

THE MESSENGER

Franklin United Brethren Church

7171 Central College Road

New Albany, OH 43054

WWW.FRANKLINUB.ORG

Facebook Live Every Sunday 10:15 am

Sunday Service 10:15 am

DECEMBER 2022

“WIN – TRAIN – SEND”

**HE WAS BORN SO THAT...
WE COULD BE BORN AGAIN**

As we approach Christmas this year let me remind you of the words of the angel Gabriel: “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11). Shepherds were keeping watch over their flocks by night but had no idea what to make of the angels appearance. When the angel Gabriel spoke he used three titles for the baby born in Bethlehem: Savior, Christ, and Lord. Each word had a different meaning. Savior: deliverer/Savior, Christ: anointed, Lord: master/owner. Each word foretold the future for the babe of Bethlehem. Fortunately, the shepherds followed their curiosity and made the trip to Bethlehem and saw the Savior/Christ/Lord in the manger. They were so overwhelmed with joy and touched by the Spirit that they spread the word concerning what had been said about the child. So...from the announcement of Gabriel all the way until Christ’s death on the cross he revealed himself as the Christ, the Savior and the Lord.

At the age of 30 another title was bestowed upon him by John the Baptist. As Jesus approached John to be baptized John said: “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29, KJV). The first century Jew clearly knew that the reference to lamb meant a sacrifice, and of course, three years later Jesus sacrificed his life on the cross for our sins. He was born so that we could be born again. Let’s think about another encounter: Jesus and Nicodemus, John 3. Nicodemus was probably a wealthy man, and he was a respected man among both Jews and Roman. Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Jewish ruling council (the Sanhedrin). One night Nicodemus approached Jesus and started a discussion with a compliment to Jesus: “We know that you are a teacher who comes from God...we know you can do miracles...God is with you”. We will never know where Nicodemus intended that conversation to go but Jesus “grabbed it” and took it in a direction Nicodemus was not prepared for. Jesus changed the subject and said bluntly, “No one can see God unless he is born again”. Wow, you talk about being direct! Jesus cut out the chit chat and said: “You want to get to heaven? Get born again”. Once again, the scripture is clear: Jesus was here to be the Savior, in John 3 it is clear; Jesus was born so that we could be born again.

As we count down the days to Christmas remember the three titles of the angel: Savior/Christ/Lord. We make these titles personal to us when we become born again.

Merry Christmas, Pastor Mike

PRAYER NEEDS

Pastor Dan Kopp, Sandy Estep, Clarabell Harlan, Dick Fisher

Missionary of the Month: Mike and Heather Slagle and their four children. Mike and Heather are with CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ), their regular ministry is to visit smaller college campuses all across Ohio and do evangelism and discipleship.

Shut-Ins: Helen Smith, Melvin Burdette, Barb Pittenger, Midge Gathers, Trish Dolejs, Clarabell Harlan, and Margaret Jewett, Faye Cooper

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
(Isaiah 9:6)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, December 15th at 6PM: Women's Ministry is looking to add more ladies and projects. Interested? See Tamie McVay.

Sunday, December 11th – NACP Advent Service 5PM, 6 PM: We are invited to the New Albany Presbyterian Advent Service here at Franklin Church. Actually, crafts for children at 5 PM; Advent service at 6 PM.

December 24th 7 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Our traditional service for the whole family. This year it is our only weekend service.

December 25th: No Franklin UB church service. However, New Albany Presbyterian Church will hold a 10 AM service; you are welcome to join.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.