

## The Glory Inside the Gift

### The “Good News” of Good News Church Entering a Real Relationship with Jesus

#### 1. Reality of God’s Desire

God loves you and invites you to a lifelong, relationship with Him.

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

#### 2. Reality of our Problem

Being in a real relationship with God is not automatic, because we are by nature separated from God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

#### 3. Reality of God’s Remedy

Jesus died on the Cross, taking the penalty for our sins and removing all barriers between a holy God and us. Then Jesus rose from the dead, victorious over sin and death.

For Christ died for our sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. (1 Peter 3:18)

...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. (4)... He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures... (1 Corinthians 15:3b-4)

#### 4. Real Response

When you respond by faith to Jesus as God’s remedy for your spiritual needs, Jesus comes to you in a real spiritual encounter and forms a relationship connection with you. He forgives you and makes you a member of God’s eternal family.

Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12)

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirits that we are God’s children. (Romans 8:16)

**You can respond to Jesus by praying. To keep it real, we’ve used ordinary words in this model prayer.**

Lord Jesus, I believe that You died on the Cross and rose again so that I can be forgiven. I know that I am separated from You by the wrong stuff that’s in my life. I’m sorry. Please forgive me. Right now I turn from the wrong stuff and give my life to You. I ask You to come into my heart and take control of my life.

#### Welcome and Prayer

#### Worship Songs—Pastor Deryl/Praise Band

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

#### Ministry in Music and Personal Story

**Cary Burkett—*My Story***

**Daryl Felton—“God’s Faithfulness”**

**Offering—*In Christ Alone***

#### Ministry of Prayer

#### Message—Pastor Al Sones

**The Father’s Saving Word**

**And the Word became flesh...”**

**Advent Candle #1 – Hope**

#### Closing Worship Song—*Jesus Messiah*

*(Individuals may receive communion at the back table.)*

#### Good News Free Methodist Church

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Pastor Al Sones (717) 319-7503 \* Pastor Deryl Reinhold (717) 443-6886

## Welcome Friends

We welcome all of our visitors and guests to our service!

## Nursery

The Nursery is available during church services for parents with little children to use as needed. There is not a scheduled nursery worker. There is a video feed of the Celebration Service into the nursery, if a parent wishes to use it.

## Sunday Morning Ministries for Children and Youth

**Here is this week's Children's and Youth Groups Meeting Schedule.**

**Preschool through Grade 1**—go to class (Room 5) at the Offering time

**Grades 2—5**—go to class (Room 5) at the Offering time

**Grades 6—8**—go to class (Room 3) after the Offering time

**Grades 9 and up**—go to class (Room 2) after the Prayer time

## Group Meetings—Join a Group, or Start a Group!!

At Good News Church, we believe that every Christian has authority to speak the Good News of Jesus and to gather people together to encourage each other to live like Jesus. We “grow and go” better in relationship than in isolation. So “join or start a group!”

- ◆ The **Encouragers Group** typically meets for a potluck meal, and a time of worship and encouragement from the Word of God on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month at 6:00 p.m. Most participants are in their golden years, but everybody is welcome to attend regardless of their age. **The group will take a break during December and will meet again on Sunday, January 13th.**
- ◆ **Ladies' Bible Study—The group is studying “Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed”** a study of the OT character David. **The group will meet this Wednesday, December 5th.** See Eileen Sones.
- ◆ **Men's 27:17 Group** – A men's breakfast group that meets at Peppermill Restaurant (1010 Wesley Dr #100, Mechanicsburg) from 6:30 until 7:30 a.m. Breakfast, friendship, devotional, and prayer. **The group will meet this Wednesday, December 5th.**
- ◆ **Intercessory Prayer Group**—meets from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. every Thursday to pray for the Kingdom of God to come and the will of God to be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Everyone is invited. **We will meet this Thursday evening.**
- ◆ **Operation Matthew 25:35** —This outreach group is a team-based ministry that responds to the needs of homeless friends. There is a great need! The group is an *Intergenerational Connect Group and meets twice a month*. One meeting would be for spiritual growth and ministry planning. The other would be to volunteer to a specific group of homeless friends. See Pastor Al for questions or interest.

## Operation Matthew 25:35 —Interest Meeting/Dinner tomorrow night

Pastor Al is hosting a dinner meeting at the Ministry Center on Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. for anyone who would like to learn more about this homeless ministry focused Connect Group. Please use the Connect Card to RSVP.

## Time for Worship, Prayer and Meditation following the Celebration Service

Everybody is welcome to stay in the Sanctuary after the Service to spend time seeking and worshipping God individually. The Mixells are hosting this weekly event to help everyone in their spiritual walk by bringing us together in our journey into His presence.

## Adult Christmas Choir —Rehearsals after the Service in Room 3

The Christmas Choir will be singing on Sunday, December 16th. Rehearsals will continue today, immediately after the service, in the back room (Room 3 - the middle school classroom). Please let Eileen Sones know if you would like to participate.

## Congratulations to the Ngo Family

The Ngo Family announces the arrival of Jordan Michael Ngo on Friday, Nov 30th at 10:51 a.m. Jordan weighed in at 10 lbs, 3 oz, and was 21.5 inches. Parents (Nguyen and Jessica) and siblings (Brandon, Kayla, and Grace) welcome the little guy!

## Leadership Team Meeting Schedule

The last meeting of this year for the Leadership Team will be on Wednesday, December 19th at 7 p.m.

## Sunday Morning Hospitality

We need volunteers to occasionally **bring snack items** for our Sunday morning refreshment table. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the Café.

## Communion Offered Every Sunday Morning

We offer communion every Sunday morning for any individuals who want to partake. There is a table at the back of the auditorium where the elements of communion are available during the response song at the end of the service. A communion service for the entire congregation is offered monthly. Our Communion is alcohol and gluten free.

## Financial Report YTD

The average General Fund offering each week through November 25, 2018 was \$2968. Total giving YTD is \$139,492 Through the first eleven months of 2018, General Fund giving has increased by 6% over last year's trends. As this increase in giving trends continues, the Leadership Team is praying about adding a part-time Ministry Staff position in 2019. The congregation owes \$142,239 on our mortgage which reduces by about \$1694 each month from the monthly payment of \$2294.

## Upcoming Events

Mon	Dec 3rd	6:30 p.m.	Homeless Ministry Planning Dinner
Wed	Dec 5th	6:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
		6:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Sun	Dec 16th	10:30 a.m.	Musical Celebration of Christmas
Wed	Dec 19th	7:00 p.m.	Leadership Team Meeting
Sun	Dec 23rd	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Celebration Service
Sun	Dec 24th	5:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Church Family Dinner
		7:00 p.m.	Carols, Communion, Candlelight Service
Sun	Dec 30th	7:00 p.m.	Young Adults—at Pastor Al and Eileen's
Sun	Jan 13th	6:00 p.m.	Encouragers Group

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**How We Announce Weather-Related Schedule Changes-** When weather impacts our schedule, we make a decision no later than 7:00 a.m. on Sunday about schedule changes, send and e-mail to the distribution list from goodnewsfmc@aol.com, and post information on the Good News Church Facebook page. If there is no e-mail or Facebook posting, this means there is no change to the service schedule. We also notify some local television and radio stations about our changes.