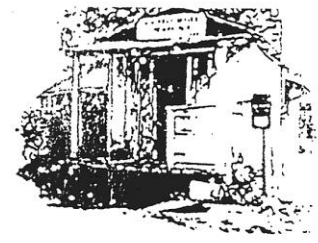


The Acmar Soul Miner

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



Acmar United Methodist Church January 2024 Vol. 25 Issue 1 Acmar Post Office

Welcome to Our World / by Chris Rice

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking
How we need to hear from God
You've been promised, we've been waiting
Welcome Holy Child
Welcome Holy Child

Hope that You don't mind our manger
How I wish we could have known
But long-awaited Holy Stranger
Make Yourself at home
Please make Yourself at home

Bring Your peace into our violence
Bid our hungry souls be filled
Word now breaking Heaven's silence
Welcome to our world
Welcome to our world

Fragile finger sent to heal us
Tender brow prepared for thorn
Tiny heart whose blood will save us
Unto us is born
Unto us is born

So wrap our injured flesh around You
Breathe our air and walk our sod
Rob our sins and make us holy
Perfect Son of God
Perfect Son of God
Welcome to our world ¹

The song was first published in 1995. Though the musical style is contemporary, the form is that of a traditional five-stanza hymn.

While it plays on the radio and is sung during Advent and Christmas, Rice did not intend it to be a Christmas song when he composed it.

In an interview with *CCM Magazine*, Chris Rice shares some of the backstory:

¹ LyricFind

"Welcome to our World" deals with the reality that God invaded our planet and became one of us, which is just astounding to me. I wrote about God coming to our world in a naive way, knowing that it's not ours anyway, it's God's.

"The thoughts that went through my head were about how tiny Jesus was and how He came into the world just like the rest of us do. How much did Jesus know at that point?

"I thought about the fact that He took on what He did so that we would be able to find God and be found by God."

In the 1st Stanza, Rice acknowledges the turmoil of our world. "Tears are falling, hearts are breaking," waiting for the Promised One.

The 2nd Stanza recognizes a world of discord and poverty, while we ask our Holy Stranger to make Himself at home in our manger.

The 3rd Stanza petitions Jesus to "bring Your peace into our violence" and emptiness.

The 4th Stanza calls for healing for us but also speaks to the paradox between Jesus' birth and His eventual death to save us.

In Stanza 5, Rice brings Jesus' life full circle with a call to holiness and holy living. "Rob" or take away our sins and make us holy.

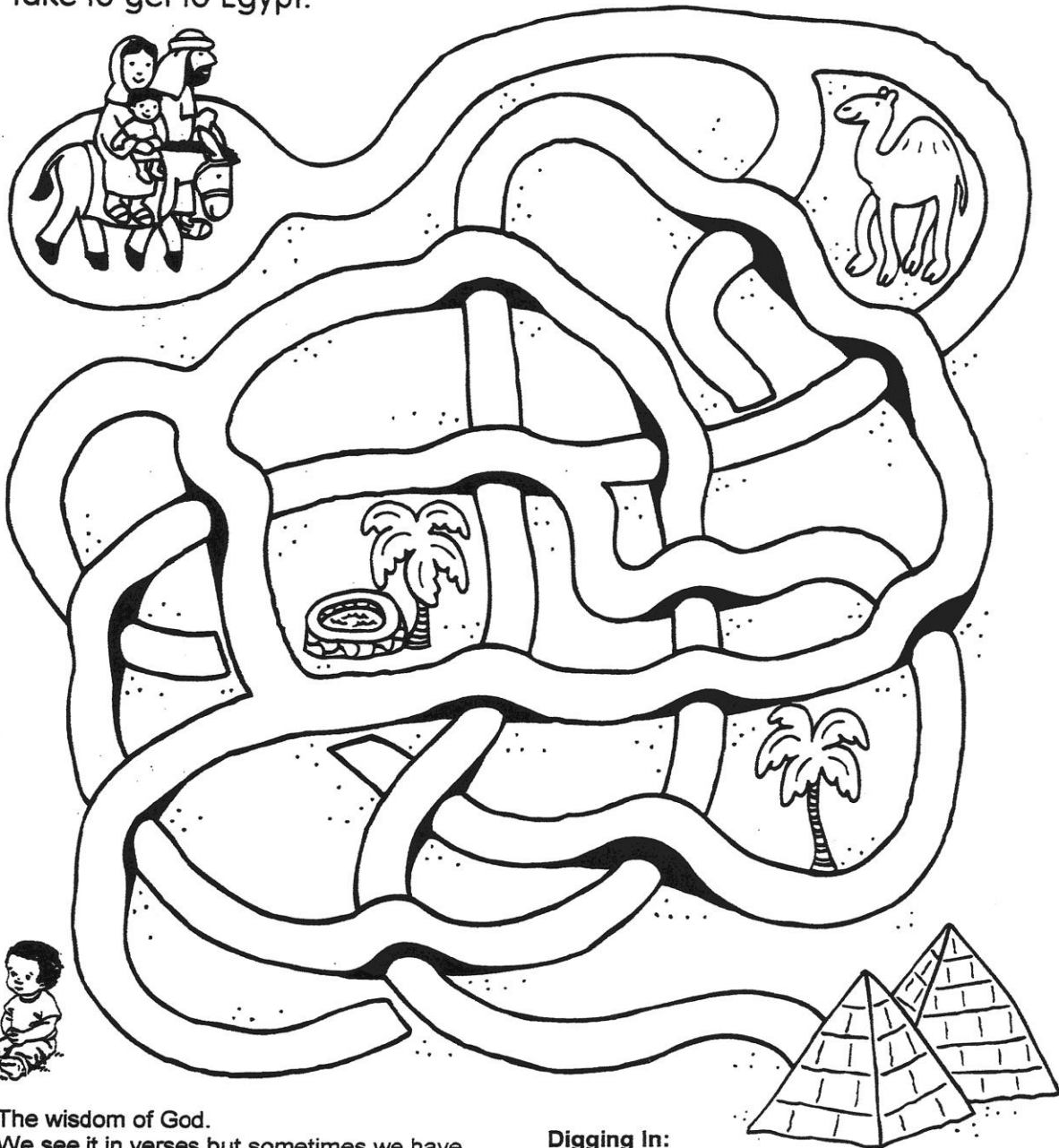
We welcome Jesus into the mess we have made of the world that God created. ²

In the beginning was the Word ... and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory... John 1:1, 14.

² Discipleship Ministries / United Methodist Church. "History of Hymns: Welcome to Our World." Andrew Davis. December 23, 2020.

Children's Camp

Trace the path Joseph, Mary and Jesus should take to get to Egypt.



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

Look Here:
An angel appeared in a dream to Joseph saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt for King Herod will seek to destroy Him."
(Matthew 2:13)

Digging In:
Herod was the King where Jesus was born.
Herod was afraid Jesus would become king.

Joseph was warned by God to go to Egypt.
Joseph protected Jesus and Jesus' mother.

We live in a world that is not always safe.
We trust God to help us find safe people.
We trust God to be with us in all places.

The Acmar Community Quilt

Any time we are looking back in history, it is so important to keep perspective of what the world was like at that particular time. A century ago, Acmar was a busy community established by the coal mining company and miners worked to bring out the coal that was so needed by our country. Coal moved the trains that criss-crossed the country and brought goods and people where needed. Coal ran the factories and forges to produce iron and steel. Coal produced the steam for ships and heated millions of homes and businesses. Coal was also used to generate electricity. With this in mind, we can review the 1924 *Annual Report of Coal Mines in the state of Alabama* and understand what the miners in Acmar contributed to supply the needs of Americans in 1924.

The Colgate Washer facility had the capacity to process 3,000 tons of coal a day from the Acmar mines as well as the Margaret mines.

The mines being worked in 1924 were Acmar No.2, Acmar No.3, Acmar No.5, and a mine labeled as "New Acton" mine in Acmar. These were all considered Slope mines. These mines used industrial electric fans for ventilation. Most were working on the Henry Ellen seam of coal that was 11 feet thick, and reached by spur tracks of Central of Georgia. Miners were paid 54 cents per ton in all of the mines except for those in the New Acton mine who were paid 80 cents per ton.

Sadly, there was one fatality in the Acmar Mines. Charlie Padget was killed by falling rock in Mine No.3 on September 22, 1924.

Mine No. 2 is listed as having a hard slate roof requiring little timbering. Coal cars were pulled by mules to a side track where an engine pulled it to the tippie. The mine was naturally wet and was classified as "gaseous". All men working inside were required to use electric safety lamps and no matches or open lamps were permitted inside the mine. "Shot fitter" would wait until all men were out of the mine before creating holes for shot in the solid seam with permissible powder. The mine had the capacity to produce 800 tons per day.

Mine No. 3 is described very much like Mine No. 2, but with the capacity to produce 500 tons per day.

Mine No. 5 was worked on a room and pillar system with picks and shot with permissible powder. (Daily capacity was not listed.)

New Acton Mine was also worked on a room and pillar system with picks and shot with permissible powder. It was located on the Helena Seam that was 6 ½ feet thick and was served by Seaboard Air Line Railway. It was classified as non-gaseous and naturally wet. The coal was hauled by mules first, then to the surface with an electric hoist. From there it was conveyed by a rope system to the tippie. New Acton had the capacity to produce 250 tons per day.

Coal is still being mined and used today in some places for the production of electricity. As with so many technological improvements of the past hundred years, there are now other sources of energy production that are better for the environment, sources that were probably not even imagined in 1924.

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  Happy New Year	2	3  MCA 3-5 pm White's Chapel	4	5	6  Day of Epiphany
7  CHURCH 9 am  Zac Goodner	8	9	10	11  MOODY BINGO 10 a	12  Job Howard  Jeani Navert	13  Scott Skinner  Sonja Baker
14 CHURCH 9 a  Marsha Ramsden	15  ML King Day	16  Gudrun Rominger Tamm	17  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	18  Karen Byers	19  David Wimberly	20
21  CHURCH 9 am	22	23  Grace Howard	24	25	26  Sharon Turner	27
28  CHURCH 9	29	30	31		Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	Soul Miner on the Website in Gallery

Soul Food for January

Mon., January 1 **Isaiah 60:1-6**
 Tue., January 2 **Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14**
 Wed., January 3 **Ephesians 3:1-12**
 Thur., January 4 **Matthew 2:1-12**
 Fri., January 5 **Philippians 2:1-11**
 Sat., January 6 **Psalm 55:1-8, 16-19**

Mon., January 8 **1 Samuel 3:1-10**
 Tue., January 9 **Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**
 Wed., January 10 **1 Corinthians 6:12-20**
 Thur., January 11 **John 1:43-51**
 Fri., January 12 **Psalm 107:33-37**
 Sat., January 13 **Psalm 119:97-104**

Mon., January 15 **John 3:1-5, 10**
 Tue., January 16 **Psalm 62:5-12**
 Wed., January 17 **1 Corinthians 7:29-31**
 Thur., January 18 **Mark 1:14-20**
 Fri., January 19 **John 15:1-8**
 Sat., January 20 **Matthew 11:28-30**

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., January 22 **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**
 Tue., January 23 **Psalm 111**
 Wed., January 24 **1 Corinthians 8:1-13**
 Thur., January 25 **Mark 1:21-28**
 Fri., January 26 **Luke 15:11-32**
 Sat., January 27 **Deuteronomy 31:3-8**

Mon., January 29 **Isaiah 40:21-31**
 Tue., January 30 **Psalm 147:1-11, 20c**
 Wed., January 31 **1 Corinthians 9:16-23**
 Thur., February 1 **Mark 1:29-39**
 Fri., February 2 **Luke 18:15-17**
 Sat., February 3 **Psalm 56:1-13**