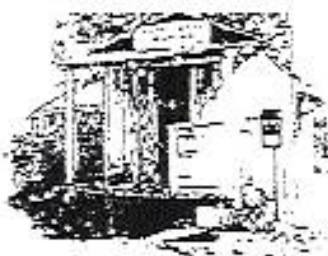




The Acmar Soul Miner

*Searching for wisdom
As for hidden treasures...
For the Lord gives wisdom*



Acmar United Methodist Church Dec. 2022 Vol. 23 Issue 12 Acmar Post Office

Christmas

Some stories are worth repeating. The Christmas story in Luke 2 is certainly one.

Joseph went out of the city of Nazareth to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, to be registered with Mary his betrothed wife, who was with child.

Mary brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Behold an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

"And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

**Suddenly, with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host praised God saying:
Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace,
goodwill toward men!"**

The shepherds went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the Babe. They made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

Like the shepherds before them, Christians make widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child, Christ the Lord.

One of Acmar's ways to share the story has been through our Community Christmas. Due to the COVID virus, we paused. We are pleased to announce we will gather this year.

In renewing Christmas at Acmar, we are combining two of our special gatherings. We will combine our Children's Christmas, where they lead us in sharing the story, with our Acmar Community Christmas.

While at first it seemed to be a creative renewal, we have realized that it is a repeat of past Acmar Community Christmas gatherings.

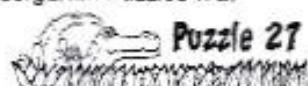
Lavelle DePaepe, who grew up in the Acmar mining community, said that when the community gathered at the Community House for Christmas, Mrs. Lois James directed the school children in a Christmas program.

You are invited to join us on **Sunday, December 11 at 2 pm** for children using their talents in sharing the story along with our Community Christmas with singing, special music, jingle bells, door prizes and snacks.



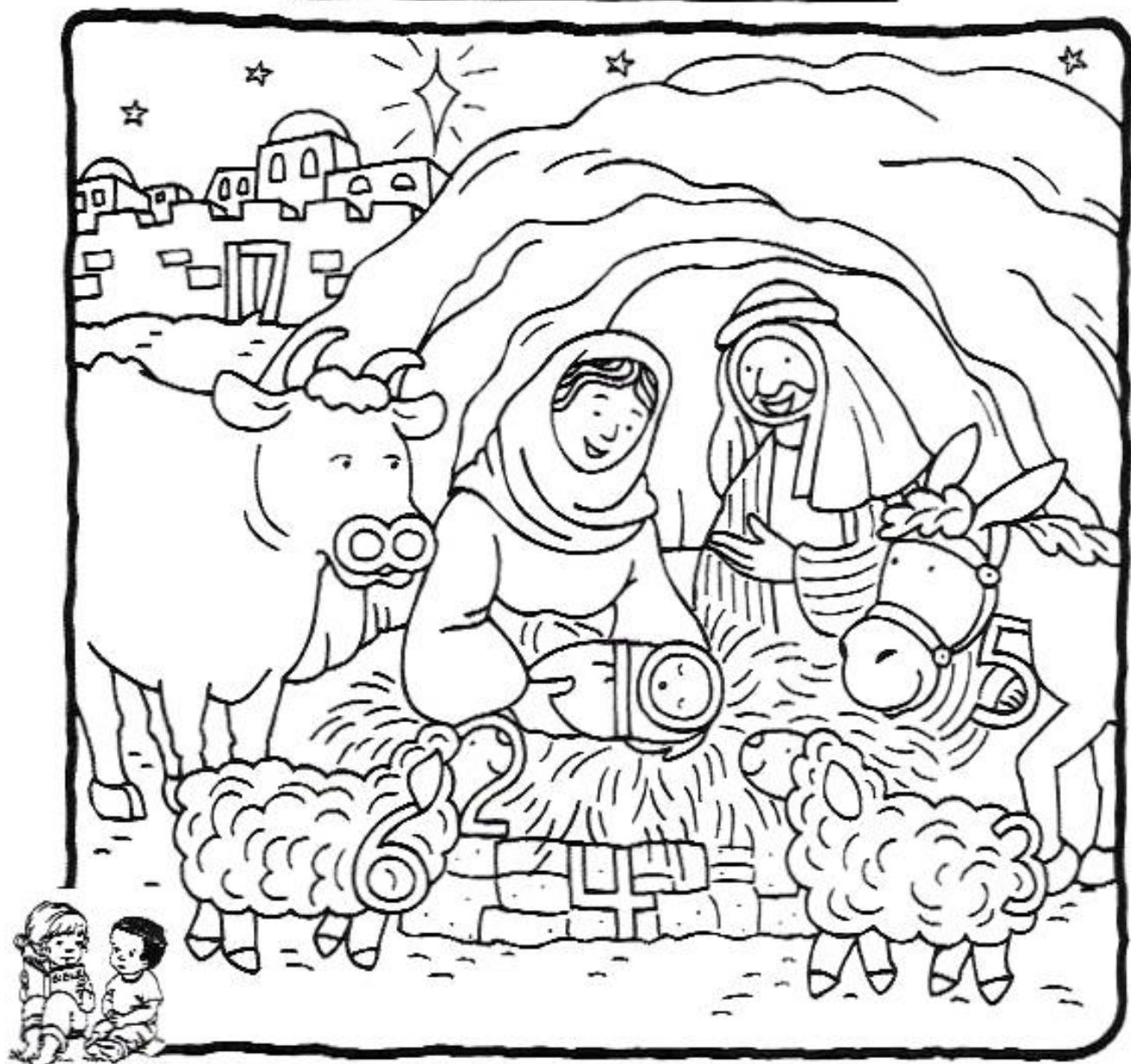
Children's Camp

Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles #2.



Find and draw a ○ around the numbers 1 to 10 hidden in the picture.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have to
dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

Mary brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:7)

Digging In:

Mary and Joseph had traveled to Bethlehem. It was crowded and they had no room. They found a shelter used for animals.

Mary wrapped her baby in tight cloths. She laid Him in an animal feeding trough. An angel told them to name the baby Jesus.

Jesus is Christ the Lord, Savior of the world.

The Acmar Community Quilt

When holidays are approaching, we think of traditions of the past; of people and places that hold special memories. We often think of a tradition as being something repeated over countless years, but can also be something new that was done and worked well, so you plan to do it again. And when circumstances make a tradition impossible to carry on, or have to pause, it's a good feeling when changing situations make it possible to revive some special traditions.

Throughout the history of the Acmar church, Christmas has been a special time and the traditions there have had to change or adapt to different times. Early on, there were parties sponsored by the mining company where each employee's family received baskets of fruit and goodies based on the number of children in the family, and Santa arrived when he heard them sing "Up on the House Top." Things changed with the closing of the company. Some years, the Advent season consisted only of traditional hymns at Sunday services. In 1989, someone had the idea that we should gather our children on the front steps of the church for a group picture to send out as Christmas cards. This new tradition went on for several years and it was fun to see the children grow from year to year. We would also have a special Sunday service with the children performing a Christmas play each year, and every little girl waiting for her chance to be "Mary". We've had a choir sing beautiful new songs as well as the much loved traditional hymns. But children tend to become young adults and some move away. Then a new generation of children was once again portraying the Christmas story. So someone suggested that our whole congregation should gather on the front steps for new pictures to send out to our church friends and families. (Over the years, we've laughed when we see that those of us with gray hair seem to blend in with the white clapboard walls of the church).

Then Covid-19 seemed to have pressed a "pause" button in the life of the church. There were months of no church services at all and our only connection was with Belinda's sermons which Andy recorded to be posted on the church website. There were no extra events like the ladies' Christmas luncheon, or the Community Christmas party with jingle bells and donated door prizes. Gradually services began with everyone masked, with no singing, no hugging, and no fellowship time after the service. And there were no pictures of the congregation smiling on the front steps.

What a wonderful blessing to find that we are slowly coming out of the Covid pandemic and can renew some of our church traditions! We're singing, hugging, and having our fellowship time again. On Sunday, December 11, our children will enact the Nativity story, and the fun of our Community Christmas follows. And you can see that we're back on the front steps again!
















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2022



December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	Soul Miner on the Website in Gallery			1  Terrie Denny	2	3  LADIES AT NANCY'S 11
4  CHURCH 9 am	5		7  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	8 Moody BINGO 10 a Senior Center Sis Bosworth  Walter Cash	9 	10 Yvonne Howard Michael Wolfe Moody Parade 5 pm
11 CHURCH 9 a  Acmar Christmas 2	12 Jimmy Byers  Elliott Lowery	13 Christine Garrett  Joseph Howard	14	15	16  Toni Knie	17
18 CHURCH 9 a Ava Anderson Lenae Wimberly 	19	20	21 MCA 3-5 White's Chapel  FIRST DAY OF WINTER	22  Jane Byers	23  Debbie Kendrick	24  CHRISTMAS EVE
25 CHURCH 9 a  CHRISTMAS	26  Ti Carpenter	27	28	29	30	31  NEW YEAR'S EVE

Soul Food for December

Mon., November 28 Isaiah 11:1-10
 Tue., November 29 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
 Wed., November 30 Romans 15:4-13
 Thur., December 1 Luke 1:1-17/Matthew 3:1-12
 Fri., December 2 Psalm 8:1-9
 Sat., December 3 1 John 4:7-12

Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 205 640 4325
 Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
 Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
 Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
 Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., December 5 Isaiah 35:1-10
 Tue., December 6 Luke 1:46b-55
 Wed., December 7 James 5:7-10
 Thur., December 8 Luke 1:26-38
 Fri., December 9 Matthew 26:25-34
 Sat., December 10 Matthew 5:14-16

Mon., December 19 Isaiah 52:7-10
 Tue., December 20 Psalm 98
 Wed., December 21 Hebrews 1:1-12
 Thur., December 22 John 1:1-14
 Fri., December 23 Genesis 1:1-5
 Sat., December 24 Matthew 1:18-25

Mon., December 12 Isaiah 7:10-16
 Tue., December 13 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 Wed., December 14 Romans 1:1-7
 Thur., December 15 Matthew 1:18-25
 Fri., December 16 1 Thessalonians 5:9-15
 Sat., December 17 Matthew 15:21-28

Mon., December 26 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Tue., December 27 Psalm 72:1-14
 Wed., December 28 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Thur., December 29 Matthew 2:1-12
 Fri., December 30 Psalm 3:1-8
 Sat., December 31 1 Samuel 30:1-6