

**Prayer needs:**

- **Educator of the week:** Kris Samick, Spencer Elementary School
- **College Student of the week:** Chelsea Sparks, Indiana University
- **Civil servants:** Circuit Court I staff: Marty Figg, Lynn Pettijohn, Chelsey Hornaday, Karen Cadwell
- **Church of the week:** Pleasant Hill Community Church, Pastor Adam Fox
- **Other:** Missionaries, Will & Theresa (& Ellie) Reed's Serge team in Fort Portal, Uganda; Thomas & Hauwa Shelwah & our sponsored friends & families in Liberia.
- **Health:** Our friends battling cancer: Cindy Altoff, Marcia Nguyen (teacher @ MCES), Joshua Stuiso (friend of Beckwith's), Jan Clark, Roger Gerard (custodian at SES), Rachel (Khrista Beliles' friend), Sharron Davenport, Linda Blackwell & Peggy Schrougham (teachers at SES), Jim & Rita Ervin (Mike's brother & sister-in-law), Tom Stierwalt (Gail Horn's cousin), Kelly Hughes (friend of Horn's), Cyndi Capps (Marilyn Hill's niece), Karina (friend of Bivi), Ron Warix (friend of David Tarrence), Camy Quiggins (8 yr. old niece of Chad & Terri Dow). Danny Hutchison (Caleb's grandpa), heart surgery, 12/12; Junior Wyatt (Joe's father), dementia; Lou Tryon, @ the Residence; Annie Bright (Becky Schrock's sister), ear/vertigo issues; Linda Graham (Shari Rowell's mother), gallstone & BP issues; Jesse (Anne Basey's father), health issues; Nancy (Bestman's daughter); Heidi Lillard (Phil & Karen Eckart's daughter). Healthy pregnancies: Amanda Hutchison, Alissa Drewes, Jessica Parmer, Ashley Griffin (Dawn & Mark Murphy's daughter).
- **Recovery:** Kennedy Gunderman & Stacy Shields, car accident; Trent Heckman, teacher @ OVHS; Mattison Quiggins (niece of Chad & Terri Dow), surgery.
- **Sympathy:** Our sympathy to Marv Tryon & family on the passing of Marv's mother, Lou. Our sympathy to Terrie & Frances MacMorran and family on the passing of Terrie's uncle, Max Carpenter.
- **Military:** Sam Allen; Wesley Deckard (Kelli Borders' brother), in Norfolk, VA; Kyle Chambers (Sharon's grandson), stationed in Tucson, AZ. Lt. Daniel Gibson (Dan Drewes' brother-in-law, friend of the East's), back in Indiana. Ryan Keene (Dawn Murphy's son); Jessica Parmer, in California; James Sparks; Shane Hickman (Linda St. John's nephew), in Idaho; Nick Hickman (Linda St. John's nephew), in Colorado. Please keep all our military service people and their families in prayer.
- Our church family; our country and government leaders; our leadership, finance and building teams, for wisdom and discernment.

**Statistics for Week of 12/11/16:**

**Attendance:** 176      **Roots:** 13

**\*Week's giving:** \$3,823.44

**\*2016 Weekly need amount:** \$3,108.35  
(This is to cover OVCF operational expenses)

**Current building fund total:** \$91,052.68

**Sunday Morning Children's Programs...**

**Elementary (grades 1-5):**

12/18-Roxie Glaze & Emily Wyatt  
12/24 & 25-no classes

**Preschool (3-K):**

12/18-Jasmine St. John & Noah Bales  
12/24 & 25-no classes

**Nursery (2 and under):**

12/18-Edna Denewett & Gracie Wainscott  
12/24 & 25-no classes

**Owen Valley Christian Fellowship**

**December 18, 2016**

**(812)828-9840    www.ovcf.org**

**Our mission:**

To connect people to Jesus

**Our vision:**

Be passionate pursuers of Christ

Be models of truth and love

Be involved in our community



**The Giving Tree: Gifts are due TODAY!**



**Community Christmas breakfast:**

We need help with donations of food & folks to help serve/deliver. Please sign up to help at the info table or see Jo Grandi if you have questions!



**Christmas at OVCF:**

We will offer two worship services. Please join us for the service that works best for your family!

\* **Christmas Eve: 6-7 PM**

\* **Christmas morning: 10-11 AM**



We are collecting **non-perishable food items** for our community throughout the month. Donations will be given to our Christmas breakfast folks and others in need. Please leave items in the tubs in the worship area.



Our nursery and children's classes will not meet on December 24 & 25 due to our shorter service schedules. Please enjoy these worship services with your family.

# December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Pastor's prayer mtg. 8:30 AM
<b>4</b> Roots 5-7 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Deeper 4-5:30 PM Route 66 7-8 PM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Ladies' Christmas Card making at OVCF 10-3
<b>11</b> Roots	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Deeper 66	<b>15</b> Ladies' Christmas Gathering @ MaryJo Ramsay's 6:30 PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Men's breakfast 7 AM @ Chambers
<b>18</b> Roots Christmas Party!	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> NO Deeper NO 66	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve service 6-7 PM
<b>25</b> Community breakfast 7-9 AM  Christmas morning service 10-11 AM NO Roots	<b>26</b>  Office closed	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> NO Deeper NO 66	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve

December 18, 2016

Theme: It is Written

Series: God's Gift of Christmas

Title: The Essential Gift

Scripture: Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1: 26-38



## I. WHY SO IMPORTANT?

“No other fact in the Christmas story is more important than the virgin birth. The virgin birth must have happened exactly the way Scripture says. Otherwise, Christmas has no point at all. If Jesus is simply the illegitimate child of Mary’s infidelity, or even if He is the child of Joseph’s natural marital union with Mary, He is not God. If He is not God, His claims are lies. If His claims are lies, His salvation is a hoax. And if His salvation is a hoax, we are all doomed.”

“The supreme mystery the gospel confronts us with is not the Good Friday message of atonement, nor in the Easter message of resurrection, but in the Christmas message of incarnation.” J.I.Packer

The virgin birth is an underlying assumption in everything the Bible says

(\_\_\_\_\_).

Plainly put: if we deny Jesus is God, we have denied the very essence of Christianity.

## II. WHY SO IMPACTFUL?

Why does it matter that Jesus was born of a virgin?

1. The (\_\_\_\_\_) of Jesus is very clear.
2. Only (\_\_\_\_\_) would be able to offer his life as a sacrifice; any other life would be just another human one.
3. The virgin birth shows the (\_\_\_\_\_) of God from the very beginning.
4. The virgin birth is a (\_\_\_\_\_).

The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity-hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory...” Packer

SERIES: God's Gift of Christmas

NEXT WEEK: What the Birth Tells Us

Scripture: Matthew 1: 1-17