

Prayer Update

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week

Matthew Brunetti (age 13) testing continues, surgical procedure, UCSF

Dave Staffa bone marrow transplant, Stanford

Ethan Pope (age 5) leukemia treatment, LCPCCH El Camino

RECENT SURGERIES OR HOSPITALIZATIONS

Liz Bishop, Ruth Sutherland, Ron Berry

HOSPICE CARE

John Burton, Elizabeth Harrell, Elaine Hedges,

Charleen Van Veldhuizen

HOME WITH THE LORD

Heartfelt love and prayer are extended to Craig Harlamoff in the sudden loss of his beloved wife, **Vivian (Cheng) Harlamoff**. Vivian's mother, Julia Cheng, and sister Juliana Cheng are also members of our church family in need of our love and care through this difficult season of grief. The family will be traveling to Hawaii to scatter Vivian's ashes with a memorial to be announced at a later date.

Please remember Lori Ifland Winans, Glen and Rich Ifland, and the extended Ifland family, in the loss of Lori's father, and Glen and Rich's brother, **Kenneth Ifland**. Ken was buried with military honors and a memorial held at Twin Lakes Baptist Church in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Loren and Claudia Grossi would appreciate our prayer, that God would be honored as they facilitate a small memorial commemorating the life of her sister, **Loris Melodia**, in Vacaville, California, Sunday, 12/15.

Suzanne Carlton asks that we pray God will comfort the hearts of her brother and his wife, Mark and Julie Pells, as they grieve the difficult loss of their daughter and grandchild (age 5) who were tragically killed in a car accident.

A complete prayer list is available at the information desk.



TWIN LAKES
CHURCH
www.tlc.org

light
has come
...To You!

PART 2 // DECEMBER 14 & 15 // MARK SPURLOCK

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Luke 2:8-9

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Luke 2:15-16

God made himself _____, because

His love is _____.

This Week's Memory Verse

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:14

Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Luke 2:8-9. What did you learn about shepherds in the sermon? How does that impact your reading of this passage?

When the angel appeared the shepherds were just doing their jobs - they weren't fasting, they weren't at church – they were at work. How have you experienced God "interrupting" your daily life?

Why do you think God chose to announce the birth of Jesus to shepherds? What does this tell you about God? How does that encourage you?

Thank God today that He chose to invade our world personally. Pray that these final days leading to Christmas will be special for you. Ask God to give you a heart tuned to Him.

Tuesday

Please read Luke 2:10-12. Look at the descriptive words in this passage – it's not just news, it's good news. It's not just joy – it's great joy. It's not just for a few people – it's for all people. What do you think God intended with this specific "script" for the shepherds?

What a contrast: "a Savior is born" and "you will find a baby". We talked about this truth in the sermon: God made Himself small because His love for you is big. Think about this for a few minutes. What kind of transformation would you like to see that truth make in your life?

Thank God today that His love is so immense He was willing to become small in order to save you. Pray that your life will be transformed by the bigness of His love for you. Pray that you will not lose sight of His love in the busyness of the days leading up to Christmas.

Wednesday

Please read Luke 2:13-14. The angels' response sets a great example for us – they praise God.

What distracts you from praising God? How could focusing on praise impact your Christmas?

Christmas is one week from today! Write down two ways you will focus on the fact that the light of Jesus has come to YOU.

Thank God today for the example of the angels worshipping and praising God. Pray for the courage and desire to follow their example today.

Thursday

Please read Luke 2:15-16. Imagine the conversations the shepherds had after the angels returned to heaven! They may have been stunned for a moment but the Bible says the shepherds "hurried" to follow the angels' instructions. In what ways can you renew your enthusiasm for the message of Jesus' birth this Christmas season?

How do you imagine the shepherds lives were changed by the fact that God, out of everyone on the planet, picked them? How has your life been changed to know that God has chosen to love you?

Thank God today for loving you. Pray that your heart will be accepting of His love and pray that it will make an impact on your thoughts and actions!

Friday

Please read Zechariah 9:9 & 2 Corinthians 8:9 & Philippians 2:5-7. How do these verses describe Jesus' journey to save us?

Knowing the lengths went through to reach you, how does it encourage you? How does it challenge you?

Thank God today that He set the ultimate for you in grace and humility. Pray that you will follow His footsteps in your relationships!

Saturday

Spend time today pondering on this question: What significance does the Christmas story have for me this Christmas? Then ask yourself: How will that impact my celebration of Christmas this year.

Please pray for the Christmas Candlelight Concerts that begin tonight! Pray that God would be honored and that people would come out in droves to hear the good news that a Savior has been born!