



Bayside Presbyterian Women December 2019



Devotion

A Merry Christmas Devotion Revel in the truth of Christmas every day. —Erin Keeley Marshall



CHRISTMAS AT LAST! The majesty of it has finally arrived.

It's a beautiful holy day, and I love it. But sometimes as the hours of Christmas tick by, they begin to feel anticlimactic, as if I'm searching for *What now?* I don't want to let go of this day for another year. It comes and goes too quickly, a reminder of how Jesus came to earth, died, rose, and returned to heaven. And what then?

He promised to come back someday, and now humanity is in waiting mode again. However, that first Christmas changed all of our future days of "What now?" After Jesus returned to His heavenly Father, He sent His Spirit to abide throughout the earth, and even better, directly within His believers.

How much difference does His spirit's presence in us make for life, for all the days that are not December 25? It's all the difference.

Before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, His spirit didn't abide within believers. Now that He does live in us, every day of this fallible, messy life holds the glory of Christmas because He is still here.

Jesus, in the midst of any old everyday day, fills each one with His glory, like Christmas. Even if a day holds sorrow or disappointment or health scares or relationship troubles, it is still full of the Christmas miracle. We can look forward to tomorrow, knowing it'll be as glorious as the one when Jesus came to us all those generations ago.

FAITH STEP: Put a daily alert on your phone or a note on your kitchen windowsill to remind yourself to revel in the truth of Christmas every day.

Upcoming dates to remember:

- Sunday December 8th, Angel tree tags are due!
- Sunday Dec 8th, 11:00 Christmas Cantata
- Wednesday Dec 11th, 7:00 Celtic Service
- 14 & 15 Dec, Living Nativity 5:30 – 7:30, sign up in the A. um!
- Wednesday Dec 18th, Blue Christmas Service 7:00
- Tues 24 Dec 4:00 Family Service, 7:00 & 11:00 Candlelight Service



Benevolence in the spot light



EDMARC
Hospice For Children



Edmarc is a non-profit organization. The mission of Edmarc Hospice for Children is to ease the trauma of a child's illness or death, and to reduce the disabling effects of pediatric illness, loss, and bereavement on families in the Hampton Roads Area. A small portion of health care services are reimbursed by insurance. Other services are paid for through donated funds, Edmarc is a United Way agency and receives support through Combined Campaigns. However, since 90% of their funding comes from donations they encourage and welcome individual and group contributions. Edmarc Hospice for Children believes a family faced with a child's life-threatening illness should be kept together whenever possible. They provide whatever's necessary to keep children in their familiar, loving home environment. They assess each family's social, emotional, spiritual, financial and other needs, and provide professional support in meeting these needs. All of Edmarc's services (home healthcare, hospice care and bereavement support) are designed to alleviate the family's pain, anxiety and fear. Edmarc works with CHKD, Make-A-Wish Foundation, American Cancer Society and National Children's Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Jewish Family Services of Tidewater, Lee's Friends, Angel Flight, LifeNet and First Hand Foundation. Learn more at <http://edmarc.org>



Circle 8



- Always needed:
- Juice (approx. 64 oz) any kind of juice
 - Canned fruits – any size



Beginning Balance: \$ 1918.53

Ending Balance: \$ 1944.06



Circle reports



Circle 4: 7 members were present. Hostess: Joyce Ward. Bible Moderator: Annette Conley. Business: Received dues, members selected Angel tags and circle will shop for additional Angel tags. We discussed our busyness and how we need to work on “remember the sabbath and keep it holy”, the weekend has become a time that we catch up from the work week. We need to work on “regular radical reorganization of life to draw nearer to God”. Our December meeting will be a potluck at Annette Conley’s home. We decided to bring books (children, youth, young adult) that have been important to us. We will then provide the books to be donated.

Circle 6: 7 members present. Hostesses: Jean Reid, Carolyn Walsh. Bible Moderator: Dana Williamson. Our Bible Study focused on “Remember the Sabbath, and keep it holy.” We all agreed that in our younger years, we did a much better job of focusing on the Sabbath. Today’s society is full of busyness and the Sabbath is not observed as it should be. Dana chose angel tags for an 11-yr old girl and purchased an outfit, boots, and fingernail fun as requested. Prayer Concerns: Jim Reid’s recovery from knee replacement is very slow. Berny Wallace is recovering from knee replacement surgery as well. Janet Baker remains in our prayers as well.

Circle 8: 10 Members present, 1 Guest. Hostess: Judy Crossman. Bible Moderator: Gary Crossman. Treasurer’s Report: Marie Parr. We have \$204.67. Prepared dinner for Wednesday at the Well on Nov 6. It was VERY successful. A plan has been made to visit Barbara Franklin and Dr and Mrs. Borchers on a regular basis. November dinner was at Anchor Allie’s, 9 were in attendance. 6 Angel tags selected. Angel Tag Shoppers: Judy Crossman, Donna McPike, Bobbie Brenton. We will not meet as a Circle in Dec but will have our regular dinner at 5 pm and then attend the Celtic Service at the church on December 12. January Circle meeting will be January 13 at Marie Parr’s and Bobbie will facilitate lesson #4

Circle 10: 5 Members present. Bible Moderator: Kathy Duncan. Discussion: Kathy brought two bags of assorted donations for the homeless shelter and two baby dolls for the angel tags. We picked three angle tags and decided on our budget. Rose Ann will shop for us. Christmas potluck is scheduled for December 9th 6:30 at Jane's house. Kathy will contact the church to read for the first week of lighting of the Advent candles. We will order a poinsettia in honor and memory of circle 10 members past and present. Kathy gave a thoughtful lesson, we agree we like this year's lessons.

