

First Baptist Church

Ingersoll, Christmas Newsletter 2010



**Merry Christmas
From
First Baptist Church**

Connecting with Traditions and Truth.

My love of the Christmas season is not exactly a well kept secret. Having a Christmas in July service probably gave it away if nothing else did. As we are in the midst once again of this wonderful season I sometimes have to wonder what it is that so enthralls me.

Memories from childhood and Christmas's past may be part of the wonder as I tend at times to be overly nostalgic.

This season finds me wanting to repeat the things that have brought me joy in previous years. These include getting lights up around the outside of the house, setting up the tree in our living room along with all of the other decorations that Pam tends to place everywhere.

I love reading Dickens "A Christmas Carol" every year and still get misty eyed when I read the final words "it was said of him ever afterwards that he knew how to keep Christmas well."

Yet even more than Dickens, I love Luke 2, especially in the nostalgic KJV. The words "And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be

taxed" take me back again to the joy of celebrating Christmas at the church in which I grew up. Couple this with all of the great carols that we don't have opportunity to sing often enough and it makes for me a wondrous celebration that tends to pass too quickly.

Ultimately the greatest joy is to meditate on the message that "unto us is born this day a Saviour which is Christ the Lord".

I trust you'll find time this Christmas to connect once again with the traditions and truth that reignite your passion to be a lover of Christmas.

May I add finally on a personal note that Pam and I have appreciated beyond what words can express the joy we have experienced being your Pastor this past year. Although this relationship comes shortly to an end we know that we will be friends forever.

*Have a wonderful Christmas in Christ.
Pastor Lloyd*



**Special events in
our Church family's
life:**

- **Hark the Herald
Christmas Cantata-**
Sunday, December 19
11:00 a.m. Songs &
Carols to celebrate
Christmas
- **Christmas Eve
Worship-** Friday,
December 24
7:00 p.m.

**"Please consider a
special gift to First
Baptist Church this
Christmas season.
Special envelope
Enclosed."**



*Thank you Jesus for
your indescribable gift!*

Christmas.



Christ is born! Your Saviour has come! Immanuel... God with us! 'Good news of a great joy... for all the people' (Luke 2:10)!

That one word has the ability to conjure up so many images and thoughts, doesn't it? But what comes to your mind first? Is it snow, glistening lights, beautifully wrapped gifts, decorated trees, family get-togethers, heart-warming carols, candlelight services, extravagant meals, red-nosed reindeers... or is it Jesus Christ, born into a messed-up world that desperately needed a Saviour? We are often so caught up in the traditions and familiarities of the Christmas season that we forget the real reason behind it all.

Certainly there is nothing wrong with all of those things that make the season what it is, but the trouble arises when the celebration itself – the songs, the decorations, the giving and receiving – replaces what the celebration is actually all about. This Christmas, CELEBRATE! Decorate your home, feast to your heart's

content, give and receive abundantly, enjoy family and friends... But never forget the 'why' behind the celebrating. Christ is born! Your Saviour has come! Immanuel... God with us! 'Good news of a great joy... for all the people' (Luke 2:10)! Both Amie and I are excited for this Christmas season and can't wait to spend it with the love of our lives, Jonas. Seeing the puzzled look on his face at the sight of a tree in our living room and watching his amazement as strings of lights went around and around that tree were priceless moments and we look forward to the day when he is just as amazed at the reason behind the tree and lights. Together, the three of us wish you a blessed Christmas where Christ is central to all that you do and where He who is the Truth, the Way and the Life is celebrated joyously.

Pastor Jayden, Amie & Jonas

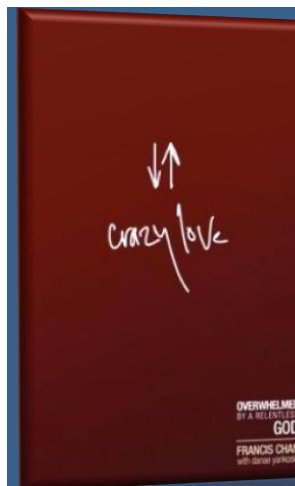


On That Note:

As I write this Christmas Greeting I am watching the first snowflakes of the season, slowly drifting down from the sky. I find it very fascinating to watch them, each one different, each one designed by our Creator. It's amazing to think that God cares enough to take the time to meticulously fashion each one. Just think of the love He has for each one of us; a love so huge that He sent His only Son down from heaven as a baby that first Christmas over 2000 years ago. Jesus taught us so much in the three years that He ministered on earth and then gave His life so that we could live with Him forever in heaven. That is CRAZY LOVE! As we celebrate Christmas this year at FBC, my prayer is that you experience the love and joy that can only be found through Him. May the words you hear and the songs you sing help in drawing you into a deeper love relationship with Christ in 2011.

Merry Christmas and Many Blessings in 2011!!!

Owen & Janna Baigent



Janna & Owen, with their small group, are currently studying "Crazy Love" by Francis Chan and highly recommend it.

"It's crazy, if you think about it. The God of the universe- the Creator of nitrogen and pine needle, galaxies and E-minor – loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love." – quote from "Crazy Love"

www.crazylovebook.com

Our Family

Address line 1

Address line 2

City, ST ZIP Code

Phone:

(242) 555-0167

Fax:

(242) 555-0168

E-Mail:

someone@example.com

Web Site:

www.widgets.msn.com

**A favorite family
phrase or slogan can
go here.**

A special message from our family

On the back of your family's newsletter, you may want to add a simple greeting, poem, or an example of your children's artwork. This is the first part of the newsletter that your loved ones will see, so make sure that it is festive and eye-catching.

You can add your own artwork to the back of a family newsletter by scanning in a drawing or a photograph.

**Our kids' favorite
Christmas joke:**

**What do you call a person who is
afraid of Santa Claus?**

Claustrophobic!

Season's greetings!

A great way to add content to this newsletter is to include a calendar of upcoming events or a special memory that your family shares. You can also transcribe the words of a song or a poem onto the back of your newsletter to set the tone for the rest of your message.

With a little creativity and imagination, creating a holiday newsletter can be a great way to say "Season's Greetings!"



Our Family's Name
Address line 1
Address line 2
City, ST ZIP Code



Friend's Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code