



Catch the Wave at Bayshore PC

Tidings

Bayshore Presbyterian Church
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December 2018

Christmas
Poet: Eldred Herbert

What does Christmas mean to me?
It's gold and glitter on a tree,
It's folks, all working with a will,
The larder, where the goodies spill:
Turkey roasting in the pan;
It's "peace on earth, goodwill to man";
It's loved ones coming through the door,
Exchanging gifts, and so much more.

It's following, still, that Christmas star,
And knowing that where e'er you are,
The "manger scene" is just as dear
Today as it was, that first year,
That Christ was born on Christmas day,
A Babe to lead us all the way;
Today He is that Christmas Star,
Our Guiding Light, that shines afar.

The angels heralded in His birth,
And mortal man knew not His worth:
They let Him in a manger lay,
And sheltered those with earthly pay,
But wisemen and the shepherds came,
To pay great homage to His name;
He gave His life that we might live,
So, let us, too, our homage give.

That is what Christmas means to me,
It's gold and glitter on the tree,
It's Christ suspended on the cross,
To save us from celestial loss,
Let's make a resolution dear,
To be a witness while we are here;
Let's put the Christ in Christmas now,
And in His presence humbly bow.



Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

Calendar

12/15 Men's breakfast 8 AM
at The Brunchery
12/16 BPC Choral Christmas
Program
12/23 Joy Offering
12/24 Candlelight Christmas
Eve Service at 7 PM with
Communion

12/25 Merry Christmas



*Our
Pastor*

Catch the Wave
at Bayshore Presbyterian



I pray that each of you will be able to concentrate on the joy and magnitude of the birth of our Savior despite the chaos of this season! All the buying, the long shopping lists, the crowds, the unbelievable traffic and the challenge of avoiding ridiculous debt results in anxiety and dreadful chaos!

My friend Pastor Magrey deVega at Hyde Park Methodist recently pointed out that our Savior came into a time of great chaos and anxiety. There was the census taking and its pilgrimage for so many. There was oppression as the country was under siege by the Romans. Despite all this, our Messiah was sent by God into it all! As Magrey stated "God gave us a priceless gift that God didn't shop for, gift wrap nor sent special delivery." In fact, God's gift to us was actually God's own Presence, Himself brought to earth in the flesh. God's gift was His coming into our presence. God's gift was being there –and being here now –for us!

Surely, likewise, the most precious gift we can give to family and friends is our presence. I believe I told you in November that my daughter-in-law Kem Moore has assured me that all the family wants from me is my time and my memories. I am working very hard to avoid the old temptation of massive gift-giving and concentrating on just exactly when and where we can fashion times for each other to just enjoy family and bask in the love and good memories with which we have been blessed. In fact, on the Saturday before Christmas, all three of my children and their spouses are joining Ted and me for lunch in Lakeland! To top it off, my daughter Carolyn and her husband Tom are coming to stay with us for four or five days. Such holiday excitement! We are indeed blessed!

I earnestly pray that it is the very presence of Jesus Christ that will be your best gift this year and that your presence will be a gift to others! We must always be delightedly aware that through Christ God has given us the gift of everlasting life. We, in turn, ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. Become a gift for others! Again quoting Magrey, "Your joyful spirit of service, sacrifice and loving presence, with no strings or gift receipts attached, might be the perfect gift that money can't buy."

Know that you remain in my heart and in my prayers,

Merry Christmas and may God bless you all!

Pastor Ceile



Our Church

Beth El gifts are coming in.
Please bring yours to church.
Last day 12/16.



Our Christmas lunch
was well attended
and everyone had
a great time.
Thank you Margaret
& Terry



BPC dressed up
for Christmas



Our choir at
Canterbury Towers



We hosted the
Presbyterian Foundation
Small Church Workshop



January Birthdays

1/13 Sofie B.
1/18 Wilhelm G.
1/21 Doris G.
1/24 Lona E.
1/27 Bobbi C.