

Why Shepherds?

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:4-11

The most important event ever was about to take place in Bethlehem. God's Son was to be born – this was the King of the Jews and Lord of all mankind. Where are the paparazzi?

Stars are on the move, guiding men from the East, but what about the locals? Shouldn't they be alerted? Where is the welcoming committee? God has arranged for His son to make an appearance in the flesh. This son was conceived in the womb of a virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit. He will be the Christ, the Messiah, the King. Shouldn't we get the word out?

Not to worry...angels have been dispatched to do just that. They will make sure that everyone that counts knows about what is happening tonight. But the angels go to some shepherds out in the fields around Bethlehem. Shepherds!! What is that about?

A long time ago, the prophet Samuel Had journeyed to Bethlehem to anoint a king from the sons of Jesse to replace King Saul. Samuel was surprised to find that the seven grown sons were not what God was looking for. Jesse was surprised too, but finally he called his youngest son in from the fields where he was tending sheep. David, the shepherd boy, was anointed by Samuel that day. We read about that in 1 Samuel 16:1-14. The Bible does not tell us, but I am convicted that angels watched with joy.

Could they be the same angels who approached the city of David that night when Christ was born? They did not go looking for the strongest or richest. They just called some shepherds in from the field. AB



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

December 24, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-7:00pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.
ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: *The Seed of Woman; The Doom of Satan;
The Hope of the World.*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Scripture: Luke 2:25-40

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, January 9th, 10am. We will be studying Day 4 of the first chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Wednesday at 7pm here at the building.**

Next Potluck: January 15th. Theme: **NEW** try a new recipe for the new year!



- ✓ Darlene had to stop in the middle of her GI tests because of a mixup in insurance coverage. On her way home she had a flat tire and had to wait for that to be repaired...a very frustrating trip overall! Darlene and Doug will be leaving for FL this week, celebrating Darlene's birthday (31st) and ringing in the New Year.
- ✓ Lani is home in NM for the holidays.
- ✓ We are going ahead with the baptistery installation, putting in a tankless water heater and taking care of plumbing and heating jobs in the building. Both vans are in running order now, and magnetic signs have been purchased for both sides of one van with the church name and address on them.
- ✓ Several people were hoping to have the white elephant fun fellowship event, so we will talk about having it a week from today following worship. It will be New Years Eve afternoon. If we have enough interest, please bring a snack and a wrapped second-hand gift to exchange.

PRAYERS...

- Keep all of us safe over the holidays while we celebrate with our families and friends.
- Pray all goes well with **Doug Elsbree** and his brother **Mark**. Doug will be having tests to determine if his kidneys are healthy enough to donate on the 2nd of January.
- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer. Also pray for their grandmother, **Judy Brotzman**, as she cares for her husband.
- Pray for **Darlene** as she has tests here in Sayre to figure out what her problems are and how to treat them.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** who has a mass on her lung.
- **Kevan Barry** is safely home in Gig Harbor, WA, with his wife and two children now! We are very thankful to God.
- **Kelly** will be having surgery on January 8th to repair a hernia.
- Pray for **Joshua Dunn**, who is suffering from stage 4 lung cancer. Pray experimental treatment continues to help him.
- Pray for **Vicki Joice** as she continues Herceptin treatments for breast cancer. Also pray for relief from lymphedema.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** has metastatic breast cancer. She has asked for prayers as she comes to terms with the reality of her cancer and says she needs God to help her through it.
- Several of our members and friends have been sick over the past week. Ted is feeling a bit better, Jackson was improving and Doug Elsbree is still sick.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.