

DECEMBER 21
2009

A COMMUNITY... CREATED... CALLED... LED... RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Immanuel

God with us.

Not far away, right here beside us.

We sometimes think of God as far away, remote, up there. Not so. In Jesus, God came very near. The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. [John 1:14.] God's Son walked with us, fished with us, ate with us, celebrated with us, mourned with us, told us how to live better. God's Spirit lives in us, whispers to us, intercedes for us.

Immanuel.

God with us.

Not against us, on our side.

We sometimes think of God as looking for ways to find us in the wrong, to judge us, to condemn us. Not so. He is the Shepherd who searches in the dark for us. God is the Father who waits on the porch for us to come home.

What, then, shall we say? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. [Romans 8:31-34.]

Immanuel.

God with us.

It's the Gospel in a Word.

-David Pipes, SWC Elder



INVITATION

MEN'S PRAYER LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 3, 2010

12:00 Noon – Fellowship Hall

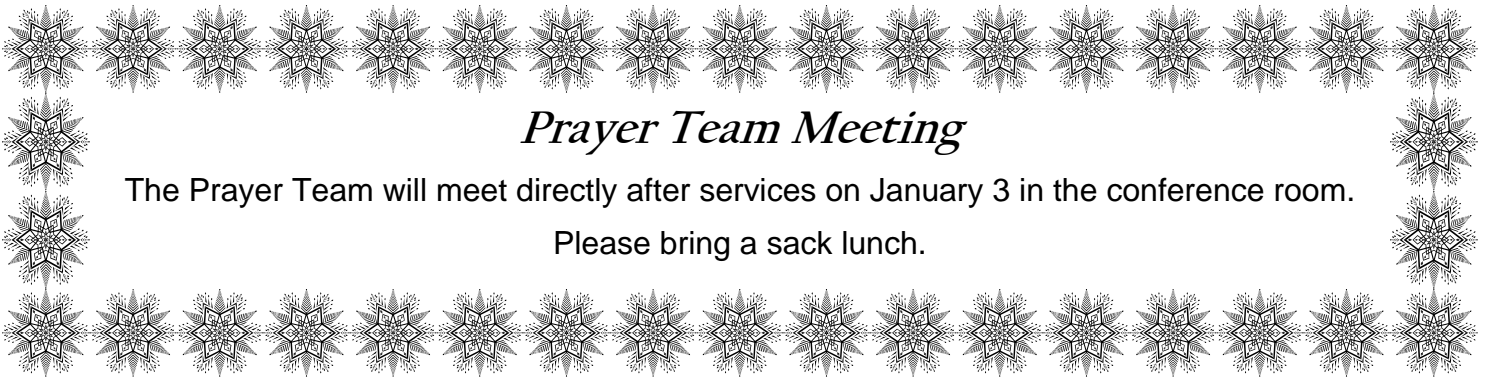
Dear Brother:

Welcome the new year, join us for lunch and prayer! For the last several months we have been spending a few minutes before prayer in the paraclete passages found in John's final discourse. The purpose of the study has been to bring all into a greater understanding of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Truth, now the Advocate and the Holy Spirit). In doing so, it has been and remains my hope we all will be enriched and experience a stronger, more robust prayer and kingdom life. Please come join us.

The fourth Paraclete passage promises a Spirit that will "convict" the world in regard to sin, righteousness and condemnation. Jesus also tells his disciples it is better for them if he goes. How can this be? In what context does Jesus mention "righteousness"? Are Jesus' promises about the Paraclete meant for us? Please read and consider the passage in preparation of our devotion and prayer time.

"But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. And when he (the Paraclete) comes he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation: sin because they do not believe in me; righteousness because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; condemnation, because the ruler of this world has been condemned." (John 16: 7 – 11)

In Jesus Christ,
Dick Darroh



Prayer Team Meeting

The Prayer Team will meet directly after services on January 3 in the conference room.

Please bring a sack lunch.

Pews are Available

As progress is made toward refurbishing the Foyer and Auditorium, we need to dispose of our old pews

We have advertised them to area churches but please let us know if you are aware of a church in need. Contact Steve Sandifer

As God has loved us, we will meet people on common ground and journey together to the higher ground of life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Come celebrate
Joyce Van Houten's
 90th Birthday
With Carole and Albert Green
 On
 Saturday, January 2, 2010
 From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 At Southwest Central Church of Christ
 Please respond by December 23
 To Joyce at 713.723.0223
 Or Carole at albertcarole@peoplepc.com
 No gifts, please

Mark Your Calendar...

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
No Café Grace

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
Office Closed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
Table Fellowship

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
No Café Grace

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1
Office Closed

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
Elder's Meeting
Men's Prayer Lunch
Prayer Team Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10
Admin Team
CARE Groups

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14
Ladies Bible Class resumes

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15
Bridge Night

Medicare Part D Prescription Open Enrollment Ends December 31

There are changes this year and many plans will have higher costs. Everyone should review their options before rolling over their current plan. Make time to do this with your family members during holiday visits. **K Pipes will be available Tues., Wed., Thurs., December 29-31**, to help those who wish. Call the church office to get on the list. If you will be out-of-town between Christmas and New Years and still need help, call K at home to arrange a time to do it this week.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

December 23 1 Peter 5; 2 Peter
 December 24 1 John 1-5
 December 25 2 Jn., 3 Jn., Jude
 December 26 Revelation 1-3
 December 27 Revelation 4-8
 December 28 Revelation 9-12
 December 29 Revelation 13-16
 December 30 Revelation 17-19

Please Note

The SWC office will be closed **December 24th** and **December 25th**.

There will be no Café Grace or Children's Classes on **December 23** or **December 30**.



Family Matters

Jenny Fagg will be in San Antonio Tuesday and Wednesday to help her friend, Ron Williams with his surgery... **Dick and Bonnie Darroh's** neighbor Dianne had brain surgery. Please pray for her recovery... **Frances Bivins** celebrated her birthday and enjoyed having her family in attendance on Sunday... **Wini Robertson** also celebrated a birthday-her 92nd!..

Continue to Remember:

Mary Drehsel... Donald Elliott.. Michael Greenwood... Ginger Hanning... Lee Hayden... Jerry Leifeste... SWC friends & family in the US military... SWC families who are grieving.

Remember in Prayer...

Dot Beckett, in the Atrium for long term acute care... **Stephen Carnes**, begins chemotherapy... **Gregg Cross**, son of Neil Cross, has been diagnosed with cancer... **Evelyn Guinn**, is continuing chemotherapy... **Wendy Rassbach**, beginning radiation therapy... **Ron Williams**, friend of **Jenny Fagg**, for upcoming back surgery...



Just for the Record December 20, 2009

Class	74
AM Assembly	125
Budget Gifts	\$6,691.82
Designated Gifts	\$1,390.00
Year-to-Date	
Planned Giving	\$104,400.00
Actual Giving	\$91,285.68
Giving Under Budget	<\$13,114.32>
Other Gifts	\$16,853.00
Special Contribution	0

Elders

Dick Darroh	David Pipes
Michael Tucker	Larry Watson

Staff

Mike McAlister	<i>Interim Pulpit Minister</i>
Steve Sargent	<i>Youth & Family Minister</i>
Steve Sandifer	<i>Pastoral Minister</i>
Robyn Albright	<i>Secretary</i>
Antonio Zapata	<i>Maintenance</i>
David Louis	<i>Keymaster</i>

Assembly Times

Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
Worship Assembly	10:15 a.m.
Evening Assembly	6:00 p.m.

❄️ ❄️ ❄️
NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
❄️ ❄️ ❄️

SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

4011 W. Bellfort
Houston, Texas 77025
(713) 667-9417, fax (713) 667-9135
Return Service Requested