

Christmas Behind the Scenes

Week 5: 'Cue Linus!'

“Sharing Jesus’ Love Requires us to Shine.”

Luke 2:8-20

The Shepherds and Angels

8 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10 but the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! 12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”

13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in highest heaven,
and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”

15 When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go to Bethlehem! Let’s see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

16 They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. 17 After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. 18 All who heard the shepherds’ story were astonished, 19 but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. 20 The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

If you’ve ever watched *The Charlie Brown Christmas Special*, you will likely remember the poignant moment when Charlie Brown, in a moment of exasperation, having been frustrated by an increasingly commercialized Christmas season (and this, keep in mind, was nearly 60 years ago), asks if there’s anyone who could tell him what the Christmas season was all about. *Cue Linus*.

At that point, Charlie Brown’s blanket bearing best buddy boldly busts out the biblical breakdown that our beloved blundering blockhead needs to hear. Approaching the stage, Linus calls: “Lights, please,” and a spotlight illuminates on him as he goes on to explain what the Christmas season is all about.

A similar light has found its way to us, too. As Christians, we’re called to share the light of Christ. Charlie Brown isn’t the only one looking for answers, and it’s up to us to shine the light of Jesus, ready at all times to answer the questions that people may have. This Sunday, we’ll talk about how our answers and our actions should always shine light on Jesus.

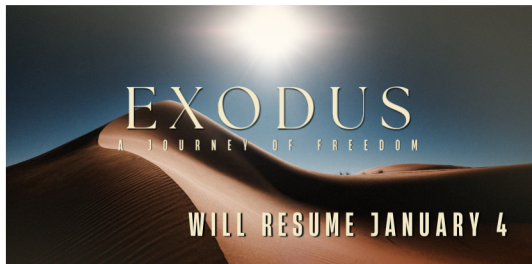
Prayer Requests



Eddie Peters (Bea Burgdoerfer's friend)
Eddie Kerr
Lynne Wilhelm

Ron & Teresa Scott
Lori Higgs
Paul Tinch in the passing of his mother

**A weekly updated long term prayer list can be picked up in the lobby.



Poinsettias Given By

Alea Lucas in memory of Denise Matthews

Pat Summan in memory of Kenny Summan

Kim Carroll in memory of Art Carroll

Kim Carroll in honor of Mary Hornung

Larry and Marcia Clark in memory of Clarks' and in honor of Scaggs'

Donna Parrett in memory of family

Beth Rowland in memory of Calvin and Barbara Rowland

Bea Burgdoerfer in memory of Doris Lynch

The Jefferson Family in memory of Talia Jefferson

Diane Burks in memory of Barbara Kerr



WEEKLY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

David Burks 12-28



Vitals for December 17

Weekly Need: \$3,200

Actual Given: \$1,828

Sunday School - 39

Morning Service - 69

3 easy ways to give:

- 'Tithes & Offerings' box in the lobby
- newheightsconnersville.com/giving
- Mail to the church office

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