

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. - ROMANS 15:13 NIV

"The joy of the Lord is my strength." Nehemiah 8:10. No, you cannot buy it at a store! He gives this gift freely to all who seek Him. You can wear the t-shirts with all the scriptures, but they won't set you free unless you seek Him and know Him. We need to plant ourselves in His Word (His rich soil) every day. Roots are very important in our walk. Colossians 2:6-7, "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving." (Just as the Colossian believers had begun with Christ, so Paul encourages them to continue in their walk with Him. Paul uses four words to describe the Colossians' walk with Christ. The tense of the word translated "rooted" denotes a complete action; the believers have been rooted in Christ. The next three words, "built up", "established", and "abounding", are in the present tense, showing the continual growth that should characterize every Christian's walk with Christ.) How can we possibly experience true joy, true peace, and true hope without Jesus? Our walk would be hollow and meaningless absent of His Presence. Romans 15:13, NKJV says this, "Now, may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." 'Peace in believing' and 'abound in hope' are fruit from the root. This Christmas Season, may the true joy, peace, and hope of Christmas abound in each of your homes knowing that Jesus came as a baby to later go to the cross for you and for me so that we may experience eternal life forevermore. Now that is truly the gift we desire to share with everyone we know, love, and yet to know and love. Mele Kalikimaka, Ohana!

FOOD PANTRY - <u>DISTRIBUTION</u> EVERY 1st and 3rd" SATURDAY each MONTH @ 9:30 am. Your donations go a very long way to help the families in our community. LOOK FOR THE CAN. Blessings!



Our dear friend, Don Berman, moved to Heaven last Sunday. He follows his wife, Janice who moved this past January. Please keep Mark, Shavi, and Wayne in prayer as they recover from surgeries. Please keep Pastor Ako and Toni in prayer for total healing. Reach for Jesus' hem in faith. Amen! Special Dec. 2024 Events: Kaleb Asher – Dec. 2nd Kelly Brisbois – Dec. 5th Genevieve Drexler – Dec. 9th Moises Henriquez – Dec. 9th James Ruiz, Jr. – Dec. 11th Randy Bentley – Dec. 12th Paul & Brenda Ann – 14th Kathy Rule – Dec. 18th Elaine Foote – Dec. 26th

LET'S READ <u>HIS WORD</u> TOGETHER IN <u>2024</u>

Meditate on these:



Monday – Matthew 1 Tuesday – Luke 1 Wednesday – Luke 2 Thursday – John 1 Friday – Matthew 1 & Luke 1 Saturday – Luke 2 & John 1 Sunday – Holy Spirit

Sparkle Team – Bless these hands Father!

Please consider joining our Sparkle team this year. Your hands and feet will bless this house. We are here every Saturday morning at 9am. Bless the hands that prepared the Church for service today.

BETHLEHEM SIGN UPS

Please see Karen if you would like to sign up to volunteer for "A Night in **Bethlehem**". This will be our 14th Christmas Eve event from 5pm to 9pm followed by our Candlelight Service at 11pm. We will need a few live baby Jesus'. Let us know if you have anyone under 3 months who have parents that will participate. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall. Help us spread the word in the community for this event. Thank you, Javier for volunteering an Angel and help in the bakery along with a couple Hawkins brothers. Keep this event in prayer for His Light to Shine. Please spread the word to invite.

THIS WEEK'S MEMIORY VERSE:

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14



"Give things to the Lord, for He is good!" His faithful love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34. Our Sunday school lesson is about the ten lepers Jesus healed and only one came back to thank Him. I often wonder how much we thank our Savior for saving us from our sins. Probably we don't thank Him enough. It is easy to thank Jesus for the major things in our lives such as our jobs, homes, loved ones, and friends, but do you also remember to thank Him for the small things in our lives. Jesus loves and cares about us. He provides many things for us to have a good life. We just need to say, "Thank You, Lord, for giving us what we need." Thank you, Elaine, for sharing this lesson

UFF CANDLELIGHT SERVICE Join us after "A Night in Bethlehem" for our annual Candlelight Service at 11:00 pm. Come Let Us Adore Him!



Please join us in the fellowship hall after service hosted by Jim Berry. We are grateful to Randy & Elaine for hosting fellowship last week. 🕝 See Terrie if you would like to host a brunch.

<u>MONDAY NIGHT PRAYER</u> – Next Prayer Location TBD, Monday, Jan. 13, 2024 7-9 pm. "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is wea,k.". Matthew 26:41

Login to www.universityfamilyfellowship.org to hear the sermons.