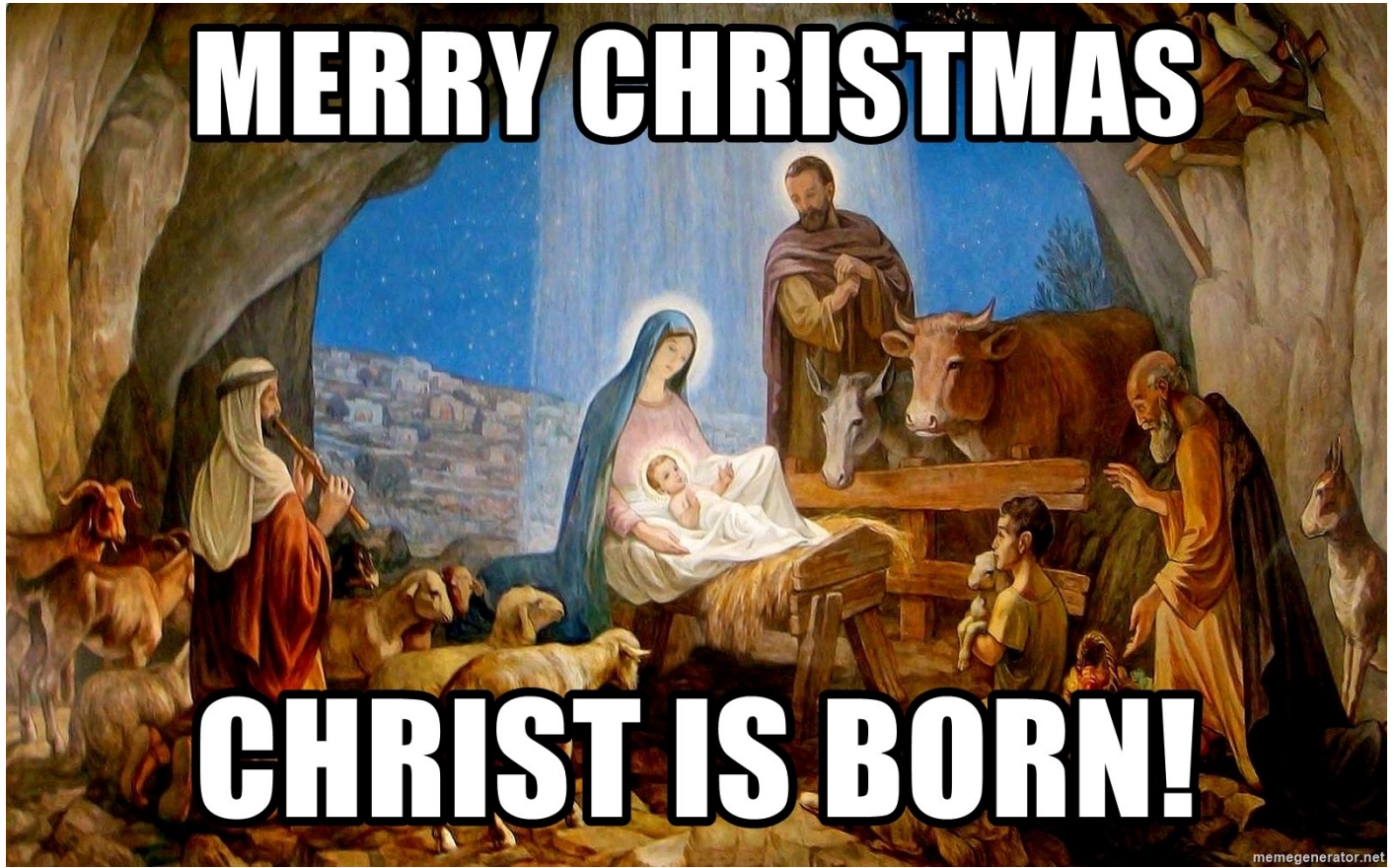


The Nall Call

Monthly Newsletter of Nall Avenue
December 2020 Volume 34, Issue 12



In observance of Christmas, we will be closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day! We will be back in the office on Monday, December 28th.



We will have 2 candlelight services on Christmas Eve. Reservations will be open for reserving your spot in one of the services, 4:00 and 5:30 pm.



Christmas Gifts For Children

Nall Avenue Baptist Church has partnered with Santa Fe Trail Elementary PTA, City of Mission, Angel Babies and Casey's Auto repair to adopt families from SFT who are in need of a little assistance this Christmas. The City of Mission will provide generous food baskets that will include all the trimmings for a holiday dinner, fresh produce and non-perishable products.

Here are some ways you can participate:

- (1) Donate gently used children's clothing, shoes, coats, toys, books, and games.
PLEASE ONLY CHILDREN'S clothing as we will be doing a smaller shop this year due to Covid.
- (2) Donations of personal hygiene products and household toiletries are also welcome.
- (3) The table in the Foyer will have tags that you may choose to purchase a child's wish list request. You can also go to nallave.org/serve and click on the [View Wish List Here](#) to choose an item. Cash donations or gift cards are also welcome. If you choose to make a cash donation, please specify that is for Santa Fe Trail Holiday assistance. View the Wish List by using the link below!

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60Bo445ACA828A7FE3-santa>

- (4) Gifts should be unwrapped. Families will be given wrapping paper and gift bags so they are able to wrap the gifts.
- (5) Please tag your gifts with the Family & Child identifier noted on Sign Up Genius or the tag you've selected.
- (6) Volunteer to help with receiving donations from the community and preparing the Holiday shop.

Both Holiday Shop (gently used items), and Wish List items may be dropped off at the church on Sunday mornings. There will also be two special collection times on Wednesday, December 9th and Wednesday, December 16th from 5:30pm - 7:00pm at Nall Avenue Baptist Church.

Organization and preparation for the Holiday Shop and pick-up will be on Thursday December 17th from 5:30pm-7:30pm.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, He has given us the opportunity to share His love in us and through us to these families. Please be in prayer for them and all of us during this difficult season that we will know His presence more than ever.

Questions may be directed to Gerrie Orr at 314-971-1216 or email gerrieo5135@gmail.com.

Picture is of Volunteers from last year. Thank you volunteers!!



MOPS Fundraiser Recap

A BIG thank you to all those who made our MOPS card fundraiser a success. With the help of all who made a purchase of the handcrafted cards and boxes, we were able to reach our goal.

Thank you everyone!



PRAYER DRIVING – THE STORY by Sherry Rink

4.9.16

It was May of 2014, right before Lindsay and Craig returned to Russia. Lindsay was in the car with me, when I uttered my favorite expletive for “the other” driver...

”You stupid idiot!”

”Mom!!?” was her immediate response.

God’s immediate prompt in my mind was, “Now...bless them.”

”God bless ‘em”, I obediently replied.

”Good for you, Mom”, Lindsay affirmed.

That was the beginning of the evolution of my prayer driving. Each pursuing incident when “MY” driving space was “violated”, after defaming the other driver, I was convicted to bless. At first I would simply say, “God bless ‘em.” Then I started speaking a short blessing or prayer over them, eventually asking, “God, what is the best way I could bless them?” Gradually, God gave me a heartfelt prayer in the form of a poem that reflects what my heart’s desire, and hopefully God’s, really is for them:

“Lord, I pray that you will bless them with the conviction of their sin
That they will fall in love with Jesus and then repent in Him.
Help them grow in spiritual wisdom, understanding, and in grace,
And may they bring others with them when they meet You face to face.”

Now, “violations of my driving space” are not always necessary for me to pray. I kind of think of it as prayer walking, only I am prayer driving. While observing the other drivers around me on the road, I will sometimes blanket them all with my little prayer in the hope of moving the Spirit to “blessing-ly” convict each of them toward Jesus. Praying people to Christ, one driver at a time.

Am I totally freed from my expletive? No. But now I know how to better handle my own bad attitude. It’s taped on the dashboard of my car.

9.14.20 Update:

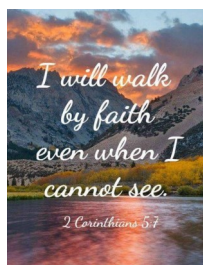
I no longer need my prayer taped to the dashboard. It comes to me often now. And to this day, it has not become rote; it is still very heartfelt...Thank You, God. Also, I find myself praying it over people in situations other than when I am driving. Again, thank You, God, for giving this prayer



Deepest Sympathies

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends:

Charles Herrmann, Lindsay Radliff’s Dad.



Monday, December 7, 6:30 am

All men welcome!

Meet at Santa Fe Café
on 87th St.

No RSVP needed!

Third Monday of each month.

Our next prayer gathering will be:

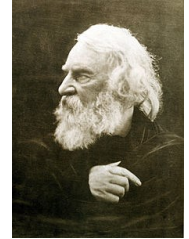
Monday, December 21, 6:30 pm

All are welcome!

Dec 2020 – A Christmas carol that calls for peace in a time of “bloody conflict.” by Mark Miller

For those who may not know its story, “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” is simply hymn #98 in the rotation of Christmas carols we sing in the month of December. But to others, the hymn points back to a time during the American Civil War and a poet by the name of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

A brief history of the familiar Christmas carol can be found in David McLaughlin’s small book *Silent Night: The Stories Behind 40 Beloved Christmas Carols*. In it he gives a look into the life of the original author Henry Wadsworth Longfellow describing that he wrote the poem Christmas Bells “months away from the end of the [American Civil War], having lost his wife and having received news of his son’s injury in battle”. Years later the poem was set to the tune we are all familiar with, but I believe that as we read the lyrics you can hear the poet’s anguish over the conflict within mankind and the hope of deliverance found in Jesus Christ.



I heard the bells on Christmas day. Their old familiar carols play.
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth goodwill to men
And in despair I bowed my head there is no peace on earth I said
For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth goodwill to men
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead nor doth He sleep
The wrong shall fail the right prevail with peace on earth goodwill to men

Of course during the Christmas season we celebrate the fulfillment of Isaiah 9:6 found in Jesus Christ: *“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”* We are reminded that Jesus’ condescending to earth was to first bring peace between God and man. Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection is what makes reconciliation between us and God possible. It is only through that prerequisite that mankind can experience peace amongst each other.

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. - Eph 2:13-16

Maybe for Christmas, especially in 2020 and the associated conflict within our nation, we need to be ambassadors of the Prince of Peace; being joyful in the reconciliation we have through Christ and proactive to bring that peace to others. North Point Worship has a recording of I Heard The Bells that adds a chorus that challenges us in this same thought.



Do they ring for the ones who have never seen. For the captive who cries out to be free.

For the lost to be found do the bells ring out. The song of peace on earth good will to men.

Check it out online, and I hope you are encouraged to ring out the message of “peace on earth good will to men.”