

ELMIRA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2011



FROM THE PASTOR



Greetings and Happy Holidays to one and all.

During this time of year when thoughts of family, feasting and fun tend to predominate, I am reminded of a story in the life of Jesus when He healed a group of lepers, and, in their jubilant hurry to rush off and tell their friends and families, all but one of them forgot to remember to thank the Lord who had healed them. "Were there not ten cleansed?" our Lord asked, "but where are the nine?" (Luke 17:11-19) In other words, many want to receive the blessings of God without having to truly thank Him for these blessings.

It seems to me that our culture today is almost intentionally doing what it can to erase God from our

minds as we feast upon the blessings of Thanksgiving and Christmas but forget to acknowledge Him from whom all the blessings flow. God would not have us, His people, forget that He is the One for whom Thanksgiving is offered, and it is because of His entering into our history through the birth of the Lord Jesus that we have any reason to observe Christmas at all.

Let's remember to give thanks to the One to Whom thanks is due, and to remember Him to Whom Christmas points us, as we enter this holiday time of year.

May God bless you this holiday season, and all the rest of the year.

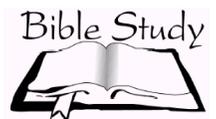
With warm regards,
Pastor Dunn

CHURCH NEWS



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held each Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM at the church with Pastor Brutus from the Friendship Church. All are encouraged to come as we study together.

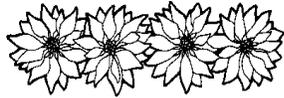


INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS

2012 devotional books are available from the Adventist Book Center, for ages Preschool through Adult. Descriptions and sign-up sheets are provided on the bulletin board. Order now to be ready for the new year

in your family worship and personal devotions. Sharing books are also available as well as the Amazing Facts daily devotional, *Moving Mountains*.

POINSETTIAS



Anyone wishing to provide poinsettias in memory of a loved one, please contact Joyce Cmelko by December 10.

VESPERS

A program of Christmas music and scripture will be held December 17, 4:30 p.m. at the church. A light supper will be provided following the program.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



During our worship service Sabbath, December 24, we will be remembering our Savior's birth with music and scripture.

COMMUNION SERVICE



Sabbath, December 31 will be our service of foot washing and the Lord's Supper. *Every disciple is called upon to participate publicly, and thus bear witness that he accepts Christ as a personal Saviour. It is at these, His own appointments, that Christ meets His people, and energizes them by His presence....All who come with their faith fixed upon Him will be greatly blessed.* The Desire of Ages, p. 656.

The Master ordained the service of foot washing to signify renewed cleansing, to express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love. Fundamental Beliefs, 15.

NEW MEMBER

Irene Marr has been studying the Bible for some time and watching her favorite channel - 3ABN. She was brought into church membership by Profession of Faith October 8. We welcome her into our fellowship.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS



Sabbath luncheon dates are as follows: December 3 will be Soup & Sandwiches and December 10 will be a regular luncheon. January 7 will be Soup & Sandwiches, January 14 will be a regular luncheon. Please note changes and mark your calendars accordingly. All are invited to join us for lunch and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass.

NEW PHONE NUMBER

... for Lois Shappee is: 570-784-1736. Let's remember her with a phone call now and then.



VISIT A SHUT-IN

Let us remember to send a card or letter, or stop by and visit our sick and shut-in members, not only in this holiday season, but throughout the whole year.

3ABN UPDATE

Help raise \$31,800 to upgrade Channel 21 to digital. Mark your tithe envelope 3ABN upgrade. We currently have \$11,155.00 toward our goal.



LABELS AND BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to save your General Mills Boxtops and Campbell's UPC symbols for the Holbrook SDA Indian School in Arizona. Boxtops and UPC symbols can be given Joyce Cmelko.

Check out our Church website at: www.elmirasda.com

Downloadable sermons are available at this site.

You are now able to return the Lord's tithe and your offerings online at our website as well.



PRAYER LIST

Don & Alice Congdon
Ethan Curtis
Hilda Dwyer
Bill & Marie Kaiser
Theresa Kerr
Frances Mc Millen
Ernie Miller



John & Martha Pack
Lorraine Parker
Doris Stewart
Harold Washburn, Sr.
Frank Ziegler
Ongoing Bible Studies
Our Shut-ins



SABBATH SCHOOL

Our fourth quarter Adult Sabbath School lessons, "The Gospel in Galatians," continue in December. During the first quarter of 2011, beginning in January, we will be studying *Glimpses of Our God*, looking at the various aspects of God as they have been revealed to us - the Godhead, God as our Creator, God as our Redeemer. All are encouraged to study daily and join in for our class discussion on Sabbath morning.

Please join us as we study each Sabbath morning. Song service begins at 9:20. Classes are provided for adults and children.

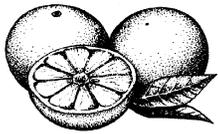


INVESTMENT

Thank you for saving your newspapers, magazines, cans and bottles and health food labels for Investment. See Alvin Jackson, our Investment leader, to donate magazines and newspapers. Please be sure the UPC symbol is on the food labels. Labels that are accepted are: Worthington, Loma Linda, Morningstar Farms, Morningstar Farms Organic, Natural Touch. Labels not accepted are: Cedar Lake and Vibrant Life.



FRUIT SALES



2011-2012 Fruit Sale Dates are planned for: December 18, January 22, February 19, March 18 in the Nature's Garden building. Sales will be from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Oranges and Pink Grapefruit are available by the full case, half or quarter. To order fruit or to offer your help, contact Malcolm Dwyer, 739-7748.

Pathfinders will hold a Bake Sale each month during our Fruit Sales. Our customers always look forward to your baked goods during the holiday season. Thank you for your support.



NATURE'S GARDEN

STORE HOURS Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., OR by appointment,
Call Larry Taft – 732-0463, Or Mac & Hilda Dwyer – 739-7748.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – January 20 – CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 732-9629 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904 or e-mail us at: shareyn@gmail.com



*Heaven and earth are no wider apart today
than when shepherds listened to the angel's song.
Humanity is still as much the object of heaven's solicitude
as when common men of common occupations
met angels at noonday, and talked with the heavenly messengers
in the vineyards and the fields.
To us in the common walks of life,
heaven may be very near.
Angels from the courts above will attend the steps
of those who come and go at God's command.
The Desire of Ages, p. 48*



*For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

*For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through Him might be saved.*

John 3: 16, 17

Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church
c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

