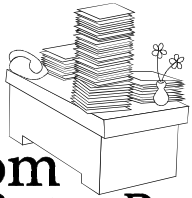


MT ZION UMC

DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER



From the Pastors Desk

What Does Christmas Really Mean?

How many times do you think people have explained what the “real” meaning of Christmas is? Only God knows! The idea that we need to go around telling people what Christmas “really” means shows us that something hinders people from understanding what God did in sending Jesus into the world. Perhaps this year, rather than trying to explain what Christmas means, we should instead try to live in such a way that people around us learn something about the nature of God, who sent His only begotten Son into the world in order to save people.

What better could we do than find ways to “save” people from various life problems. For example, we could help save someone from financial lack—by helping them find employment or giving them some money. Or, we could help save someone from immobility—by giving them a ride to the grocery store. Or, we could help save someone from loneliness—by simply being a friend.

Whatever we do this season, let us first show people by our actions—not just our words—what the story of Jesus really means. John 3:16 tells us that God so loved the world (i.e., people) that He *gave*. Let us learn—and help others learn—the real meaning of Christmas this year by giving of our lives to bless others.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Craig



Remember:

**The Christmas Play will be
held on Saturday,
December 24,
at 7:00 p.m.**

and

**Christmas Day
Worship Service
will be held on Sunday,
December 25, at 10:00 a.m.
(no Sunday School)**

Do you have an event or article for our next newsletter? Contact Heather Ulrich, (336) 996-7745, or ulrich_heather@hotmail.com