



December Newsletter

Grace Community Church

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The Invaders

One of the most popular and perhaps overused themes for blockbuster movies is the idea that aliens have invaded our world through an unending variety of avenues. These run from huge and powerful spacecraft all the way down to tiny parasites brought back from outer space. And they are always up to no good.

One of the best illustrations of the horrible motives of these invaders is captured in the final line of a very famous Twilight Zone episode: "It's a cookbook!".

The Bible, of course, also tells stories of invaders from another dimension:

Luke 2:8-15 Of course, these "invaders" were not here to tell us of a terrifying cookbook but rather great news that would bring joy to all people. The Savior, the Messiah had been born in Bethlehem.

This was news about the one who would be sent by God to bring salvation, new life, new hope and God's love to all who would put their faith and trust in this Savior.

And now, in a few weeks, we will celebrate this invasion once more that took place about 2015 years ago. To some people it means nothing, to others it means a wonderful tradition filled holiday, and to those of us who truly believe that Jesus of Nazareth was all the story says He is, it is celebrating the event that changed our lives completely. I hope He has changed your life. I hope you know Him as your own loving Lord. If not, during the next few weeks, look into it. Read the story. See what you think. I'm here if you want to discuss anything.

I love being your Pastor.

John



This very special event is 12/24 at 5:00 pm at
Indian Mound Park

All hands are needed for this special outreach
to the community. Please see the sign up
sheets on the bulletin board.

Please take time to pray each day a
blessed service.



Tuesdays – Bible Study with Pastor John 10:00
am

Tuesdays – Weekly prayer meeting with George
6:00 pm

Wednesdays– Good News Club

Wednesdays – Bible Study 7:00 I Thessalonians
with Basil

Thursdays – Ladies Bible Study 6:00 pm

December 8th – Cookie Exchange and bags for the
homeless. See Patty if you have questions.

December 9th – Communion

December 16th – Pot Luck

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

The Bird has been roasted to a beautiful Brown crusted parcel; all the trimmings have been disposed of, some as leftovers, others as a delicious Family Dinner and it is time to extol the virtues of December!!!

The tree is up, Stockings hung from the mantel and the children are beside themselves with happy thoughts and the promise of toys under the tree!! But first let us make our trip to Honor our King and HIS Birth at our local Church's Christmas Eve Service. What a beautiful setting on a point overlooking the waters of the Gulf of Mexico in Southwest Florida. The Pastor and the Praise Team are set up between the Congregation and the water, Moon light shining golden rays over their shoulders as they beautifully sing the Carols of old and we listen to Pastor Johns melodic voice as he tells the Story of the First Christmas as written on the pages of GOD's word.

Then hugs, kisses and good wishes as we head back home knowing that we will wake up early in the morning from our sleepy ride home to Presents, feeling the Family Love and thinking of the great Food!! OH! YES!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Until next time we will be setting at Gate awaiting HIS Return!!

Our 3rd Annual Cookie Exchange will be Saturday, December 8th at 12:30 pm. It will be at the home of Mary Tipner. Please bring your cookies and tins to take new cookies home. How many cookies? Well if you bring 2 dozen, take home 2 dozen. If you bring 5 dozen, take home 5 dozen.

As a reminder, we will be stuffing bags for the homeless. Hopefully you have signed up for what you are bringing and we will be able to provide for at least 20 individuals. See you there!



Thank you!

A huge thank you to those who were able to help decorate the church so that our Advent Season can begin in a beautiful setting.

It was so fun to be with church family decorating the tree, determining where wreaths should be placed and enjoying one another. Again, Thank you!

Take a little break from the holiday chaos and join us for "Christmas in Dixie" with John Tuff and Friends

December 13th

6-8 pm

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