

# Sunrise Christian Church

January 2017 Family Newsletter

Dedicated to L3- Love, Learn and Lead

Thank you, God, for snow!



"Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;

Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow"- PS 51:7

*Search as a person might, only Jesus can take away our sins; only He can make us feel fresh and new again!*

*The Church- the people, not the building.*



*We, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another- Romans 12:5*

*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known- Ephesians 3:1*

*God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth- 1 Timothy 3:15*

*You yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst- 1 Corinthians 3:16*

*The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children- Romans 8:16*

## "The Story"- God's story

Many people know bits and pieces of the Bible, but cannot put whole "The Story" together correctly. In part, because "The Story" covers so many people, over such a large time period (it took nearly 1,400 years to write it!). Therefore, in February we will start a new sermon series covering "*The Story- God's story.*"

## Sanctity of Human Life Sunday



**Every child is precious to God!**

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed January 22 as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. His declaration came on the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roe vs Wade decision by the Supreme Court which legalized abortion.

Since that Supreme Court decision nearly 54 million abortions have taken place in America, which means nearly 54 million babies have been killed- one of country's great sins!

This year's Sanctity of Human Life Sunday will be celebrated on January 15<sup>th</sup>, therefore we will provide a special way for you to participate.

And Jesus said to them, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven"- Matthew 18:10.

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"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance in what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible...., And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him"- Hebrews 11:1-3, and 6.

## My ministry .....

A couple of years ago, I was at a pastor's social time where we were introducing ourselves. Near the end of those doing so, I thought I'd liven it up a little and told the group that I was a life insurance salesman. Most of them thought it was funny, though one vehemently objected to the thought that I was "selling" the gospel. Yet in thinking about it I'd still stand on what I said, since in a sale there is a transaction that takes place- each party gives something of value. In the case of the gospel, Jesus offers us eternal life (thus the part about "life insurance"), and asks in exchange that we willingly give him our lives.

Of all the things that I can talk about, talking about Jesus and what he has done for us and is willing to give us excites me. I've talked to those looking for handouts down at Walmart, those who stop by the church' office as they pass through, those broke down and looking for help, people drinking coffee in McDonalds, and those I meet in social settings, and yes, even at the Post Office.

I've talked to agnostics (those who aren't sure God exists), and atheists (those who don't believe God exists). I've talked to those seeking Jesus, and those who aren't. And in each case I've tried to tailor my approach to what they already know and understand, using it as my starting place.

I can think of no other career that is so interesting and fulfilling; God has indeed blessed me!

So how about you, do you know how to share your God-story and to tell others the value of personally knowing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? If not, let's have a short session where

we can learn how to do this. Ask, and let's see what we can put together. ☺

## Tired of bad news? Then read this:

A Washington school bus driver is being hailed as a hero after he went above and beyond and bought hats and gloves for kids who were in need.

CBS News reports that bus driver John Lunceford was driving his usual school bus route when he noticed that one little boy waiting for the bus was shivering and had no hat or gloves. The boy was in tears.

"I put my gloves on him and told him it'll be okay, it'll be okay," says Lunceford, according to a statement released by the [Kennewick School District](#).

"I'm a grandfather, you know," Lunceford added. "No one wants a kid to suffer like that." But after dropping the kids off at school, Lunceford said he couldn't get the image of the freezing young boy out of his head. So he went to the Dollar store and bought 10 pairs of gloves and ten winter hats.

He then went to the school and tracked down the little boy and gave him one of the hats and a pair of gloves.

"He told all the students in the school's library that if they were on his route and didn't have hats or gloves, he'd take care of them," the school district said.

The school district also shared the story of this act of kindness on their Facebook page, and parents of students and other Facebook users commended Lunceford for his thoughtfulness.

"Thank you for going the extra distance for these children," one Facebook user wrote.  
"You're an inspiration."

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, Jan. 1- **Rick Deighton/ Overseas**  
Outreach at SCC

Sunday, Jan. 1- **Crock Pot Sunday**

Sunday, Jan. 1- **Baskets of Love** food drive

Wed, Jan. 4- **Wednesday night Bible Fellowship**  
restarts after Christmas break.

Saturday, Jan. 7- **Faithful Men men's breakfast-**  
7:30am at Rusty's

Sunday, Jan. 8- **David Armstrong/ Love INC** at  
SCC

Jan. 13-16- Cove Christian Camp's **Winter camp**  
for teens.



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A woman relayed this story: My husband and I purchased an old home in Northern New York State from two elderly sisters. Winter was fast approaching and the year's first snow came early and I was concerned about the house's lack of insulation. Yet my husband insisted, "Well, if they could live here all those years, so can we!"

One January night the temperature plunged well below zero, and we woke up to find the interior walls covered with frost.

My husband quickly called the sisters to ask what they had done to keep the house warm. After a brief conversation, he hung up. "They don't know," He muttered, "seems that for the past 30 years they've gone to Florida for the winter!"