



South Nissouri Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Upcoming Events

December 2012

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January 2013

Epiphany
– Jan. 6th Worship

Joint Session
– Jan. 10th 7 pm

Annual Mtg
– Jan. 27th

January Youth Event
– Jan. 18th (tentative)

Dorchester Events

Cantata
– Dec. 16th Worship

“O come, O come
Emmanuel”



Minister's Message

Busy, busy, busy! This is often how we respond when asked how we are doing, especially at this time of year. Our schedules fill up so quickly with family gatherings, parties and, of course, our church events that are listed here. Fitting them all in, as well as the preparations that go along with them, can sometimes feel daunting at this stage in the game. There is just so much to do! Many of us enjoy the work that goes into preparing for this season like the baking, decorating, shopping etc. It is indeed part of the fun. But it is easy to get caught up in the busyness and miss the many blessings the season of Advent has to offer.

The word Advent derives from the Latin word meaning coming. Advent is a time of waiting for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. We wait with hope, peace, joy and love for the goodness coming to that Christ's earth means for us. It is an exciting time filled with anticipation. It is also to be a reflective time as we examine what parts of our lives need a bit of dusting off and polishing up in order to truly enjoy God's presence with us.



But getting ready for Christ's birth isn't always as obvious as getting ready for a Christmas dinner or a gift exchange. Preparing our hearts and our minds for God's coming in Christ takes slowing down and searching our souls for how we might need Christ's in breaking at this point in our lives.

Maybe you have an advent wreath that you can light before bed each night, giving thanks for the blessings of the day. Maybe you can take a moment of silence before you begin each day to reflect on how Christ's hope, peace, joy or love are meaningful for you each respective week. Maybe you can have a regular conversation or devotional time with someone you love to help keep you focused on Christ's promises and not just Santa's. Amidst our busy schedules, I hope that we can do something special to help us to slow down and appreciate what Christ's birth means for us today. In doing so we just might be able to answer the 'how are you doing' question with something other than 'busy'. Perhaps we'll be able to explain how we're doing with the advent words of hope, peace, joy, and love instead.

Rev. Heather Paton

Recent Events

Church Picnic 2012



Working Hard at the Strawberry Dinner

On Parade at the Thorndale Fair

