



# MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU

## FROM PAYNESVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 2007



*“Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, during the time when Herod was king”  
Matthew 2:1*

### JOE’S JOURNAL

As we approach the Christmas season, there are many things that call for our attention. Sometimes we desire to get back to “The real spirit of Christmas”. Christmas has an appeal, recognition, a certain “magic” for many. Because of Christmas, some people change their attitudes, ambitions, and schedules – caring for the needy, visitation of the elderly, ministering to the sick. We give gifts and share possessions. We send cards and letters, which are often neglected at other times. Men everywhere talk of peace. The story of Christ is brought before all- in scenes on front lawns, in our music, in our churches, and sometimes even on TV.

What makes all this possible? It is not a day, but a Person – JESUS CHRIST. But some say, “Christmas is not what it used to be. It’s too commercial. People are too busy.” Perhaps we do not go back far enough. We stop and reminisce about a younger time in our life, when things were not as hectic, and when we were different. How shall we recapture the true “Spirit of Christmas?” We must return to the original source of Christmas – JESUS CHRIST.

To have the real spirit of Christmas, let us return to the spirit of listening to God, as Joseph did, as Mary did, and the shepherds did. Let us seek to find in the grand story of “Immanuel” (God with us) the real meaning and purpose of life. Let us return to the spirit of seeking God. When the announcement of the birth of the Son of God was given to Mary, and then to Joseph, they had to do some searching of their own hearts and how they fit into God’s plan for their lives. The shepherds sought for the Savior, to see for themselves. The wise men came from another land seeking the One born King of the Jews. To recapture the true meaning of the Christmas season, we need to do some seeking, some soul-searching. We need to return to CHRIST..

May this Christmas season hold many blessings for you and yours. Merry Christmas from our house to yours!

*Joe and Velma McKay*

### CELEBRATING OUR SAVIOR’S BIRTH

**DECEMBER 2** BEGINNING CHRISTMAS  
LOVE OFFERING-MEMPHIS

**DECEMBER 16** FOOD DONATIONS

**DECEMBER 18** LADIES MEETING-  
Christmas Party, 6 pm, ham supper, secret sister gifts, nursing home gifts wrapped, fun/games

**DECEMBER 23** 10:30 am, NATIVITY  
SCENE

**DECEMBER 23** 7 pm, CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICES

**DECEMBER 30** WORLD MISSION  
BUILDERS –quarterly  
Mission Project.

- Special music and readings are needed for the Candlelight service.
- Nursing home gifts are personal hygiene items in sample or small containers. No food or candy.
- A tree on the pulpit will be decorated with stars for every \$5.00, which is donated for the Christmas Love Offering.
- Financial support may be sent to the newsletter return address for the above listed donation projects.

### You may celebrate the entire month by attending Sunday morning services.

BIBLE STUDY	9:30 AM
WORSHIP	10:30 AM

Joshua 24:15 *“If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” SEE YOU SUNDAY!*

*MOVIN' ON* –On December 2, the men repaired the basement steps. Plans for a baptistery dressing room in the back classroom and a program are being made. A table may be placed in the atrium for the registration book. A new format for the prayer list and revisions of the address book are being developed. The coat closet in the new addition is in the planning stage for completion. The shelving in the back classroom will be used for a Christian book exchange. The pulpit flags need to be stabilized. Loren Bair is preparing CD's of the morning sermons, if anyone wishes to have them.

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**LADIES**~November 12 was a grand day as usual for the Thanksgiving Dinner. There were several guests present. Clifford Bare, who was visiting his sister and nieces, gave a testimonial of his and his wife's mission work. At one time, 900 shoes were donated to children on a Caribbean island. This effort should make all of us take a better look at what charitable work we are doing in the name of our Lord. We missed the entertaining skits by Reno Taylor. However, Janice Stanley and Linda Sutherland shared a humorous TV interview with Rosie the Socker~aka~*sock monkey*. Next meeting will be on December 18, 6 pm in the fellowship room. It will be a Christmas party with a ham being provided for the shared supper, nursing home gift wrapping, secret sister gifts, and fun/games. It is being held at night as some employed ladies wished to attend.

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Paynesville Christian Church  
% Jonita Hardy  
7579 S 850 w  
Lexington, In 47138  
Bro Joe McKay, minister



## THE GIFT OF A HOUSE

We praise God for His wonderful blessings! On Saturday, October 27, Donnie and Michelle Sandlin and their family moved into their new home at 102 Lois Lane, Hanover. The home was made available through the efforts of Habitat for Humanity. A dedication of the new home was held on October 27, and the keys were presented to the Sandlins in a special ceremony. The family are members of this congregation. We appreciate the help of Juanita Hardy, who first made contact with Habitat for Humanity. On Sunday morning, December 2, Bill Ohlendorf, from Habitat, was with us to share the good work which this organization is doing. The congregation gave the family a "pound shower" for their new home.  
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November 18, Bro Don Todd from Memphis Inner City Outreach delighted the congregation with his inspirational singing of familiar hymns and of his own writing. He then spoke about the efforts being made to save those in prison from a continual life of crime. His mission is one of the annual projects for the congregation. Todd is originally from the Kiamichi Mountain Mission in Oklahoma.

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We wish to thank all those readers who have made financial donations and those sent in memory of Reno Taylor.

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**"Praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven because everything He does is right and all his ways are just."** Daniel 4:37

**FROM THE CORNERSTONE:** New Washington Courier

December 19, 1909 reparations are being made for the Xmas entertainment at the Christian Church Christmas Night.

December 8, 1911 During the Thanksgiving Services the Payneville Christian Church caught fire from a defective flue and was considerably damaged.

December 7, 1916 There will be a parcel post sale at the Payneville Christian church on Friday night, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO READ MORE ABOUT THE LAST 100 YEARS, write a \$5.00 Check for shipping costs To Paynesville Christian Church and receive the history book. Mail check to Mrs. Janice Stanley, 10570 E New London Rd, Lexington, In 47138

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Martin Luther was the first known person to decorate an evergreen for Christmas. He brought one inside and placed candles and ornaments made of fruit and other household items upon it. He said the lights were reminders that Christ is the light of the world and the ornaments signified God's bounty. After Luther, other Germans began decorating trees and the tradition spread throughout the world.

### PCC CONNECTIONS

Visit the website: [www.](http://www.paynesvillechristianchurch.com)

[paynesvillechristianchurch.com](http://paynesvillechristianchurch.com)

October had a record number of visits at the website!! PTL.

To contact: **Bro Joe McKay**, PO Box 157, Henryville, In 47125, phone 812.294.4891 OR for church contact: use newsletter return address.

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