

Franklinton UB

Family Facts

December 2017

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Advent: A Season of Waiting

I hate to wait; don't you? Normally, when we think of waiting, it brings with it great feelings of frustration. We wait in line at the supermarket, while 10 people in front of us in the express line go through with more items than allowed, and 8 of them are using checks to pay for their groceries. We wait on the phone, after working down through a menu, only to wait longer to speak with a human being, being told "Thank you for your patience; your call is very important to us." We wait in traffic, inching along on highway designed for us to travel at high rates of speed. We wait for our children to get home on stormy nights, while the sounds of sirens in the distance fuel our apprehension.

But this is not the kind of waiting we are thinking about with Advent. It means to wait or look for with eager anticipation. It is the waiting that takes place in a labor and delivery room, where a father is pacing back and forth, eagerly awaiting the birth of a child. It is the waiting that you experience when you have a special gift for someone you love, and you are so eager to see their delight when they open it. It is the waiting at the theme park in line for your favorite roller coaster, knowing that it won't be long until you are speeding along the track, with your adrenaline pumping. It is not a sense of frustration, but of eager anticipation that is the key to understanding the waiting of Advent.

The Jews of the first century had been waiting for centuries for the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises of a Messiah, one who would restore their nation, free them from foreign oppressors, and reclaim the throne of David. Many had given up hope, while others clung to their faith that God would keep his promises. Jesus declared that he was the fulfillment of all of those promises, but he did not meet all of the expectations of those ancient Jews. He came to bring us salvation, to rescue us from "the kingdom of darkness" and make us citizens of his own kingdom. And he promised he would come back again when he will reign over the entire universe.

So this Advent, as we look with eager expectation to our celebrations of Jesus' first arrival, let us not forget that a greater coming awaits us, when our Lord will come in power to reign forever!



ADVENT

Dec. 3 Waiting for Joy: Elizabeth

Dec. 10 Watching for Joy: Mary

Dec. 17 Children's Christmas Program and
Preparing for Joy: Zechariah

Dec. 24 AM Praising for Joy has Come: Simeon
6 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve
Proclaiming Joy to the World: Angels

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 6 PM Church Christmas Dinner
3 9:30 Advent I and Communion 10:45 Sunday School	4	5 1PM CIA	6 6 PM Missions 6:30 PM Prayer 7 PM Choir	7 9:00 AM JOY	8	9
10 9:30 Advent 2 10:45 Sunday School	11	12 1PM CIA	13 10 AM Women's Study 6:30 PM Prayer 7 PM Choir	14 7 PM LIFT	15	16
17 9:30 Advent 3 & Children's Program	18	19 1PM YAH Party 7 PM Board	20 6:30 PM Prayer 7 PM Choir	21	22	23
24 9:30 Advent 4 & Combined 6 PM Christmas Service	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 Worship No Sunday School No Last Sunday Luncheon	Notes:					

December Birthdays:

4 Carla Repman
Viola Askins
10 Alexandra Perry
11 Caitlyn Snyder
15 Marion Rosenberger
Linda Stough

18 Paula Milliken
20 Aliyah Masser
21 Harrold Smith, Jr.
23 Erin Hermany
27 Richard Todd
31 Charles Milliken



December Anniversaries:

7 Jeff & Melinda Propps
17 Lonney & Carla Repman
18 Paul & Karen Dunbar
21 Richard & Vicki Todd
24 Gene & Nancy Fisler

Please notify the church office (717-432-5461) of any corrections or additions. Thank you!

“Let your light so shine before people, that they might see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16)