



THE KNIGHT LIFE

The official newsletter of Our Savior Christian Academy
GROWING FAITH IN JESUS THROUGH SCRIPTURE



Twelve Days of Christmas

By LCMS Missouri President Pastor Lee Hagen

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Merry Christmas! It's still Christmas! Whether you receive a partridge in a pear tree or not, there are twelve days in the season of Christmas before we observe the visit of the Magi on January 6. That's twelve days to continue to celebrate our Lord's birth. While the world seeks to put the Christmas items on clearance and push the Valentine's Day gear already on December 26, we, Christians can continue to belt out our Christmas carols and boldly display our exterior illumination. But continuing the celebration of our Savior's birth is about more than just twelve additional days of cookies and lights. It is about marveling at the wonder of God dwelling in the flesh. It is about treasuring the Word and promises of God and pondering them in our own hearts. It is about a life shaped and formed by Christ, where He is the center of our days and our lives.

Sadly, this type of devotion should not be limited to twelve days either. The birth of Christ forever changes the lives of Joseph and Mary, Simeon and Anna, shepherds and all who have been told about the birth of the Christ child. The gathering of families around the Word of God in sanctuaries and at kitchen tables should not be confined to a couple of special occasions, but, by God's grace, can become the center of our lives.

May the Good News of our Savior's birth continue to bring joy and peace to your home as you ponder the mystery of God dwelling upon the earth in human form to offer Himself on the cross in our place. May this message remain in your homes, in your ears and hearts, and on your lips as we celebrate Christ throughout all the seasons of the year and life.

What Does Christmas Mean To You?

Do you think you could explain what Christmas means in one sentence? We challenged Our Savior Lutheran Church's Called Workers by asking them what Christmas means to them. Oh, and the challenge, they had to keep their answer to a single sentence. As you would expect, a simple question with a multi-faceted answer as you can see by their responses below. It just goes to show the meaning of Christmas is far greater than a simple sentence can express.

Pastor Block- How do you put the majesty of the son of God, who has the power of creation and yet is conceived in the form of a human, which we remember at Christmas, meaning mass of Christ or worship of Christ, the Christ child, into a sentence? I'm not sure you can, so let me go simple like when I was a child and say this... What does Christmas mean to me? Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so.

Pastor Ratcliffe- What Christmas means to me is highlighted in the phrase the angel spoke to the shepherds in Gospel of St. Luke 2: Unto YOU is born a Savior. Wow! Everything that God did on that first Christmas - sending Christ to be born - was for YOU and ME. We are so special and important in God's eyes. We are a part of God's plan of salvation!

Mrs. P- Christmas is the single biggest opportunity for Christ to dwell in each of us, even without our knowing. Every present purchased, we reflect our Lord's giving. Every tree reflects the light of Jesus. I see God working in ways we can't begin to comprehend. With so much to be grateful for, so much to be enchanted by, my prayer is that more will know him as Savior throughout this

Christmas Programs Celebrate Jesus

OSCA elementary and middle school students have accomplished much in a short amount of time. Since September, students have learned Christmas songs with accompanying music and choreography for their Christmas programs, which were held earlier this month. "Students learned to use large motor skills to perform choreography/actions while singing," stated music teacher Sheri Reineke. "The middle school students were challenged with learning six songs in a short amount of time as we only have music class one day a week." Mrs. Reineke along with Mr. Toma worked with middle students on percussion, guitar, piano, violin, band instruments and vocal. "All the students did a good job of working outside of their comfort zone and sometimes ability, thus making these programs a great accomplishment," stated Reineke.

OSCA Students Help Light Up Town

Our Savior Christian Academy students are encouraged to share their faith and their school with others. So you can imagine our delight when we heard about our high school students wanting to participate in the Smithville Christmas Lighted Parade, which took place on Saturday December 3.

Students coordinated, decorated, and drove two OSCA floats in the Saturday evening parade. Thank you OSCA student body for sharing the light of Jesus with your community. We are so proud of you !