

# The McLish Avenue Messenger

This is the message we have heard from Him... God is Light (1 John 1:5).

November 28, 2010

MCLISH AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST • 607 McLish SW • Ardmore, OK 73401



*This New Testament passage quotes an Old Testament passage. Where is the Old Testament passage found?*

*“For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”*

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NKJV)

*Evangelist*

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*Schedule of Services*

*Sunday*

Bible Study ..... 9:30 am

Worship ..... 10:30 am

Worship ..... 6:00 pm

*Wednesday*

Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm

Part one

## Is Jesus the Reason for the Season?

Ben Bailey

It's getting close to that time of year again—Christmas cookies, putting up the lights, buying gifts, and the constant reminder of how confused our society has become concerning the birth of Jesus. Should Christmas be observed as a religious holiday? Does the Bible authorize us to remember the birth of God's son? Was Jesus even born on December 25? Should we ever cancel worship services because they conflict with our holidays? Let's look to the Bible to answer these questions.

First, we must determine from Scripture if we are to remember the birth of Jesus as a religious holiday. Does God authorize His people to remember His Son's birthday? If so, how and when are we to remember it? As a person takes his Bible and looks for words like Christmas & religious holiday he will very quickly notice they are not in the Bible. Christmas is not mentioned one time in the entire Bible. As one studies the birth of Christ, he will also notice that while it

was a wonderful event of hope, we are never commanded to remember his birth (Luke 2:1ff). Instead, Christians are commanded to remember the death of Christ every first day of the week by taking the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:19; 1 Cor 11:24-25; Acts 20:7). As you are reading this you may be thinking to yourself, "It doesn't say we can't do it." To this objection we must ask, "Must the Christian have Bible authority for religious acts, like remembering the birth of Christ?" To answer this

Can we find  
one shred of  
evidence where  
Jesus authorized  
his birth to be  
remembered  
today?

*Continued inside ...*

question we need only look at a few passages in the Bible that affirm this fact. For example, Paul told Christians not to go beyond what is written in the Bible (1 Cor 4:6). Must we go beyond the Word of God to celebrate Christmas as a religious holiday? Yes! Toward the close of the Bible we are told not to add to or take away from God's word or divine condemnation will be pronounced upon us (Rev 22:18-19). Do we have to add to the Word of God to observe the birth of Jesus as a religious holiday? Yes! Paul told Christians, "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." (Col 3:17). Can we find one shred of evidence where Jesus authorized his birth to be remembered today? No! Friends, if God doesn't tell us to do something and we do it anyway, are we going to please God? No. If you think it is possible to add to God's Word and still please Him, just turn in your Bible and read the example of Nadab & Abihu in Leviticus 10:1-2.

**Children's homes** Hope Harbor will be here the morning of November 30th and is requesting: coffee, canned refried beans, canned fruit cocktail, canned chicken, canned potatoes, pop tarts, hot dog chili/chili no beans, bottled water, baked beans, individually packaged snack items (such as cookies, beef jerky, cheez-it style crackers, trail mix, 100 calorie packs, but *not* sandwich style crackers), plastic or styrofoam divided plates, and rectangle foam plates, dryer sheets, liquid laundry soap, dish soap, shampoo and conditioner, body wash, styrofoam/plastic cups, napkins, paper towels and toilet paper. If you prefer, you can make a cash donation for the pantry to either Ben or Doneta. A week before a home comes they will go shopping for the items that we are short.



God did not authorize these men to offer a strange fire, and they perished because of it. God has not authorized Christians to remember His son's birth, and we must not add to His Word!

*Continued next week ...*

**Cheer bags** Requested items for cheer bags: hard & soft candies, hot chocolate, pudding cups, fruit or veggie cups, apple sauce, cereal bars, trail mix, almonds, dry roasted cashews, pistachios, lotions (men & women), booties/socks (need about 15 pairs for men and, about 35 pairs for women), Kleenex (travel size), note pads, wet wipes, hand sanitizers, soups (tomato, chicken noodle, vegetable beef, chicken with rice, etc) and deviled ham. Please see Mary Aldridge, Arlene Castleman or Dana Meece about a list of a few items we only need a few people to help with (Hormel Complete Meals, adult flavors of juice like apple, V-8, cranberry, grape, small cans of Spam and sugar free items like hard & soft candies, hot chocolate, pudding cups, fruit cups, apple sauce. Items need to be at the building by Sunday evening December 12th. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards fresh fruit or can help make deliveries, please see Mary, Arlene or Dana.



**Westview Boys' Home** is asking for some items for their cottages this holiday season: boys bicycle helmets (6), canisters (1), boys floor pillows (5), tan bathroom rugs (2), food processor (1), CD player (1), 20" non-stick skillet (1) and alarm clocks (5). If you plan on purchasing any of the above items please sign up on the back bulletin board. If all items are taken Wal-Mart gift cards would be good for additional items for the cottages.



*Remember  
Our Sick*

Betty Higgins will have surgery on November 30th. Jazmin McGee has an appointment with a cardiologist on December 3rd. Please continue to remember: **Tammy Gravelle** • **Caleb Willis** • Linda and David Johnson's friend, **Virginia Johnson** • **Teen Stewart** • **Melba Culbreth's brother Bill** • **Peggy Jones** • **Sue Mann** • **Clarine Wainscott** • **Kenneth Burchfield** • Jean Cary's nephew **Kent Barker**. • Lucy Hagen's friend **Dub Huddleston** • **Jo Daniel** • **Paula Lewis** • **Murray Goforth** • **Glenda Vinson** • **Ronnie Byrd** • **Ronnie's brother** • **Jessica Love** and baby **Karson Benjamin** • **Eva Mae Gibbs** • **Harry Phipps** • **Scott's father, Ken Saner** • **Winston Pirtle** • **Darlene Pennington's brother** • **Donna Henson's friend Sherry Bruce** and her baby boy • **Mary Aldridge** • **Nancy McClanahan** • **John Yarborough**, neighbor of the Harris' • **Hazel Gilstrap**, friend of Ruth Parker • **Luke Evans's mother, Freida Page** • **Raymond Green**, neighbor of the Denisons • **Tommy Higgins**, Betty's uncle • **Rebecca Stafford** • **Eula Grant**, Glenda Vinson's mother • **Linda Grant**, Glenda Vinson's sister-in-law • **Nelda Grant**, Glenda Vinson's sister • **Ginger Waller** • **Jean Cary** • **Vernon Padgett** • **Joyce Gilliam's sister, Flo Brown** • **Patti Culpepper** • **Jamie Feroli** • **Mary Ann Ashley** • **Ruth Minyard** • **Deborah Thomas' mother** • **Pat Ballard's mother** • **Bessie Childress** • **Madeline Minyard** • and those shut in/nursing home members.

**Youth activity** All the youth of the congregation are encouraged to come to the building on Saturday December 18th and bring their parents. We plan to make an item for the cheer bags and deliver some of the bags that afternoon. Then it's back to the building for something to eat and games. We will announce the time to meet soon. If you have questions, see Scott or Tina Saner.



**Lights** Ben will be taking the van through the Regional Park light display next Sunday evening after services for our older members. If you are interested in joining this trip, please let him know.

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### November

- 20 Ronnie & Helen Walker
- 21 Reegan Lewis
- 22 Jennifer Johnson
- 25 Robert McClanahan
- 26 Huberta Fore
- 28 Fred Bellomy

### December

- 2 Bobby & Melba Wallace
- 3 Irene Riley  
Marvin & April Willis '94  
Daylon Lewis
- 6 Ashli Austin  
Sean & Nancy Bugbee '03
- 7 Cody Castleman  
Bill Burchfield
- 9 Jean Cary  
Charles Williams
- 12 Darlene Pennington  
FA & Wanda Shellenberger
- 13 Ron & Peggy Jones '80
- 16 Rick & Suzanne Tidwell '75  
Suzanne Tidwell  
Tammy Gravelle
- 18 Lovel Hughes  
Jacie Pirtle
- 20 Harry & Jeanine Phipps '53  
Jason Meece
- 21 Alaura Litson
- 23 Paul & Joyce Giles
- 29 Maxine Bellomy
- 30 Ron Jones
- 31 John & Jennifer Johnson '02

