

Yuletide Classics and a Message of Hope

Take a little Scrooge, add three ghosts, mix in some George Bailey and an angel named Clarence, then throw in a dash of the little round-headed boy, an out-of-control Christmas pageant and the kid with the blanket, and you've got *The Christmas Movie*.

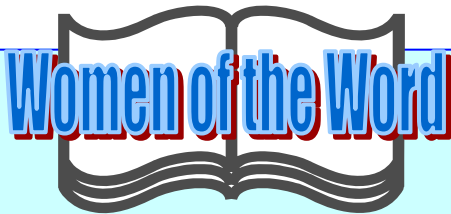
Join us at EFree Church on Sunday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. for this fast-paced romp through three of everyone's favorite Christmas movies. A five-member cast of storytellers recreates the highlights of these stories with hilarious hijinks and shortcuts, as well as moments of poignant reflection. The play ends with a strong message

about God—the ultimate storyteller—and His greatest story: the gift of salvation brought to us by a baby born in a manger.

This is an event for people of all ages and a great opportunity to invite your family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers and others to an evening of fun—and a chance to hear the message of the Gospel told in a unique way. The event also includes special music, a brief message from Pastor Ed and a time of refreshments and fellowship afterward.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

- Sunday, December 11, 8am & 10:45am services: **A Christmas Gathering** (see insert), 9:15am all-church breakfast, *No Sunday school, no Praise Factory.*
- Sunday, December 18, 10:45am: **Youth/Children Christmas Worship.** *9:15 Sunday school; NO 8am service, NO Praise Factory.*
- Sunday, December 18, 6:30pm: a Christmas play; **"The Christmas Movie"**
- Saturday, December 24, 6:30pm: **Christmas Eve Service**
- Sunday, December 25: **10:45am Worship service.** *No Sunday School, no 8am service, no Praise Factory.*
- Sunday, January 1: **10:45am Worship service.** *No Sunday School, no 8am service, no Praise Factory.*



January 19-March 8

Time: 9:00 - 11:15 am

Registration fee: \$20

Childcare provided: \$15/one child,
\$25/two or more children

The following small group classes will be offered*:

James: Mercy Triumphs by Beth Moore

James, Jesus' own brother, started out as a skeptic. See how one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turned an unbeliever into a disciple with Beth Moore's study *James: Mercy Triumphs*.

Bible scholars compare James to the prophet Amos. In other ways, James more closely resembles the book of Proverbs than any New Testament book. James is a book with many topics -- social justice, joy, hardship, faith, reversal of fortunes for rich and poor, wisdom, gifts from above, single-mindedness, the dangers of the tongue, humility, and prayer -- all of which are covered in this study. Facilitated by Mary Crist.

Prayer: Developing the Constant Inner Vision

St. Augustine implored believers to "hold on to a constant inner vision of Him". What does your prayer life lack? Constancy, fervency, faith, communion? We'll seek God's grace to grow in all these while pursuing that constant inner vision as we focus 7 weeks developing our prayer lives. There'll be time in the Psalms and in the small books *Prayer and Listening* and Charles Finney's devotional *Principles of Prayer*: we'll hear women share their prayer lives, but most importantly, we'll spend time praying. Facilitated by Brenda Winkelmeyer, fellow sojourner.

*There is the possibility of a third class being offered. Watch for more information after Christmas.

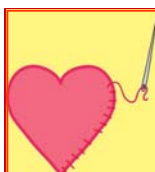
MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Monday Night Bible Study will be starting Monday, January 23. It is a video series called **Jonah (A Life Interrupted)** by Pricilla Shirer. It will be a 14 week study. This study is in Cathy Forbes' home and, since it is a video series, the number of people that she can accommodate is limited. If you are interested in joining the group please notify Cathy Forbes by e-mail cathy-jof@msn.com or call (573)445-9909. We will start at 7 pm and end at 9pm.

Donations must be received in the church office or postmarked by December 31, 2011, in order to be included in the 2011 giving statements. Those statements will be mailed out on or before January 31, 2011.

PIECEMAKERS

We want to thank everyone who helped make the bazaar such a success. Thank you for the many food donations, your help with making the packages, assembling mixes, and shopping at the bazaar. Also a big thank-you to those who donated quilted items, silk flowers and knitted items. We raised \$1638, our best year ever! Most of the money will go to EFCA Reach Global/White Cross work in Congo. Piecemakers will not meet in December. Our next meeting is January 4, 2012.



Threaded Hearts

The group of women who meet weekly for fellowship, food, and quilting instruction during the school year at E Free, begins its winter semester on January 10th, at 11:30 with a pot luck lunch in the basement of the church. All women are welcome regardless of sewing experience. We'll begin the month working on units to be used in our various love quilts--those quilts we make collectively and give away--and then start working through our semester curriculum: the fun Bull's Eye quilt featuring frayed edges, a scrap quilt, a batik quilt and a baby quilt. Tuition of \$30 for the semester is appreciated which goes to offset the cost of our love quilts, library, and the tools we use.

Email quilters@efreecolumbia.com or call Brenda Winkelmeyer 443-5556 for more information.

Mothers (& Friends) of Graduating Seniors,

Want to send your graduate off to college with a quilt from home? The women from Threaded Hearts would love to help you with that project. Beginning Saturday, January 28, and meeting each Saturday through February from 9-noon in the church basement, we'll show you how to machine piece a wonderful, warm, and personalized Log Cabin quilt top for your child. No fee for those with graduating seniors; all others interested in doing this class with us will be asked to donate a \$10 materials fee. No prior sewing experience needed. Please contact: quilters@efreecolumbia.com by January 6th to enroll and receive further instructions.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Kevin Tutt	12/15 Heather Scott
12/01 Paul Bunch	12/16 Renee Stucky
12/04 Brent Rosenblad	12/18 David Easton
12/04 Craig Parker	12/18 Karla Haddock
12/07 Steve Stanley	12/19 Tom Creamer
12/09 Dawn Carter	12/21 Carol Terjung
12/09 Mary Benton	12/22 Kenneth Ladyman
12/12 Lisa Parker	12/23 Anne Hamilton
12/12 Christine VanDyke	12/24 Larry Hogan
12/15 Warren Bennett	12/25 Tim Spurgeon
	12/26 Rose Carter
	12/28 Kathy Harvey
	12/29 Larry Sabulsky
	12/29 Jeremy Holan
	12/30 Martin Appold
	12/31 Gerald Duffus

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR SEARCH

The search committee for the Children's Director position has completed a job description and position announcement, has recently initiated advertising via various online websites. We plan to begin reviewing applications in early January. Please be in prayer for us and for our potential candidates!

Youth News

Parents: Don't forget to pick up your new D6 curriculum; we'll be handing it out to students Nov. 27 or you can pick it up in the Youth Room. Each student and parent is given a devotional guide that follows our Sunday morning teaching. The parent's guide contains a personal devotion and material to disciple your kids. The purpose of this curriculum is to further our mission statement: To lead the CHURCH and FAMILIES in working together to disciple the next generation.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 3: Paintball. Open to 7-12 grade. Meet at church at 12:30pm. Cost is \$29.

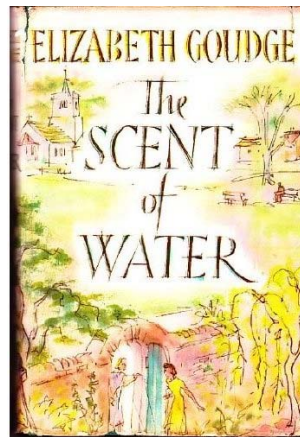
Dec 4: Parent Meeting. 8:30am in the Middle School room.

Dec 14: AXIS Christmas Party. Bring a \$5 White Elephant gift and bring your friends!

Dec 16: Image and 180 Caroling. 6-8pm.

NO AXIS: Dec 21 and 28

NO Image or 180 Sunday School: Dec 11, 25



Women's Book Night

Copies of Elizabeth Goudge's *The Scent of Water* will go on sale Sunday, January 8, at the Ministry Center in preparation for book night to be held in the spring (date to be announced). The cost of the event is \$11 which includes the discounted price of the book. Set in England after WW2, the book introduces us to Mary Lindsay, a single, middle aged Londoner who moves to the countryside and the people of Appleshaw who all learn, through the course of the story, of the redemptive power of love. Elizabeth Goudge (1900-1984) has had devoted followers among Christian readers for a generation or two, and her devotees at EFree are very excited to introduce new readers to her and the rich vein of her writing.

The Membership Meeting November 6, 2011

Here are the highlights of our November 6, Membership Meeting. Our next scheduled meeting will be on January 29, 2012.

The 2012 budget

The members approved the total budget of \$729,472 for 2012. At the direction of the Elders, the Board budgeted enough to provide for the addition of a new staff member, a Children's Director/Pastor.

Team Leader Elections

The members elected new Team Leaders as follows: Discipleship—Martin Appold, Fellowship and Caring—Lisa Parker, Worship—Geoff Leigh, Treasurer—Paul Bunch. Please welcome our new Team Leads and ask how you can help on their teams in any way.