

STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY

The Advent season begins this Sunday. During the four weeks of Advent, Christians are to prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the celebration of the coming of Jesus. Also, this means Christmas is coming. Families are making their Christmas plans. We are decorating our homes, planning parties, and buying, wrapping, and hiding presents. The season is filled with hurried preparation. Let me challenge us to commit to God to make these days leading up to Christmas days of hope, love, joy and peace instead of chaos and busyness. Donald Shelby says it like this: *“We need a season of Advent to interrupt and unsettle us, to give us pause, to make us ponder, and to challenge our intentions and priorities. We need this season because we can be creatures of habit and routine who take each other and or spiritual lives for granted. We need this season because we are prone to reduce the mysterious in order to make it manageable and marketable. We need this season as a reminder that our encounter with God through Christ can forever change our life and our world.”* Advent is a time to become reacquainted with the wonder of God.

Your Pastor and Friend,

T. Dale Lynch

FOREIGN MISSION GOAL - \$13,000

Pepe and Shari Lopez rely heavily on relationship building to enhance their ministry opportunities in the Canary Islands, just off the west coast of Africa. Earning the trust of the people is a lengthy process, but the Lopezes have found that providing free, no-strings attached services helps earn that trust. Shari leads children's camps and Pepe teaches a Spanish class. Omar, a Muslim, is one of Pepe's most dependable students. Because of Pepe's dedication and free teaching, the trust level has skyrocketed. Through these friendships, the Lopezes are able to reach areas of the community that previously would have been impossible to reach. Our Foreign Missions Offerings are the "life-support" for people like these missionaries. Please remember them during our Season of Prayer for Foreign Missions and help us reach our goal of \$13,000.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Sunday Receipts (11-22-09)	\$ 7,006.00
Year To Date Requirements	\$ 559,470.61
Year To Date Receipts	\$ 500,660.68
Found Faithful Commitment Cards	\$ 522,425.30
Found Faithful Weekly Receipts	\$ 695.76
Found Faithful Year To Date Receipts	\$ 104,617.36
Found Faithful Total Receipts	\$ 461,052.45



What would a football coach be without his players? How well could a quarterback do without linemen to block for him and receivers to catch the passes? What would a minister of music be without his team? As I ponder these questions during this season of giving thanks, I am reminded of just how grateful I am for those who sing, those who ring bells, those who play instruments, those who lead and teach our children. Without these talented people who give unselfishly of themselves each and every week, our worship would surely be lacking, and there would be no need for this one "coach." Today I am so thankful for dedicated and talented choir members, handbell ringers, accompanists and all those leaders who help us in our Music Ministry. I am also thankful for our pastor, and for a congregation that loves to sing. May we look forward to this Advent and Christmas season with great anticipation for all of the joy and excitement during our special times of worship! This week I want to especially thank The Master's Ringers, the Sanctuary Choir, Doug and Austin Finley for the special music on Sunday and at the BIMA service on Tuesday. Also, the preschooler choir was fabulous on Sunday evening! Thank you, Elizabeth Stone and Patti Rowe for leading these precious children.

Praising Him.... ~ Robert

ADVENT WREATHS

Children in grades 1-5 will meet in the "Old" Youth Room with a parent this Sunday morning at 10 am. Please bring real or artificial greenery. We will be making Advent Wreaths.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, November 29

9:00 a.m.	The Master's Ringers rehearse
9:30 a.m.	Prayer Group in the Conference Room
10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service
11:00 a.m.	Live WEPC 88.5
4:00 p.m.	Ultimate Frisbee/Youth meet at Youth Bldg.
4:30 p.m.	The Master's Ringers
5:00 p.m.	Vespers
6:00 p.m.	Basic Life

Monday, November 30

8:30 a.m.	WEE School
9:30 a.m.	Senior Adult Bells
10:30 a.m.	Live Wire Choir

Tuesday, December 1

8:30 a.m.	WEE School
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Wednesday, December 2

8:30 a.m.	WEE School
5:00 p.m.	Children's Handchimes & Handbells
5:15 p.m.	Supper line opens
	Menu: lasagna, tossed salad, bread, dessert & drinks
6:15 p.m.	Children's Choirs/Youth/Prayer Meeting
6:15 p.m.	Men & Women's Life Groups
7:15 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, December 3

8:30 a.m.	WEE School
4:00 p.m.	AM Service Broadcast/Channel 15

Friday, December 4

8:30 a.m.	WEE School
6:30 p.m.	Women's Ministry Christmas Event

YOUTH MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

The following members of our church are serving on the Youth Minister Search Committee: Laurie Ashley, Jane Green, Michelle McCollum, David Vaughn, Jennifer Wilson, Matt Wurst, Greg Tysl – Deacon Chairman and T. Dale Lynch, Pastor.

