

# Spreading The Light December 2019

**First Southern Baptist Church**  
1524 N. State Route 89  
Chino Valley, Az 86323

**Mark A. Reeder, Pastor**  
**Jackie Boyd, Assist. Pastor**  
Church: 928-636-2014

**Know Jesus, Love our Neighbor's, Share Jesus**

6:00 pm

Christmas  
Eve  
Worship



## *Pastors' Paragraphs*

**Psalm 100 should be read every day. It is one of those places in scripture that describes a discipline that should be exercised before leaving the house each day or even more important before we encounter anyone in our household.**

**We would all agree that we ought to read the Bible and pray every day. We certainly should think about God and look for opportunities to love people in Jesus' name. I'm not sure however that we value equally the spiritual discipline of praise and worship. You may have never thought of praise (thanksgiving) as a "spiritual discipline." When times are tough (which feels like most of the time for most folks now days) we have to make a disciplined effort to count our blessings and consider all we have to be thankful for, certainly that God would single you out, sacrifice His Son in your place to pay for our sin, and reveal Himself to us and save us is reason for thanksgiving! That He would bless us and provide for us like He does makes worship and praise imperative for believers! Even if things are hard for us right now, the fact that God is with us and His Comforter (the Holy Spirit) is in us gives us peace that passes understanding and causes our hearts to sing, "It is well with my soul."**

**Psalm 100 breaks down as follows, and might be a great daily pattern to follow.**

- **Verse 1- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Some of you sing beautifully, for the rest of us that might be a, "Yee Haw!" "Be careful with that if others in your house are sleeping! Join all of creation praising the creator.**
- **Verse 2- Serve the Lord with gladness! "Set your daily mind set for "Gladness and grateful service to our King.**
- **Come into His presence with singing - you sing praise, He's present.**
- **Verse 3- Know that the Lord, He is God! Know that!! You're not, the governments not... know Him, study Him! Seek Him!**
- **It is He who made us and we are His! Celebrate how He is making you, belong to Him....**
- **We are His people and the sheep of His pasture, thank Him for the folks He has put you with, look for what He sees in them.**
- **Verse 4- Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise, This is a picture of worship. A good way to worship personally and corporately. (With others)**
- **Give thanks to Him; bless His Name!**
- **Verse 5- For the Lord is good. Romans 8:31-34**
- **His steadfast love endures forever Romans 8:35-39**
- **And His faithfulness to all generations, think about these.**

**WHAT A GREAT WAY TO START PRAYER! EVERYDAY!**

*Pastor Mark*

## *Assistant Pastor's Paragraphs*

**It is finally December and you have made it through another year. It is hard to believe that it is almost 2020. Now that you have endured through all of 2019 you have less than 30 days to get ready to do it all over again. There is no off season to life. There is no 3-month break until life begins again. You are in the race of life everyday until your life is over. My son and I recently ran a 5k race for fun. I am sure that some of you would not think that there would be anything fun about running 3.1 miles. For us it was a huge accomplishment. For him it was his first time to run in such a race and learn how to push himself. For me it was a major accomplishment in life having been through cancer twice and proving to myself that I could do it. The thing is we did not just show up and run the race one day with out any preparation. We began back in August training our bodies 5 days a week for this race. Mon, Wed and Friday we worked out to strengthen our core and upper body strength. Tuesdays and Saturday's, we ran to strengthen our cardiovascular system and the muscles in our legs. We trained for 4 months for what would become one race where we gave everything, we had for 40 minutes.**

**Unlike real life you don't have 4 months to train to get ready for the next 40 minutes. So, how do you prepare for it, how do you even prepare for a new year that is coming up very soon? Here are a few ways I would suggest to you to best train for whatever will be coming your way in 2020.**

**First of all, you will need time. You need to plan and set aside time to spend with God. The only time my son and I had to work out and exercise was at 6am. You may need to sacrifice 30 minutes of sleep in the morning if you really desire to spend time with God. If you really desire to be prepared and made stronger spiritually, this time you give up will return great dividends.**

**Secondly you will need a plan. You need a Bible reading plan or a devotion to work through. If you don't already have one, I would suggest "My Utmost for His Highest" by Oswald Chambers. Take a book like this to help you know where to get started in reading scripture and what to make of what you read.**

**Lastly you will need motivation. Motivation could come in a variety of forms. For my son and I we were motivated by each other and also, we had a goal in running the race. Find someone that you can meet with and discuss and hold each other accountable over your studies. Set a reasonable goal of what you would like to accomplish spiritually. Such as developing a stronger prayer life or a more disciplined Bible study reading program. I was always taught in the Army that doing exercise early in the morning will make you feel better all day. I can attest to you that statement is absolutely true. I can also attest to you that if you will invest the time to spend with God each day you will be ready for whatever life throws at you and you will handle 2020 far greater in God's strength than your own**

**In Christ,**

**Pastor Jackie**

## **WMU By Evelyn Ross**

**Excitement is in the air! Christmas is just around the corner. Colorful lights, manger scenes, Christmas trees, and caroler's strolling are just a few of the things we see at this time of year. This month we, as a church, are focusing on the birth of Jesus and the sacrifice he made for us many years ago, so that we can choose to be with him for eternity. This time of year also brings to mind the many International Missionaries and their families that are serving by spreading the gospel in many countries around the world. In December and January, our church, along with other Southern Baptist Churches, collect a special offering and remember a special missionary who gave almost 40 years of her life spreading the gospel to the people in China. Because of her sacrifice, the Southern Baptist Christmas offering was named after her. This offering is the "Lottie Moon Christmas Offering." This offering provides many needed supplies for our International Missionaries that serve. 100 percent of this offering goes directly to them. Please pray daily for these missionaries, their families, and the people in the countries where they serve. The church goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering this year is \$1,000. The church has special envelopes for this offering. They will be in your bulletin on Sunday, December 1. There is also a week set aside for praying for our missionaries. This year the week set aside is December 1-8.**

**This month WMU will be furnishing Christmas goodie trays for our homebound people in our church and community. Should you know anyone that is homebound please let any one of our WMU ladies know. We are also accepting donations for these trays. We welcome baked Christmas goodies from all you bakers. For those that don't use an oven, we are also accepting fruit, nuts and candies! We will be preparing and delivering the trays on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The WMU church packing party for Operation Christmas Child (OCC), provided many gospel opportunity "shoeboxes" for children around the world. Thank you to Diane Perrigo who headed up the party and the ladies that helped her. With a lot of help, 113 shoeboxes were packed! Thank you to all that came out to pack! A big thank you to Pat Casey that headed up our refreshments and to the ladies that provided the delicious food. Did you know for every shoebox that is packed, 10 people will hear the gospel message? What a big impact these shoeboxes are!**

**Please remember to pray for the children that will be receiving a gift-filled shoebox. Pray for the safety of these boxes as they travel to their destination. Pray that they will go through customs smoothly and there will not be any delays. Prayer is our most powerful tool and is responsible for each and every box getting to the child it was intended for. Samaritan's Purse is always looking for individuals that would like to be a Prayer Partner with them. Should you be led to partner with them in prayer, please let me know or you can sign up on their website; [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) .**

**The goal for shoeboxes this year from our church was 350 boxes. YOU packed, as a church 269 boxes! Thank you to all who donated gift-filled boxes. You are helping with children's lives to be changed for eternity! Because of you, 1290 lives will hear the gospel message, many for the first time! Each child that receives a box will receive a book that introduces them to Jesus. They also will have an opportunity to choose to go through the discipleship program The Greatest Journey.**

**We at WMU are praying that you have a wonderful "Christ filled Christmas."**

## Clothing Ministry

A note to the Clothing Ministry volunteers.....

Our team has worked tirelessly to prepare and host the Clothing Giveaways for 2019. Your efforts have made a huge difference in the lives of the recipients in our community. I want to thank each and every one of you for your time, effort and most of all teamwork. For those in the congregation who don't know who these team members are I would like to introduce them to you:

Nell Barnhill, Faye Bonds, Pat Casey, Jean Christenson, Diana Harris, Delores Jacobs, Stan Martin, Karol Michel, Leticia Ausbern, Cecelia Porter, Frank Rose, Carmel Stutler. Also, the behind the scenes helpers such as Jerry & Tina Hooper, Roger Burton, Barrett and the kids. If I missed acknowledging you just know you are very important to the ongoing success of this ministry.

As we come to the end of the year I would like to express my appreciation to all of you. Let's do it again next year!

Blessings,  
Trudy Decker



## December Birthday's

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dee Holmes
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jamie Thompson
- 6<sup>th</sup> Ruth Ann Clark  
Marae Hooper
- 8<sup>th</sup> Pam Bennett  
Joan Burton  
Angela O'Dell
- 14<sup>th</sup> Don Dombroski
- 18<sup>th</sup> Diane Perrigo
- 19<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Reeder