



For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11 (KJV)

## The Message



December 2024

Merry Christmas!!! There you have it. I hope you will join with me in saying these special words to family, friends and strangers on the street, and not just the generic, “Happy Holidays.” While there are many other religious holidays going on during the month of December, i.e., Hanukkah (Jewish Festival of Lights), Kwanzaa (African-American Heritage Week), Bodhi Day (Buddhist Enlightenment Day), Christmas is still the holiday that is sacred to Christians around the world and we should feel free to express our best wishes to others.

The celebration of the birth of our Savior should be front and center in our lives, homes and most of all in our worship services. I would agree with those who say we are not told anywhere in scripture to celebrate the birth of the Savior... But Christmas can and hopefully will continue to give believers the opportunity to share the message of “Who” we celebrate and “Why” we celebrate Christmas.

Christmas celebrations not only give us the opportunity to share the message that was told to the shepherds out in the field, but it gives us the opportunity to invite others to come, see and hear the story of the birth of our Savior.

I know we have some in our church that think that anything Christmas should come, at least, after Thanksgiving. But guess what ... beginning in October, some television stations began airing Christmas movies, old reruns, as well as new movies. Many stores began promoting their Christmas specials in catalogs which were sent out months ago. The traditional “Black Friday” sales started really early this year as well. Some radio stations started playing “Holiday” music, mid-November; and many around the community have already hung their Christmas lights and decorations early. (My favorite is John and Katie’s display right down the street from the church.)

Celebrating the birth of our Savior should not only bring joy to the hearts of believers, but Christmas can also be that tool, that opportunity, to share a message of hope, love, joy and peace. After following another contentious election cycle, it will be nice for me to allow my focus to be on something other than politics. I am looking forward to singing Christmas Hymns and songs. I am looking forward to our Advent Readings and the Lighting of the Candles. I am excited about the Christmas Play the children and worship team will be performing. I am looking forward to seeing the excitement in Ellie and Liam’s eyes as we drive around town at night looking at the lights and decorations. I am looking forward to our house being transformed into a beautiful offering to family and friends, allowing us to display what is important to our family, as we celebrate Christmas with our traditions.

But another thing I am looking forward to is preaching a Christmas Series with Pastor Jeremy. While we will simply be focusing on the themes of “Hope”, “Love”, “Joy” and “Peace,” being able to sit and listen to some of these messages will be a welcomed change for me. I hope you feel the same as I do.

Christmas is a special time of the year. We have many traditions we hold dear and we have the opportunity to begin new traditions. We have our favorite Christmas Hymns and Carols that we get to sing or just listen to. Our favorite old shows to watch and maybe enjoy some new ones. But hopefully we will use the weeks of Advent and all that will happen at church as a means of sharing what you hold dear in your hearts and bring someone to church with you. Scripture tells us, “*When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, “Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.” (Luke 2:15 NASU)* Invite others to celebrate Christmas at church with you, and help them to know the message the Lord has made known to you.

Merry Christmas, I Love You,

Pastor Bob

# FBC family MINISTRY

Kim Pruitt (805) 801-3563  
kimpruittfbcflo@gmail.com

## Thank You FBC of Los Osos



We filled 50 boxes this year for Samaritan's Purse—Operation Christmas Child! Thank you for generously filling boxes for boys and girls around the world.

Pray for these boxes as they are packed, shipped, and delivered.

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Thank you Pammie, Sara, Sydney, and Kyle for helping me throw our first Youth Friendsgiving!

We had a great night eating, playing games, and decorating for Christmas!



“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins”



Matthew 1:21

## Save the Date: Sunday, December 15th

The kids and teens have been practicing on Wednesday Nights for a Christmas play!

They will be performing the short play, entitled “*Too-oo-oo-oo Busy*”, during the 2nd Service on Sunday, December 15th. The kids and teens will also join Kaitlyn and help lead the Worship set during both 1st & 2nd Services that morning.

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AND ..

Dust off your Christmas Sweater because this is also going to be the day of our Church Christmas Party!

Merry  
Christmas  
AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wednesday, December 18th will be our Kids & Youth Christmas Party. This will also be the last KiC & Youth Group for the year!

# A little of this, that ...

## New times for Sunday School class

Looking for Adult Sunday School w/ Jennifer McCallum? It moved last month to 11:00 am .



## AND DON'T FORGET ...

Sunday School Classes  
Christmas Breakfast

December 22nd  
9:30 am

November vets hall serve was wonderful! First, thank you to all who made side dishes. The patrons were thrilled to have so many delicious food item choices.



## HEY!!! YA WANNA PLAY?

The ladies will be hosting an All Adult game night on Saturday, December 14th at 6:00 pm.

So, all you guys who are aficionados of Mexican train ... this is your chance!

Come and join us for ...

*¡Un gran momento de diversión y compañerismo!(translation: a great time of fun and fellowship)*

BYOB if you want something other than coffee, or tea.

Bringing a snack item to share is optional

*¡hasta luego!*



Also thank you to our volunteers.

You guys are awesome! Set up and serve were a breeze!



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AT 6:00 PM

What is a Christmas Eve Service?

*"It's a time to come together with friends and family to celebrate and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas."* Boxcast.com

So, let's come and join together as we light the Advent candles, sing carols, and celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

*"For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"*



*(Isaiah 9:6).*

Our next time to serve is Monday, January 13th.

Hallie will have more information for you after New Years!

# ... And the other thing

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH**

... Is going to be busy!!

\* **First**, if you read Kim's Family Ministry page, you will see that the Kids and Youth will not only be helping out during both services; but will also be presenting a short play called "*Too-oo-oo Busy*", during 2nd service; (so, if you attend the 1st service, why not catch the play on our 11:00 live feed when you get home from church!?)

\* **Second**, IT'S WEAR YOUR (UGLY) CHRISTMAS SWEATER TO CHURCH SUNDAY!!

So go dig out *your ugliest "Christmas-best"* and set it aside for the 15th!!

"WHY?" you may ask. Well, because .....

\***Third**, we are having a church-wide Christmas party after 2nd service!

The main course and sides will be provided for us by "Old SLO BBQ". Please contact Kim Pruitt if you would like to bring a dessert.



## **Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st**

The significance of Advent lies in its invitation – in the midst of the busyness and sometimes chaos of the holidays – to pause, reflect, and prepare oneself spiritually for the arrival of Jesus. It is a time for believers to examine their hearts, seek forgiveness, and prepare for the joy of Christmas with open spirits. The themes that accompany each week of this season serve to realign priorities, nourish faith, and create a sense of community as families and congregations come together in celebration. By embracing the reflective nature of Advent, Christians can experience personal and collective renewal, leading to a more meaningful celebration of Christmas. Each Sunday we will be lighting the advent candles according to the themes: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| December 1st - Hope   | represents the hope we as Christians have because we have been renewed by Christ.<br>Psalm 146:5. "Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose <i>hope</i> is in the Lord his God..."  |
| December 8th - Love   | represents God's love for us. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son ..." John 3:16a   |
| December 15th - Joy   | this candle is usually pink, signifying the joy that comes from the nearing celebration of Christmas. Often referred to as the "Shepherd's Candle," it emphasizes the joy announced by the angels at Jesus' birth.<br><b>Luke 2:10-12</b> "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" |
| December 22nd - Peace | represents the peace that Christ brings to the world <b>Isaiah 9:6b</b> tells us, "And He will be called, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."   |

Some parts are taken from [commongoodmag.com](http://commongoodmag.com)



## December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Josillane Zales	3rd
Maxwell Ubay	4th
Marty Forsyth	6th
Teri Lorence	8th
Julie Sears Colligan	9th
Elijah Lewis	11th
Holly Brown	14th
Sierra Andrade	22nd
Chris Akelian	25th
Tiffanie Ferrel	27th
John Eichman	27th
Vivian Langel	30th

Dave & Heather Copple	2nd
Don & Pam Ventresca	19th
Brandie & Antone Bledsaw	23rd
Dick & Candii Sargent	29th



### How to Contact Us

**Phone #:** 805-528-3066

**Website:** [www.fbcoflososos.com](http://www.fbcoflososos.com)

**Email:** [fbcoflososos@gmail.com](mailto:fbcoflososos@gmail.com)

**Site Address:** 1900 Los Osos Valley Rd.  
Los Osos, CA 93402

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 6182

Los Osos, CA 93412

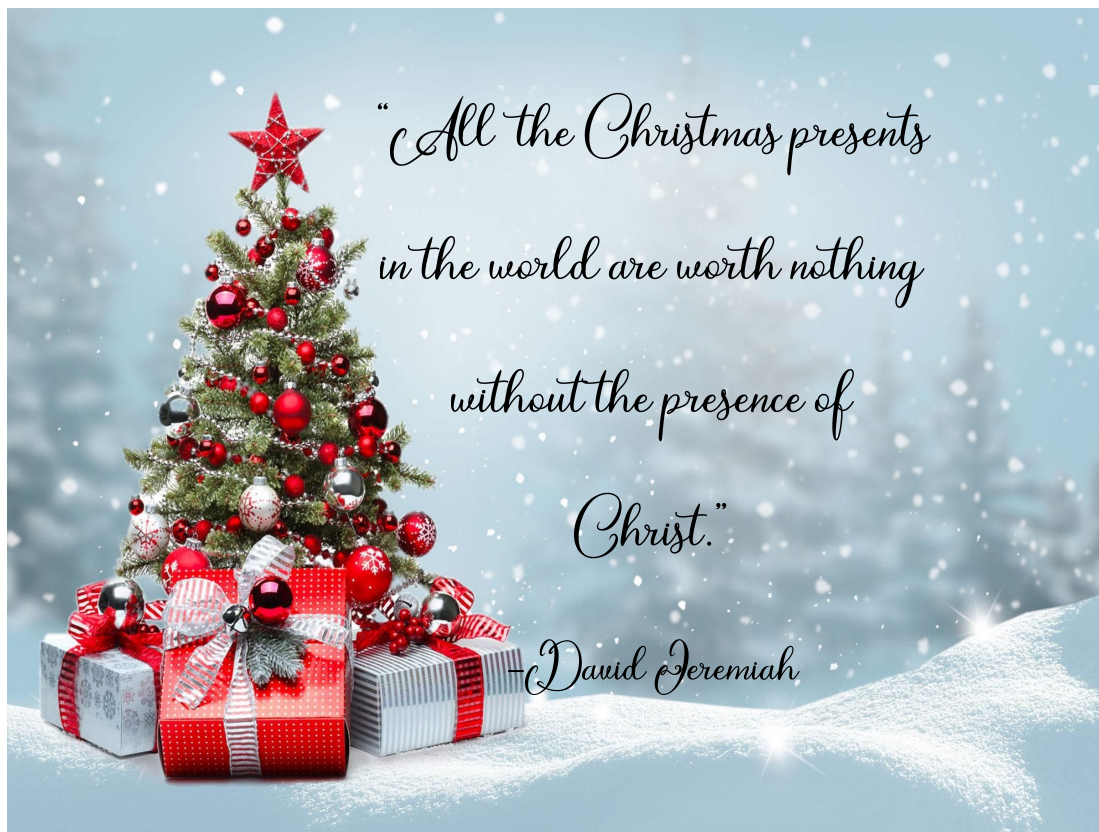
**Newsletter:** Candii Sargent

[cvedrin@gmail.com](mailto:cvedrin@gmail.com)

**Vets Hall Ministry:**

Hallie Honn

[halliehonn@live.com](mailto:halliehonn@live.com)





Sun

Mon






Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>1 First Sunday of Advent</p>  <p>Communion Sunday</p>	2	3	4	5	6	<p>7 Men's Breakfast 8:30 am at FBC</p> <p>Women's Breakfast 9 am at Garden Café in Los Osos</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	<p>14 <b>Adult Game Night 6:00 pm</b></p>  <p>Christmas Play Practice 5:45-7:15 pm</p>
<p>15 <b>Christmas play during 2nd service</b></p> <p>UGLY SWEATER SUNDAY!</p> <p>Church-wide Christmas Party after 2nd service</p>	16	<p>17 Senior Christmas Luncheon at noon</p>  <p><b>Church council 7 pm</b></p> <p>No women's Bible study</p>	<p>18 KiC and Youth Christmas Party 6:00 pm</p>	19	20	21
<p>22 Sunday School Christmas Breakfast 9:30 am</p>	23	<p>24 Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm</p> 	<p>25 </p>	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p>No KIC or Youth until January</p>			