



Journey to Bethlehem

Children's Musical— *The King and Me*
Sunday, December 10

The children of Bethlehem are 24 hours from opening the theme park Royal World which is timed to entertain the crush of people visiting the sleepy little town for the census. As they go about their preparations they are reminded a King has been promised to the People of Israel to fight their oppressors. Come join us December 10th at 4:30 to see our SCC children re-enact the children of Bethlehem's surprise when they find out the Messiah is actually a Baby!



Christmas Families Outreach

Our **Christmas Families Tree** went up in the Hall of Light on **Sunday, December 3**, with our 2017 Christmas families! We are helping 3 families with 14 children. **Gifts will be due back at the church Sunday morning, December 17.** Contact Randy Kuss if you would like to help with organizing packages for delivery to the families.



Chili Cook-Off - December 10

Our **2017 Chili Cook-off** is coming up on December 10, right after the children's musical program. If you plan to bring a pot of chili, sign up sheet can be found in the Hall of Light or contact Randy Kuss at rkuss@speedwaychristian.org Proceeds help support the youth ministries of Speedway Christian Church.



Getting Ready for Jesus
An All-Ages Advent Event

Plan to join us on **Sunday mornings 9:15—10:00 a.m.** on **December 10 & 17, in Fellowship Hall** for Getting Ready for Jesus, an All Ages Advent Event. We will explore Advent themes of Hope and Peace, Love and Joy, with crafts, stories and music for children, youth, parents, grandparents, and all who are interested.

Upcoming Events
At Speedway Christian Church

Saturday, December 9

Final rehearsal for kid's musical—Sanctuary 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Sunday, December 10—Christmas Program

- ◆ Getting Ready for Jesus: An All-Ages Advent Event @ 9:15 a.m.—Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Children's Musical @ 4:30 p.m.— Sanctuary *The King and Me*
- ◆ Youth Band Performance (following Children's Musical)
- ◆ Annual Chili Cook-off - Fellowship Hall (following Children's Musical)

Sunday, December 17—10:15 a.m. Worship

- ◆ Getting Ready for Jesus: An All-Ages Advent Event @ 9:15 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Chancel Choir will bring Christmas Message in song during Worship—all will be works by composer John Rutter.
- ◆ Christmas Families' gifts due at church.

Wednesday, December 20

- ◆ Opportunity Day Preschool Christmas Program 9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary



Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve

- ◆ One Morning Worship Service @ 9:15 a.m.
- ◆ No Sunday School Classes
- ◆ 4:30 p.m.—Service of Carols, Candles, and Story
- ◆ 9:00 p.m.—Traditional Candlelight Service
- ◆ 11:00 p.m.—Vesper Candlelight Service



Sunday, December 31—New Year's Eve

- ◆ One Worship Service @ 9:15 a.m.
- ◆ No Sunday School Classes

Monday, January 1, 2018—Church Office Closed

Please keep in Prayer

Ed Hawkins
Charlene Hoyt
Fredrick Kendrick
Denise Mitchell (Donna Pingleton's sister)



Our Sympathy is extended—

To the family of **Mary Sanders** who passed away on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. Services will be held at Flanner & Buchanan, Washington Park North, 2706 Kessler Blvd. West Drive, Indianapolis, on Saturday, December 16, visitation 10:00 a.m.– 12 noon, with the memorial service following.



To Nancy Greer & Kathy Genung and families, upon the death of their father, **George Harper**, who passed away on Saturday, December 2, 2017. Services will be held at Speedway Christian Church on Thursday, December 7, 2017. Visitation 10:00 —11:30 a.m., Masonic Service at 11:30 a.m., funeral service following at noon.



Central Christian Church sends a big **thank you** to all of us who contributed to their food pantry. They always appreciate our help. Christian Women's Fellowship thanks you also.

~ Teresa Gorrell

January 2018 Home-Bound Birthdays

January 9	Betty Dunaway
January 14	Lee Tomlinson
January 23	Ray Norris



Life is unpredictable.

There are countless things we can never know with certainty. What we can know, is that there is a God who knows all and loves us deeply.

And by knowing Him,
we can "be still" - we can be at peace.

copied from Our Daily Bread Devotional

Thinking Out Loud...

Advent officially began this past Sunday. By now you should know that the theme for the season is "Angels Among Us: Do Not Be Afraid." This idea came from an online resource known as Worship Design Studio. This past Thursday and Sunday we looked at the first of four of the "Angels Among Us: Do Not Be Afraid" emphases. We reflected on the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Zechariah (found in Luke 1). Zechariah's initial response was fear. Who wouldn't be afraid? It's not every day that an angel appears to us.

The next three Sundays we will hear about angels appearing to others—Mary (found in Luke 1), Joseph (found in Matthew 1), and the shepherds (found in Luke 2). Each time angels appeared, the response was fear on the part of those to whom the angels came.

We live in a time of great fear. I suppose there is a sense that this has been the case with each generation, but we certainly know that fear is prevalent in our day. As people of faith, it is important to be aware of what is happening in the world because God loves each person on the planet, yet the news does ramp up our fear. It seems that there is breaking news every day that adds fuel to the fire of our fear. Could it be that God's message to us is "Do not be afraid?"

Perhaps we fear for our children and grandchildren as they deal with the things that all children and youth face in our ever changing world. Could it be that God's message to us is "Do not be afraid?"

Maybe we fear for the future of our church as we hear about congregations that have declining numbers and income. We may wonder if we are next on the list. Could it be that God's message to us is "Do not be afraid?"

And each of us has circumstances that come our way that surface fear. Could it be that God's message to us is "Do not be afraid?"

How can we not fear? Maybe we will never completely get rid of the fear that is underneath our worry and anxiety, but surely we can turn down the volume on our fear.

When fear and its accompanying worry and anxiety are lessened, we aren't called merely to rest in the security of peace that hopefully comes our way. We are then called to address the issues that bring fear to us and the world. Stay tuned in the weeks ahead to see how this might become a reality.

Blessings on your Advent and Christmas journeys,
Scott

*So Do Not Fear for I am with you;
Do Not Be Dismayed,
for I am your God.*

Isaiah 41:10

2018 Stewardship Campaign Thanks for Giving

Thank you to those who have submitted your commitment for 2018. If you have not yet done so, please drop it in the offering plate, or bring it, or mail it to the church office.

Thank you for Giving. ~ Leslie Condre, Stewardship Chair



Bylaws Changes

A Bylaws Committee is proposing some changes to the Bylaws of the church. Highlights include: 1) reducing the size of the Official Board from 51 to 16 voting members, in essence, more like the size of the present Administrative Committee, thus doing away with the actual Administrative Committee, and 2) combining the functional departments of Membership and Evangelism.

Other changes include: 1) encouraging functional departments to create committees within the department to help accomplish their goals/duties and 2) reducing the size of the Nominating Committee.

These and other changes may be found in a notebook(s) in the Hall of Lights, for you to view. These changes are to be voted on at the Official Board meeting on December 12, 2017. Questions? Contact Ann Hammer, 317-727-9679.

Meijer Food Store Comes Through Again

Again this year, Meijer food store was very generous with a gift of a \$150 Meijer's gift card, for our Thanksgiving display. We were able to purchase food for both Wheeler Mission and St. John's food pantry. Some of the food was used in the Thanksgiving display. The following items were purchased with the \$150 Meijer gift card:

Potatoes	40 lbs.	Chili Beans	12ct.
Onions	6 lbs.	Pinto Beans	12ct.
Apples	18 lbs.	Mac & Cheese	30ct.
Bell Peppers	10 ct.	Canned Fruit	24ct.
Hamburger	12 lbs.		

The pumpkins that were in the display came from Susan Stiff's Pumpkin Patch in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They sure added a lot to the display. God Bless Meijer!

~ John & Linda Stiff

Great job by our **Youth Band** last Sunday! The band will play again during the Chili Cook-Off this Sunday, December 10. We had a fantastic evening of laughter and wonder, somber moments, deep listening, and good questions on our first **Faith Journeys Nite**. Big thanks to Chuck Bennett and Marge Graham for sharing stories of their journey with Chi Rho and to Susie Golden-Bishop and Bob Oeth who shared with CYF. Much thanks as well to the Chaplin, Whittaker, Harris, Hooper, Owens, and DeVault families for providing **Snack Suppers**. And it is time to sign up for our annual **Ski Trip**. Forms available on music stand by Randy's office.



Looking Ahead:

- **December 10:** Chili Cook-Off
- **December 17:** Christmas Party Nite
- **December 24:** Ski Trip Forms Due!!!
- **January 12-14:** Youth Ski Trip



Spirit Newsletter Schedule

Next publication date: **January 9, 2018**

**All articles are to be submitted by
Thursday, January 4.**

Informational updates and announcements will be sent out as needed between publications.

Stewardship/Finance

2017 Approved Budget: \$497,289

2017 Required to Date (12/3/2017).....	\$ 459,757.75	
(to meet approved budget)		
2017 Received to Date (12/3/2017)	\$ 426,403.82	
2017 Year to Date (Shortfall as of 12/3/2017) \$	33,353.93	
	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
November 12, 2017	\$ 5,881.50	221
November 19, 2017	\$ 12,217.50	163
November 26, 2017	\$ 7,592.50	192
December 03, 2017	\$ 9,705.50	250

Speedway Christian Church
5110 West 14th Street
Speedway, Indiana 46224

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at Indianapolis, IN

Food Pantry News

This food ministry is so blessed to have such great volunteers. Many church members serve this food ministry. November 11, 2017, was a record setting day as we had 46 volunteers serving 180 client families. Eight hundred eighteen individuals had a nice Thanksgiving dinner. Every client family who wanted a turkey received one.

25 individuals (another record!) pre-packed 140 food boxes Friday night in preparation for Saturday. A monster job was accomplished in a short time. It was appropriate that, on this Veterans Day 2017, we also served a record 26 veterans.

Brownsburg High School Interact group, sponsored by Brownsburg Rotary, provided 15 youth and adult leaders to our volunteer group. These young people are a joy to work with. They serve their community in many ways and their leaders have become good friends of this food ministry. Thank you to everyone who donated the needed food or provided the cash donations, that allowed us to fill in the gaps for this Thanksgiving day meal.

Thanks be to God, World Outreach

Thank you to Allison Elementary/Allison Leadership Council. On November 16, they sent 400 items to The Storehouse Food Pantry in an effort to reduce food inadequacy in their community.
~ World Outreach



Lunch and Learn

Please join Scott on Mondays at noon for Lunch and Learn. Each Monday, Scott leads a discussion of the scripture readings for the upcoming Thursday and Sunday worship services. The sessions are being held in the Bethany room. Bring a sack lunch and an open mind and heart as together we will seek to know what God has to say to us through scripture. If you have any questions about these study sessions, let Scott know.



Church - Emergency on Call Contact

Friday, December 8 - Sunday, December 10
Scott Cox 502-316-3085

Friday, December 15 — Sunday, December 17
Marge Graham 317-313-5337

Thursday, December 22 — Monday, December 25
Randy Kuss 317-201-7095

Friday, December 29 — Monday, January 1
Scott Cox 502-316-3085

Friday, January 5 — Sunday, January 7
Marge Graham 317-313-5337

Spirit @ SCC
(USPS 510-220)

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