

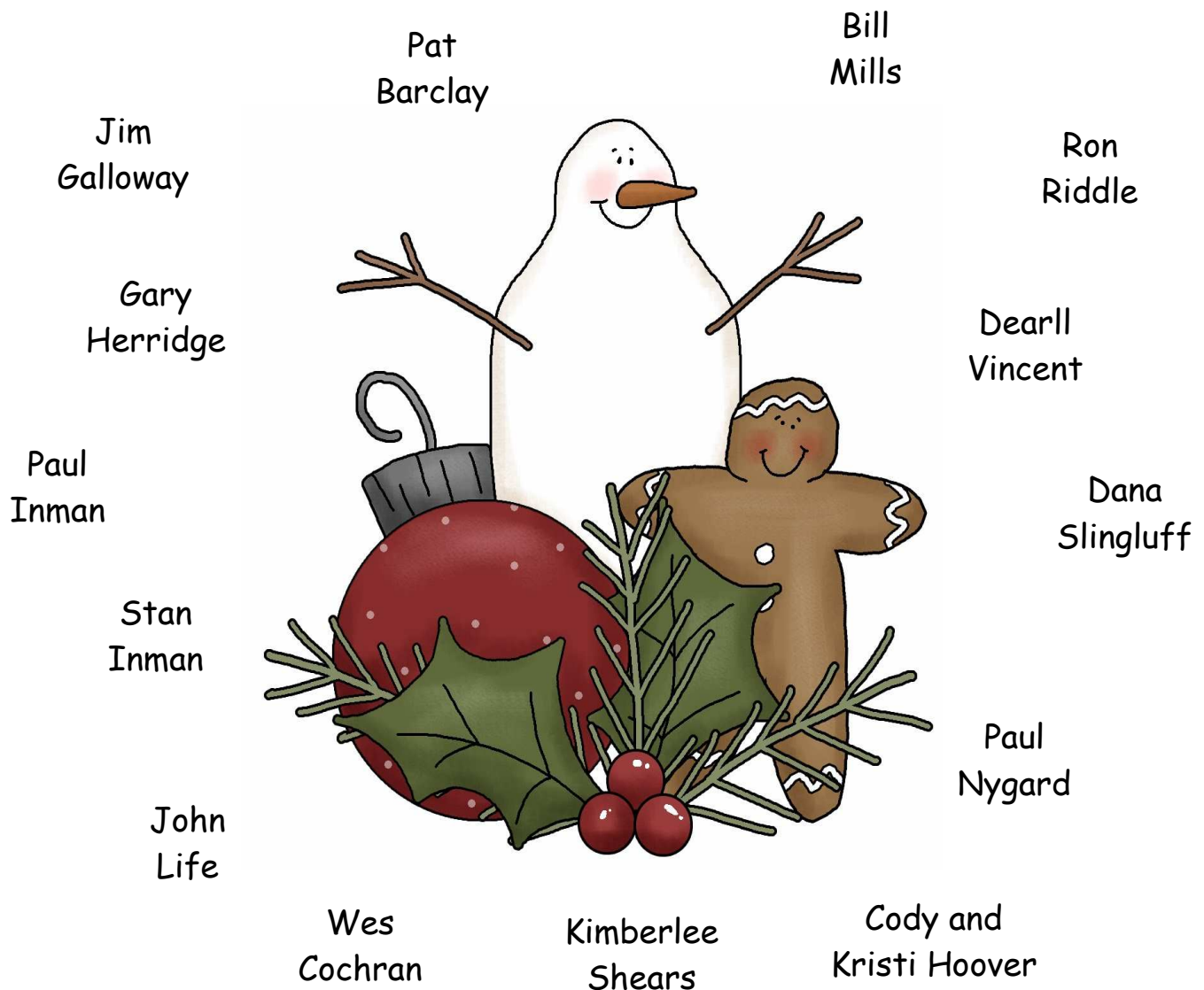
# Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

We welcome you to the church of Christ that meets at Camden Avenue.

Volume 46, Number 51 - December 22, 2013

## Happy Holidays!



THE ELDERS, PREACHERS AND STAFF

**Elders:**

Pat Barclay  
 Jim Galloway  
 Gary Herridge  
 Paul Inman  
 Stan Inman  
 John Life  
 Bill Mills  
 Ron Riddle  
 Dearll Vincent

**Deacons:**

Joshua Barclay  
 Delmas Carr  
 Marion Goldsmith  
 Leonard Haid  
 Brian Haught  
 Doug Hershman  
 Rob Hoover  
 William Hoover  
 Kyle Inman  
 Scott Johnson  
 Todd Kirk  
 Paul Saunders  
 Dwain Shears  
 Keith Smith  
 Jeff Taberner  
 David Wadlington

**Minister:**

Dana Slingluff  
 304.483.3546

**Associate****Minister:**

Paul Nygard  
 304.966.6842

**Camden Avenue  
 Church of Christ**

2900 Camden Avenue  
 Parkersburg, WV  
 26101

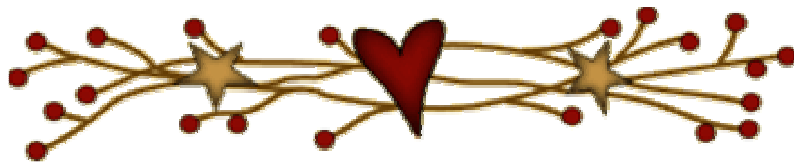
**Office:** 304.428.0504

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**E-mail:** camdencoc@  
 casinternet.net

**Website:**

Camdenavenuechur-  
 chofchrist.com



## Thank You Notes

- ♥ Thank you for all acts of kindness shown at the passing of our daughter. Your visits, cards and prayers have meant so much.  
**Clyde & Ruth Ann Yoho**
- ♥ Thank you for the birthday cards and gifts. Thanks for thinking of us. **Don, Mary and Debby Nesselroad**
- ♥ A special thank you for our anniversary cards, hugs and kind words. Our Camden Avenue family means very much to us.  
 With love, **Jim and Sallie Hinzman**



### Please keep our church family in your prayers.

Mary Ann Barclay, Keith Cowdery, Hazel Cozad, Patty Dawson, Bob and Lillie Fox, Shorty and Gloria Frazier, Zandra Holleron, Jane Pralley, Neil Russell

### Prayers requested for family and friends:

Anna Barnes, Gert Barnes (Jo Langler's aunt), Naomi Bowen (Dave Wadlington's grandmother) Tisha Beaver (Breck Hesselrode's sister), Lindsey Campbell (Friend of Nygard's), Gary Caplinger (Woody Wagoner's step-father), Max Cowdery (Keith's brother), Ione Dusek (Carrie Nygard's mother), Brittany Elliott, Billy Ginter (Sarah Inman's brother), Bill Haid (Len Haid's brother), Alice Hale, Wanda Hammett (Patty Sayre's friend), Joann Haddox (Daughter of Gwen Lucas), Tammy Hatfield, Denver Haught (Debbie Tallman's father), John Lowther, Olivia McFee (Jenny Reynolds neice), Judy Peters (Doug Hershman's co-worker), Jackie Roberts (Shannan Hinzman's mother), Susie Smith (Kay Stanley's cousin), Elaine Vincent (Margaret Dawkins' sister-in-law), Angel White (Eloise Smith's niece), Wilma White (Kay Stanley's aunt), Sandy Yoho

**Please call the office and add/delete names to the Prayer Lists.**



### **DEACON'S MEETING**

The Deacon's meeting will be today at 5:00.

### **6th-12th GRADE DEVOTIONAL THIS EVENING**

There will be a 6th-12th grade devo. this evening after services in the MP Room. Please bring a wrapped gift (\$10.00 gift limit). Boys bring a wrapped gift for a boy and girls bring a wrapped gift for a girl.

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast at Shoney's Saturday, December 28 at 8:30. Please sign the sheet on the counter if you plan to attend.

### **CHANGE IN WEDNESDAY 11:00 SERVICES FOR 12/25 AND 1/1/14**

Due to the holidays, the 11:00 Wednesday service for December 25 and January 1 will be cancelled. We will have singing for the 7:00PM services each of these dates.

### **AREA WIDE SERVICE**

The area-wide service will be held here Sunday, January 12 at 2:30 and is being hosted by the Mineral Wells congregation.

### **DANA'S ANNUAL "I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S NOT A HOLIDAY" DINNER**

Everyone is invited to Dana's annual "I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S NOT A HOLIDAY" dinner at Western Sizzlin Tuesday, January 21 at 5:30. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter.

### **LOVE & CARE SERVICE**

Care Group 1 will be conducting the services at Love and Care Sunday, January 26 at 2:30 and Thursday, January 30 at 7:00PM. Everyone is encouraged to attend these services and encourage the residents.

### **HOLIDAY CARDS**

Please check the tables at the rear of the auditorium for your holiday cards.

### **VALET PARKING**

Valet parking will be available at every service, including Sunday morning and evening and both Wednesday services. Anyone that would like to take advantage of this, please see Dwain Shears.



Happy Anniversary December 21 to Ray and Phyllis Johnson!



# Keep Christ in Christmas?

Have you thought about the current religious and social scene in America; especially during this time of year of Christmas? Religion has once again been forced to the forefront of the news, with groups fighting over whether to have a “Nativity Scene” in the public square, others are debating about using the word “Christmas” in their sales ads, and then we hear schools are not going on “Christmas break” but winter break.

The truth is, these are symptoms of a greater problem. We live in a society that is pushing for the removal of Christ from the public eye; it is not just about Christmas but the Christian faith as a whole. Realize that often one cannot pray in school, before a game, or before government meeting as people once did in this country. One cannot read their Bible or promote the Bible over another faith or belief in a public way. The too often battle cry of the Atheists and secularist is the “separation of church and state”. Then about this time of year a school, business, City Park, or government building wants to put a “Nativity Scene” on display and the battle drums begin to beat. There are petitions, media coverage, and in some cases judges and a court is involved, so who do we side with? Those who cry to “Keep Christ in Christmas” or those who cry for “separation of church and state”?

I believe in the virgin birth of Jesus. I believe Jesus was born of Mary, in the city of Bethlehem. I believe that the angels appeared to the shepherds and announced the birth of Christ. I believe Jesus was born in a stable and was laid in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. I believe Joseph was Jesus earthly father. I believe the wise men came to Jesus within two years of his birth and gave Him gold, frankincense and myrrh.

I believe that Jesus Christ was born but probably not on December 25, because the Bible doesn’t tell us the date. I believe Jesus is the reason for every season, not only this season alone. I believe in worshiping Christ not just for His birth, but also for His death, burial, and resurrection, each Lord’s Day and as I have the opportunity to assemble with the saints (Heb. 10:25). Yes I have read, Romans 14:5, “One person esteems one days as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.” I am of the conviction that all days are unto the Lord.

I believe Christ should be celebrated, glorified, and honored but maybe not with a plastic made in China figurine in my yard. Not with bitterness or rage because I am not allowed to use a non-biblical word to express my faith. Not with a halfhearted, just for show so called once a year worship service, that reminds us more of the money changers at the temple than New Testament worship. I believe that I can be a Christian whether I say Merry Christmas or not. Remember the great confession of the Christian is, “I believe Jesus Christ, is the Son of the living God” (Mat. 16:16) not Merry Christmas. I believe Jesus is Lord, and I believe He is the Savior of the world (Jn. 8:24).

So if the Atheists have their way with the courts and take the “Nativity” from the public square, the department stores have a winter sale instead of Christmas sale, and my children do not have a Christmas break but a winter break, it is o.k. because my faith is not based upon these traditions, but built on the solid Rock, the living, and resurrected Jesus Christ. And if the government comes and tells me that I cannot worship and serve my Lord, then I can say like “Peter and the apostles..., “We must obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29)

So should we keep Christ in Christmas? The answer is “Yes” and we should keep Christ in our New Year’s Day, Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter, and every day that end in “Y”. Christ needs to be our beginning and end and the first and the last as we live on planet earth!



# We Have Seen His Glory!

(John 1:1-5, 9-18)

John said “We know this because we have seen Him.” “That which was from the \_\_\_\_\_, which we have heard, which we have \_\_\_\_\_ with our eyes, which we have \_\_\_\_\_ upon, and our hands have \_\_\_\_\_, concerning the \_\_\_\_\_ of life” (I John 1:1). “We beheld His \_\_\_\_\_, the glory as of the \_\_\_\_\_ begotten of the Father, full of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_” (John 1:14)

**#1) We have seen the glory of His \_\_\_\_\_.** The Virgin birth is an essential \_\_\_\_\_. God promised the virgin birth as a \_\_\_\_\_. “I will put enmity between you and \_\_\_\_\_, and between your \_\_\_\_\_ and her \_\_\_\_\_; He shall bruise your \_\_\_\_\_, and you shall bruise His \_\_\_\_\_” (Gen. 3:15). “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a \_\_\_\_\_; behold the \_\_\_\_\_ shall conceive and bear a \_\_\_\_\_, and shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_.” (Isaiah 7:14)

“The \_\_\_\_\_ will come upon you, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ will overshadow you; also, that \_\_\_\_\_ who is to be born will be called the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_” (Luke 1:35)

**Jesus’ birth was the fulfillment of \_\_\_\_\_:** “For that which is \_\_\_\_\_ in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a \_\_\_\_\_, and you shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_, for He will \_\_\_\_\_ his people from their \_\_\_\_\_. So all this was done that it might be \_\_\_\_\_ which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet saying: behold a \_\_\_\_\_ shall be with \_\_\_\_\_ and bear a \_\_\_\_\_, and they shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_, which is \_\_\_\_\_ with us” (Matthew 1:20-23)

**God became \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to man.** “Who being in the form of \_\_\_\_\_, did not consider it robbery to be \_\_\_\_\_ with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a \_\_\_\_\_, and coming in the likeness of \_\_\_\_\_. And being found in appearance as a \_\_\_\_\_, He \_\_\_\_\_ Himself and became \_\_\_\_\_ to the point of death, even the death of the \_\_\_\_\_” (Philippians 2:5-8).

**#2) We have seen the glory of His \_\_\_\_\_.** “We beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of \_\_\_\_\_.” “No one has seen \_\_\_\_\_ at any time. The only begotten \_\_\_\_\_, who is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father, He has \_\_\_\_\_ Him” (John 1:18). **Jesus is our example.** “For in this you were called, because Christ also \_\_\_\_\_ for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow in His \_\_\_\_\_” (I Peter 2:21-22)

**#3) We have seen the glory of His \_\_\_\_\_.** “We have beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and \_\_\_\_\_. (John 1:14) “The people were astonished at His \_\_\_\_\_, for He taught them as one having \_\_\_\_\_, and not as the scribes” (Matthew 7:28-29)

**#4) We have seen the glory of His \_\_\_\_\_.** “For in Him dwells all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Godhead \_\_\_\_\_” (Colossians 2:9) “Many other \_\_\_\_\_ truly did Jesus... but these are written that you might \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and believing you might have \_\_\_\_\_ in His name” (John 20:30-31)

# A Rock That Does Not Roll

~With Permission from Chris McCurley

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” –Proverbs 3:5-6*

“In God We Trust”...but do we? A relationship with God may entail a lot of things but, first and foremost, it is a relationship. And no relationship is going to be very healthy without trust. If trust is absent, then the relationship is either: a) moving toward establishing trust, b) dysfunctional, or c) on the verge of destruction. To live with a lack of trust is to live with suspicion. One cannot develop a close, meaningful relationship with someone they are suspicious of.

It is my belief that one of the primary reasons why so many people choose not to follow Jesus is because, at the very core of their being, regardless of how well they may speak of Him, pray to Him or profess to believe in Him, they do not fundamentally trust Him. In other words, they continue to harbor a suspicion that the kind of life Jesus calls them to live is, in some way, inferior to the life He calls them to abandon.

John writes (Jn 12:35-36), *“So Jesus said to them, ‘For a little longer the Light is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light.’”*

Walking with Jesus requires unqualified trust. “Believe in the Light” also means “Trust in the Light,” but we have so much trouble doing just that. We are so used to darkness. We’re so used to being hurt, so used to approaching relationships with suspicion. Even though we want to believe in Jesus and trust Him with all of our being, we’re still skeptical. We still have anxiety or fear because we have been let down so many times before. Experience tells us, with every fiber of our being, that trust is fragile. It is earned slowly. It can be destroyed instantly. It must be rebuilt cautiously. Sometimes it is beyond all hope of restoration.

At some point, we must come to the realization that trusting in God is not like trusting other people. The scriptures confirm this truth.

*“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.” – Psalm 19:14*

*“The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge...” – II Sam 22:2*

GOD IS A ROCK THAT DOESN'T ROLL! Anchor yourself to Him! Build your house upon Him because when you do, you don't have to worry, you don't have to fear. God is not like us. He does not break promises. He does not take things back. He does not say things He does not mean. He follows through. He keeps His word. He is 100% trustworthy. The Hebrew writer stated it this way, *“...for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I forsake you,’ so that we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?’” (Heb. 13:5-6).*

Too many people in our world lean on themselves, rather than leaning on God. Some lean on their own understanding rather than consulting the word of God. Some lean on their own understanding because they have suffered the sting of betrayal and, thus, feel as though they cannot trust anyone. The wise Solomon's advice comes from experience. Solomon tried it his own way. He trusted in himself rather than in God. He pursued a relationship with sin and material things rather than a relationship with God. He trusted in his own wisdom rather than divine wisdom, and he came to the conclusion that it was all vanity, futility, a striving after the wind. “The conclusion, when all has been heard,” he says, “Is fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person” (Ecc. 12:13). Solomon learned to trust and not lean. We need to do the same.





## NEW YEAR'S EVE GET-TOGETHER

Everyone is invited to a get-together at the Mineral Wells School on New Year's evening. Starting at 7:00PM. We will eat around 7:00 with a devotional and singing at 8:30.

Please bring money to contribute to pizza.

Bring snacks, beverages and desserts.

The gym will be available so bring games and sporting equipment.

If you are musically talented, bring your instrument.

This get-together is for all ages.

There is plenty of room in the cafeteria and gym so please plan to join us.

## Fort Gay Mission Trip

Next July we are planning a mission trip to Fort Gay WV. If you do not know Fort Gay is about 25 miles south of Huntington.

They are one of our mission points that we support. Our plan is to help them with a door knocking effort, youth activities, and a Gospel Meeting that Dana will hold.

This is open to our youth group and to all adults that are willing to help. We are still working on a schedule, but we need to have people committed to this effort as we plan. The time commitment would be for anywhere from a few days up to a week. The members will feed and house us while we are there.

If you are able please help support this great work to reach out to lost souls. There is a signup sheet in the foyer.

Bill Mills & Todd Kirk

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## Minute of Meditation

Heard on 910 AM WLTP

What would happen if the truant fathers of America began spending time with their children?

It wouldn't eliminate world hunger, but it might save some families from sinking below the poverty line. It wouldn't bring peace to the Middle East, but it just might keep a few kids from trying to find a sense of belonging with their local street-corner gang. It might not defuse the population bomb, but it just might prevent a few teenage pregnancies.

If these fathers were to spend more time with their children, it just might have an effect on the future marriage and divorce. Not only do boys lack a sense of how a man should behave; many girls don't know either, having little experience themselves to healthy male-female relationships.

If that would happen, the next generation of absentee fathers might never come to pass! Moses wrote, "for I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment . . . " (Genesis 18:19)

This is Gary Herridge with a minute of meditation from the Camden Avenue church of Christ where you are always welcome.



## Opportunities To Serve Sunday, December 29

**ELDER IN CHARGE - John Life**  
**DEACON IN CHARGE - Doug Hershman**

### SONG LEADERS

AM—Jon Hescht  
PM—Josh Barclay

### PRAYER

9:30 AM—Brian Haught  
Close—Brian Knotts  
6:00 PM—Todd Kirk  
Close—Kyle Inman

### SCRIPTURE

AM—Len Haid  
PM—Dan Rich

### COMMUNION TABLE

AM—Stan Inman  
PM—Bill Mills  
Kevin Cochran

**PA SYSTEM**—Steve Gray

### DOOR GREETERS

**AM Door** 1—Paul Inman  
2—Rick Stanley  
4—Carrie Nygard

### **PM**

1. Bill Pralley & Bill Mills
2. Susan Anderson & Tammy Kerns
3. Stan & Debi Inman
4. Cody & Kristi Hoover
5. Bill & Carolyn Davis
6. Ed Collins & Scott Smith

## Facts and Figures

December 15, 2013  
AM Service.....340  
Bible Study.....224  
PM Service.....229  
Wednesday.....210  
Contribution.....\$6975.00

### **MEMBERSHIP FOR 2013**

Baptisms.....8  
Restored or Requested  
Prayers.....9  
Placed Membership...22

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

AM Worship.....9:30  
Bible Study.....11:00  
PM Worship.....6:00

### Wednesday

Bible Study.....11:00AM & 7:00PM



## Valet Service

December 22 and December 25—Chris Tallman,  
Donovan Walton

December 29 and January 1—Mike Bayer, Jeff Taberner

Wednesday 11:00 Bible class—Chris Tallman,  
Herb Wright

December is

## SACK THE PULPIT

to restock the church pantry.

- Any dry cereal
- Pancake mix/syrup
  - Soups
  - Peanut butter
  - Jelly
- Saltine crackers
- Canned potatoes
  - Canned fruit
- Treet/Spam—canned meat
  - Vienna sausages
  - Applesauce
- Macaroni and cheese

Please leave items on either side of the pulpit.  
Monetary donations may be given to one of the Elders.

## Daily Bible Reading

December 22—Rev 12, Micah 507  
December 23—Rev 13, Nah 1-3  
December 24—Rev 14, Hab 1-3  
December 25—Rev 15-16, Zeph 1-3  
December 26—Rev 17, Hagg 1-2  
December 27—Rev 18, Zec 1-5  
December 28—Rev 19, Zec 6-8  
December 29—Rev 29, Zec 9-11

Watch  
**"IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY"**  
Sunday mornings at 7:30 on  
WTAP-TV, Dish Channel 259,  
DIRECT channel 364, and  
6:30AM on local cable  
channel 4.

### UPCOMING PROGRAM

December 29  
HOPE