

**2023**  
**SET YOUR HEARTS ON THINGS ABOVE**

**The Real "Christmas Story"**  
 Luke 2:8-19

- God Is \_\_\_\_\_ When Evil Seems to \_\_\_\_\_.
- God is not a \_\_\_\_\_ spectator.
  - God chose the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus' birth. (Gal. 4:4-5)
  - The priests and scribes \_\_\_\_\_ that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. (Mica. 5:2)
  - God revealed to the wise men that Jesus was born "\_\_\_\_\_ of the Jews."
  - Wise men were eager to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, Jewish leaders were \_\_\_\_\_.

- God Uses Evil People to \_\_\_\_\_ His Holy Purpose. (Isa. 10:6-11; Jer. 25:9)
- None of the wicked rulers \_\_\_\_\_ God's sovereign plan, but rather \_\_\_\_\_ it!

- Trust God When Evil Seems to \_\_\_\_\_.
- His ways are \_\_\_\_\_ our ways (Isa. 55:8-9)

- God Sent His Son into the World to \_\_\_\_\_ the Human Problem.
- All have \_\_\_\_\_ - (Rom. 3:23)
  - The free gift of God is \_\_\_\_\_ - (Rom. 6:23)
  - Today \_\_\_\_\_ the day of salvation - (2Cor. 6:2)

- Three different \_\_\_\_\_ to the birth of Jesus -
- Herod - did everything he could to \_\_\_\_\_ baby Jesus.
  - Jewish leaders were \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Wise men \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus until they \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**Lompoc church of Christ**  
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**SCHEDULE**

<b>Sunday</b>	
Bible Classes for all ages	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Bible Classes for all ages	6:30 p.m.

**ELDERS AND STAFF**

<b>Elders</b>		<b>Deacons</b>	
Eric Bliss	(805) 757-6338	Bob Murray	(805) 717-9150
Dale Donaghe	(805) 315-4847		
<i>The Elders meet on Sunday evenings before services</i>			
Minister: Roy Senior		Secretary: Shelli Donald	
Phone: 805-680-3787		Phone: 805-588-9887	
roy_senior@comcast.net		shelli.donald@verizon.net	

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

Bible Hour	
Kim Bower	
ELDER for Dec.	Dale Donaghe
LADIES COMMITTEE for Dec.	Ethel Johnson



**DECEMBER 3RD, 2023**

**Order Of Worship**

- Song Leader: Ryan Bliss
- Welcome.....Dale Donaghe
- 12 Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed  
982 We Shall Assemble
- Prayer.....David House
- 50 Are You Washed In The Blood
- Lord's Supper.....Dave Gastellum
- 773 Whispering Hope
- Offering.....Dale Brand
- 871 In His Time
- Scripture Reading.....Shawn Johnson
- Morning Service....."The Real "Christmas Story" .....with Roy Senior
- 238 In Christ Alone  
893 The Bond Of Love
- Closing Prayer.....Mike Darnton
- Prayer & Song Worship.....5 PM

**PRAYER IS IMPORTANT**

-Please keep **Debbie T Nelson** in your prayers as she is in Arkansas for doctors appts. & will be packing for her journey back to California. Her appts. have gone well & there may be a solution that will help her eyesight. Prayers for peace for her in this transition.

-**Lynn Nothstein** asked for prayers for her husbands **Aunt Jeanie**. She is dealing with extremely high blood pressure.

-**Alora Cottam** asked for prayers for the **Gregory** family as they lost the mother **Freda** Wednesday morning. Please keep the extended families in your prayers.

-**Shannon Cottam** asked for prayers for her mother & sister as they continue with negative behavior towards her. Prayers also for peace for **Shannon** through these times that she will weather them with God's strength.

-**Ann Thompson** asked that we keep all those who suffer with back pain in prayers. It is a debilitating condition for those who deal with it 24/7.

-**Shawn B Johnson** asked for prayers for her daughter **Kassie** & the trials she faces daily. Prayers that she will look to God for answers & let him guide her to good decisions.

-**Jerry & Sandy Hopkins** asked for prayers for their granddaughter **Tessa**. She had surgery this past Friday on her foot. She came through well. Please keep her & the extended family in your prayers.

-Please keep **Ted Myer** in your prayers he is a family friend of the **Senior** families. He is experiencing nerve issues & is having trouble walking. Please keep he & his wife **Gail** in your prayers.

-Please keep **Danielle**, a coworker of **Mike & Russell's**, in your prayers. She is battling breast cancer for the 2nd time. Please keep her & her family in your prayers.

-Prayers of thanksgiving for **our church family** here & the love & support we each receive unconditionally.

-Prayers for the continuing **unrest in the middle east** & for all those affected by the war conditions.

**THOUGHT FOR TODAY**

Thank you, God, for this good life,  
and forgive us if we do not love it enough.

**SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY**

Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ~ **1 Thessalonians 5:16-17**

**ENCOURAGING WORDS**

**"Jesus Is the Reason for the Season"**

At this time of year, we hear the saying often, "Jesus is the reason for the season." It's catchy. It's heart-warming. It's reassuring. However, the hyped "season" of Christmas, which man has designated as the birth-time of Jesus, has no Scriptural basis. As some have more aptly stated, "Jesus is the reason for every reason." Now, with that understanding, think about that saying in relationship to the "season" for which Christians do have authoritative command from God.

**Jesus is the reason for the season of my behavior!** In the great Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned"? Salt was used as a preservative (and still is) to keep food from becoming putrefied or corrupted. Jesus was emphasizing in this passage that the only hope that the earth has for preservation is the seasoning of righteousness and godly living from God's people. *When it comes to my behavior, it needs to be seasoned by Jesus.*

**Jesus is the reason for the season of my speech!** As Paul concluded one of the most practical sections in all of Scripture, he instructed Christians, "Let your speech always be gracious, **seasoned** with salt..." (Col. 4:6). As salt provides taste and flavor to our food, the words that we use will all have a certain taste or flavor to them—either a "corrupt word" or "what is good for necessary edification" (Col. 4:6). *When it comes to my speech, it needs to be seasoned by Jesus.*

**Jesus is the reason for the season of my preaching!** The instructions given to God's servant Timothy (and all of us) are insightful: "Preach the word!" (2 Tim. 4:2). But when? On Sundays? Wednesdays? Special occasions? The inspired penman continued, "Be ready **in season** and **out of season**." As there is a "fishing season" and a "Snowy Plover season," is there a "preaching season"? No! God says to preach...whether it is convenient or not...favorable or not...popular or not. *When it comes to our preaching of God's Word, it needs to be seasoned by Jesus.*

Are you seasoned by Jesus? He is the reason for every season!

R. Senior

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
<b>Dec. 3rd</b>	Morning Class @ 9:30 AM Worship @ 10:30 AM Prayer & Song Worship @ 5 PM
4th	Evening Service @ 6:30 PM
8th	Jinny Donald's birthday
9th	Men's Breakfast @ Tom's @ 8:30 AM

**HELLO FROM OLD FRIENDS**

We received a nice letter from Jerry & Judy Kendal. It is posted in the foyer for your viewing. It is always great to hear from old friends!

**LETTER FROM LAURA'S FRIEND**

We received a nice note from Laura Crownover's friend Gina, thanking us for the prayers & concerns for her as she went through her surgery for cancer. They were much appreciated!

**MEN'S RETREAT THIS WEEKEND**

You are cordially invited to the Men's Retreat  
Saturday, December 9, from 11 AM to 2 PM.

The topic is: **The Church's Response to Society.**

Eric Bliss will be bringing the day's lesson.

A lunch will be provided.

Come and enjoy time together in God's word.

**Please RSVP to Bob Murray by Wednesday, December 6.**

**DECEMBER CALENDARS & THOSE WHO SERVE ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BACK TABLE**