

Abiding Peace NEWS & NOTES



December 20, 2015

Christmas Worship at Abiding Peace

Tuesday, December 24th @ 6:30 p.m.

Children's Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 25th @ 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Day Festival Service

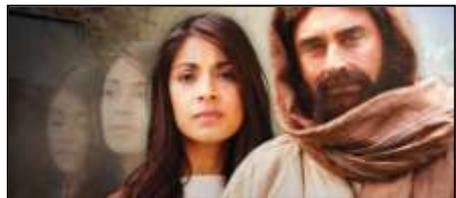
Sunday, December 27th @ 10:00 a.m.

NOTE: One Service Only

Merry Christmas!

My Son, My Savior

In your mailbox, you will find a copy of the new DVD *My Son, My Savior*. We have more copies if you are interested in giving any of them to those who may



benefit from this gospel message this holiday season. We also have some copies of the companion films in this series, *Road to Emmaus* and *Come Follow Me*.

Christmas Greeting

There's a story about Steve and Caroline who attended the Christmas party for Steve's company. It was difficult, though. Even though the party-goers were enjoying each other's company, Steve and Caroline were pretty much ignored. In the middle of the holiday cheer, they didn't really fit in. There's a reason for that. Steve recently joined the company and didn't know many people at work. He knew many of their names, but didn't really know the people very well. And when you're the quiet type anyway, it's hard to jump into Christmas party conversations. If only someone could bridge the gap and help Steve and Caroline get to know those people better!

Do you ever feel distant from your Creator--you know there's a God but you just don't feel close to him? It's a rotten feeling. But God bridged the gap to help us get to know him better. The Bible tells us, "*No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known*" (John 1:18). The "One and Only" is Jesus, who came to our world to help us know God better. The birth of Jesus is a big celebration because it is what God did for us to get closer to him. On the night of his birth an angel told shepherds, "*Today a Savior has been born to you*" (Luke 2:11).

You see, the selfish things we have done or said create distance between us and our Creator. God knew that and sent Jesus to bridge the gap. He came to us and took the punishment for our selfish words and actions so we could see and understand God's love. His birth was the start; his death was the clincher. Do you know the feeling Steve and Caroline had? You won't have that with God because of Christmas. Jesus came so we would know God better. Join us this Christmas to find out how Jesus made God's forgiveness known. That's how we get closer to God – through Jesus, whose birth we celebrate. Have a Merry Christmas and a God-blessed New Year!



Pastor Free

Welcome New Member!

Please help us welcome our new member by birth - Emily Elizabeth, daughter of Dan & Joy Symonds. Emily was born 12/16/15, weighing in at 7# 10z. Welcome to our AP family!

Welcome!

Craft Night



Beginning **Thursday, January 21st**, we will be implementing a craft night to begin at 6:30 p.m. All women that would like to attend our Craft Night are welcome! You can bring a sewing, knitting, or craft project, etc... to work on or just come to socialize. There will be refreshments available as well.

Thank You!

- To Nancy Baird, for helping in the church office.
- To Sandy Jones for hosting the Ladies' Christmas party this year.
- To Ruth Buck for providing lunch for the Pastors' Circuit meeting here at AP.
- To Dan & Joy Symonds for the complimentary 2016 calendars.
- To the Millers for hosting the Christmas caroling party.
- To all who decorated the church for Christmas.



Sunday School Christmas Practice

We have one more practice for the Children's Christmas Eve Service this year on **Tuesday, December 22nd** from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Please make every effort to have your child/ren here for this important rehearsal. Thank you.

Birthday and Anniversary Greetings



This holiday season, we extend birthday greetings to Barb Henkel (December 26), Freda McCormack (December 31), Adam Bernthal (December 31), Amy Whitney (December 31), David Henningsen (January 1), Chhorvy Smith (January 1), and Kevin Kacer (January 2).

God’s blessings are extended for the anniversary of Paul & Marie Bernthal (December 30) and Dan & Joy Symonds (January 3). Enjoy your special days!

Service to Our Lord

	<i>December 14– 20</i>	<i>December 21– 27</i>
<i>Pianists</i>	<i>Becky Miller</i>	<i>Dave Frick</i>
<i>Ushers 8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Jim Stumpner</i>	<i>Mike Waddell Brandon Brooks</i>
<i>Ushers 10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Trent Whitney Amy Whitney</i>	<i>Doug Salzwedel Howard Smith Sam Kalenowski</i>
<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Ostgaard Stoppa</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Give Thanks to the Lord!

Worship Attendance:

83