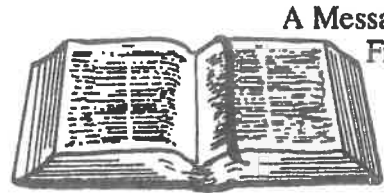




'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'



A Message
From
the Pastor

CAN THIS BE CHRISTMAS?

What's all this hectic rush and worry? Where go these crowds who run and scurry?
Why all the lights . . . the Christmas trees? The jolly "fat man", tell me please!

Why, don't you know? This is the day,
For parties and for fun and play! Why this is Christmas!

So this is Christmas, do you say? But where is Christ this Christmas Day?
Has He been lost among the throng? His voice drowned out by empty song?

No. He's not here . . . you'll find Him where
Some humble soul now kneels in prayer, who knows the Christ of Christmas.

But see the many aimless thousands, who gather on this Christmas Day,
Whose hearts have never yet been opened, or said to Him, "Come in to stay."

In countless homes the candles burning, in countless hearts expectant yearning;
For gifts and presents, food and fun, and laughter till the day is done.

But not a tear of grief or sorrow, for Him so poor He had to borrow,
A crib, a colt, a boat, a bed, where He could lay His weary head.

I'm tired of all this empty celebration, of feasting, drinking, recreation!
I'll go instead to Calvary.

And there I'll kneel with those who know, the meaning of that manger low,
And find the Christ . . . this Christmas.

I leap by faith across the years, to that great day when He appears;
The second time, to rule and reign, to end all sorrow, death and pain.

In endless bliss we then shall dwell, with Him who saved our souls from hell;
And worship Christ . . . not Christmas!

(M.R. DeHaan)

*Please take the opportunities this Christmas Season to find the Christ and to
worship Christ . . . not Christmas.*

Have a Blessed Christmas in your Savior, Jesus Christ,

Pastor Jeff G. Gavin

Gifts for the King

"As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare;

So may WE with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,

All OUR costliest treasures bring,
Christ to Thee, our heavenly King.

(From the Hymn TLH #127
"As With Gladness Men Of Old")

We all have gifts that we may bring.
We all have songs that we may sing.
We all have kind words we may say.
We all have prayers that we may pray.

We all have love and joy to give.
And what a joy life is to live
If we just scatter everywhere
The things God's given us to share.



If you have a gift—bring it.
If you have a song—sing it.
If you have a talent—use it.
If you have love—diffuse it.

If you have gladness—share it.
If you have happiness—give it.
If you have religion—live it.
If you have a prayer—pray it.



**AS YOUR GOD HAS GENEROUSLY GIVEN COUNTLESS GIFTS TO YOU...
MAY YOU GENEROUSLY GIVE GOD YOUR GIFTS, THROUGH HIS CHURCH.**

***Please remember your Lord Jesus and His church this Holiday Season...
after all, without Him, there would be no Christmas!***

+++++

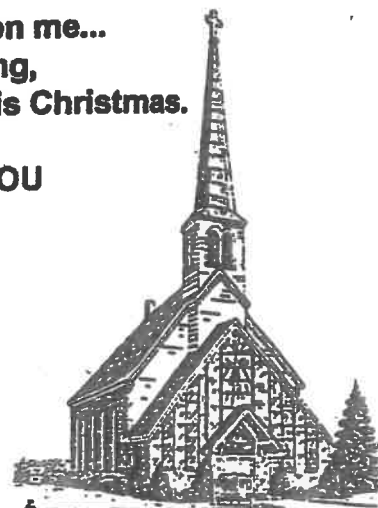
"I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS..."



"I'll be home for Christmas, you can count on me...
lyrics from an old, familiar Christmas song,
which many of us will fulfill as we journey home this Christmas.

This Christmas, may your Lord be able to count on YOU
to journey to your spiritual home this Christmas.

**JOURNEY HOME THIS CHRISTMAS...
AND VISIT YOUR LORD JESUS.**





We hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . *open question forum*.

Please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

PASTOR . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS . . . ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, (or confirm your "standing order") please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE** at **(847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**



Please Note: When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.

OUR WELCOME PICTURES

Each Sunday you are now welcomed with a slide show of pictures on our large screen monitor. We hope you do look at these pictures; as they are not just random images, but carefully selected images that reveal the theme of the day, and are designed to depict and enhance the spoken content of the day's sermon.

OUR CHRISTMAS PRAYER

God grant you peace at Christmas,
and fill your heart with cheer;
God grant you health and happiness
throughout the coming year.
God guide you with His wisdom
and keep you in His care;
This is our special wish for you . . .
This is our Christmas prayer.

May the peace and joy of the Christ Child
be with you now and always, and grant
you a most blessed Merry Christmas

Pastor Jeff & Lynn





Poinsettias

*If you would like to order a **Poinsettia** to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas, please fill in the order form below. These beautiful 6" potted plants have 4-5 large blooms each. They are available in **red only**, and sell for **\$18.00 each**, cash or check (payable to "BUSSE FLOWERS"). Please return your order sheet with payment to Pastor or to the Church Office no later than **Sunday, December 7th**. Thank You!*

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE # (_____) _____

How many Poinsettias? _____ x \$18.00 = \$ _____

You may pick up your plants after the Christmas Day worship service. If you need to make other arrangements for picking up your plants, or if you have any questions, please contact the Church Office (847) 593-7670, extension 1.

I WILL BE taking my plant(s) home: YES _____ NO _____ *

As we only have a limited number of shut-in's, we ask that you **please contact the Church Office if you wish to donate your plants! Thank You. (If you do not check "Yes" or "No", we will assume that you **ARE** taking your plant(s) home and will not be donating it.)*



***It's the Holiday Season ...
a time for Special Worship Services***

An Advent Service of Readings & Carols

Sunday, November 30 - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Rejoice in the coming Christ

Worship Service of Carols

Sunday, December 7 - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

A special worship service, sung to the tunes of
familiar Christmas carols

Worship Service of Carols with Communion

Sunday, December 14 - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

A different worship service, sung to more tunes of familiar Christmas carols

Christmas Praise

Sunday, December 21 - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

A service of carols and music often overlooked

**Join us in the celebration
of the birth of our
Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ.**

Christmas Eve Worship with Communion

Wednesday, December 24 - 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Worship with Communion

Thursday, December 25 - 10:00 a.m.





Jill Brockie	December 1
James Gajewski	December 4
Sean Brockie	December 8
Jon Christensen	December 13
Julie Klatka	December 15
Jonathan Graves	December 15

Randy Fiorito	December 18
Abigail Imburgia	December 20
John Pass	December 27
Peter Nagunwa	December 29
Kelly Clesi	December 30
Chuck Schrum	December 31

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!

May God Bless You on Your Birthday