

Tomah Chronicle

BAPTIST CHURCH

December, 2023

VOL XXVIII # XII

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

Luke 2:11



Theme for 2023

That all the Earth May Know

I Samuel 17:45-46



**For Unto
to You**

Pastor Aaron Smith

The story of Christmas is one that is visited year after year by generations and generations and is celebrated in over 160 countries around the world. It is a story that has been told countless times by countless number of people. Even fictional characters such as Linus from Charlie Brown have taken part in telling of the story as he read from Luke 2 stating, *"1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2 And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David: 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."*

There they were, Joseph, Mary and Baby Jesus lying in manger, angels singing, shepherds coming to worship, etc. I wonder though have you stopped and considered that in all the wonderous details that God has given to us in His Holy Word that all of this was done for you? From the beginning of John chapter one all the way to Matthew chapter two, the Bible offers to us an amazing perspective of how deep the events of Christ's coming to earth came to be.

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As we celebrate His coming this month, we would be wise to remember that in God's goodness in giving His Son, He gave Him to us. May we not miss the purpose of His coming was so that we could partake in the unmerited gift of eternal life. That is the greatest gift we could ever receive. If you have never trusted Christ as your savior, I implore you to not allow another day to pass without your having God's perfect gift in your life. The coming of Jesus to this earth was for you. Believe that God loved you so much that He gave His only begotten Son to live a sinless, perfect life here, and for Him to die a cruel death on the cross of Calvary paying the debt of sin for you. As He was buried in death, after spending three days and three nights in the grave, He gloriously resurrected and was seen and testified by over 500 individuals that they saw the resurrected savior in person. Why was all this done? It was done for you! So that you can receive the greatest gift that has ever been given--the gift of eternal life. The best and truest way for you to have a merry Christmas is for you to accept God's gift of Jesus that was given for you.

God's Promises

Worshipping God

Many Christians grow up in church, but never grow in Christ. They know hymns, but they don't know "HIM".

John 4:23-24 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

1 Chronicles 16:29 Give unto the LORD the glory *due* unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Matthew 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

BEHIND the song...



The First Noel

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

No other carol casts such a spell. The sweet, plaintive strains of “The First Noel,” quietly sung on snow-clad Christmas Eve, bring tears to the eyes and gentle peace to the heart. Noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel. If only we knew who wrote it! It first appeared anonymously in *Some Ancient Christmas Carols*, published by Davis Gilbert in 1823, and the traditional music evidently came from an unknown source in the west of England.

The poetry itself is plain. If we were to recite this rather lengthy piece, we’d get only a garbled sense of the Christmas story. There is no indication in Scripture, for example, that eh shepherds saw the Magi’s star. And the final verse of the original carol seems anticlimactic. But when combined with it’s wistful music, the words glow and our hearts are strangely warmed.

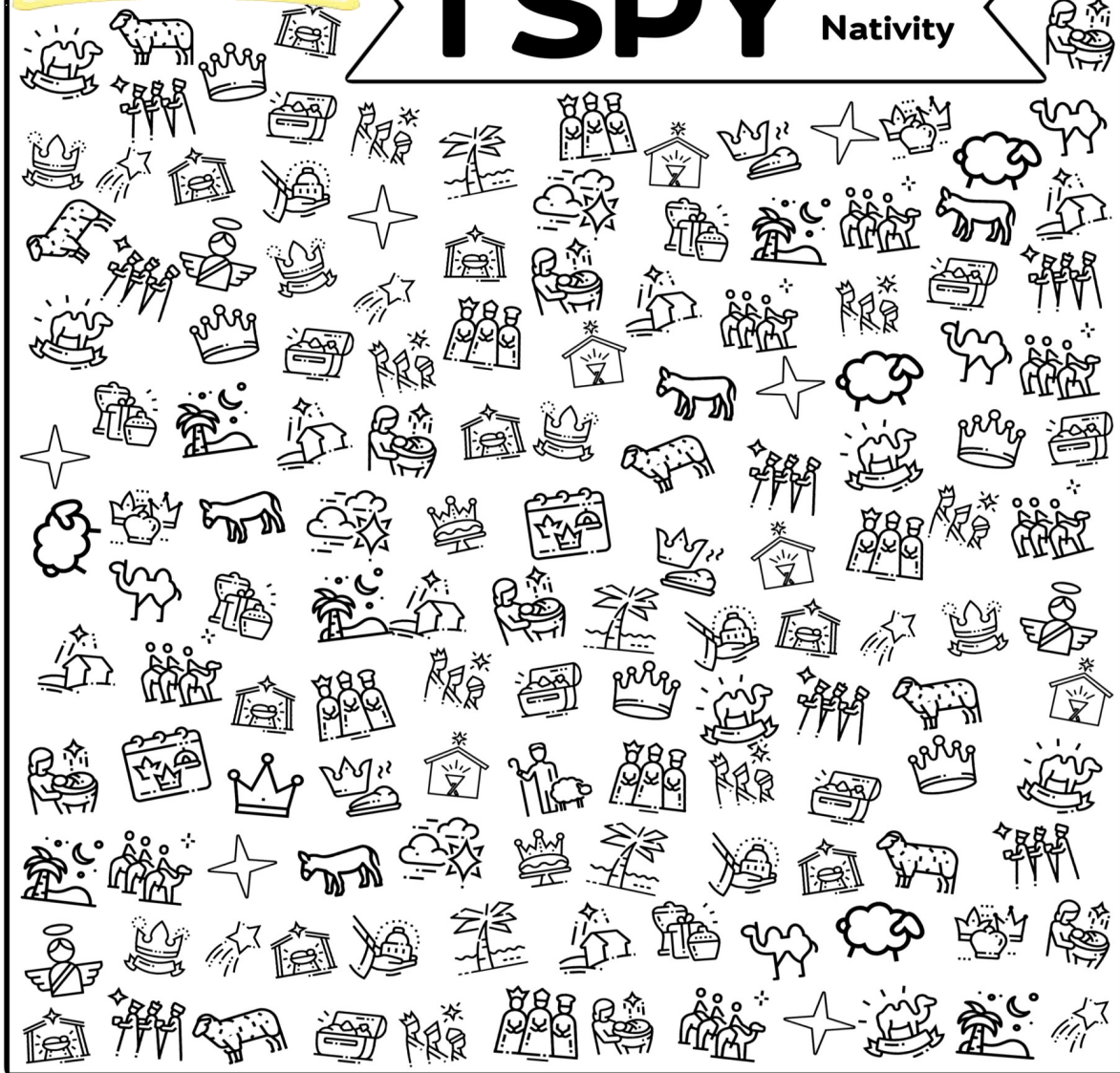
The word “Noel” seems to be a French word with Latin roots: *Natalis*, meaning birth-day. Modern hymns omit several of the verses. Here is the complete version:

1. *The First Noel the Angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*
2. *They looked up and saw a star shining in the East beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light And so it continued both day and night
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*
3. *And by the light of that same star Three Wise men came from country far
To seek for a King was their intent and to follow the star wherever it went
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*
4. *This star drew nigh to the northwest o'er Bethlehem it took it's rest
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*
5. *Then they did know assuredly within that house, the King did lie
One entered in then for to see and found the babe in poverty.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*
6. *Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently, upon bended knee,
And offered there, in His presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense,
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!*



I SPY

Nativity



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |



Dec 4th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 5th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 6th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 7th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 12th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 14th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 15th Basketball Game vs Utica Boys 5:30 & Girls 4:30 @ Tomah Middle School

Dec 19th Basketball Practice 3:30-5:00 pm

Dec 21st Basketball Game vs Richland Center @ Tomah Middle School– Boys 6:30 pm

Dec 25th—Jan 5th Christmas Break

Nativity Fire



A rural church in the south began a lovely Christmas tradition of staging a Living Nativity scene on the front lawn of the church. It became the talk of that small community. A visitor driving through town stopped and admired the performance, but one feature troubled him. The three wisemen were carrying heavy canvas hoses, and wore fire helmets. Unable to come up with an explanation on his own, the tourist went to one of the church members who stood by.

“Why the fire hoses and helmets on the three wisemen?” he asked.

The church lady shook her head in disgust and replied, “You Yankees never do read the Bible!”

He assured her he did, but could not recall anything about firemen in the Bible.

The lady indignantly pulled her Bible out from under her arm and riffled through the pages, finally jabbing her finger at one particular passage. Putting the Good Book right up in his face she said, “See, Yankee, it says right here. ‘The wise men came from afar...’”

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						Deacons 8:30 am
					RU 7 pm	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Building Fund Offering	WFBC Fellowship Christmas Dinner	Caroling 6:30 pm			Cantata Dinner 6:00 pm	Trustees 8:30 am
				Noon Prayer		
Singspiration		Print Ministry 3-6	Print Ministry 10-2	Calling- 6:45pm	RU 7 pm	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Cantata 10:30 am		Ladies' Christmas Party 6:30 pm		Noon Prayer		
		Print Ministry 3-6	Print Ministry 10-2	Calling- 6:45pm	RU 7 pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday School Christmas Program 6:00 pm		Print Ministry 3-6	Print Ministry 10-2		RU 7 pm	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Family Services 8:30 Early Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Hour	Offices Closed					
			All Church Prayer		RU 7 pm	
31		Sunday School- 9:30 Morning Service-10:30 Evening Service-6:00 Wed Bible Study, - 6:30 pm Teens 6th- 12th, Soldiers for Christ K-5th				TBA Events are found on Page 6
New Year's Eve Services						

Independent Fundamental Church Ministries:
Tomah Baptist Academy K-12 ~
Live streaming Sunday Services ~ Christian Counseling
Mid-Week Children & Youth Ministries
Light-Bearing Print Ministry ~ Discipleship Program
Victorious Overcomers Addiction Ministry

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Pastor Aaron Smith, Sr. Pastor

Donald I. Root, Assistant Pastor

Sharing—Caring
Teaching

Birthdays

1st	Rick Beebe
3rd	Momolu Sonie
7th	Diane Gilbert
9th	Joshua Lloyd
10th	Danille Eldridge
10th	Isabelle Haines
11th	Emily Haines
11th	Carol James
12th	Austin Faulkner
14th	Freya Zheng
15th	Jeremiah Pries
16th	Micah Buehner
16th	Brooke Bussell
17th	Nancy Felker
18th	Asher Smith
19th	Eric Lloyd
21st	Judah Pries
21st	Cameron Christensen
26th	Steve Falk
26th	Leo Zickefoose

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

December Missionaries

John & Joyce Rael—are missionaries in Brazil. They have been on the field for over 50 years. They are working on training younger men to take their place when God decides it I time.

Prayer Requests:

- Construction (Repair) on Church Building
- Train new workers— Younger Men
- Jardim Florianopolis Church

Victorious Overcomers—is a ministry to those with addictions of various kinds. It meets weekly on Friday nights @ 7pm. It points each situation to the Word of God and how He wants us to conduct our lives.

Prayer Requests:

- People to minister to
- Outreach
- Leaders

Elizabeth Williams—is sent to Asia as a Gospel witness. Beth is a teacher by trade but uses it to reach and disciple other women.

Prayer Requests:

- Language Learning
- Doors Open for her to Return to the field
- Meetings

Anniversaries

4th	Ray & Linda Slater
9th	Bill & Lina Warner
17th	Pastor Aaron & Rachel Smith
24th	Andrew & Cassie Vanderhoff
28th	Kevin & Charlene Rabe
31st	Lowell & Linda Hanson