THOM’S THOUGHTS

I love celebrating Christmas in church! The decorations in our sanctuary are so wonderful, so meaningful. The songs we sing are among our favorites. We listen to the beautiful story of Christmas anew each year. We join together to worship our Lord and Savior who came to us in Bethlehem’s manger.

In each decoration, song, scripture and activity we remind ourselves of what Christmas is about. God came to us as Jesus Christ. God came to rescue us from our sins. God came to us to give us life abundantly now and eternally to come. God came to us. That is Christmas.

Sometimes the “stuff” of Christmas gets in the way of our celebration of Christmas. We get so caught up in the “stuff” that we are too stressed out or worn out or put out that we have trouble turning to Jesus. It is so easy to let “stuff” get in the way of our celebration of Jesus.

I pray for you that Christmas this year will be first of all about Jesus Christ who is God with us. Enjoy the other good stuff too. Family and friends, card sending and parties and gift giving are all fun and fine. But put Jesus first. Then your celebration will be full and complete.

Have a blest Christmas! In Christ, Thom
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held at 6:00 PM on December 24th. We will have special music, communion and the lighting of the candles. This is a very special way to welcome the birth of our Lord and Savior. Hope to see everyone on Christmas Eve!

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES AT HARVEY PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We have several opportunities to help people in need throughout the holiday season. Once again, the tree in the Entry Way will be decorated with your donations of children’s New Socks and Underwear items. Many children coming to Community Ministry of Southwest Denver have no underwear at all. Community Ministry tries to provide for each child. Personal hygiene items are also needed.

The table just inside the Fellowship Hall will be reserved for Stuffing. Community Ministry needs 300 boxes of Stuffing for holiday boxes. All the boxes and bags of Stuffing will be taken to Community Ministry for Thanksgiving, but we will continue to collect the boxes and bags until the second week in December.

Rather than many of us sending Christmas Cards to each other within the congregation, during worship, we will be sending around a card to sign during worship. The money you would spend on Christmas cards to other members of the congregation will be collected for the Dress a Child campaign of Tennyson Center for Children. The Dress a Child campaign provides a complete new outfit of clothing for a child. Each outfit costs about $165.00 and includes shoes.

Another opportunity for giving is a Reverse Advent Calendar. Take a holiday bag from the Outreach Table in the Fellowship Hall and put in it one non-perishable food item each day of Advent. Bring your bag back on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The items collected will be used to replenish our own Grace Cupboard and Community Ministry.

On December 16th, 23rd and 24th, we will be collecting money for the Disciples of Christ Christmas Fund. The money goes to support our regional ministries by providing resources and support, support and ordain new pastors, revitalize congregations, provide camps and retreats.
**PRAYER REQUEST LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pray For</th>
<th>Request</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allaire Lewis</td>
<td>In hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph McDaniels</td>
<td>Health &amp; finances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eloy &amp; Georgia</td>
<td>Lost everything in Paradise fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pete</td>
<td>Relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dena Catlett</td>
<td>Surgery recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dottie Paul</td>
<td>Relationship with children and grandchildren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stevie Olson &amp; family</td>
<td>Stationed in Anchorage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dunville family</td>
<td>Health &amp; caregiver issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tod Hunter</td>
<td>Lung healing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Geisert</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Stanley</td>
<td>Health &amp; finances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Matteo</td>
<td>God’s protection &amp; return to church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; Lianne Evans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jana &amp; family</td>
<td>Death of parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beth Maurer</td>
<td>Knees, esophagus &amp; aches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Maurer</td>
<td>New home &amp; healing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carl Catlett</td>
<td>Leg pain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramona</td>
<td>Health &amp; finances</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Catlett</td>
<td>Bruised kneecap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tina, Luke, Paul &amp; partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol &amp; Don</td>
<td>Strength, healing &amp; joy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>Needs prayers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joey Lombardi</td>
<td>Deployment</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We have had three of our folks go home to the Lord this past month. They are Sparky Ullmer, Robert Searle and Velma Betz. Please keep these families in your prayers.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

9 – Chuck Clute  
12 – Laura Olson  
16 – Patricia Johnston  
30 – Carol Steele

**ANNIVERSARIES**

7 – Tony & Carol Bilello  
19 – Larry & Sena Collier  
21 – Joe & Tia McDaniels
ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

GIFTS FOR MEN

Buying gifts for men is not nearly as complicated as it is for women. Follow these rules and you should have no problems.

Rule #1: When in doubt - buy him a cordless drill. They never have too many. No one knows why.

Rule #2: Rope. Men love rope. It takes them back to their cowboy origins, or at least The Boy Scouts. Nothing says love like a hundred feet of 3/8” manila rope. No one knows why.

Rule #3: It's hard to beat a really good wheelbarrow or an aluminum extension ladder. Never buy a real man a stepladder. It must be an extension ladder. No one knows why.

Merry Christmas!

OUR CHURCH CORNER

Outreach Ministries Last Month:

- Thanksgiving Offering: $50.00
- St. Francis Center: $30.00
- Week of Compassion: $1409.00

HPCC STAFF

- Pastor: Thom Albin
- Ministry Interns: Matthew & Taylor Smith
- Activities Coordinator: Carol Bilello
- Administrative Secretary: Betty VanArsdol
- Keyboardist: Jan Moore
- Choir Director: Sally Bishop
- Custodian: Jeff Case
- Wedding Director: Carol Bilello
- Hark Editor: Betty VanArsdol
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>1 New Year’s Day Office Closed Hilltoppers Dance Lessons 7</td>
<td>2 Bible Study 10</td>
<td>3 Butterfly Book Club 7</td>
<td>4 Rays of Hope 7</td>
<td>5 Epiphany</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 S.S. – 9 Worship – 10 Rays of Hope – 3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8 Hilltoppers Dance Lessons 7</td>
<td>9 Bible Study 10 Outreach 1:30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Rays of Hope 7</td>
<td>12 Workday 9 &amp; Unhang the Greens</td>
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<td>13 S.S. – 9 Worship – 10 Board Meeting Rays of Hope – 3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 Hilltoppers Dance Lessons 7</td>
<td>16 Bible Study 10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Rays of Hope 7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 S.S. – 9 Worship – 10 Rays of Hope – 3 Board Meeting HARK DEADLINE</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 Hilltoppers Dance Lessons 7</td>
<td>23 Bible Study 10</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 Rays of Hope 7 SNOW DAZE</td>
<td>26 Hilltoppers Square Dance 7 SNOW DAZE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 S.S. – 9 Worship – 10 Rays of Hope – 3</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29 Hilltoppers Dance Lessons 7</td>
<td>30 Bible Study 10</td>
<td>31</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- S.S.: Sunday School
- Worship: Worship Service
- Rays of Hope: Rays of Hope Event
- HARK DEADLINE: HARK Deadline Notice
JANUARY
SERVING SCHEDULE

January 6, 2019
Elder: Stan Lewis
Lectern:
Deacons: Dave Perryman, Kara Van Horn, Taran Gingery, Taylor Smith
Preparer: Beth Maes
Hospitality:
Greeter: Ray Stockham
Scripture Reader: Mary Ullmer
Nursery: Mary Ullmer

January 13, 2019
Elder: Brad Steele
Lectern:
Deacons: Albert Arias, Michele Arias, Jennifer Laso, Edward Laso
Preparer: Beth Maes
Hospitality:
Greeter: Clair Mamigonian
Scripture Reader: Debbie Reher
Nursery:

January 20, 2019
Elder: Matthew Smith
Lectern:
Deacons: Carol Bilello, Alvin Hawkins, Joseph McDaniels, Tia McDaniels
Preparer: Beth Maes
Hospitality:
Greeter: Beth Maes
Scripture Reader: Margaret Shane
Nursery: Debbie Reher

January 27, 2019
Elder: Debbie Reher
Lectern:
Deacons: Clair Mamigonian, Ken Smith, Mark Steiner, Grayson Hartley
Preparer: Beth Maes
Hospitality:
Greeters: Steve & Laura Olson
Scripture Reader:
Nursery: Faye Davin & Betty London