December 15, 2019,

TODAY:

The Monster, Magi, and the Messiah- Part 1: The Monster, Herod Desert Light Christian Church (BIC), December 14, 2014

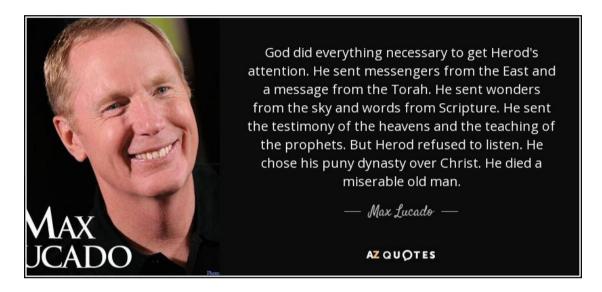
Also-Remember to Pray for the Persecuted Christians Across the World

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:10

If Jesus were born one thousand times in Bethlehem and not in me, then I would still be lost.

Corrie Ten Boom

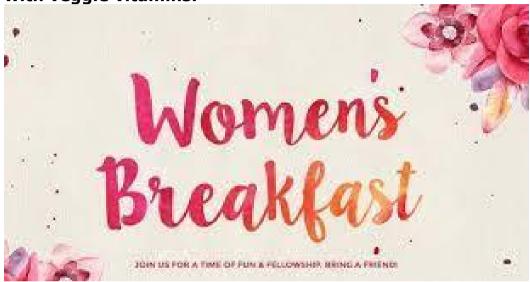


Great villains of popular culture are those who tried to ruin Christmas, namely Mr. Scrooge from Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and, "The Grinch who stole Christmas," the subject of a TV special and a movie. But Herod makes them look like sweet-hearted cookie-baking grandmothers, with his attempt to ruin Christmas. Don't let Scrooges, Grinches, grumps, and even evil people ruin your Christmas this year!

Final Women's Breakfast of 2019 Saturday 8:30-10:30am

At Pastor Eric's and Teresa's House

Pastor Eric will make French Toast (like you've never had... a special recipe coated in toasted almonds...if you like, or else he'll make you regular) and specially cured bacon and fluffy eggs rich with veggie vitamins.



Under \$5.00 gift and ornament exchange.

Christmas carols and inspiring Christmas thoughts **Remember "Show and Tell?"** Bring any Christmas delights of yourssomething you've sewn, a song, anything creative, a poem, crafts to
show, a short (very short) memory, and let's celebrate the birth of Jesus
together, women of Desert Light!

Mission of the Month: Ben and Eunice Stoner, among the Navajo on the Reservation near Farmington



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Dear friends,

We want you to know how much we appreciate you and your love for us. May you experience God's riches and wisdom in 2020 with clear vision! (Pun intended) We will be in Pennsylvania till February. Please pray with us:

- 1. To know what to share.
- **2**. For safe travel and good visits on the way.
- **3**. For Fernando in his job and living with family. Many of you

have prayed much for Fernando (F) for years. He has had a job for about two months now and is walking more closely with the Lord than ever before this. Thank you for praying and continue to pray for him.

- 4 . For Fannie and daughters and grandchildren.
- **5**. That God will show us what He want to do with us now.

On Sunday mornings we have been singing Acts 4:12 in English and Navajo with the drum. One man, after hearing it for the first time, said, "That's nice. Did you write that song a long time ago?" Singing Scripture makes it easier to memorize.

God bless you all. Love, Ben and Eunice

The top 11 most dangerous countries to be a Christian are:

- 1. North Korea
- 2. Afghanistan
- 3. Somalia
- 4. Libya
- 5. Pakistan
- 6. Sudan
- 7. Eritrea
- 8. Yemen
- 9. Iran
- 10. India
- 11. Syria

In China, they're closing churches, jailing pastors – and even rewriting scripture



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Tuesday

7:30 AM- International District ministries connection

At Interfaith Bible Center, Mesilla and Trumbull

12 noon- Neighborhood ministry

Meet for lunch at McDonald's Central and Wyoming NE and then ministry in the area around Desert Light.

Wednesday

9AM- Bible Study at Church Facility

Thursday

7PM Prayer at Church Facility

Saturday

Women' Christmas Breakfast at Pastor Eric's home.

Sunday 9:30 AM- Breakfast and Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11AM Sunday School



NewMexicoPrays.org

- 1. Pray for the lost to be saved.
- 2 . Pray for unity among churches and pastors
- 3 . Pray for our state to be healed from abortion
- 4 . Pray for violence to stop
- 5 . Pray for deliverance from substance abuse
- 6 . Pray for transformation in economy and education
- 7 . Pray to break the spirit of witchcraft
- 8. Pray for racial reconciliation

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5PM!

For those who will be in town during the Christmas season, let's come together to celebrate Jesus is the intimacy of Christmas. We will have a special program (still under construction), worth attending and hot chocolate, cider and cookies will be provided.

We might just light some candles!



From the Pastor's Heart:

It is beyond my ability to grasp, HOW FAST the year has flown! I'm still trying to figure out how we are half way through December already. Another Christmas is coming and going. The year has added its blessings, taken its tolls, blessed us and flipped us around, yet here we are.

Every year we can look back and see how things change. Kids grow up a little more, babies are born, loved ones pass away, jobs change, we have crazy adventures or a boring year. But with all the things that change let Christmas remind us of things that will never change:

- -God loves me
- -I matter to him and to others
- -He sent His Son, born of a woman to die for me
- -As God loves me, I can love others with His love
- -It truly is better to give than receive
- -Family is such a great gift for our time on earth
- -God's family, His church is an even greater gift for our time on earth and forever in heaven

-Joseph and Mary were temporarily homeless, made a difficult journey having to go uphill almost 3,000 feet, sacrificed their reputations (do you think their friends, family, and neighbors assumed the Holy Spirit put the baby in Mary's womb? NOT!), ran for their lives, lived in poverty, and yet what they did was for all of us to have the hope we have. We have hope in this life. Jesus as proof that God loves me and cares about my life. But greater hope that this life is just a short test and heaven, angels, and those who've passed through this world with their faith in the Lord await us for eternal life! The message today is about Herod, someone who tried to wreck Christmas who was worse that any Scrooge or Grinch we could ever imagine. God could have wiped him out then (he did later with a most painful exit) but instead used his evil plans and purposes to give more meaning to the story of Christmas. There will always be those in our path who want to destroy all that is good and from God so they can have things their way. But for the believer, we have peace on Earth from the Lord, knowing He is in control!