

# Our Church-wide Christmas Events

Sunday, December 7th  
Children/Youth Christmas Play  
in both morning worship services

Sunday, December 14th  
Adult Christmas Choir Presentation  
in both morning worship services

Sunday, December 14th  
Lottie Moon Ingathering - Special service for our  
International Missions Offering in the evening - 6:00 p.m.  
*Snacks & Fellowship following in the Fellowship Hall  
Please bring finger foods to share*

Wednesday, December 24th  
Christmas Eve Service - 5:30 p.m.

*Don't Miss These Blessings!*



**eXtra Years of Zest**  
for Seniors Adults

December 9th

10:30 a.m.  
in the Church  
Fellowship Hall

## CHRISTMAS PARTY



Patricia Patterson, Host

*bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange  
and a side dish - ham provided*

### Budget Vote December 21

Our 2009 budget will be voted on by secret ballot without comment in both morning services as prescribed by our constitution. It was presented and discussed in the November business meeting.

# Boyd Avenue Baptist Church

1930 Boyd Avenue  
Casper, Wyoming 82604  
(307) 261-9896

email: [info@boydavenuebaptist.org](mailto:info@boydavenuebaptist.org)  
web site: [www.boydavenuebaptist.org](http://www.boydavenuebaptist.org)

REACH • TEACH • SERVE

### Events of the Month

### Regular Schedule

DECEMBER 2008

- Nov. 30-Dec. 7 - WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
- 7 - CHILDREN/YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY..... 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
- 9 - XYZ ..... 10:30 a.m.
- 14 - ADULT CHRISTMAS CHOIR..... 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
LOTTIE MOON OFFERING INGATHERING ..... 6:00 p.m.
- 21 - DEACON'S MEETING..... 5:30 p.m.
- 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE..... 5:30 p.m.
- 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY
- CARE Ministry Activities each Mon. or Tues. (6:30 p.m.)

- SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**
- Early Morning Worship.....8:00 a.m.
- KUYO Radio Program, 830 AM.....9:00 a.m.
- Bible Study for all ages.....9:15 a.m.
- Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
- Midwest Worship Service.....3:00 p.m.
- Youth Bible Study ..... 6:00 p.m.
- Evening Worship ..... 7:00 p.m.
- MONDAYS**
- Men's Morning Prayer.....6:30 a.m.
- TUESDAYS**
- BCM - C.C. CE Rm 217 .....8:00 p.m.
- WEDNESDAYS**
- Preschool (3-K)/Children/Youth Activities..... 6:30 p.m.
- Prayer Meeting ..... 6:30 p.m.
- Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.
- Choir Rehearsal ..... 7:45 p.m.
- THURSDAYS**
- Men's Discipleship Brkfst at the Platte River.....6:30 a.m.
- Midwest Activities - Adults, Youth & Children..... 6:30 p.m.

Permit #73  
Casper, WY 82601  
PAID  
US POSTAGE  
ORGANIZATION  
NON PROFIT

Boyd Avenue Baptist Church  
1930 Boyd Avenue  
Casper WY 82604  
Address Service Requested

# FROM PASTOR QUIN

The other day, I saw a clip on the national news that an atheist group in New York City was running an ad campaign on billboards, bus stop benches, and other public advertisement opportunities. The ad ran something like this: "Why believe in a god? Be good for goodness sake." I must confess that my initial reaction was one of anger and disgust. But, then on further review, it struck me, that in the ad the atheists have answered their own question.

People, apart from the supernatural involvement of God, simply cannot be good for goodness sake, or any other sake. Furthermore, it takes more than a belief in a god to be good. Goodness requires the activity of the only one true and living God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The ad also showed a very shallow understanding of Christianity. It seems that they think that Christians are consumed with the goal of behavior modification. While God calls on us to modify our behaviors, this is a by-product of the Christian life, not the goal of the Christian life. The goal of the Christian life, as taught in the Bible, is to be a follower of Jesus. "Goodness" is a result of walking in that path.

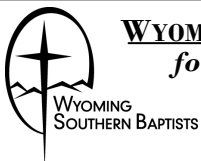
Also, we have to keep in mind, that we do not get to define goodness. Now, the atheists are always defining and redefining goodness. In fact, depending on the atheist, you will find that definitions of goodness will vary. This makes being "good for goodness sake" a moving and allusive target. As a teenager, I spent many hours dove hunting. To this day, I believe that the most difficult wing target is pass-shooting high flying doves. They are hard to hit because they do not fly straight. Their natural flying pattern creates an unpredictable bobbing and weaving flight. If they have a tail wind, forget it! Trying to define goodness without using the pattern used in the Bible is like a man in the throws of an epileptic seizure trying to pass-shoot high flying doves with a tail wind. No matter how hard a person may try, they will just never get on target.

In the next few weeks, we will be celebrating the birth of the Son of God. It is a time of wonder and joy, that the God of the universe sent His only Son. In Bethlehem's stable we find the only thing that can stabilize our moral compass. Imagine, something stable, born in a stable. Not bad! And as we look into the Christmas stable, we will find that while we cannot be good for goodness sake, we can be good for Jesus' sake.

Merry Christmas  
*Pastor Quin*

Please note that our church office will be closed from Christmas Eve through the New Year holiday, and our staff will not have regular office hours. Please contact one of the staff or a deacon directly if an emergency arises during that time.

**Church Office Closed**  
for the holidays



**WYOMING SOUTHERN BAPTIST CENTER**  
for Leadership Development

**Class Starting January 12**

Golden Gate Seminary sponsors this center and its diploma programs.

**Christian Theology**

is the next class for the  
**Wyoming Southern Baptist Center**  
for Leadership Development,  
meeting on Monday nights  
at the WSBC Office in Casper.

For more information, call Fred Creason at 266-6880 or 267-4235. You will need an application from Fred & you will want to obtain the textbooks prior to the first class meeting.

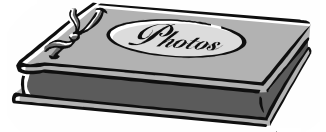
Fred Creason & Marvin Owen  
will be the instructors.

**CARE**  
CARE Ministry

"C" Team - Monday, December 1st - 6:30 p.m.  
"A" Team - Tuesday, December 9th - 6:30 p.m.  
"R" Team - Monday, December 15th - 6:30 p.m.  
"E" Team - Tuesday, December 23rd - 6:30 p.m.

There is *always* room in our CARE ministry for additional faithful team members! Contact Heather Valdez at the church office, 261-9896, or at home, 472-0734.  
You will be richly blessed as you richly bless others!

## After the Holidays . . .



**we plan to begin working on a new church pictorial directory.**

We will take pictures before and after services to make it convenient for everyone. If you would like to help us some by taking pictures with your digital camera or by assisting at a check-in table, please contact the church office.

Your willing help as well as your efforts to get your photo taken promptly will be much appreciated as we pursue this useful church project. Thanks in advance!

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER!**

**Alison Alleman**  
229 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Casper, WY 82604  
265-9570

## 3 Wise Men and a Baby

by Pam Andrews

Our children and youth will be presenting this Christmas musical at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on December 7th. We'll all learn how the best gift is in giving ourselves to Christ.



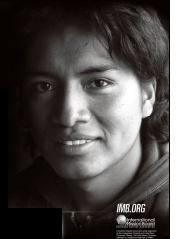
## The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

**GO TELL**  
the story of Jesus

**Boyd Avenue Ingathering**  
6:00 p.m., December 14th

**Our Goal: \$10,000**

Snacks & Fellowship following in the Fellowship Hall - Please bring finger foods



# Student Ministry Reflections

The story of Christmas never ceases to amaze me. I love to read about the angel speaking to Mary and her reaction to the news. Joseph, willing to end his relationship with Mary in a quiet way until he, too, is spoken to by an angel. Mary spends time away with her cousin, Elizabeth, who is also pregnant with John the Baptist. Then the couple is made to travel to Bethlehem, in order to fulfill prophecy. Jesus, born in a humble way, lying in a manger. We see the reactions of the shepherds, the Wise Men, and King Herod as each receives the news of the Messiah's birth.

As I read the accounts of Jesus' birth, one verse always stands out to me. In the book of Matthew, chapter one, verse six we read these words: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel", which translated means, "God with us."

Jesus, fully God, came to earth to live as man. I wrestle with the question, "why would God choose to leave heaven and live on earth as a man with us?" I know that He did this because of His great love for us. I know that this is His plan to offer salvation for the world. I know that God's goodness, mercy and grace is why He did this. Even though I know in my mind all the reasons for Jesus coming to earth, I honestly still am amazed that God could love us this much.

So often we read the Christmas story, sing the songs, and celebrate the birth of Jesus. But do we really take the time to think about what this really means. God stepped down from heaven, was born in a manger, lived and taught on the earth, suffered death on a cross, rose again, ascended into heaven, and now sits at the right hand of the Father. He did all this for us!

As we celebrate another Christmas, let us remember that we are not just celebrating the birth of Jesus. We are celebrating the birth of a Savior who came to take away the sins of the world. We are celebrating God's plan to give us eternal life. We celebrate an amazing God who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Not only did He die on a cross, but He left heaven to live with us.

Remember, as Christians we have reason to celebrate Christmas. Let us do so with joy and excitement and also with reflection and reverence. God is worthy of our worship.

In Him,  
*Ed*