

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. How do you prepare for Christmas?
2. What is your favorite Christmas movie?

BIBLE

3. Read Jn. 20:31. How does this text compare to Luke 1:4? If Luke and John took the time to write what they did for the reasons that they did – how might that effect our reading of their gospels and how might that impact our faith?
4. Read Ex. 30:6-8. This is where the priestly practice of incense burning is established. What is the significance of burning incense according to this passage?
5. The meaning of John's name (Lk. 1:13) is "The Lord is gracious." How does this name befit John-the Baptist?
6. Gabriel mutes Zechariah (Lk. 1:20). Share your thoughts on why this was necessary.

APPLICATION

7. Create an ADVENT CALENDAR – as included in the bulletin. Other calendar templates and instructions can be found at: www.prayingincolor.com/tag/advent-calendar
8. Prepare the way of the Messiah: sending Christmas cards that keep Christ in mind, helping neighbors hang decorations and lights, inviting neighbors to church, sharing some Christmas baking, giving a small gift – whatever you feel the Spirit of God moving you to do – because your heart is prepared to respond!



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ G. W. Graham Secondary School
45955 Thomas Rd. Chilliwack
10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE @ 45668 Storey Ave. Unit #4
Chilliwack, BC V2R 3E4 **Tel:** 604-824-1267
Office Hours: 9 a.m. – NOON, Mon. – Fri.

Lead Pastor: *Rob Ayer*
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604-798-1255

Director of Children's Ministry: *Erin Enns*
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604-799-0990

Office Administrator: *Shirley Esau*
Shirley's email: office@crossroadscommunity.ca
604-795-4338

Financial Administrator: *Barb Kolkman*
Barb's email: barb@crossroadscommunity.ca
604-798-0324

Check us out online at: **www.crossroadscommunity.ca**

KNOW *Sunday Morning*

KIDZONE: Nursery meets in LIBRARY | PRESCHOOL- K meets in C183 | Grades 1-2 meet in C177 | Grades 3-4 meet in C175 | Grades 5-6 meet in C174. *Kidzone* is dismissed after the first set of worship music.

YOUTH (grades 7-12) meet in the DANCE ROOM (left at the top of the foyer stairs) – AFTER the second set of worship music.

ADULTS meet in the small gym.

GROW KIDZONE: Family Movie Matinee: *The Peanuts Movie* – **TODAY!** Sunday Nov. 27, 2 p.m. @GW Graham School. Cost: A Non-perishable food item for the CHILLIWACK FOOD BANK. Our GIRLS BIBLE STUDY group will provide a CONCESSION (popcorn, water, candy bags). Monies raised will help them put together a Christmas Hamper for ADOPT-A-FAMILY!

YOUTH: *Thursday Dec. 1*, 7-9 p.m. @ Walmart. Adopt-A-Family gift buying and hamper building. Bring \$5 for the Christmas turkey!

ADULTS: Check out our website for a complete listing of our *Life Groups* and related contact info. Pray. Learn. And do life together!

CHURCH DIRECTORY: Thanks for your input CCC. If you haven't yet filled in a Directory Update sheet – pls. do so online and send it to the office by the end of Nov. Our 2017 Directory will be available in January!

THE ARMY NEEDS YOU! There are a # ways we can help the SALVATION ARMY this Christmas season: Kettle volunteer (applications @ the INFO. table), Adopt-A-Family Christmas Hamper (contact the CARE AND SHARE CTR. by Dec. 4 to put a hamper together), delivery of Christmas Hampers (contact Alf Kolkman @ 604-991-2255 to help).

CHRISTMAS EVE: 5 p.m. @ GW Graham. *Come to the Manger: the Call of Christmas* ends at the manger. Come – sing some Christmas Carols, witness the Christmas story as told by our *Kidzone* kids, and take up your calling to tell our world that GOD IS HERE!

GIVE Please contact Erin, Greg, or Rob to do a GIFTS INVENTORY (or go online at gifttest.org) to see how you might use your gifts in service of others!

Ways to Give:

1. CASH or CHEQUE. Take an offering envelope from the INFO. table, put your name on the envelope (to be receipted), and place your offering in the offering basket during the worship service.
2. PUSH PAY—on our website (under GIVE) or download our CHURCH APP.
3. PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT. Pls. contact *Barb Kolkman* at barb@crossroadscommunity.ca for more info.

GO *We are Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us* (2 Cor. 5:20). Listen. Ask questions. Share your stories.

The Call of Christmas

The Call of Zechariah: PREPARE

Sunday Nov. 27, 2016

1. The story of Zechariah: VIDEO

2. "The Bible testifies that God has provided assistance for us in our spiritual conflicts. We are not alone in this world! The Bible teaches us that God's Holy Spirit has been given to empower us and guide us..."

3. "Also, the Bible – in nearly three hundred different places – also teaches that God has countless angels at His command. Furthermore, God has commissioned these angels to aid His children in their struggles against Satan..."

4. "If the activities of the devil and his demons seem to be intensifying in these days, as I believe they are, should not the incredibly greater supernatural powers of God's holy angels be even more indelibly impressed on the minds of people of faith?..."

5. "After all, references to the holy angels in the Bible far outnumber references to Satan and his subordinate demons. If you are a believer, expect mighty angels to accompany you in your life experiences..." *Billy Graham*

6. Luke 1:1-4

7. "Luke opens his gospel with a long, formal sentence, like a huge stone entrance welcoming you (us) impressively to a large building. Here, he is saying, is something solid, something you can trust. Readers would know they were beginning a serious, well-researched piece of work. This wasn't a fly-by-night or casual account. It would hold its head up in the world at large." *N.T. Wright*

8. Luke 1:5-10

9. Luke 1:11-20

10. Luke 1:21-22

11. Luke 1:23-25

12. "The story is about much more than Zechariah's joy of having a son at last or Elizabeth's exultation of being freed from the scorn of the mother's in the village. It is about the great fulfillment of God's promises and purposes. But the needs, hopes and fears of ordinary people are not forgotten in this larger story, precisely because of who Israel's God is – the God of lavish, self-giving love...When God acts on the large scale, he takes care of smaller human concerns as well." *N.T. Wright*