

Chronicle

Volume 18 Number 12

December, 2018

Newsletter of
Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

Scotts, Michigan
626-9733
www.countrychristinefc.org

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Ladies Christmas Dessert Dec. 1st

This year for our Ladies Christmas Dessert, Living Truth 2 will be our musical guests. Some of you maybe familiar with Living Truth 2. For those who are not, here is some information.

Living Truth 2 is composed of Elroy and Tammie Kosters. They were married in 1990. Before joining Living Truth 2 Elroy worked in concrete construction. As a child, Tammie traveled through Michigan with her entire family as the "Bauman Bread of Life Bearers". Her mother, an evangelist, and her father, a band director, passed on their knowledge and love of Jesus, music, and instruments. Tammie taught Music and English in grades 6-12 for eight years, as well as private voice and piano lessons, prior to singing full-time with Living Truth.

Living Truth 2 is primarily an acoustical group whose diverse musical style is difficult to categorize. They travel with more than a dozen instruments ranging from antique to contemporary. These instruments include: acoustic guitar, Appalachian dulcimers, bass guitar, bell chimes, djembe drum, guitar-zither, glockenspiel, hammered dulcimer, harp, mandolin-guitar, Marxophone, melodica, psaltery, recorders, soprano saxophone, and wooden flute.

The Ladies Dessert will be at 6 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 1. This is an opportunity to invite friends and family (especially non-church) to have a fun evening and to hear the message through music. There is also the opportunity for some ladies to be table hostesses. Please come with a yummy dessert or appetizer, invite a friend and be prepared to have an enjoyable evening!

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday

9:30 Worship
11:00 Sunday School for all ages
12:15 Bible Study
6:00 Bible Studies
Impact Youth
6:15 Bible Study

Monday:

8:00 Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesday

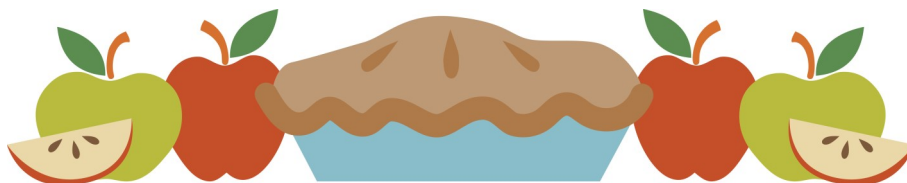
9:00 Ladies Bible Study
6:15 AWANA

Thursday

Bi-weekly Bible Study- G. Wedel

Friday

5:30-7:30 AM Prayer



"Our purpose is to be ambassadors for Christ, helping people to become spiritually mature, filled with the fullness of God"

In years past while shopping at the mall during the Christmas season with my wife, she will want to go into a crowded store that is of little interest to me. So while she is in the store, I sit on a bench and watch the shoppers and try to imagine what they are thinking based on the way they walk, how they hold their packages and the look on their faces...Billy is going to love what I got him, I hope Sandra likes this, I still have to get something for my boss and he never seems to like what I get him, Georgette is so hard to buy for-I hope she likes what I got her this year, I want to get Steph that perfume-but she has so many allergies, Bobby can't help but love this toy. I could go on, but you get the idea. By the way, try not get a reputation of someone who is unappreciative of what you are given. There is an ongoing search for the perfect gift.

The perfect gift was given 2000 years ago when God sent his only son (John 3:16) as a baby, born of a virgin (Luke 1:26-38) as foretold hundreds of years before (Isaiah 7:14). Conceived by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:36). This baby is Jesus Christ. Unlike other babies, Jesus' mother was told of Jesus' purpose in Luke 1, that purpose is that Jesus would become the Savior. Mary may not have understood for thirty some years - that to be that Savior, Jesus had to die. Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and raised again (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). As the lyrics of a Harry Bolback Christmas song says:

Ring the Bells, ring the bells.
Let the whole world know Christ was born in Bethlehem many years ago.
Born to die that man might live, came to earth new life to give,
Born of Mary, born so low many years ago.
God the Father gave His Son, Gave His own Beloved One
To this wicked, sinful earth to bring mankind His love new birth

Ring the bells, ring the bells,
Let the whole world know Christ the Savior lives today
As He did so long ago!

In order for Jesus' death on the cross to be to an acceptable gift to God, Jesus had to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus, unlike you and I, was without sin. On the cross, He took on the sin of the entire world.

However, like any gift, this perfect gift must be received by the intended recipient. This means we have to:

- Admit our sin
- Believe that Jesus died in our place
- Confess that Jesus Christ is our Savior and Lord, and call on Him to save us.

Have you accepted the perfect gift, given by God? What a glorious Christmas this can be to celebrate as one that has received this perfect gift. This Christmas let us Ring the Bells to proclaim not just the Baby in the manger, but the Savior on the Cross that died in our place.

Ring the bells to proclaim that Jesus did not stay in grave, but arose triumphant and lives today.

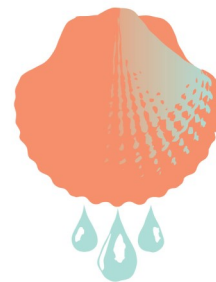
Ring the Bell to let the whole world know of the perfect gift.

Jim Hawkins—editor

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

According to the fourth Gospel, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the ____."

- A. love
- B. life
- C. light
- D. Lord



Answer: C (See John 1:6-7, NRSV.)

Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

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Scotts, MI 49088
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Many thanks to Diane Barton who runs the copies for each issue.

Submissions to the Chronicle are welcomed and are subject to editing for content, length or grammar. In addition submissions must be in keeping with the principles and teachings of CCEFC. Submissions may be made by electronic media or hand written article. Submit an article electronically to the following E-mail: CCChronicle@sbcglobal.net Fax: (610) 549-7184 or on disc: MSWord or Wordperfect formats for electronic submissions is preferred. Typed or hand written submissions are also accepted.

Deadline for submissions is the second to the last (usually the third) Sunday of the month prior to late morning service. Questions about the Chronicle should be directed to the editor or the board of elders.

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Small packages, great things

The motto for Hershey's Kisses used to be "Big things come in small packages!" That also could be a motto for Bethlehem, for Baby Jesus and, indeed, for us. It's an important message to remember when we fear we're too weak to fix the world's problems, too small to fight the gigantic terror that threatens a loved one or too lacking in abilities we see in others.

"But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah," God declares through the prophet Micah (5:2, NRSV), "from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel." Bethlehem was a mere village. God's ruler for Israel started as an infant. His birthplace was a small stable, not a palace or temple. But size isn't everything. Big — that is, great — things can come in small packages. And thanks to the tiny baby who grew up to share immeasurably huge love with the world, God can do great things through you, too!



"Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."
LUKE 3:9



Children's Christmas Program

Christmas is the season of Joy, and we are excited to celebrate this most joyful time of the year with our annual Children's Christmas Program.

It will be on December 16, a Sunday evening, at 6:30 PM. You will get to see your favorite kids--our adorable CCEFC kids and AWANA students--acting out the Christmas Story in the play, "An Impromptu Christmas." We will start the evening with music, enjoy the play, hear from Pastor Pat, and end the fun with Christmas cookies and punch in the ark.



If you wish to help, we do have volunteer opportunities, from helping the children with their costumes, to script reading, and all the way to baking those yummy cookies. As always, we welcome friends and family to visit, and we appreciate your prayers that this evening is successful and that Jesus Christ is glorified.

Parents, because this is an impromptu Christmas, we will have only one rehearsal, on Saturday the 15th at 10 AM, and your children will need to be at church on the 16th by 5:30 so we can fit costumes and go over positions for the play. Thank you



Nursery Help

- | | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 2 | Lisa Gibbs & Lyndsay Juday |
| 9 | Abbey and Raezi Colvin & Kim Smith |
| 16 | Andrea Truax & Charlize Gibbs |
| 23 | Donna Budden & Kourtney Klimp |
| 30 | Dawn Drallette & Jamie Morrison |



- Pencil
- Poster board
- Scissors
- Craft pompoms (red, white, green, silver, gold)
- Glue

1. Trace large capital block letters J, O and Y on the poster board.
2. Cut out the letters.
3. Glue pompoms on one side of each letter, completely covering it.
4. Share JOY by displaying the letters in your home.



Joy to the WORLD

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

Directions: Circle all the complete small “joy” words — forward only. Count the total. Bonus: See if you can find “Jesus” amid all the joy!

[illegible]

TOTAL JOY=_____

Answer: 36 (10 in the J, 15 in the O, 11 in the Y); Jesus is at the bottom of the large O

While waiting ...

Advent does not lead to nervous tension stemming from expectation of something spectacular about to happen. On the contrary, it leads to a growing inner stillness and joy allowing me to realize that he for whom I am waiting has already arrived and speaks to me in the silence of my heart.

Just as a mother feels the child grow in her and is not surprised on the day of the birth, but joyfully receives the one she learned to know during her waiting, so Jesus can be born in my life slowly and steadily and be received as the one I learned to know while waiting.

—Henri J.M. Nouwen, *The Genesee Diary*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
Weekly: 9:30 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 6:00 Impact 6:00 Bible Study 6:30 Bible Study	Weekly: 8 PM Young Adult Bible Study		Weekly: 9:00 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 AWANA 6:45 Bible Study	Weekly: Bible Study	Weekly: 5:45 AM Prayer	1 Ladies Christmas Dessert																																										
2 Advent begins Communion 12:15 Potluck	3	4	5	6	7	8																																										
9	10	11 7:00 Elders Meeting	12	13 6:30 Christian Ed Mtg 7:00 Deacon's Meeting	14	15 10 AM Rehearsal for Christmas Program																																										
16 6:30 Children's Christmas Program	17	18	19 AWANA—Caroling Night	20	21 First day of winter	22																																										
23 Deadline for January Chronicle	24 Christmas Eve 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29																																										
30	31 New Year's Eve	• DECEMBER 2018 •																																														
January 2-4 Cross Conference in Louisville, KY 9 AWANA resumes from Christmas break 19 Impact—Old Lady Nite						January 2019 <table> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
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Who to contact**Country Christian Evangelical Free Church**

9286 S. 36th St.
 Scotts, MI 49088
 Office Phone: 626-9733

Pastor:

Pat Clarey 321-0132
 clarey7@sbcglobal.net

Elected boards:**Elders:**

Russ Bartholomew 626-8019
 Derrick Drallette 746-3345
 *Walt Dubbeld 649-0656
 Dana Schwartz 929-6242
 George Wedel 626-4694

Deacons:

Bill Barton 760-1654
 Ken Dykstra 744-4586
 Larry Fleck 841-9472
 Daniel Fritz 626-0180
 Dave Goad 616 460-4596
 Bert Vandellen 626-8761
 Roger Wedel 568-0540

Christian Education Board:

Colleen Clarey 321-0132
 Chris Dubbeld 649-0656
 Dawn Drallette 746-3345
 Jo Johnson 649-3709
 Kay Landrum 568-0543
 Terrie Schwartz 303-4758
 Kim Smith 649-0461
 Mary Eillen Smith 746-4162

* indicates board chair

Ministries**Children's Church**

Walt and Chris Dubbeld 649-0656

AWANA

Terrie Schwartz 303-4758

Jr. Hi Youth

Colleen Clarey 321-0132

Sr. Hi Youth

Gary Truax 377-5343

Missions Committee

Roger Wedel 626-8937

Worship Team

Dana Schwartz 929-6242

Men's Ministry**Hallelujah Party**

Christian Ed Board

VBS

Chris Dubbeld 649-0656

Sunday Bulletin

Betty Williams 626-8611
 grannyquilt2@att.net

(Please have the subject line say "Bulletin Info")

Chronicle

Jim Hawkins 649-4394
 CCChronicle@sbcglobal.net

Nursery

Dawn Drallette 746-3345

Prayer Chain

Betty Kremble 649-3917

Threads of Hope

Laura Sandahl 324-3142
 LLSandahl@gmail.com

Treasurer

Diane Barton 355-5170

Financial Secretary

Christine Audette 626-8105

Webmaster

Larry Fleck webmaster @
 countrychristianefc.org

Website

<https://country-christian.org>

Event Photos

Facebook page: Country Christian
 Photos

Laura Sandahl

LLSandahl@gmail.com

Shopping Fundraisers

Office Depot: 111699341

Facebook Page

Stacey Coville

Weekly Bible Studies**Sundays:**

Walter Dubbeld's: 12:15 (estimated)
 at the church. Potluck. Phone
 649-0656 (every other week)

Pat Clarey's: 6-8 PM in the church
 library – Pat's phone – 321-0132
 or 626-4531 (every other week);

Russ and Ruth Bartholomew's – 6:15
 – 8:15 PM at their house on T
 Ave, phone – 626-8019;

Dana and Terrie Schwartz – 6:00 –
 8:00 PM at their house -13643
 East R Ave., call – 929-6242

(every other week)

Mondays:

Young Adult Bible Study 8PM at the
 Fleck's led by Trenton Steele

Wednesdays:

Ladies Bible Study at the church 9:00
 AM

Thursdays:

George and Joyce Wedel – Every
 other Thursday night at their
 house – 11626 East R Ave., call
 – 626-9764.



**Birthdays &
 Anniversaries
 This Month!**

2-Garrett Steele
 4-Matt Drallette
 5-John & June Boer
 6-Joyce Pancake
 8-Eugene & Marjorie Clark
 8-Tony Schwartz
 13-Marjorie Clark
 14-Ed & Pat Hurlbert
 16-Holly Carlson
 17-Dan & LeAnn Fritz
 18-Amy Vincent
 19-Hal & Mary Jean Forward
 19-Don Kremble
 21-Jim Bradley
 22-Lilah Burnsed
 22-Holly Gray
 22-Dennis Smith
 23-Sandy Bryan
 26-Lynn Coville
 27-Linda Webster
 28-Walter & Chris Dubbeld
 29-Donna Budden
 29-Adam Drallette
 30-John Boer
 30-Dennis & Diane Smith
 30-Jeff Steele

Church Directory and On-line TV services:

There is a flyer under the TV monitor in the back of auditorium

Inclement Weather Policy:

If it is a school day, and Climax-Scotts schools are closed for weather, all church activities for that day are automatically cancelled. For non-school days, check local television stations or with the event organizer. If the weather or roads are questionable, and the event is still held, you are encouraged to use your best judgement before venturing out.

Proposed Calendar 2019**January**

- 2nd-5th Cross Conference, Louisville, Ky.
- 6 Communion & Potluck
- 8 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 9 Awana Resumes
- 10 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 10 Deacons 7:00 P. M.
- 19 11 AM-3 PM Youth Group-Old Lady Nite

February

- 3 Communion & Potluck
- 5 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 6-8 EFCA Theology Conference Trinity
- 9 Valentine Dinner
- 13 AWANA Valentine Party
- 14 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 14 CE Board 6:30 P.M.

March

- 1-3 Camp Barakel
- 3 Communion & Potluck
- 3 Day Light Saving Time STARTS
- 5 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 14 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 14 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 20 Spring Starts

April

- 7 & Communion & Potluck
- 1-6 Spring Vacation **NO AWANA**
- 5 Youth Movie Night
- 9 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 11-13 Conference Louisville, KY
- 11 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 11 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 14 Palm Sunday
- 19 Good Friday/. Galesburg **HERE** 7:00P.M
- 21 **Easter** & Brunch
- 28 Fire in Woods 5:00 P.M.

May

- 2 Nat. Day of Prayer
- 4 Youth Fasting Service
- 5 Communion & Potluck
- 7 Elders 7:00 P.M.?
- 7 Elections ?
- 8 AWANA Jungle Joes???
- 9 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 9 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 12 Mother's Day
- 15 AWANA Jungle Joes
- 19 Graduation Sunday
- 22 AWANA Awards Night
- 27 Memorial Day

June

- 2 Communion & Pot Luck
- 4 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 13 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 13 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 16 Father's Day
- 18-20 Nat. EFCA Conference-Trinity
- TBA Craig's Cruisers

July

- 7 Communion & Potluck
- 9 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 11 VBS Training Meeting
- 12 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 12 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 20 Scotts Parade-VBS Set-Up & Float
- 22-26 VBS 6:00-8:30
- 26 VBS Meal for All
- TBA Youth Beach Outing(Aug)

August

- 4 Communion & Pot Luck
- 4 Nomination Ballots Available
- 5-10 Kal. County Fair
- 6 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 15 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 15 CE Board -6:30 P.M.
- 18 Picnic
- 24-25 Civil War Muster-Jackson
- 25- Nomination Ballots DUE
- 26 Meeting Youth Group-2019-20

September

- 1 Communion & Potluck
- 8 Jr.-Sr. High Starts
- 8 Teacher Dedication
- 10 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 11 AWANA- Kick Off
- 13 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 13 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 19 Jt. Board Meeting
- 22 Fire in Woods 5:00 P.M
- 26 See You at the Pole

October

- 6 Communion & Pastor Appreciation Pot Luck
- 8 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 10 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 10 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 14-15 Great Lakes Dist. Annual Conf. Trinity
- 16 AWANA Hay Ride /Pumpkin Carving
- No AWANA
- 31 Hallelujah Party 6:00-8:00

November

- 1 Shoe Box Filling 6:30
- 3 Communion/ Day Light Saving Ends/ Pot Luck
- 13 Annual Meeting
- 14 Deacons 7:00 P.M.
- 14 CE Board 6:30 P.M.
- 24 Thanksgiving Service **HERE** W/Galesburg 6:00
- 27 No AWANA
- 28 Thanksgiving Day

December

- 1 Communion/Advent Begins-Pot Luck
- 7 Ladies Dessert 6:00 P.M
- 10 Elders 7:00 P.M.
- 12 Deacons 7:00
- 12 CE Board 6:30
- 15 Children's Christmas Program 6:30 P.M.
- 18 AWANA Caroling Family Night
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 P.M



Hallelujah Party 2018



Grocery Shopping List

The Kalamazoo Gospel Mission provides about 500 meals every day. All of the meals are provided through donations to the mission. They have a grocery list of staples that you can help with. Cut out this list, and next time you go to the store, take the list along and pick up a few things for the mission.

Dry Goods

1. Flour
2. Sugar
3. 10 lbs can vegetables (all kinds)
4. 10lbs can fruit (all kinds)
5. Soups
6. Spaghetti sauce and pasta, noodles, rice & macaroni
7. Tomato paste & diced tomatoes
8. Beans (canned or dry)
9. Refried beans & baked beans
10. Jelly and Peanut butter
11. Pancake mix
12. Cereal (cold)
13. Oatmeal & Cream of Wheat
14. Corn meal
15. Corn starch
16. Grits
17. Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise
18. Oil
19. Canned chili
20. Canned pet milk
21. Coffee creamer
22. Ground coffee
23. Salt & pepper
24. Chili powder
25. Oregano
26. Garlic salt and garlic powder
27. Kool-aide & juice
28. Tuna

Refrigerated and Frozen

29. Meat (all kinds)
30. Fresh vegetables
31. Milk and dairy

A few Personal items that are always in need

32. Soap
33. Toothpaste
34. Toothbrushes
35. Mouthwash (must be without alcohol)
35. Dental floss
36. Underwear (all sizes for men, women, and children)
37. Socks (men, women, and children)
38. Outerwear (sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, etc. (winter will be here soon))
39. Disposable Razors
40. Shaving Cream
41. After shave
42. Women's sanitary items

Drop items off at the Gospel Mission on N. Burdick.
This list we be rerun periodically.

2018 Annual Meeting

Following a challenge by Walter Dubbeld, and opening prayer time, Pastor Pat gave the pastors report.

The Elder's report was delivered by Walt, He highlighted new members, the development of a safety plan, the new church sign and establishment of a building committee.

Roger Wedel gave the deacon's report. In addition to working on the new sign and security, he reported on the building maintenance, in particular issues with the mowing.

The building Committee, has been discussing financing options, evaluating our needs and are in the discovery phase of a building project reported Eugene Clark.

In Chris Dubbeld's absence, Jo Johnson gave the Christian Education Board report. While the board oversees many aspects of the church educational and outreach offering, there were some highlights. Improvements to the nursery including the adoption of the Kid Check program used also by VBS and AWANA. A new website, and reorganization of the library. We had 96 unique children participate in VBS this year that raised over \$1700 for the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission expansion for Women's and Children's ministries. The Hallelujah party saw at least 3 make a profession of faith and over 60 Bibles were passed out. AWANA has a new commander this year, and has about 30 kids participating.

The youth group is averaging 10-20 young people. They are now studying 1 Peter (having completed Luke earlier in the year.) They are placing more emphasis on discipleship and service projects. The young adult Bible Study on Monday is averaging 4 people. This report was submitted by Gary Truax.

The Missions committee report was given by Russ Bartholomew. Currently a team is preparing to travel to El Salvador in January. As a church, we have a strong emphasis on missions, with both overseas and local outreaches.

Diane Barton reviewed the financial status and the treasure's report.

Following the reports, the congregation voted on the 2019 budget and the proposed new officers. All of the proposed officers were elected and the budget was passed.



ANNUAL MEETING

Pat Answers**What is Your Favorite Christmas Carol?**

I have a hard time choosing one Christmas Carol as my favorite, but one of my favorites is an ancient one called "Of the Father's Love Begotten" written by Aurelius Prudentius around A.D. 413 with a Plainsong tune from the 12th century. The first verse is: *"Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He, Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see Evermore and evermore."* Another of my favorites is the German carol *"Lo! How A Rose E'er Blooming"*, and yet a couple more of my favorites are *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* and *"Joy to the World."*

Why talk about favorite Christmas carols? Because this coming Advent Season I am going to preach on the Songs of Christmas from the Gospel of Luke 1 and 2. It is based on a book by Alistair Begg. We will start on December 2 with Mary's Praise in Luke 1:46-55 - *What is God Like?* Then on December 9 we will hear Zechariah's song *"Why Do You Need God?"* from Luke 1:67-79. The third song on December 16 will be the Angels song *"How Did God come?"* - Luke 2:8-14. Finally on December 23 we will hear Simeon's Song from Luke 2:27-35 - *"How Did God Do It?"* I pray that God will use this in all our lives to lead us to worship Christ with more joy and delight and surrender to Him daily.

Because Christ came to save sinners,

Pastor Pat



Dated material—Please do not delay

If you would like to be included for the mailing list please contact the church office at 269.626.9733 and provide your name and address.

Country Christian Evangelical Free Church
9286 S 36th St.
Scotts, MI 49088