



December Newsletter

Grace Community Church

1160 S. McCall Rd.
Englewood, FL 34223

www.gccenglewood.com

Pastor: gcc.pastorjohn@yahoo.com

Pastor John's Phone: 941-544-9543

Church Office: gcc.office@yahoo.com

To me, the two greatest words that are used in the Christmas story are "Savior" and "Emmanuelle".

The angel told Joseph that they were to name him Jesus because he would save his people from their sins. Getting folks to see that they need a Savior today is not easy. Sin is something that to some is almost an obsolete concept. When we look around us, however, the impact of sin is impacting and changing our lives on a daily basis. Loneliness, hatred, addictions, violence and a myriad of other destructive realities are all a result of sin, the word many would like to forget. When we put our faith and trust in this one who was to be named Jesus, he sets us free from the impact of sin, cleanses us from our true guilt and helps us to be transformed into his children who walk now in hope and peace and love. He is truly the Savior.

Also, the Christmas story tells us that God wants to be present with us. He wants to be there for us in all the challenges, joys, sorrows and victories of life. He wants to walk with us through every single day.

Christmas is a celebration of how God has come in the person of His son to save us and to be with us.

Merry Christmas Indeed! It is a joy to serve as your Pastor.

John

Christmas Eve Service, 12/24 5:00 pm

There are still a lot of children in Good News Club that need prayer. Some have challenging home lives and others have just asked Christ into their heart. Please take a name from the bulletin board and lift them in prayer for a few minutes each day. Thank you for this special gift.



If you haven't yet picked up "The Christmas Code", they are at the Church. What a blessing it will be for the church family to be reading the same devotional at this very special time of year!



Tuesdays 10:00 am - Bible Study with Pastor John

Tuesdays 6:00 pm – Prayer

Wednesdays – Good News Club (Please pray for this outreach)

Wednesdays 7:00 pm Evening Bible Study with Basil

12/7 - Join us at Beyond the Sea to hear Pastor John and Friends. We'll be there from 6-8 pm.

12/9 - Favors for the Teachers at Englewood Elementary

12/16 - Cookie Exchange

12/23 - Men's Breakfast 8:00 am

12/23 - Prayer Walk Meet at the church at 8:00 am

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

Oh my! Christmas time is upon us and the Christmas Outreach at Indian Mound Park. For a wonderful celebration and a great message please join us for a memorable time!

The Sanctuary is decorated with hangings and wreaths and balls and all those beautiful lights!

As we think of Christmas we think of the Christ Child and His birth! And all that represents to each and every one of us! How to celebrate? Do we read the Christmas story in the Bible, or do we simply look for the fun and frolic of the season? NO, NO a thousand times NO! GOD did not send HIS SON to the Earth so that we could frolic and play games but to pave the way for us to gain our Salvation through HIS Death and Resurrection!!

Sure we are to have fun and Celebrate and surely enjoy the Children as they squeal and laugh and enjoy themselves with the gifts we laud them with! But shame on us if we have not taught them what the real meaning of Christmas is all about! That is, Christ was sent to us by HIS FATHER, GOD to be our Savior and with the Holy Spirit lead us to Salvation that we might spend Eternity in Paradise with those loved ones that have gone on before us.

Allow the Children to have the Spirit of Santa Claus and gifts and Plum Pudding but sit with them around the Christmas Tree on that wonderful day of joy and read them the real story of Christmas and you pick the story from which ever Gospel you choose and read it to them with truthful earnestness!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, to one and All!

And after Christmas,
We will be setting at the gate awaiting His return.

Our 2nd Annual Cookie Exchange will be Saturday, December 16th at 1:00 pm. It will be at the home of Mary Tipner. Please bring your cookies and tins to take new cookies home in. How many cookies? Well if you bring 2 dozen, take home 2 dozen. If you bring 5 dozen, take home 5 dozen. See you there!



We will be making Christmas favors for the teachers and staff of Englewood Elementary school on Saturday, December 9th. We will work in the Fellowship room at the church, meeting at 9:00 am. Like years past, we will be making Bibles with poster board, Hershey's candy and a verse. If you would like to help, see Nada. We will be making about 75 this year.



To help people develop a thriving relationship with Jesus Christ by serving God and serving others...This is the Mission of GCC.