

Unwrapping Christmas Gifts: The Bible
Exodus 3:1-14

The Bible tells us about _____.

The Bible tells us about _____.

The Bible tells us how to _____.

Unwrapping the _____ for it to be useful.

December 3, 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

Pianist: Geoffrey Zimmerly • **Organist:** Phyllis Snyder

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *The First Noel* - piano/organ

Lighting the First Advent Candle

***Song:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* pg. 245 vs. 1

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-14 (pew Bible pg. 90)

Ministry in Music: *Let Heaven & Earth Sing Gloria*
Bell Choir

Prayer

Our Worship in Giving: *What Child Is This?* - Bell Choir
(First-time guests, please do not feel obligated to give.
Your presence with us today is gift enough.)

***Doxology** pg. 166

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Song:** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* pg. 244
(Children ages 3-6 dismissed to the back of the sanctuary.)

Message: Unwrapping Christmas Gifts: The Bible

***Song:** *In His Time* pg. 681

***Closing Prayer & Response**
Emmanuel pg. 243

*If able, please stand

Flowers on the communion table are given by Alan and
Linda McFalls in honor of their Fathers.

December 3, 2017

First Time @ Smithville Brethren?

Welcome, we are thrilled to have you as our guests today. Here is some information you will find helpful.

First, there is a gift waiting for you at our welcome center in the main lobby. Please stop by so we can give it to you.

Second, we would like you to know that we have two worship services here at Smithville Brethren. We have a 9:00 am service in the Sanctuary with a traditional feel and an 11:15 am service in the Upper Fellowship Hall with a contemporary feel.

Third, we believe that the responsibility to support the church financially rests upon the members and friends of this church and not on you, our guest. Please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering today.

Fourth, we love children here at SBC so we have a nursery which is open for children from birth to two years old. You may bring your child to the lower level for either service and Sunday school. Our nursery is staffed by loving people who would enjoy caring for your child. If you desire to keep your child in the service, that is perfectly fine also.

Fifth, during both services we also have Jr. church for children ages 3-6. Jr. church begins partway through the service and allows your child a chance to learn about God in a more age appropriate environment. Jr. church is located in the lower level, room #117. You will see a slide on the screen that tells when to send your child out for Jr. church, if you desire to do so.

Volunteers for Today:

9:00 Children's Church: Bev Kail
Nursery: Kate Smith, Emma Zemancik, Sara Beichler
11:15 Children's Church: Erica Shaffer, Ruth Bachman
Nursery:

Sunday, Dec. 3

6:00 Youth Hangout (6th-12th grade)

Wednesday, Dec. 6

6:30 Blanket Ministry
6:30 Time of Prayer
7:00 Choir practice

Saturday, Dec. 9

9:00 Bell Choir practice LFH

Prayer

- Betsy West - Apostolic Nursing Home
- Bertha Rudy - Apostolic Nursing Home
- Walt & Gail Sniff
- Bill & Glenna Mast
- Charles & Edna Fleming - Danbury Senior Living
- Hilda Flory

Christmas Celebration! We're excited to celebrate the season with our annual Christmas Carol Celebration. The concert is tonight at 4:30 pm. Come join us for an evening of Christmas music performed by the choir, bell choir, and many soloists/musicians from our church. A lasagna dinner will follow the program. Donations are welcome.



Christmas Gift Giving Thank you to everyone who picked up an ornament for Green Local Schools. Please have all gifts to the church by today.

Board Meetings

- *CE Board* will meet Dec. 5, 7:00 pm.
- *Official Board* is meeting Dec. 18, 6:30 pm.



Christmas Challenge! This years' Christmas Challenge will go to Camp Bethany. The Lodge has a new two-story expansion and needs furniture! Camp Bethany, and the Lodge in particular, are used year round for many events; enhancing this building opens the door for Camp to be accessible for many different groups. As part of our multi-phase project, we are first adding four new bedrooms and two new bathrooms on each floor. Doing so will allow the Lodge to be more appealing for small family retreats, as well as more comfortable for adult couples who don't want to bunk with 5 other couples. Please mark your checks for "Christmas Challenge."

Food Distribution We will be distributing food to local needy families. We need people to help organize the food on Monday, Dec. 18, 9:00-10:30 am. We also need people 2:30-4:00 and 6:00-7:30 pm, (the same day) to help distribute. Please sign the sheet on the Information table.

Christmas Eve Service Invite family and friends to the Christmas Eve Services, Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 & 6:30 pm. The 5:00 pm service will be in the upper fellowship hall with our worship team. The 6:30 pm service will be in the sanctuary with a more traditional feel. Both services will include a special time for children and a message.



Pastor Art Carr • e-mail: artcarr@earthlink.net
Pastor H. Ray Aspinall • e-mail: hrayaspinall@earthlink.net
Ted Peplowski, Contemporary Worship Leader • tpeplowski@aol.com
Carol Horst, Secretary • e-mail: sbrethren@earthlink.net

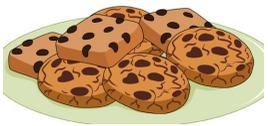
Church Mailboxes Please check your mailboxes for any Christmas cards or other information, especially during this holiday season.

December Forward Look is available on the Information wall and on our website at smithvillebrethren.org. If you would like to receive the newsletter either by email or mail, please let the church office know, 330-669-2268.

Thank you for your continued support of the four orphans that our church supports in Rajamundry, India! Because our previous children have left the orphanage, we have received information on our new children. Please continue to pray for them. If you would like to write to them, I can give you the address of the orphanage. Cards may also be sent with the group traveling to India at the end of December. Contact Sue McConahay to send them. There is more information in the December newsletter.

Cookies for Breakaway!

Breakaway is a time-released Christian education class at Smithville. Our church has been asked to donate cookies for 2 weeks in January. A total of 16 doz. cookies are needed. The cookies can be homemade or store bought. Sign up sheet is located at the Information table. Cookies can be left in the upper kitchen marked "Breakaway" by January 7.



Our Daily Bread Feel free to pick up a free copy of the December-February devotional, *Our Daily Bread*, found on the Information wall and by the west door.

Christmas wreaths will be placed on the veterans graves in the three historic cemeteries within the village. A dedication and placement of these wreaths is scheduled for December 16, at 3:00 pm. If you would like to purchase a wreath for \$15 contact Dana Keirstead at 330-669-2514. You may also pick up a wreath to color and write a thank you note to a veteran, on the Information table.

Handel's Messiah You are invited to hear selections from Handel's Messiah performed at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, 7843 Smucker Rd., Smithville on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 2:30 pm. For more information, please call the church at 330-669-2697.