

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST Dec 29, 2019



## Things to Remember During the Holidays

### PART TWO

Written by Hiram Kemp

### Gratitude

Social media has allowed us to peek into everyone's backyard and see how others are doing in many areas of life. It is not a bad thing, but sometimes comparison becomes the thief of joy as we are unable to count our blessings because we are overly concerned with what others have (2 Cor. 10:12). Remember gratitude this holiday season. Be grateful for the measure of health you have and thank the God who gave it. Appreciate the family that you have and the smiles and laughs you can enjoy together because circumstances often change before we know it. In every situation we can give ...

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).*

### VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & fellowship for lunch every Sunday!

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

[emailus@coldwatercofc.com](mailto:emailus@coldwatercofc.com)

[www.coldwatercofc.com](http://www.coldwatercofc.com)

#### ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

#### DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell JoeOwen

Andy Ratliff Tim Wilkes, II

John Wofford

#### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... thanks, even when we wish things were better (1 Thess. 5:18). God's goodness causes our hearts to swell with gratitude and is expressed as we give thanks (Eph. 5:20). If someone thinks of you and gets you a present, remember to be grateful even if it was not exactly what you wanted or if you asked for something else. We tell children to be grateful, but many times adults fail to set the right example (Prov. 23:26). In a world of complaining and pouting we can shine our light as we carry gratitude past the Thanksgiving meal and into every season of our lives. Remember to be grateful this holiday season.

## **Great Opportunities**

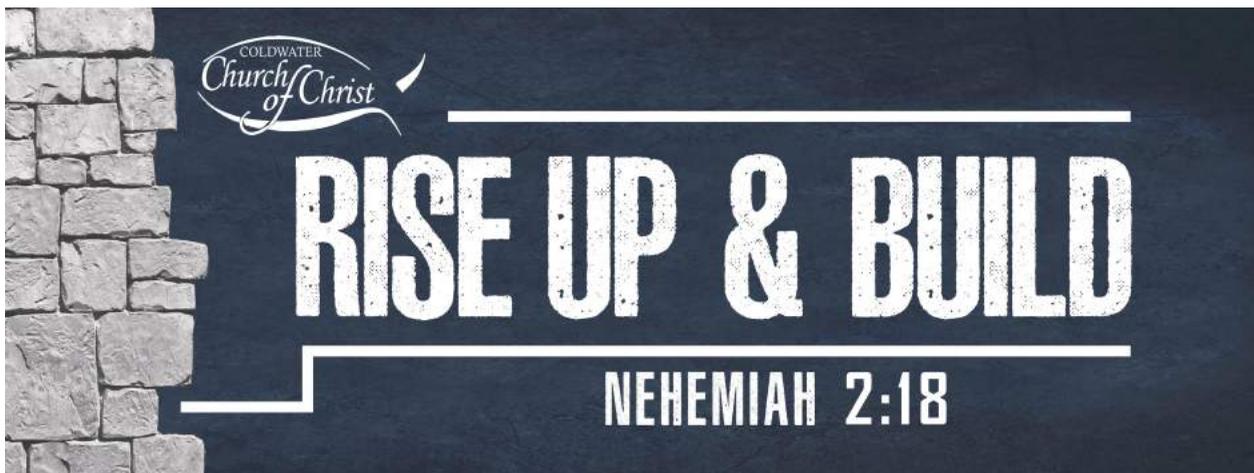
I know many strong Christians who do not believe in doing anything around the holiday season because of the erroneous connections often made in the religious world concerning the birth of Christ. The truth is no man living today knows when Jesus was born. The New Testament never tells us to remember His birth or to have a special day to honor it. We are told to remember His death as partake of the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-30). While those who are against participating in any holiday activities at all are free to exercise their choice in this matter of judgment, I think we can make the most of this opportunity during this time of the year (Rom. 14:5).

Remember that during this time of the year people are more prepared to hear a word about Jesus and hear things concerning the Bible than they probably are at any other time. This does not mean we should go along with a false narrative in order to capitalize on the moment. Nor does it mean we must arrogantly shout down everyone who is mistaken concerning the birth of Christ every chance we get. We should be ready to discuss religious matters as they come up while we wait in a line or as we check out of a store. What if we had a tract ready to distribute or a card to invite someone to study the Bible with us? Paul wanted to be present for Pentecost, not because he was bound to do so, but because he

viewed it as an open door of opportunity (1 Cor. 16:8-9). We should redeem the time and be ready to speak with wisdom as we encounter those who may have questions or be interested in the gospel during this time of the year (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5-6). Remember that we should preach the gospel year-round, but it is wise to make the most of the time when people are inclined to listen to the soul-saving message. It may just be that a seasonal investigator of the Christian faith may become a lifelong disciple because we were ready to plant the seed and trust God to give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6; 1 Pet. 3:15). Pray for open doors and then have the courage to walk through those doors, remember the opportunities that abound this season (Col. 4:2-4).

I hope you enjoy the holidays. I pray that you will use the time given by God to His glory and make the most of it. You may forget a lot of things but remember the eternal things. The holiday season is a time full of potential. We can use this season to deepen our faith and commitment to the Lord. This time of the year is wonderful because the God we serve is infinitely wonderful. May we repeat the words of the Psalmist, "You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us, none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told" (Psa. 40:5).

[www.plainsimplefaith.com](http://www.plainsimplefaith.com)



# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Seth & Jan Daniel**; **Mary Alice Arnold**, spot of melanoma removed; **Sammy Williams**; **Sherry Gaines**, now at Diversecare of Batesville; **Aemon Ratliff**, torn ACL in left knee; **Betty Culbreath**, arm injury; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Inez Neyman**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**, **Ruth Brister**; **Elizabeth Baker**.

## **Far East Missions Fishers of Men NetCasters**

### Family & Friends

**Bob Jones**, double pneumonia and heart complications; **Brad Daniel**, son to Seth & Jan, mild heart attack, expected to make full recovery; **Michael Rocco**, doing well following emergency gall bladder surgery; **Waid & Beverly Wilkes**, Tim Sr.'s parents, ongoing health problems; **Tabby Jenkins** and her family.

### ***Birthdays***

12/6     Sammy Williams  
12/13    Michael Sykes  
12/17    Kaiden Ferrell  
12/22    Dalton Owen  
12/24    Daniel Owen  
12/30    Renee Davis

### ***Anniversaries***

12/13    Jerry & Renee Davis

## Get Involved!

**5th Sunday Giving: TODAY, 10:30 AM**  
All \$\$\$ beyond budget goes to building fund

**5th Sunday Service: TODAY, 1 PM**

**New Quarter Begins: Jan 5**  
See Jeffrey Ferrell to help with teaching

**Sunday Afternoon for the Savior: Jan 5**

**Providence Place Devo: Jan 12, 2 PM**

**Sen. Health& Rehab Devo: Jan 22, 10 AM**

## Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 29

### *Morning*

Prayer Before Class	Jerry Davis
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Noah Davis
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	John Wofford
	Jim Jackson
Assist	Billy Bland
	Carl Honeycutt
Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Kevin Dixon

### *Afternoon*

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	Tim Wilkes II
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	John Wofford
	Jim Jackson
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

Wednesday, January 1

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Prayer	Jason Bayless
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Tim Meredith

TECH:	Davis Johnson
HALL:	Marc & Ashley Strickland