

Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119

480-982-9120

December 2021

Another Thanksgiving has been consigned to our memories. I hope yours was memorable for all the right reasons. I remember a Thanksgiving where the newly married chef forgot to remove the package of giblets and cooked them in the turkey while the giblets were still in their package. Since the statute of limitations has not run out, I will refrain from providing anymore identifying information.

I have a theory about the Thanksgiving meal. This theory was developed when I was living in Detroit, Michigan. The winters there were cold and long. Survival depended on a person's ability to keep warm. My theory is that like bears, we need to pack on additional weight to protect against the cold. Voila! Mashed potatoes, high calorie pies, etc., are a survivalist's way to pack on five or more protective pounds! I don't know about you, but I am ready for a severe and protracted cold spell. I will diet when it warms up!

Fresh on the heels of Thanksgiving is another important season on the Christian calendar—Advent.

Advent, this year, begins on Sunday, Nov. 28th and ends on Friday, Dec. 24th.

The word "Advent" derives from the Latin "adventus", meaning "coming." During its earliest observances, Advent was 40 days of repentance, fasting, and prayer as new believers prepared for their baptisms. Oftentimes, these baptisms took place on the day of Epiphany--which is a day remembering the Magi's visit to baby Jesus; it was a celebration of Jesus' incarnation on Earth.

Later Christians began tying Advent not just to Christ's incarnation, but to an anticipated second coming of Christ. Advent became a period for renewing the anticipation and longing for Jesus' return. Today, Advent is a period of preparation for both "advents"--or arrivals--of Jesus.

Traditionally, Advent marks the beginning of the church calendar.

The "elephant in the room" is the question: Do Southern Baptists have a church calendar? The answer is "yes." Our calendar is based on Southern Baptist priorities and it is reflective of seasonal/traditional observances. Here is a sampling of the SBC Calendar:

January's focus is Sanctity of Life; February's focus is Christian Unity; March's is North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering; October's focus is the Cooperative Program and December's focus is on the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

To see the complete calendar, see (www.sbs.net/calendar).

During the month of December, I will be preaching about matters related to the incarnation of our Lord and why Christmas is much more than a record of a child's birth in Bethlehem.

P.S. Did I mention the Lottie Moon Offering in December?

God loves you! And so do I! Pastor Rick

18 AMAZING QUOTES ABOUT THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Update on December 1, 2019 by [Pastor Jack Wellman](https://www.christianquotes.info/top-quotes/18-amazing-quotes), / <https://www.christianquotes.info/top-quotes/18-amazing-quotes>

What is Christmas really about? Most Christians would agree that it's about Jesus, not just giving gifts and going to parties. But why are we celebrating Jesus? Because God gave the most perfect gift ever – His Son, who would give us the opportunity to be joined with God. Peace and goodwill are important, but Christmas is more than that – it's about salvation and eternal life.

18 My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.- Luke 1:46-49

17 He who loves with purity considers not the gift of the lover, but the love of the giver.- Thomas a Kempis

16 Our God is the God of the unexpected. A few things could be more unexpected than the King of heaven being born in a stable. - Bill Crowder 14

15 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.- Isaiah 7:14

14 There were only a few shepherds at the first Bethlehem. The ox and the donkey understood more of the first Christmas than the high priests in Jerusalem. And it is the same today.- Thomas Merton

13 Take Christ out of Christmas, and December becomes the bleakest and most colorless month of the year.- A. F. Wells

12 Rejoice, that the immortal God is born, so that mortal man may live in eternity.
- Assorted Authors

11 Saving us is the greatest and most concrete demonstration of God's love, the definitive display of His grace throughout time and eternity.- David Jeremiah

10 You can always give without loving, but you can never love without giving.- Amy Carmichael

9 All the Christmas presents in the world are worth nothing without the presence of Christ.- David Jeremiah

8 The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son.- Robert Flatt

7 If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: "God with us." We tend to focus our attention at Christmas on the infancy of Christ. The greater truth of the holiday is His deity. More astonishing than a baby in the manger is the truth that this promised baby is the omnipotent Creator of the heavens and the earth!- John MacArthur

6 Jesus was God spelling himself out in language humanity could understand.- S.D. Gordon

5 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

4 God never made a promise that was too good to be true.- Dwight L. Moody

3 The more you give, the more comes back to you, because God is the greatest giver in the universe, and He won't let you outgive Him. Go ahead and try. See what happens.- Randy Alcorn

2 Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life.- Corrie Ten Boom

1 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.- John 3:16

We honor & celebrate all our members and friends who will celebrate **DECEMBER** birthdays and anniversaries.
(Lists are now on the information table)



MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL
JOY & PEACE
AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY
OVERFLOW WITH HOPE
BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
Romans 15:13

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Martha continues her card ministry for the church for birthdays, anniversaries, get well, bereavement, encouragement, etc. Each card is sent on behalf of the church (each of you). Through her ministry, friends and family are extended the love of Jesus through the mail. Thank you!

***December Birthstone: Blue Topaz, Turquoise, Onyx, Ruby**

***December Flowers: Daffodil, Narcissus, Holly**

**The birthstones tradition can be traced back to the first century. The stones were used in the breastplate of Jewish High Priests, symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel.*

If we missed your special day, please contact our church secretary, Beth, in the office at 480-982-9120 or email her at crossrdsbc@yahoo.com.

APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Sunday, November 14 was our appreciation day for the special projects committee and the contractors who worked so hard to update our sanctuary and make it a beautiful place to worship Almighty God. The contractors were overwhelmed, as they never get this level of treatment. Take time to thank the committee (seen in the photos on the next page) for all their time and efforts!

We are a Great Commission church and the welcome and appreciation the contractors received was a testimony to your love for Jesus. We extended Jesus' love and made an impact they probably won't forget.

There is a list in the back of the church of the companies involved in the renovation. Please take more than

one. Keep one and share one with a neighbor or friend.

Invite them to church to see the quality of work.

**Go and
make
disciples!**



Projects Committee & Contractors on Appreciation Sunday



**Special Projects (Volunteer)
Committee (left to right)
Joanna Burgan, Don Williams,
Terry Courtney, Hector Palma**



**Richard &
Sarah
Elizondo
Painting
& various
other jobs**



**Tim
from
A/V
Experts**



**Faith from
M& M Lighting**

(Photos by Mary Courtney)



I would like to remind everyone that we have several good movies in our library for your pleasure. I have made a list of 12 titles, picked at random. Please take time to browse, I'm sure you'll find something to enjoy.

- Letters to God The Case for Christ
- Secrets of Jonathan Sperry The Wager
- To Joey in Love Heaven is Waiting
- Amazing Grace October Baby
- I Can Only Imagine Hometown Legend
- Faith Like Potatoes The War Room

Have a Merry and Blessed Christmas!

~~~~~  
~Carol Korte and the Library Committee

THE MOST DEVASTATING  
FORCE IN THE WORLD  
IS **GOSSIP**.

"Don't shine so that others can see you. Shine so that **through** you, others can see HIM.  
—C.S. Lewis

Before you speak...**THINK!**  
T – is it *true*?  
H – is it *helpful*?  
I – is it *inspiring*?  
N – is it *necessary*?  
K – is it *kind*?

A person, who is nice to you, but mean to the stranger, is not a nice person.

Put God In the driver's Seat of your life Because anything under His control Will never be out of control. Amen!



**November**

**Average Sunday Worship Attendance: 62**

**Average Sunday School Attendance: 34**

**Average Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study Attendance: 13**



If you or someone you know needs prayer immediately, contact our Prayer Chain Chairperson, Martha Finton



If you know of a church member who is a shut-in or in the hospital, and would like a visit and the Lord's Supper taken to them, contact Pastor Rick or one of the deacons.



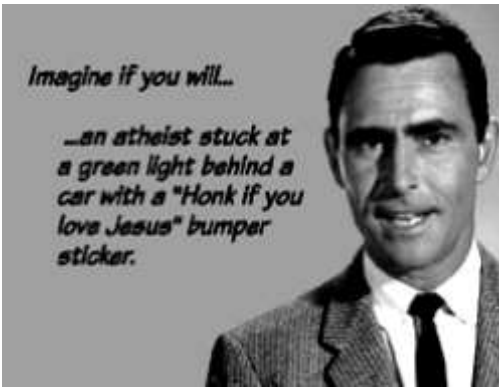
- Sunday Fellowship - coffee & donuts 9:00 a.m.
- Bible Study at 9:30 a.m.
- Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.
- Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 5:30 p.m. Join us for a great study and discussion; bring a friend.
- The Ladies' Breakfast is the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.
- The Men's IMPACT meets one Saturday each month for breakfast at the church.
- Volunteering your Time: The church needs your gifts and talents. Volunteer to serve on a committee and bless others through your service.



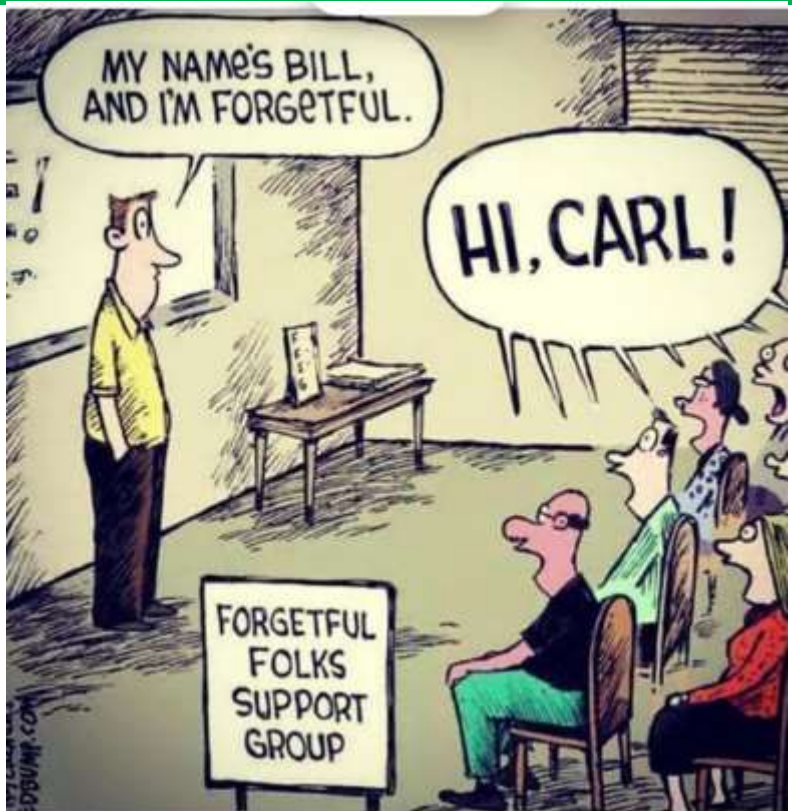
# Random Acts of CHRISTMAS KINDNESS

|                                                                |                                                                                   |                                                                                      |                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Donate toys and books to a local charity.                      | Make compliment cards and hand them out to strangers.                             | Hold the door for a stranger.                                                        | Make cards for troops serving over seas.     |
| Help a friend with their school work.                          |  | Donate supplies to your local animal shelter.                                        | Help your neighbor carry in their groceries. |
| Send encouraging emails or text messages to family and friends | Compliment a stranger.                                                            | Walk a neighbor's dog.                                                               | Give away clothing you don't need.           |
| Sit by someone new at lunch.                                   | Donate food to your local food pantry.                                            | Help someone who has dropped something.                                              | Make a bookmark for a friend.                |
| Donate needed items to a local shelter.                        | Make cards for your teachers.                                                     |  | Make a homemade gift for a friend.           |
| Bring in a neighbor's trash bins.                              | Make a thank you card for your mail carrier.                                      | Return someone's cart at the store.                                                  | Collect spare change and donate to charity.  |





If all is not lost, where is it?



# parting shots

how many dogs does it take to change a lightbulb?

- ◆ **Golden Retriever:** The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?
- ◆ **Border Collie:** Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.
- ◆ **Dachshund:** You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!
- ◆ **Rottweiler:** Make me.
- ◆ **Boxer:** Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.
- ◆ **Lab:** Oh, me, me!!!! Pleeeeeze let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeze, please, please, please!
- ◆ **German Shepherd:** I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried

to take advantage of the situation.

- ◆ **Jack Russell Terrier:** I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.
- ◆ **Old English Sheep Dog:** Light bulb? I'm

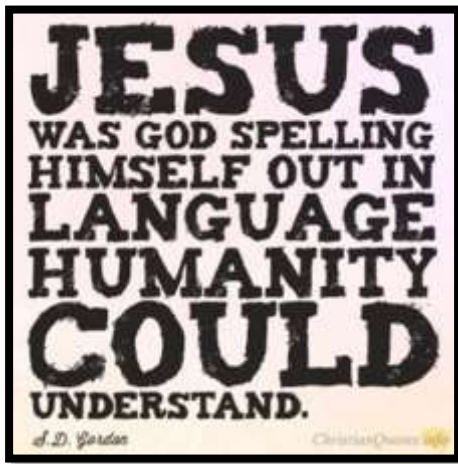
sorry, but I don't see a light bulb.

- ◆ **Cocker Spaniel:** Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.
- ◆ **Pointer:** I see it, there it is, there it is, right there...
- ◆ **Greyhound:** It isn't moving. Who cares?
- ◆ **Australian Shepherd:** First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...
- ◆ **Poodle:** I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.
- ◆ **The Cat's Answer:** Dogs do not change light bulbs. People change light bulbs. So, the real question is: How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner, and a massage?

28 July 9, 2011

Is there another word for synonym?

The first rule of holes:  
If you are in one:  
**STOP DIGGING**



## THIS DAY IN HISTORY:

Dec 1, 1878: A telephone was installed in the White House for the first time.

Dec 1, 1887: Sherlock Holmes appeared for the first time in print in "A Study in Scarlet."

Dec 1, 1896: High school teacher James Naismith nailed up peach baskets in the school gym, gave the students soccer balls, thus creating basketball.

Dec 1, 1955: Rosa Parks is arrested for not giving up her seat in the front of the bus.

Dec 2, 1891: The toilet paper roll was patented. (#465,588)

Dec 2, 1927: The first Ford Model A sold for \$382..

Dec 7, 1941: Pearl Harbor was bombed marking the U.S. entry into WWII..

Dec 10, 1964: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize.

Dec 11, 1913: The Mona Lisa is recovered two years after being stolen from the Louvre.

Dec 13, 1636: The National Guard is founded in defense of the Mass. Bay Colony from the Pequot Indians.

Dec 15, 1791: The Bill of Rights were enacted.

Dec 16, 1773: Boston residents protesting British taxation threw tea overboard on a British ship. The Boston Tea Party was the beginning of the American fight for independence.

Dec 17, 1903: The Wright brothers made their first flight at Kitty Hawk, NC.

Dec 19, 1686: Robinson Caruso leaves his island after being marooned for 28 years.

Dec 21, 1620: The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock.

Dec 24, 1818: Franz Gruber composed "Silent Night."

Dec 18, 1928: Disney's *Steamship Willie* premieres—Mickey Mouse in "born."

Dec 25, 0: Jesus Christ in born in Bethlehem.

Dec 26, 1865: James Mason invents the coffee percolator.

Dec 28, 1869: William F. Semple patented chewing gum.



# December 2021

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Mon                                                                                                                    | Tue                                                                                                                                                                         | Wed                                                                                                                                                           | Thu                                                | Fri                                                                                                                                                                             | Sat                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| When does Hannukah end??                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bingo Month</li> <li>Write a Friend Month</li> </ul>                            |                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>1</b><br>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study<br><br>Eat a Red Apple Day                                                                                   | <b>2</b><br>Natl Fritters Day                      | <b>3</b><br>Natl Roof Over Your Head Day                                                                                                                                        | <b>4</b><br>Santa's List Day<br>Wear Brown Shoes Day                                                                                                |
| <b>5</b><br>9 am-Fellowship<br>9:30 am-Bible Study<br>10:45 am-Worship<br>The Lord's Supper<br><br>Advent ends??                                                                                           | <b>6</b><br>St. Nicholas Day                                                                                           | <b>7</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pearl Harbor Day</li> <li>Intl Civil Aviation Day</li> <li>Letter Writing Day</li> </ul>                                 | <b>8</b><br>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study<br><br>Natl Brownie Day                                                                                      | <b>9</b><br>Christmas Card Day<br>Nat'l Pastry Day | <b>10</b><br>Nobel Prize Day<br>Human Rights Day                                                                                                                                | <b>11</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>12</b><br>9 am-Fellowship<br>9:30 am-Bible Study<br>10:45 am-Worship<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intl Children's Day</li> <li>Natl Ding-a-Ling Day</li> <li>Poinsettia Day</li> </ul> | <b>13</b><br>Ice Cream Day<br>Violin Day                                                                               | <b>14</b><br>Roast Chestnuts Day                                                                                                                                            | <b>15</b><br>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill of Rights Day</li> <li>Natl Lemon Cupcake Day</li> </ul> | <b>16</b><br>Natl Chocolate Covered Anything Day   | <b>17</b><br>Natl Maple Syrup Day                                                                                                                                               | <b>18</b><br>Bake Cookies Day                                                                                                                       |
| <b>19</b><br>9 am-Fellowship<br>9:30 am-Bible Study<br>10:45 am-Worship<br><br>Oatmeal Muffin Day                                                                                                          | <b>20</b><br>Go Caroling Day                                                                                           | <b>21</b><br>8:30 am-Ladies' Breakfast<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crossword Puzzle Day</li> <li>Winter Solstice -First Day of</li> <li>Winter</li> </ul> | <b>22</b><br>NO PRAYER MEETING OR BIBLE STUDY<br><br>Natl Date Nut Bread Day                                                                                  | <b>23</b>                                          | <b>24</b><br>Christmas Eve<br>*Holiday-Office Closed<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natl Chocolate Day</li> <li>Natl Egg Nog Day</li> </ul>                      | <b>25</b><br>Christmas Day<br><br><br><br>Natl Pumpkin Pie Day |
| <b>26</b><br>9 am-Fellowship<br>9:30 am-Bible Study<br>10:45 am-Worship<br><br>Natl Candy Cane Day                                                                                                         | <b>27</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make Cut-Out Snowflakes Day</li> <li>Natl Fruitcake Day</li> </ul> | <b>28</b><br>Card Playing Day                                                                                                                                               | <b>29</b>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>30</b><br>Bacon Day                             | <b>31</b><br>New Year's Eve<br>*Holiday-Office Closed<br><br>Make Up Your Mind Day<br><br> |                                                                                                                                                     |



“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 1:21



# † Crossroads † Baptist Church Great Commission Church

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Church Office: 480-982-9120

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Email: [crossrdsbc@yahoo.com](mailto:crossrdsbc@yahoo.com)

Website: <https://www.crossroadsbaptistaz.com/>

**Pastor: Rick Basch**

## **Deacons**

David Douglas  
Mike Tacker

Hector Palma  
Robert Wisner



**MATTHEW 28:18-20**  
WIN SOULS. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Valley Rim Southern Baptist Association

<https://www.valleyrimbsba.org/>

AZ Southern Baptist Convention

<https://azsbc.org/>

Southern Baptist Convention

<http://www.sbc.net/>

