



## Shepherd Tuesday Happenings for December 16, 2008

Dear Shepherdians and Friends,

The song says, "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" and it certainly is. The Church is decorated, the messages are about the miracle of Jesus' birth and folks are actually wearing jackets because the weather is cool. Savon says it isn't cool, it's down- right cold; but I have faith that January and February will show us what cold really is all about.

**Just Thinking** -- Did you ever get into a "what if" match with the kids. You know, you state a truth and they respond with "but, what if...?"

With the Christmas season in full-swing, I was having a couple of "what if" moments recently. For instance, what if the Three Wise Men (of course you do realize that the Bible does not specify that there were three; most assume since the Wise Men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh, that there were three). Anyhow, what if the Wise Men had had a Garmin or Tom-Tom GPS, they might not have needed the star, they might not have had to stop at Herod's palace for directions and to explain their mission. Herod might not have ordered all of the babies killed; therefore Mary and Joseph would not have had to flee to Egypt. Well you get the picture and it would be quite a different story.

Another "what if" found on the internet; what if the 3 Wise Men had been women. If that were the case they would have:

- A. Arrived on time, because they would have stopped to asked for directions.
- B. Instead of gold, frankincense and myrrh, they would have brought diapers, powder and A & D ointment, because that was something the baby could need.
- C. They would have helped deliver the baby.
- D. Cleaned up the manger
- E. And, cooked a meal.

We can twist things around, but the facts are Christ our Savior was born in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. Just read the story in Luke 2. The Bible is God's word. He said it, I believe it, and that settles it.

May you and yours have a Merry and Blessed Christmas.

**At Shepherd This Week** – Here are your opportunities for worship this week at Shepherd Church of the Nazarene:

- Tonight @ 7 pm– Discipleship @ Pastor Coleman's
- Wednesday @ 7 pm – Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
- Thursday @ 7 pm – Discipleship @ Van & Clarence Coleman's
- Sunday @ 10 am – Morning Worship
- Sunday @ 4:30 pm – Praise Team Practice
- Sunday @ 5:00 pm – Evening Worship

**Special Christmas Service and Treats** – This Sunday will be our Christmas Service and after the service Sunday morning, each person present will receive a pack of Christmas treats.

**Christmas Eve Service** – Yes Virginia, there will be a Christmas Eve service on Wednesday, December 24 at 7 pm. All are urged to attend this brief service and make it a part of your Christmas celebration.

**Holiday Changes** – While we will be having the Christmas Eve service; Discipleship Training will not be held Tuesday and Thursday of next week, December 23 and 25 to allow you time for last minute shopping and to celebrate Christmas with your families.

**Muchos Gracias nuestro amigos y hermanos en Cristo** – Many thanks to our friends and brothers & sisters in Christ. John and Savon wish to thank each of you that helped with the state quarter donations.



**Dr. Gunter dedicates the Renacimiento Church of the Nazarene in Cancun, Mexico**

The congregation and visitors numbered about 200 people at the newly dedicated Renacimiento (Renaissance) Church of the Nazarene (formerly Cancun Second Church of the Nazarene) in Mexico; each of them received one of the South Carolina prayer quarters. Some were so touched by the symbolism that they, unsolicited, gave pesos to John, so members of Shepherd Church might have a reminder to pray for them. The Friersons hope to be sharing this experience with you soon and the story of the prayer coins.

General Superintendent Dr. Nina Gunter and Dr. Moody Gunter, South Carolina natives, dedicated the new church building to the memory of SC Pastor N. J. Lewis and his wife of 56 years, Lillian Lewis. The Friersons, two of the Lewis nieces, as well as local church officials participated in the ceremony.

John & Savon also wish to thank South Carolina District Superintendent Dr. Eddie Estep for taking time to send greetings to the Cancun Church.

**Finally** -- Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers when the youngest one began praying at the top of his lungs.

**"I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE...  
I PRAY FOR A NEW NINTENDO...  
I PRAY FOR A NEW Blue-Ray DVD..."**

His older brother leaned over and nudged the younger brother and said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf." To which the little brother replied, "No, but Gramma and Granpa are!"

What did he say??? Oh well, I guess he needs to be reminded that when you stop believing in Santa Claus, you get cloths. Don't forget that Jesus is the real meaning of the season and to come home to Shepherd where you ARE family. See you in church.

**P.S.** – There will be a *Shepherd Tuesday Happenings* next week, December 23, but because of the holidays, the folks that receive it by mail may get it a little late. We wish each of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

*John*

John Frierson – Editor, [news@shepherdnazarene.com](mailto:news@shepherdnazarene.com)  
Shepherd Church of the Nazarene  
119 Ballpark Rd.  
Lexington, SC 29072-2262  
(803) 957-4348  
[www.shepherdnazarene.com](http://www.shepherdnazarene.com)  
Rev. Richard I. Coleman, Pastor  
[pastor@shepherdnazarene.com](mailto:pastor@shepherdnazarene.com)