

COMPASSION FUND

Crosswalk has established a fund to help those within our church with food cards, and other miscellaneous items. Donations can be designated to the Compassion Fund with a check, cash, or online giving.



Crosswalk Community Church presents

BETHLEHEM A.D. 22

Sunday, December 4, 2022





Help One Child

GIVING TREE

BE A PART OF GIFT-GIVING DELIGHT



For our Christmas mission outreach this year, we are partnering with Help One Child to collect gifts for the foster, adoptive, and at-risk communities.

Crosswalk has committed to provide 45 gifts/gift cards for children infant - 21 years old.

We are happy to report that all 45 gift tags were picked up over the last few weeks. Today is the final day to receive all of the gifts that will be placed under the lobby Christmas tree.

Next Sunday, December 11th all of these gifts will be distributed to Help One Child foster families in the Plaza between 1-3 pm.

Plan on coming to welcome and visit with these families. Hot chocolate, cookies, and a gift-wrapping station will be part of this event.

Thank you for your generosity.



Shine the Light Project

On Christmas Eve, we will be lining the front of the church with luminaries in order to shine the light of Jesus into our neighborhood. Please join us in supporting this project by doing the following:

- Bring clear glass or plastic recyclables to church
- Help insert lights into containers each week after the church service
- Join the Shine the Light team on Christmas Eve to help with setup
- Take luminaries with you as you leave the Christmas Eve service to share with friends, family, neighbors, and shut ins.



For many people, Christmas can be a big let-down. At first, we feel a jolt of hope as carols fills the air. There's a sense that something mysterious is happening. Yet, Christmas comes and goes and nothing changes. How can so much be offered and so little received at Christmas? After we've opened our gifts, and had our fill, we return to our lives, as always, with nothing more than a feeling of what could have been. We start over again in January just to repeat the same process. This year can be different. What if the message and scenes of Bethlehem can be recaptured? What if, like the angels, shepherds, and lowly people in the Christmas story, we too can discover what was first promised in Bethlehem: friendship!

Bethlehem was not only the place of Jesus' birth, but also the birthplace of hope. This Christmas, we reach for it once more.

As we reenact the drama of that luminous Bethlehem night, we will see that Bethlehem's promise is alive in our time, all these centuries later.

After all, Jesus came to bring friendship to a world in isolation, joy to a world in gloom, peace to a world at war, and hope to a hopeless world. This week think about these questions:

- (1) How would your life be different if Jesus were born in A.D. 2022?
- (2) Would you chase after the same things that grip your heart right now?
- (3) Would your fears be less, your anticipation greater, your joy fuller, your peace more abundant?

Our prayer is that as we worship, pray, and listen this Christmas, something in us will change as we encounter this baby born to us in Bethlehem, Jesus.

Pastor Briant



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John 1:14-18

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Sermon Notes

(1) Jesus offers true friendship (John 1:14)

(2) Jesus brings grace and truth to daily life (John 1:15-17)

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