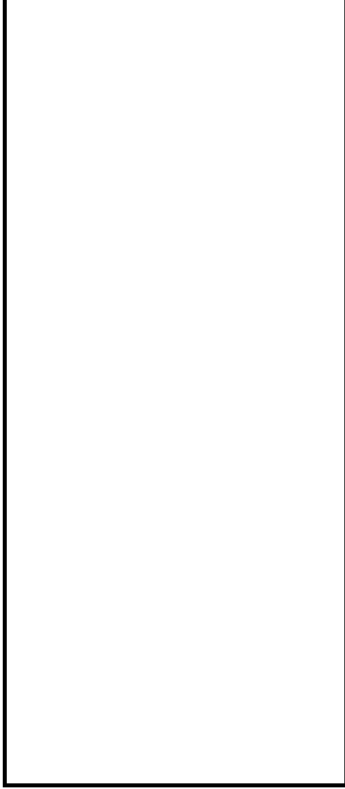




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THE CHIMES



Starkdale Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Newsletter December/January

Worship Services 9AM and 11 AM

MESSAGE FROM
REV. G. CARL MOORE

“The First Christmas Promise”

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. (Gen.3:15)

What is the meaning of Christmas? Christmas is about the birth of Jesus! The birth of Jesus Christ (what we culturally know as Christmas) is one of the most important doctrines of the Christian faith and one of the most important events in salvation history. Sceptics will ask “If the birth of Jesus is one of the most important events in history, then why is it only mentioned in the gospels, and in only two of the gospels: e.g., Matthew and Luke and only in the first two chapters, never to be mentioned again? If the birth of Jesus is so important, shouldn’t it be referenced throughout Scripture?” It’s true that the birth narrative is only recorded in two of the gospels in just the first two chapters. However, we would be misguided to think that Matthew and Luke are the only two places that the birth of Jesus is alluded to in Scripture. Case in point is Genesis. That’s right! The first reference to Christmas is in Genesis. Genesis 3:15 is a Christmas promise of Christ’s victory at the Cross. Genesis 3:15 is the promise of a Deliverer who would be the promised offspring in the godly line of Eve.

The birth of Jesus was the partial fulfillment of Genesis 3:15. What do I mean? When Jesus was born it was a fight to the finish between Satan and Jesus. Satan knew very well, in part, the general meaning of the prophesy. He knew that Jesus came to crush his head and that at best, all he was predicted to do was bruise Jesus’ heel. Satan, I’m sure, said, “Nonsense! I’m going to crush his head before he can crush mine.” So as soon as the eternal son of God became a little helpless baby in the manger Satan said, “Finally, I got him! Finally, God is within my grasp.” We all know the story of this conflict. King Herod the Great (one of the offspring of Satan) lashed out at Jesus, doing Satan’s bidding. Herod’s demonic enmity resulted in the murder of all male children ranging from the ages of two and under. God warned Mary and Joseph of Herod’s infanticide, and they were able to escape to Egypt.



Birthdays

- 2 David Turkaly
- 3 Alexis Gambos
- 5 Ruth Carson
- 7 George Allan
- 7 Jeff Criss
- 8 Ted Whitaker
- 13 Lori Kinney
- 15 Sharon Patterson
- 16 Mary Louise Morgan
- 17 Margaret Stewart
- 18 Olivia Chanoski
- 19 Sandee Huber
- 23 Hayden Paris
- 25 Hayes Murison
- 27 Vickey Makari





Birthdays

- 3 Rick Patterson Throckmorton
- 3 Donald Vandeborne 21 Joan Copeland
- 8 R. J. Stewart, Jr. 23 Rodney Louk
- 10 Denise Franckhauser 25 Clarence Wickham
- 11 Irwin (Stu) Stukins 27 John Parkinson
- 13 Joyce Palmer 27 Robert (R.J.) Stewart
- 17 George Huber Jr. 30 Helen Bayne
- 18 Betty Hackathorne 30 Leanne Pendleton

18 Terri

Anniversaries

- 7 Peter and Denise Franckhauser
- 23 Donald and Dianna Vandeborne
- 31 Chris and Kelly Dopp

SNOW REMOVAL



We are looking for an individual to clean snow off the sidewalks during the weekdays (Sundays will still be covered by church volunteers, sign-up sheet in the narthex). Please contact the church office if you are interested.

John Parkinson, Administration Chair

Satan came back again and again and again throughout his public ministry. Finally, Satan had whittled down Jesus’ support, that the spiritual offspring of Satan was greater in number than the offspring of the godly, so great that even Jesus’ inner circle abandoned him. In fact, Satan had one of his spiritual offspring operating as a double agent: Judas Iscariot. At the right moment Satan stirred Judas to betray Jesus. And Finally, Satan had him right where he wanted him. Things unfolded according to Satan’s plan: arrested by night, trial before kangaroo courts (one by night and the other by day). He was then flogged; he was sentenced to death. He was forced to walk to Golgotha where he would die, forced to carry his own cross (an instrument of torture and death); they nailed him to that rugged cross; and there he died. It finally looked as though Satan had won the war, that he in fact had crushed the head of Jesus. But something happened; on the third day Satan realized that he hadn’t crushed the head of Jesus (the promised deliverer). He realized that he had only bruised Jesus’ heel, that he had not defeated Jesus once and for all, crushing his head via the cross. Satan realized that the death of Jesus on the cross was just a bruising for Jesus, while it was a crushing defeat for him. John Gerstner wrote this about Satan’s momentary triumph:

“Satan was majestically triumphant in this battle. He nailed Jesus to the cross. The prime object of all his striving through all the ages was achieved. But he had failed. For the prophecy which has said that he would indeed bruise the seed of the woman has also said that his head would be crushed by Christ’s heel. Thus, while Satan was celebrating his triumph in battle over the Son of God, the full weight of the Atonement accomplished by the Crucifixion came down on him, and he realized that all this time, so far from successfully battling against the Almighty, he had actually been carrying out the purpose of an all-wise God.”

continued....

Beloved, this is the gift of the first promise of Christmas way back in the Garden of Eden. That gift was the gift of salvation secured at the cross. At the cross Jesus defeated Satan, crushing his head, while only bruising his heel: that is, at the cross Jesus won the war of redemption by losing the battle through crucifixion!

Christmas is not about gifts, and food, and parties, and Hallmark stories. Christmas is about a promise kept long ago in the Garden of Eden, a promise to save us “from Satan’s power when we were gone astray.” A promise of “glad tidings of comfort and joy.” If you have not trusted Jesus as your Lord and savior, if you have not trusted in Jesus as Adam and Eve and as all of the other godly offspring have throughout sacred history, I bid you to do so now! Amen!

Pastor Carl

*Thank
you*

After 20 years of service to the church as Nursery Director, Sharon Patterson has retired. We would like to thank Sharon for her many years of service and the great job she did caring for our young future members.

John Parkinson, Administration Committee Chair, and the Starkdale Congregation

**BABY
GIRL**



FLOCK TALK

Proud parents, George and Ashley Huber, announce the birth of their daughter Kendra Rae Huber, on October 23, 2020. She weighed 6 lbs. 5 oz. and was 19” long.



Our Sympathy is extended to Carolyn McCamic, Brian McCamic, and their extended family, in the death of Carolyn’s husband and Brian’s father, Vernon McCamic, on October 6, 2020.

Our Sympathy is extended to Joe Rekai and his extended family in the death of his wife, Peggy Rekai, on November 15, 2020.



Donna Gradel is the daughter of Betty Hackathorne and the niece of George Allan, Ruth Carson, and Mary Beth Allan.

In 2018, Donna was chosen as Teacher of the Year for the State of Oklahoma and taught at Broken Arrow Public Schools. In 2019, Donna was chosen as one of four candidates for National Teacher of the Year.

Although she was not chosen as National Teacher, it was quite an honor for Donna and her family. In 2020, Donna was inducted into the National Teacher’s Hall of Fame. She is now in an administrative position at Summit Christian Academy in Broken Arrow. Needless to say, her family is very proud of her accomplishments.

God Bless,
Betty Hackathorne

NOTE FROM ADMINISTRATION

We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for the lift project. \$80,000 was raised so far and the Session has voted to make up the difference out of the general account. If you were unable or would still like to make a donation, please note on your check that it is for the “lift project.”



Dear Starkdale Family,

Thanking my Starkdale Church Family is my joy for today. You all have been so kind with your calls, cards and prayers, and I’m so happy to say God was listening. I’m doing very well and enjoying the weather and people here in Florida. Of course, the Big “C” is still there, but so am I. God bless you and thank you,
Robbie France



I would like to thank my Church Family for everything you have done for my family over the last several years. Vernon was sick for quite some time, and you were always there for us.

Thanks for all the prayers, love, concern, cards, meals and everything else that has been done for us. Thanks to Pastor Carl Moore and Pastor Tom Bullard for visits, texts, and prayers. Thank you to Carl for doing the service.

In Christian Love,
Carolyn and Brian McCamic

Dear Carl and Starkdale Church Family,

I am so very grateful for the visits, the prayers, the flowers, the cards and calls I have received from so many of you throughout my recent confinement. They all, truly have been quite meaningful and uplifting as I have recuperated.

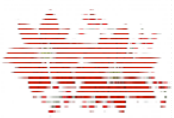
I am very hopeful of being back with you at services very soon.

Thankfully, Marge Bedortha

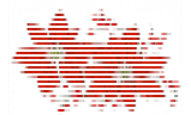
Dear Starkdale Family,

Miss you all. Thank you so much for your beautiful cards. The Lord has blessed me with such wonderful friends.

Sincerely, Janet Haverfield



December 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10a Bible Study	2 6p Bible Study	3	4	5 9a Quilter's InC
6 Second Sunday of Advent	7	8 - 10a Bible Study	9 6p Bible Study	10 6:30p Session Mtg.	11	12
13 Third Sunday of Advent COMMUNION	14	15 10a Bible Study	16 6p Bible Study	17	18	19
20 Fourth Sunday of Advent	21	22	23	24 7:00p Christmas Eve Candlelight Service <i>Office Closed</i>	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26
27 The First Sun- day after Christmas Day	28	29 10a Bible Study	30 6p Bible Study	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE <i>Office Closed</i>		

January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HAPPY NEW YEAR <i>Office Closed</i>	2
3 Epiphany Sunday	4	5 10a Bible Study	6 6p Bible Study	7	8	9
10 First Sunday after Epiphany COMMUNION	11	12 10a Bible Study	13 6p Bible Study	14 6:30p Joint Session Meeting	15	16
17 Second Sunday after Epiphany	18	19 10a Bible Study	20 6p Bible Study	21	22	23
24 Third Sunday after Epiphany	25	26 10a Bible Study	27 6p Bible Study	28	29	30
31 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany						