



----- Shenandoah District of The Wesleyan Church -----

Shenandoah News

December (2018), January, February 2019 Issue

LAUNCH-ABLE LEADERS NEEDED:

As I think about the challenge to have a transforming presence of Jesus Christ in every county and zip code, I think about the human resources needed to meet the challenge. Establishing a Wesleyan presence in every county and zip code within the Shenandoah District is “doable” providing we have men and women (lay and ministerial) who have the abilities needed to start things. Someone has described such people as LAUNCH-ABLE LEADERS.

I strongly believe that the biggest majority of launch-able leaders will have to come out of our local churches. There seems to be an agreement among many that there is not a well-stocked pond to catch quality church and ministry planters. Shenandoah cannot sit back and wait for the other districts or church planting assessment centers to provide our launch-able leaders. Virginia and West Virginia churches must step up to the plate and supply our own needs with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Local pastors who have a heart for reaching people far from God with the Good News, and see the dire need to multiply, are those best positioned to realize launch-able leaders. The current and eternal needs of lost people must be taught and emphasized. The fact that church planting is the best form of evangelism must be continually talked about. The call to serve as actual planters and/or lay core team members must be sounded. The commitment to multiply and not simply add must be a conviction. Local churches who model these qualities will celebrate the rise of LAUNCH-ABLE LEADERS.

We, as Shenandoah Wesleyans, have a huge challenge before us. In order to move the ball up the field, we will have to raise up our own leaders. Will you (ministerial and lay) be a part of the present solution and an epic future?

YOU ARE LOVED!

Pastor Greg

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The Shenandoah District exists to develop healthy pastors and healthy reproducing churches, to impact the world with the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.



DISCOVER *The Joy!* 2019

March 1-3, 2019

AT THE DOUBLE TREE
BY HILTON WILLIAMSBURG
WILLIAMSBURG, VA

Declare Amen
SURRENDERING TO THE GOD WHO BEGONS US

- Powerful Worship
- Prayer Walk/ Run
- Exciting Breakout Sessions
- Scavenger Hunt
- Silent Auction
- Pinterest Project Breakouts*
(*an additional cost)
- REFIT Class
- Free Time in Williamsburg

Registration opens December 1st!

EARLY BIRD \$55 Dec. 1 - Dec. 31	\$60 Jan. 1 - Feb. 17	LATE \$70 Feb. 18 - Mar. 1
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Register Online & Conference Details at:
www.DiscovertheJoy.ws



Discover the Joy conference registration opens December 1st so don't miss taking advantage of our early registration. Featured speaker is Beth Guckenberger, author of eight books and Co-Executive Director of Back2Back Ministries.

Hotel reservations can be made directly with Double-Tree by Hilton Williamsburg at a rate of \$109 plus tax through February 17th. Please use group code DTJ.

News



The Gathering
JANUARY 9-12, 2019
ORLANDO, FLORIDA AT THE
CARIBE ROYALE

Stop. Rest. Pray. Play. Thrive.

Speakers include **Efrem Smith, Geri & Pete Scazzero, John Maxwell, Gabriel & Jeanette Salguero, Kevin Myers**, and back by popular demand – Entertainer **Michael Jr.**

Registration with Caribe Royale Suite (3 Nights)

Pastoral Couple	\$859 (Reg. \$350; Suite \$499)
Single Pastor	\$769 (Reg. \$270; Suite \$499)
ECD Min. Stud.	\$669 (Reg. \$170; Suite \$499)

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

District Assistance of \$300 per couple and \$250 per single is available. You must register first, then the District will be provided a listing of registrants and checks will be mailed at a later date.



We want you to be part of Fuel 2019 in Cincinnati, Ohio on **January 31st - February 1st, 2019**. This two day conference is for both Student and Kid's ministry workers, pastors and volunteers. Join us for a time of refueling our souls, building deep relationships, and learning together! We are believing that there is more!

Registration

Register now for Fuel 2019 by going to www.wesleyan.org **Registration deadline and all final payments are due Monday, January 7th.**

Rates:

- Triple Rate \$99.00 (three per room),
- Double Rate \$159.00 (two per room)
- Single Rate \$259.00
- Event Only- No Housing \$79.00

Now available-Spouse Rate! \$299.00

What is included in your rate?

- Conference registration
- 2 nights hotel stay
- Thursday night snack hour
- Lunch on Friday
- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Experience



New name, Same mission

Championing the past while engaging current and future needs has been the goal of leaders revising Hephzibah Ministries, Inc. Plans have become more formalized in the past few months about how and where Hephzibah will continue to serve vulnerable children.

“God’s wisdom and direction were faithfully sought,” Sherry Gorveatte, interim chair of the Hephzibah Board of Directors, said. “Prayers were felt throughout the revising process and the consistency of Hephzibah supporters during this season of transition and exploration was a tremendous source of encouragement. Today, we are equally confident and enthusiastic about our increased ability to reach more vulnerable children throughout North America. Hephzibah’s impact will continue for many years to come.”

One result of the revising process is a new name, Hephzibah62:4. Taken from Isaiah 62:4, the name reflects the Scripture’s metaphor of how the Church is to care for the vulnerable. The Hephzibah mission remains the same – transforming the life of the vulnerable child. Another outcome is emphasizing partnership instead of place. Hephzibah62:4 desires to build a culture of local churches equipping individuals to connect with and serve vulnerable children in their area using revenue generated by the sale of Hephzibah property in Georgia.

The means to serve vulnerable children changes from a location to an expanse of opportunities ranging from investments including foster church, safe families and adoption ministries to church plants with specific focus on children’s ministries in areas with high percentages of vulnerable children/families to adoption grants and scholarships for education in ministries impacting vulnerable children. Grant distribution will begin once the property is sold and the grant application process has been fully developed. “There is still a lot to accomplish,” said Gorveatte. “We are planning to implement the new ministry vision in fall 2019. Please pray for the continued development of Hephzibah62:4, as well as for the vulnerable children and the churches who will serve them.”



2018 Christmas and Advent Resource Collection

Sermons - Sermon Helps - Series Kit - Pastors - Adults - Kids Everything you need to prepare for and serve your church during Christmas and Advent. Choose from our 2018 collection of Christmas and Advent resources! We’ve partnered with our local Wesleyan churches to curate a collection of amazing resources.

<https://resources.wesleyan.org/christmas18>



MARCH 4, 2019 - MARCH 7, 2019

Exponential East

Join thousands of church planting leaders for four days of inspiration, encouragement and equipping at Exponential East church planting conference in Orlando. The conference will feature 175+ speakers, 125+ workshops, 9+ tracks, 5,000 church planting leaders and sunny Orlando, Florida. Don’t miss the largest gathering of church planting leaders in the world.

Location: First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL
Cost: \$69.00/Leader - \$29.00/Spouse

Salem Wesleyan Church

Salem, VA

Revitalization

James Clear writes in his book *Atomic Habits* “Resistance is proportionate to the size and speed of the change, not to whether the change is a favorable or unfavorable one.”

The natural tendency of life is to find stability. In biology we refer to this process as equilibrium or homeostasis the natural tendency of any organism is to find stability.



For example, consider your blood pressure. When it dips too low, your heart rate speeds up and nudges your blood pressure back into a healthy range. When it rises too high, your kidneys reduce the amount of fluid in the body by flushing out urine. All the while, your blood vessels help maintain the balance by contracting or expanding as needed. All of this happens to maintain the natural order of the body. However, as the body ages it becomes less effective at keeping this order and must have outside chemicals such as ACE inhibitors, Beta blockers and so forth to maintain the equilibrium. Like it or not there is a horizon for every organism and its effectiveness at maintaining stability regardless of the amount of medicine or physical therapy one might put the body through. There is a limit to the effectiveness and eventually the function of all organisms. Why does this matter? Because churches are organisms and they too die.

In 1981 at the annual Wesleyan camp meeting in Frankfort Indiana I remember Dr. B. H. Phaup preaching a sermon proclaiming “A trend is not a destiny.” I’ve never forgotten the sermon and its effect on my life. Because something is trending in a direction does not mean its purpose or time is over. Churches can be healthy and viable much longer than one might ever imagine. The eighty year old church I pastor is going through a program labeled Revitalization. The word, revitalization means to make viable again. As a church we did not want to embark on a rehab program any more than a person desires to start a new workout program. Nevertheless, effectiveness is diminished by status quo. As we age we consume more resources to

maintain less effective activity. It takes more money and more effort to maintain programs that have long since lost any effectiveness. To say nothing of how emotionally demoralizing it is to those trying. So of course change is mandatory.

Extending our viability is possible, but not without sustained and effective change. I mean small defined changes over time. Time is the multiple to effectiveness not the genius of the idea. People do not care about facts or even scripture if it is displacing. Jesus teaches that our heart follows our behavior. We do things first and then learn to believe them. The Revitalization team prescribed doable changes that were effective when continued over time. We did them prior to knowing the outcome.

Back to our original quote by James Clear “Resistance is proportionate to the size and speed of the change.” You cannot maintain broad compressed change without considerable damage to the organism.

The myth of radical change and overnight success is pervasive in our culture. Experts say things like, “The biggest mistake most people make in life is not setting goals high enough.” Or they say, “If you want massive results, then you have to take massive action.”

On the surface, these phrases sound inspiring, even spiritual. Yet when applied to the church they create chaos, mayhem and worst of all, pastoral changes. What we fail to realize, however, is that any quest for rapid growth contradicts every stabilizing force in our lives. Remember, the natural tendency of life is to find stability. Anytime equilibrium is lost, the system is motivated to restore it.

Our revitalization team suggested change that was achievable and sustainable while allowing us to maintain the equilibrium of the natural order. These were changes we couldn’t know ourselves owing to the emotional investment people had previously made. The changes were not easy. Still, they were simple and with the multiple of time they’ve been effective. We have sustained, even increased our effectiveness without dismantling our fellowship.

This article owes much to James Clear’s book *Atomic Habits*, and to the people of Salem Wesleyan Church.

- Dr. Ken Dupin

"The Gathering"

Parkersburg, WV

The Gathering in Parkersburg, WV hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for the neighborhood and over 100 people joined in the event. Once a month the church provides a free meal to the community with the help and support of several other churches and organizations. The food donated for the Thanksgiving dinner was enough to feed the large crowd and provide leftovers to both of the homeless shelters in the neighborhood!



The Gathering has been collecting blankets, coats, food pantry items, and bottled water and has been able to bless people in the community with much needed provisions! Each Thursday 35-40 kids meet

there after school for dinner and rec center fun. Including their younger siblings, there is a list of 76 kids who will be "adopted" by secret Christmas shoppers.



Sunday afternoons at 3pm, the worship service at The Gathering has seen an average attendance of 45. Anyone who is interested in contributing to The Gathering is welcome to do so by giving at homelandchurch.org or by contacting Melody Smith at 304-834-5366.

Three Strand Church

Blacksburg, VA

Three Strand Church is looking to expand its area of ministry. As the closing date for the sale of the current church property approaches there are already many activities underway at the new church location which is just one mile from exit 118 at the interchange of Rt. 460 and I-81. Previously a computer support facility, the new location offers many improvements such as single-floor



construction, three times more parking than the current location, easy access to Rt. 460 and I-81, and 1 ½ times the square footage of the current facility. The geographic location is ideal for reaching out to the neighboring towns of Riner and Floyd, which are somewhat isolated geographically, as well as the neighborhoods adjacent to the property.

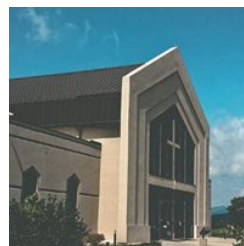
The move is part of the church's long-term multiplication goal of developing life-transforming ministries in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Radford, and Floyd. Services at the new facility are anticipated to start at the beginning of the year with a grand opening in the spring.

-Pastor Tony Johnson



Parkway Wesleyan Church

Roanoke, VA



On September 23rd, 2018 Parkway Wesleyan of Roanoke had our fall Super Sunday. It was advertised for six weeks, and our people were encouraged to invite their unchurched and de-churched

family, friends, neighbors and coworkers. We discouraged trying to influence people of other churches to come try us out. It hurts when other churches do it to us and we wanted to resist the musical chair syndrome that is so prevalent across the Roanoke Valley. Our theme was "Losing The Cape: The Power Of Ordinary In a World Of Super Heroes." It was the introduction to a series on Gideon and how God wants to take all of us beyond ordinary. At the end of the day we had 1000 in attendance, over 50 decisions for Christ with over 40 of them

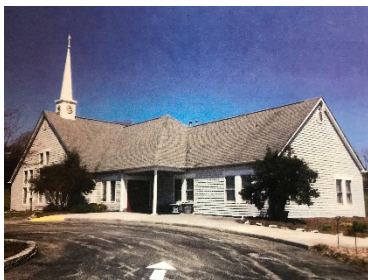
making a public profession of faith. There was an assortment of rides and bounce houses for the kids after church. Free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and cotton candy were served. The following Sunday we had 10 baptisms at the end of our two services. The Lord answered our prayers, and our people were so



excited. They gave a standing ovation as their unsaved family and friends came forward and no other church had to suffer because we had a big day. PTL!!

- Pastor John Ott

Christ Wesleyan Church Christiansburg, VA



GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT CHRIST WESLEYAN CHURCH! God is truly helping and answering prayer for the furtherance and growth of Christ Wesleyan. It's been

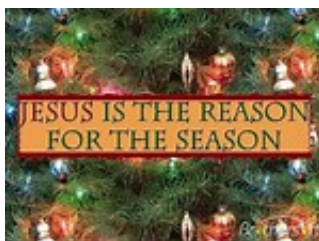
a year since the two Wesleyan congregations merged (Radford and Christiansburg) with a wonderful sense of unity and desire to reach new families. Most recently, four new families have been steadily attending and are "plugging in" to the church family, We have been regularly praying and moving into action to meet and reach new homes and God is answering!

A new parsonage is now on site... a four bedroom modular with plenty of room for the parsonage family to entertain, as well as looking forward to whatever the Lord may provide for pastoral leadership in coming years. The Janofskis hope to be able to "move in" by Christmas-time.

November 18th evening was a night of fellowship around a Thanksgiving potluck followed by a wonderful concert by Wayne & Lisa Taylor, worship leaders at Jordantown Wesleyan. God was present as we praised Him with several attending from sister Wesleyan churches.

Thanks to the district for your prayers for this effort to exalt Christ and care for others.

- Pastor Gale Janofski



First Simple Church

Williamsburg, VA



First Simple Church of Williamsburg was planted six years ago as a non-traditional ministry. Non-traditional in the sense of reaching specific hard to reach demographics; first responders, military, and motorcycle enthusiasts. That outreach included becoming a police officer and patrolling with local law enforcement, ministering on military installations, and attending several 1% bike rally's, from D.C. to Sturgis, ND. First Simple takes Christ and His Church to the Community. That vision quickly expanded two years later, when the ministry adopted a local hunt club two miles from the church.

Pastor Sam joined the hunt club, renewed his desire to hunt, and was appointed to the club's board. What happened next was truly Spirit-led. First Simple's congregation got



onboard and committed to serving lunch on opening and closing day and invited hunt club membership to Sunday worship services. What started as a response to God's call has now developed into nearly a dozen hunt club members joining and serving in the ministry. Several hunt club members



have accepted Christ, followed in believer's baptism, and now serve faithfully in the ministry, including the Club president who now serves on the LBA as a trustee, and teaches a weekly "Berean" Sunday

School class. In fact, it's not unusual to see mud on the sanctuary carpet as hunt club members intentionally come out of the woods to attend Sunday morning worship, and eat breakfast in the church kitchen.

Sometimes when hunting, success is not measured by the "kill", but rather by the relationships around the campfire at the end of the afternoon hunt answering questions, prompted by the Holy Spirit.

- Pastor Sam Frye

Emmanuel Wesleyan Church

Roanoke, VA



David Calhoun
DOJ Accredited Representative **Immigration Legal Services**

Emmanuel Wesleyan Church
402 Hershberger Ave
Roanoke, VA 24112

Phone: 540-581-2963
www.elpuente.legal

EL PUENTE
IMMIGRANT CONNECTION

idiomas, culturas, familia. JUNTOS
languages, cultures, families. TOGETHER

EL PUENTE, IMMIGRANT CONNECTION AT EMMANUEL WESLEYAN CHURCH

PROVIDING IMMIGRANT LEGAL SERVICES

El Puente, Immigrant Connection, has received recognition by the US Department of Justice and is providing immigrant legal services at Emmanuel Wesleyan church, located at 402 Hershberger Road NW, Roanoke, Virginia.

David Calhoun, the Pastor of La Misión Hispana Church in Roanoke, is an accredited US Department of Justice representative and serves as the Executive Director of El Puente Immigrant Connection.

At El Puente, we assist low-income immigrant clients in applying for a variety of immigration benefits including: DACA, citizenship, family-based immigration, adjustment of status, and a variety of other visas.

El Puente is a non-profit organization and charges a nominal fee for legal services. However, frequently these services are provided at little or no cost to qualifying persons. David Calhoun and several office assistants currently volunteer their time without compensation. Emmanuel Wesleyan Church generously provides office space, telephone/internet service as well as funds allocated for yearly technical fees.

Many of our clients have been victims of domestic violence and other traumatic crimes and are under a 'protected status' and have limited opportunity to work and provide for their children. We firmly believe these precious immigrant families are included in our Savior's admonition to care for "the least of these".

Following is an example of the impact our services can make in the lives of these humble people who

are seeking asylum and the promise of a better life in our great nation:

A lovely young lady with her beautiful 3-year-old son came in to El Puente for assistance. She started the long arduous journey from her home country in Central America to the United States. This young lady who we will call Juanita was seeking a legitimate job to provide much needed assistance to her impoverished and struggling family back in Central America.

Along the way, she met a man who agreed to help her make the trip and get into the United States. He is what is known as a "coyote" and takes large sums of money from folks like Juanita for the promise of safe passage. As often happens, he took Juanita captive and impregnated her. She was held hostage for the entire duration of the pregnancy until this man was caught and arrested giving her the chance to flee to San Antonio to a safe house shelter run by a pastor and his family.

San Antonio is an area watched closely by immigration authorities and Juanita was found and questioned. She was given an "Order of Deportation" and a tracking device was placed on her ankle limiting her area of travel to two states. Juanita will have to wear this ankle device 24 hours a day until her order is dismissed and she is able to file for a U Visa as the victim of domestic abuse. If the U Visa is granted, Juanita can file for legal permanent residency after a required three-year waiting period under the U Visa status. Her quest for a better life has already taken over four years of living in fear for her safety and in hiding from authorities who can send her back to her home country without her child who is a US citizen by birth.

Your support of El Puente's mission can help us to provide protection, emotional support, and legal services to many with similar challenges.

We are currently in need of funds to provide scholarships for families who can't afford to pay processing costs, to purchase an additional office computer and a portable scanner and to be able to compensate a part time office assistant.

We would like to challenge each Wesleyan Church that desires to impact multicultural missions in a tangible way to consider a monthly contribution to this unique ministry. In so doing, you may provide the answer to an urgent legitimate need of immigrant families. At El Puente, our underlying and principal motive is to influence every precious person we meet with the Gospel. Because of the complexity of the immigration process and the steps required to obtain legal status, our relationship with these families may last for 5 to 10 years.

Volunteers are also needed to help for an hour or two each week, during office hours.

For more information, please visit our website at www.elpuente.legal.

Contact Pastor David Calhoun at info@elpuente.legal or call 540-529-4101.

Musicians/Evangelists Available



The Longs
are back on the road ready to serve your church
Special Music - Banquets - Concerts
Pulpit Supply - Spiritual Formation Training
Christian Ed Consultation
Rev. James Long - 276-224-5818 javelong@comcast.net
Dr. Violet Long - 276-403-2886 drvlong@outlook.com



Sober Ministries
Don and Rhonda Sober
4557 Colonial Trail West
Spring Grove, VA 23881
(804) 691-1782
rhondasober@gmail.com
The cutting edge of traditional
and gospel music!!

Shenandoah Students Enrolled in Wesleyan Universities

- Kara M. Tippey (Fredericksburg) – IWU
- Brian K. Phillips (Penn Forest) – IWU
- Jonah R. Atkinson (Penn Forest) – IWU
- Ainsley R. Pruitt (ReClaim) – SWU
- Mason N. Yopp (Penn Forest) – IWU
- Hannah R. Selden (Clearview) – SWU
- Jared Kilmer (Oak Grove) – IWU
- Jacob B. Harris (Made New) – SWU

Prayer Requests

Mrs. Ann Reynolds – recently hospitalized with anemia, dehydration.

Mrs. Joyce Rodriguez – continuing physical issues.

Mrs. Jenny Stevens – Ongoing health issues, dealing with pain.

Rev. Roy Rogers – recovering from open heart surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.

Rev. Charles Carroll – physical issues.

Pulpit Supply

Rev. David Bayse is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is: 434-324-4298 or pastorandmae@comcast.net.

Dr. Harold Gunsalus is available for pulpit supply. Please contact him at: 336-617-4770 or hamagun@aol.com

Rev. John Hathaway is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is: 304-743-4731 or email: j.e.hathaway@gmail.com

Charles (Chuck) Donneberg is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is 434-239-0496 or chuck@histouchministries.com

Mr. William (Bill) Mine is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is 804-435-1390

Rev. James Long is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is 276-224-5818 javelong@comcast.net

Rev. John Aldrich, Jr. is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is 276-971-4097 Jma4me@aol.com

Dr. David Hurd is available for pulpit supply. His contact information is 540-381-0279 drdhurd@aol.com



Dates

- First Sunday of Advent –
- Christmas Day – Dec. 25, 2018
- The Gathering (Orlando, FL) – Jan. 9-12, 2019
- FUEL – Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2019
- Developing Church Reports Due – Feb. 15, 2019
- Discover the Joy – Mar. 1-3, 2019
- Exponential – Mar. 4-7, 2018
- DBA Meeting – Mar. 8, 2019
- DBMD Meeting – Mar. 22-23, 2019
- Pastoral Vote Sunday – Mar. 31, 2019
- Palm Sunday – Apr. 14, 2019
- Good Friday – Apr. 19, 2019
- Easter Sunday – Apr. 21, 2019
- Conference Year Ends – Apr. 30, 2019
- Mother's Day – May 12, 2019
- DBA Meeting – Jun. 14, 2019
- Father's Day – Jun. 16, 2019
- Children's Camp – Jun. 16 – 21, 2019
- POWER '19/District Conference – Jul. 14-16, 2019
- Youth Camp (SWU) – Jul. 21-25, 2019
- Shenandoah Family Camp – Jul. 28 – Aug. 4, 2019



WISHING FOR YOU

A VERY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

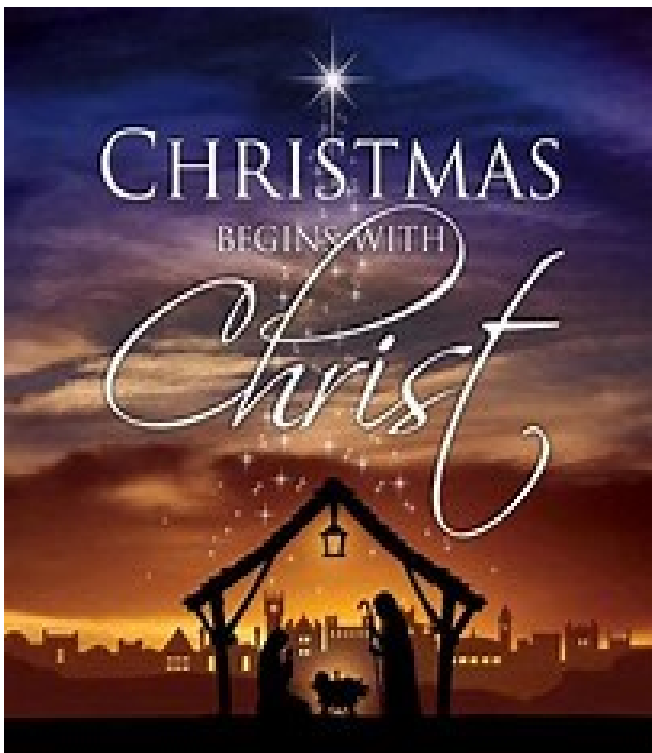
AND A

BLESSED NEW YEAR

FROM THE DISTRICT CENTER

GREG & BECKY REYNOLDS
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

BOB & LISA PHAUP
ASSISTANT DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



Christmas
for Christ