Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church

"Pursuing a faith that makes a difference"

Crossroads Outpost

Lamoille, Nevada



Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church

Our Vision

We stand together at the crossroads where God's powerful love compels us to worship Him fully, follow Jesus daily, and live in the Spirit joyfully.

Our Mission

Our mission is to pursue this vision with commitment, character, and in community.



A glorious hope



Look upon love



Use the gift!

At Christmas, God sent his Son to live among us. But he doesn't want us to be passive recipients of that precious gift. Consider these challenges for the season — and for the new year ahead:

"He became what we are that we might become what he is."

"When Christ entered our world, he didn't come to brighten our Decembers but to transform our lives."

"Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man. Why wait for a call when you have a command?"

-Robert Hughes

Rich Miller



Let us today go down to Bethlehem, and in company with wondering shepherds and adoring Magi, let us see him who was born King of the Jews, for we by faith can claim an interest in him, and can sing, "*Unto us* a child is born, *unto us* a son is given." Jesus is Jehovah incarnate, our Lord and our God, and yet our brother and friend; let us adore and admire. ...

Let us reverently bow before the holy Child whose innocence restores to [humankind] its ancient glory; and let us pray that he may be formed in us, the hope of glory.

-C.H. Spurgeon, Morning and Evening

Let us then meditate upon the Nativity just as we see it happening in our own babies. I would not have you contemplate the deity of Christ, the majesty of Christ, but rather his flesh. Look upon the baby Jesus. Divinity may terrify people. Inexpressible majesty will crush them. That is why God took on our human flesh and blood, that God should not terrify us but rather that with love and favor God would console and comfort us.

-Martin Luther

Page 2

CROSSROADS OUTPOST

Lamoille, Neva

CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Thank you all who participated in Operation Christmas child building a shoebox or donating on line for a box to be built. You are all very generous and I was proud to drop off our 38 boxes at Spring Creek Baptist where Santa's helpers were amazed at the contribution from "our little church" With that said, we may be little but we have a big heart



Thank you to all who were able to stay after & decorated our church for the Holiday Season. A huge shout out to those that went to the VFW Hall & put food boxes together & to those that shopped for the food. All have been busy.

Thank you again.





Walking with those who grieve

The holiday season can be difficult for people who are grieving a death or deep loss. As Christians, we do well to be aware that not everyone feels wholehearted joy this time of year. How can we support them?

Grief counselor Alan Wolfelt explains that walking alongside — "companioning" — one who grieves "is not about assessing, analyzing, fixing or resolving another's grief. Instead, it is about being totally present to the mourner, even being a temporary guardian of [his or] her soul."

Among Wolfelt's 11 tenets for "companioning the bereaved":

- It's about being present to another person's pain, not taking it away.
- It's about listening with the heart, not analyzing with the head.

• It's about walking alongside, not leading. More tips are available at www.centerforloss.com/2019/12/

May God bless you as you share the love of the Christ Child, his caring parents and his compassionate heavenly Father with people who are hurting.

That's a (re)wrap!

The Reintgen family in North Carolina will always remember Christmas 2023. At 3 a.m. on December 25, their 3-year-old son woke them up, asking for scissors to open his new action-figure toy. "That's when we realized something had gone terribly wrong," said Scott, his dad. A quick trip downstairs revealed a mess of unwrapped gifts under the family's Christmas tree. "There was not one thing that he left unscathed," Scott said. The boy, in his defense, said he was just trying to help everyone know what they'd received.

With only hours until their other children awoke, the Reintgens were determined to save Christmas. Mom Katie raced to rewrap gifts, even managing to get most nametags back on the correct packages. Instead of being angry, the parents found humor in the ordeal. Afterward, they explained to their son the joy that people experience from receiving — and opening — their own presents.

Morals of the story? Remember this 3-year-old when you get overeager for certain parts of the holidays. Don't rush through anything, and let others enjoy Christmas at their own pace too. When something goes wrong, don't panic. Like the Reintgens, find joy in any unexpected glitches and grinches you encounter throughout the season. —Stephanie Martin

NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION

Beginning December 1st, Read one chapter of The Book of Luke in the Bible each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas Morning Knowing WHO and WHY We Celebrate!!

A hobby turned ministry

The internet has transformed shopping, whether for Christmas, major purchases or even groceries. I've spent hours scrolling Facebook Marketplace for just the right new-to-me items. Hunting for a great deal or a unique piece is part of the appeal.

But after reading Philippians 2:4, I also began paying attention to the people I encountered along the way. "Don't look out only for your own interests," that verse says, "but take an interest in others, too" (NLT).

A retired couple all but invited me to dinner when I bought a lamp from them. I remember the woman's delight as she described her recipe. A young man with developmental challenges who sold me a video game communicated its quality much better than anyone I've encountered.

When a mom purchased some chairs from us, she shared her excitement while loading her van. Her family now had a "real home" after living in an RV during a tough time. Once I bought furniture from a woman who was visibly stressed, exhausted from helping her motherin-law move out of state.

As my transactions turned into interactions, my heart was changing — for the better. My hobby became more enjoyable and meaningful as I took time to listen and care.

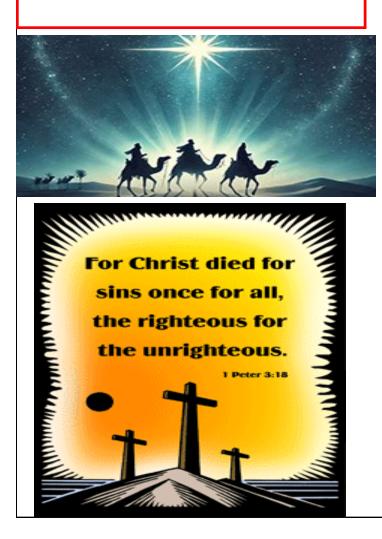
—Janna Firestone

The Incarnation

At the center of Christmas is Jesus, both fully God and fully man. "In Bethlehem, humility and glory in their extremes were joined," wrote pastor R.G. Lee (1886-1978). When Jesus came to earth, Lee explained, he descended:

- from the heights of glory to the depths of shame,
- from the wonders of heaven to the wickedness of earth,
- from exaltation to humiliation,
- from the throne to the tree,
- from dignity to debasement,
- from worship to wrath,
- from the halls of heaven to the nails of earth,
- from the coronation to the curse,
- from the glory place to the gory place!

"Born in a stable! Cradled in a cattle trough! Wrapped in swaddling clothes of poverty!" Lee wrote. "No room for him who made all rooms! [No] place for him who made and knows all places! Oh, deep humiliation of the Creator — born of the creature, woman! But in his descent was the dawn of mercy. Because we cannot ascend to him, he descends to us."



Use the gift!

At Christmas, God sent his Son to live among us. But he doesn't want us to be passive recipients of that precious gift. Consider these challenges for the season and for the new year ahead:

"He became what we are that we might become what He is."

—Athanasius (4th century)

"When Christ entered our world, He didn't come to brighten our Decembers but to transform our lives." —Rich Miller

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6	13	20 Jeannie Gillins (B)	27	
5	12	19	26 Joseph Land (B) Gary Dennis (B)	
4	11	18 Griffin Muckel (B)	25 Christmas Day Zeek Jensen (B)	MERRY
ۍ	10	17	24 Allan Spurger (B)	
CJ	9	16	23	30
 Rick Glass 1st Sunday of Advent 	& Joel Jund 2nd Sunday of Advent	15 Kevin D. 3rd Sunday of Advent	22 Tom Finch 4th Sunday of Advent	29 Allen S.

LAMOILLE, NEVADA

Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church

"Pursuing a faith that makes a difference"

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Joke of the Day!

I'll never going Christmas caroling at the psychiatric hospital again. In hindsight, I guess singing, "Do you hear what I hear..." was not a great song choice.



NEXT TIME WHEN I PREACH ON TITHING, DON'T SING 'JESUS PAID IT ALL' AS OUR INVITATIONAL HYMN