

Parkside Nazarene Church

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## DECEMBER MESSENGER

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### REMEMBRANCE

#### By Frances Cooney

Enter December...It will mean snow, keener driving skills, higher heating bills and more. It is also the month we celebrate a day that has been named Christmas. We celebrate the day of a baby boy being born in a miraculous happening. And the boy grew. And God prepared Him for the role He would play in mankind's destiny. *Remembering* this still stirs an excitement. The last miraculous event of His time on earth was when He rose from that tomb, another time that causes us to tremble to this day.

It is good to keep those *remembrances* in mind as we go about each day. Some have a routine of catching an early morning news report. We hear a lot more than the weather. The newscasts are making it obvious to us that the world (all of it) needs God! We really ought not give in to discouragement and we can pray that for others. We don't have answers but God does. He tells us in His Word in 2 Chronicles 7:14 "If my people which are called in my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sins and I will heal their land." That is His promise.

God does want happy times for us. There is such festive beauty around. There are the very young having a first Christmas, Mom's and Dad's preparing gifts and those older may be looking so forward to seeing children and grands around their holiday table.

We can change direction here and share a tidbit from David Jeremiah. He tells us that the average American owns 3 to 10 Bibles. 42% say they are too busy to read it. The Gideons' have placed Bibles in hotel rooms. It's said they don't do that much any-

more because they don't want to offend atheists, youth and different faiths. Sad! We have such good help from the scriptures. In the Old Testament *remember* is mentioned 164 times. For one thing, God *remembers* us. Psalms 17:8 tells us He will keep us the apple of His eye. He will hide us in the shadow of His wings. We shall *remember* His miracles of long ago which gives us faith for today.

Not to be omitted would be the New Testament account of the Last Supper. Found in the gospels, we know that Jesus sent disciples to set up a feast. In Luke 22:19-20 Jesus took the bread, gave thanks for it, gave to them saying "This is my body given for you; this do in *remembrance* of me" Then He took the cup saying "This is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." A wonderful *remembrance* as we celebrate communion. Covenant of blood offers forgiveness.

Speaking again of winter and Christmas, we face challenges. We miss our gardens. Instead of hoses watering, we will hear shovels scraping concrete. Good idea to pray before watching morning news. Cozy in and on Sundays cozy in at church. Wear an extra layer of clothes and hear the wonderful music, prayers and a great sermon by Pastor Lain. Of course there is Facebook or YouTube which is a helpful option.

Merry Christmas!

**Weekly Services:** (services are in person and online)

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

Go to: [www.facebook.com/parknaz/](http://www.facebook.com/parknaz/) or  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) Parkside Nazarene Church

**Wednesday Prayer Meetings at 6:00 p.m.**

**(in person only)**

# The December Messenger Continued..

## SIGNIFICANT DECEMBER DATES :

- 01: NCO Christmas Dinner
- 04: 2nd Sunday of Advent– Peace
- 11: 3rd Sunday of Advent- Joy
- 11: Finance Committee Mtg  
(if Needed)
- 11: Open House-Parsonage
- 13: Church Board Meeting
- 18: 4th Sunday of Advent
- 18: Jr Church Christmas Program
- 24: Christmas Eve– No Service
- 25: Christmas Day (11 am)

## PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE



Please join us for a Christmas Open House at the parsonage Sunday afternoon, December 11 from 4 to 7 pm. We look forward to a time of celebrating the season with you, our friends at Parkside Naz. All are invited to drop in for some holiday goodies, great conversation, and fellowship.



## December Birthdays

Rev James Laker	16
Scott Ward	18
Joanne Murphy	21
Romeo DeMeo	25

## PARKSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER

Hello December. You're the last one, so be the BEST one!

This month is filled with all the joy of the holiday season. Children are preparing for the Christmas Concert performance (virtual), staff are decorating classrooms and families are preparing for all the togetherness throughout this time!

We welcomed back Miss Ciera, as our PreK Long Term Substitute Teacher! We are thrilled to have her back in our program!

We will be CLOSED December 23, 26, 30 and January 2, 2023 (Happy New Year!).

Wishing everyone all the merry of the season. May it be filled with little surprises and joyous moments!

If you have any questions regarding the Child Care Center, please feel free to contact Cheryl or Pastor Marcella: 440-333-6643.



## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our children and youth will have a special presentation of the Christmas story during the December 18 service. Plan to be there to enjoy this fun and meaningful performance!



## CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Plan to join us on Sunday, **December 25, Christmas Day, for a special 11:00 a.m. Service!** What a great day to celebrate the Birth of Christ together as a Church Family. Please note, with Christmas falling on Sunday, we will not be having a Service on Christmas Eve.



## GIVING TREE– HAVEN HOME

Our giving tree this year will support individuals and families served by Haven House. Please take a tag off of the tree and return it by Sunday, December 18. For more information about Haven House go to: <https://thehavenhome.org/>



## POINSETTIAS

If you would like to help decorate the church, please order Poinsettias. Order Forms will be available in the foyer and are due back with payment no later than Sunday, December 11. You may take your Poinsettias home on Christmas Day.

