“Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20

Come home to God!

“Right now God is ready to welcome you. Today He is ready to save you!” 2 Corinthians 6:2 (LB)

Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this week's topic

Monday

Merry Christmas! Read Luke 2:10-14. Take some time today to meditate on the Good News of Jesus' birth. What words or phrases stand out to you as you study this passage?

Write down three ways this Good News has changed your life.

1.

2.

3.

Thank God today for sending His Son. Thank Him for His love and mercy. Commit your day to Him and ask Him to remind you throughout the day of Christmas' real meaning.

Tuesday

Read Psalm 5:11, Nehemiah 8:10, Luke 2:10. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas day. What was the most joyful part of the day?

In what area of your life are you struggling to maintain joy?

How can you use the verses you read today to shift your focus from your struggle to joy?

Thank God today that His Son's birth can bring you joy. Talk to Him about the areas in which you're struggling to be joyful. Ask God to help you focus on Him and trust that you can be joyful in Him even when life is hard.

Wednesday

Read Mathew 1:20-21, Luke 2:11 & 1 John 4:9-10. We all need to come home to God's forgiveness daily! Recall the first time you understood what God's forgiveness meant for your life. How did it impact you?

Wednesday (continued)

How do you feel about God's forgiveness today? How has your understanding and appreciation for His forgiveness changed?

In what way do you need to come home to God's forgiveness today?

Thank God today for His amazing grace shown through Jesus. Thank Him for the forgiveness of your sins. Talk to Him about your emotions surrounding His forgiveness. Confess your sins to God, lay them at His feet and ask for His forgiveness. Rejoice in the freedom His birth has brought you.

Thursday

Read Numbers 6:22-26, Matthew 1:23, 28:20 & Luke 2:13-14. Knowing that you can live in God's joy and forgiveness naturally leads to peace. How has Jesus' birth brought peace?

The blessing found in Numbers 6 is so beautiful. Spend some time today meditating on those verses. How have you seen God bless you? How have you seen him "turn His face towards you"?

As you face 2007, in what way are you struggling to be peaceful? How can you use the verses you read today as an encouragement?

Thank God today for His peace. Thank Him for the fact that He is with you as you enter a new year. Talk to Him about your fears. Pray that you'll be aware of His presence with you and that you will trust His love and feel His peace.

Friday

Read Deuteronomy 31:8. This is a great verse to meditate on as we enter a new year. Take some time today and pray over this verse. Ask God to build this kind of faithfulness in you in 2007.

Thank God today for new beginnings. Thank Him for always going before you and for saving you. Pray that your light will shine bright and point people toward Jesus.

Saturday

Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that people come with hearts open to worship and learn. Ask God to soften your heart and remind you that your real home is always with Him.



"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

1 John 4:9-10

