

Christmas Love

I thought that you might enjoy this account of a mother who attended her son's concert at school. AB

Because the public school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas," I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment - songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer. So, when my son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love," I was slightly taken aback by its bold title.

The performance was going smoothly, until suddenly, we noticed her; a small, quiet girl in the front row holding the letter "M" upside down - totally unaware her letter "M" appeared as a "W". The audience of 1st through 6th graders snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W". Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and we all saw it together. A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, we understood the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in the chaos, there was a purpose for our festivities. For when the last letter was held high, the message read loud and clear: CHRISTWAS LOVE" And, I believe, He still is.

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died.

2 Corinthians 15:4



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

December 20, 2015

WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



Today's Sermon: *Blessings Beyond Measure*

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

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org
aicoc.org

Scripture: John 1:1-14

Hymns: 997 O Come All Ye Faithful; **995** It Came upon a Midnight Clear;
374 There Is a Fountain; **176** Lamb of God; **581** I'd Rather Have Jesus

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class**, Tuesday, January 5th. Our new area of study will be the book of Esther. More information will be available soon.
- **Kittanning Christians** will be arriving here at the building on Monday, the 21st to bring gifts for area families that they have collected. We are planning food for the gift boxes as well. We **need holiday cookies** to put in the boxes and we are planning on handing them out on that day. If any of you would like to be here to **greet the people** from Kittanning, help **pack the boxes** and/or help **distribute** them, please come! We are expecting them to arrive in early afternoon, so if you want to help out, be here around 1pm.



- Remember the Sayre Senior Health Center **Adopt-a-Resident Program!**
- **POTLUCK DINNER TODAY! WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT**

EXCHANGE AFTERWARD.



- Please remember to **pick up an evaluation form** and fill it out so we can make plans for the New Year

PRAYERS...

- Kevan Barry left 8 days ago to fly overseas. He will be home Tuesday. Please pray for his safety as well as for his crew.
- Darlene Elsbree has several bulging discs in her lower back. She is following a course of spinal decompression treatments. She also recently had a spot removed from her toe and has learned that it is non-cancerous.
- Tom Patrick has been in pain, dealing with passing a kidney stone.
- Linda Hicks needs to have a procedure done on her spine that allows her to self medicate for pain.
- Please pray for Sandy and Arthur's daughter Molly's husband, José, who has stopped fellowshiping with the church.
- Felicity Hicks needs to have her gall bladder removed.
- Daulton, the grandson of Darlene's friend Pat, is losing his battle with drugs. He is 21 years old and believed to be in the Athens area.
- Ben Wright, elder at the Kittanning church, spent the weekend in the ER followed by having two stents placed near his heart. He is home now, feeling weak.

