

TODAY, December 6

- ▶ 8:30a—Deacon's Prayer
- ▶ 8:45a—Prayer Time
- ▶ 4:30p—S.N.A.C. Choir Practice
- ▶ 7:15p—CCY

Extra Activities This Week:

- ◆ Tues. Dec. 8—6:30p Missions Committee Meeting in the Library
- ◆ Thurs. Dec. 10 —East Wing / RESERVED 6:00p-9:00p/ Lisa Hess
- ◆ Sat. Dec. 12—9:00a—12:00 noon Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal / Lunch Provided
- ◆ —5:00p High School Christmas Progressive Dinner — meet at Duron's —Bring a \$10 gift for the gift exchange—Dress: Semi-formal and warm

(Regular Activities are printed on the back of the bulletin)

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ Dec. 13— 9:00a Christmas Brunch followed by the Children's Program —NO SS Classes
- ◆ —Deacon's Meeting 12:30p
- ◆ —Choir Practice 4:30p
- ◆ Dec. 14-29—Pastor Randy & Phyllis traveling to Brazil
- ◆ Dec. 17 — W.O.W. Ladies' Lunch 11:30a / RSVP: Johsta 208-391-8734 or sign up at the WM ministry table
- ◆ Dec. 19 —Choir Practice 9:00a
- ◆ —JR. High Christmas Party—11:30a meet at the church—Dress warm—Cost: \$10 for lunch—you can be picked up at 3:00p at the Perrine's house or 3:30p at the church
- ◆ Dec. 20—Special Christmas Choir Performance 9:30a / Message / NO SS Classes
- ◆ Dec. 24— Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00p led by BJ Bourn
- ◆ Dec. 27 — TLC Balance Due
- ◆ Dec. 28-31 — TLC (Teen Leadership Conference)—9:00a Departure from the church

AWANA is collecting new pillows for the Boise Rescue Mission for their Christmas Project again this year. Please bring your pillows to the church no later than Dec. 16th. Thank You.

Ministry Assignments:

December 6:

Greeters: Linda Gene (F) LaMarque (B)
Ushers: Woody/ Lloyd/ Brian/ Kelly/ Josh
Nursery:
AM: Rosy Nelson / Kathy Hamilton
SS: Connie Postmus / Jean McGill
PM: Susan Wyatt / Johsta Hendricks
Children's Church: Christy Ho / Kim Moore / Hero Fife
Sound Booth: Rich Robinson (AM & PM)
Security: Dan Geib (AM) Elaine Sturm (PM)

December 13:

Greeters: Grangers (F) Sturm (B)
Ushers: Woody/ Lloyd/ Brian/ Kelly/ Josh
Nursery:
AM: Kelly Munger / LeAnna Setter
SS: Vivian Olson / Hillary Ravenscroft
PM: Judy & Megan Schimanski
Children's Church: Christy Ho / Kara Bourn / Kim Moore / Hailey Hasenyager / Kaila Ho/ Allegra
Sound Booth: Gary LaMarque (AM & PM)
Security: Dick Olson (AM) Mike Munger (PM)

Meridian First Baptist Church December 6, 2015

Pianist: Lina Sklyarov
 Song Leader: Pastor Bill Toyer

Welcome/ Announcements
 (Dismiss Children)

Hymn #243—Emmanuel
 Hymn #244—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
 Hymn #254—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Greetings

Special Music: Jennifer Knapstad

Prayer / Offering: Pastor Saltz

Hymn #252—Psalm 14

Scripture Reading: Garrett Munger

Message: "What Fools Like to Say" Pastor Randy
 Text: Psalm 14

Closing Hymn: Pastor Bill Toyer

6:00 PM

Song Leader: Brent Ho

Pianist: Jim Dorris

Message: "A Man After God's Own Heart" Pastor Randy

Text: Psalm 15



Pastor Bill Toyer

Children's Ministry Program for ages 2 year old through Kindergarten



David & Christie Sommers

Missionary of the Month

The Sommers Family
Indonesia

ABWE

Financial Deposit Report

WEEK: November 29, 2015
 General Fund: \$7,996.00
 Special : \$271.00
 Deposit: \$8,267.00

General Fund Budget: \$43,466.15
 MONTH: November
 General Fund: \$42,550.81
 Special Fund: \$45,570.55*
 Deposits: \$88,121.36*

*Ingathering \$42,650.00

Dec. 6-14, 2015

"Hanukkah

is the Jewish
 Festival of
 Lights marked

by an eight-day celebration that begins on the 25th day of Kislev on the Jewish calendar (this falls in November or December in the Gregorian calendar). It is one of the best-known Jewish holidays in the Western world due to its proximity to Christmas.



Historically, Hanukkah commemorates the acts of the Jewish Maccabees. The Maccabees successfully defeated a Syrian army that had left the Jewish temple defiled. On Kislev 25, 164 BC, the Maccabees cleansed the temple and rededicated it to the Lord. The temple had previously been desecrated with the inclusion of a Hellenistic priest, the sacrifice of non-kosher pigs on the altar, and other practices contrary to Jewish teachings. The Maccabees changed this dishonorable past by their rededication of the temple to the Lord and restoring the Jewish temple customs.

According to the historical tradition, when it was time to light the menorah lampstand in the temple, only one small jar of priestly oil could be found. This oil miraculously burned for eight days until more could be provided. This led to the tradition of an eight-day Hanukkah that included the lighting of one candle each of the eight days on a menorah each night.

In the New Testament, Jesus was at the Jewish temple at the Feast of Dedication (another name for Hanukkah): "At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon" (John 10:22-23). It appears Jesus celebrated Hanukkah as part of participating in Jewish life and customs.

But should Christians celebrate Hanukkah today? While it may be especially appropriate for Christians from a Jewish background to celebrate this holiday, there is nothing inappropriate from a biblical perspective for a Gentile Christian to celebrate Hanukkah. Neither is there a biblical command for either Jewish background or Gentile background believers to celebrate Hanukkah. The apostle Paul offered much insight regarding the personal convictions that can be applied in the celebration of special days (Romans 14:5-6).

Jesus called Himself the light of the world: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Our highest goal as believers is to follow Him and to share this Light of the world with others."

(<http://www.compellingtruth.org/>)

Submitted by Pastor Dave