Advent Calendar of Events

December 19th
All Church Christmas Caroling
— Soup before caroling and hot chocolate after!
6 PM– 8 PM

December 23
Fourth Sunday of Advent
—Table Groups

December 24th
Christmas Eve Services
6:00PM

Fourth Sunday of Advent Table Groups
December 23, 2018
Beginning @ 6:00 PM
Locations:
Marysville (Kratzch Home)
New Cumberland (Hodge Home)
Etters (Border Home)

Please sign up in the Foyer

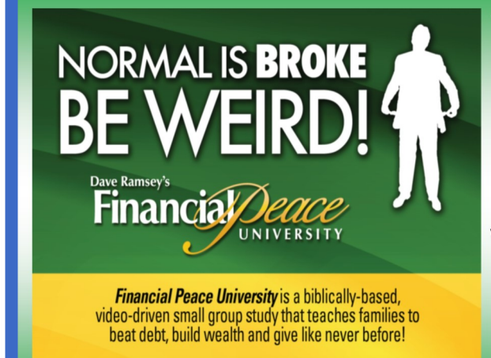

Table Life Church will be hosting a FPU class starting
January 09, 2019
(Wednesdays) for 9 weeks. Class will start at 7:00 pm and last about 90 minutes.
For more information or to sign up for class, go to:
https://fpu.com/1079119

You can also contact
Jim Herman@JWHTNG42@hotmail.com

Don't forget!!
All Church Christmas Dinner
Today after Service!!!

YOU ARE INVITED
To join us for our
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
@6:00PM December 24th
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Church Staff

Rob Kazee, Pastor
rpkazee@gmail.com ~ 202-997-1222

Jeff Wolfe, Pastor of Spiritual Formation
jeffwolfe125@gmail.com ~ 717-261-6173

Becky Wolfe, Office Administrator and
Pastor of Congregational Care & Fellowship
rwolfenaz@gmail.com ~ 717-514-6275

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School
11 AM - 12:30 PM Worship Service
617 16th St. New Cumberland, PA 17070
717-774-6444

email: **office@tablelifechurch.org** *web:* **www.tablelifechurch.org**

www.facebook.com/tablelifechurch

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TABLELIFE CHURCH

TABLELIFE CHURCH

Order of Worship
16 December 2018
Third Sunday of Advent

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Lighting the Third Candle
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Scripture Readings: Luke 1:39-45
Sermon Series: "A Very Mary Christmas"
Sermon: "Prenatal Joy "

We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ
Song of preparation
Prayer of Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

If you are a guest with us today,

Please take time to fill out a

Connection Card.

Please visit us on our website,
www.tablelifechurch.org for details of events.
Also you will find, Worship folders, Church Calendar, more about our ministries and online giving.

COMING SOON

Dec 16 Third Sunday of Advent	11:00AM
Dec 16 Church Christmas Dinner	12:30PM
Dec 19 New Hope Senior Christmas Party	1:00PM
Dec 19 All Church Christmas Caroling	6:00PM
Dec 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent	11:00AM
Dec 23 Table Groups	6:00PM
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service	6:00PM
Dec 25 Christmas Day	****
Dec 26 No Evening activities	****

Official Church Calendar ~ www.tablelifechurch.org/calendar

Sermon Reflection Guide

Luke 1.39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

Question for Everyone:

(1) The God that I worship is always angry. (10) The God that I worship is always joyful. Where would you place yourself on this range?

Questions to Consider

Has something ever made you so joyfully exuberant that you celebrated in such a demonstrative way that in that moment you simply didn't care what others thought of you? What would make you celebrate wildly without inhibition? Have you ever let yourself go? Tell the story.

Joy

Joy is resilient. Joy is deep. Joy isn't easily diminished by outward circumstances. What is the difference between joy and happiness? When are you most likely to experience joy? Would you consider yourself a joyful person? Why? Why not?

Our Joyful God

I have a feeling that joy is at the very heart of the God revealed in Jesus. And yes, I know that God laments. Indeed our Lord wept. But lament and joy are not opposite characteristics. Lament and joy come from the same source, unbridled love. The God who weeps over his broken and wayward children is the same God who sings over us a song of exuberant joy the moment we return. What might happen to a people formed by a God they experience primarily as loving and joyful?

The Case for Joy

I want to make the case for uninhibited, unmitigated, unbridled, unencumbered, unceasing, "joy unspeakable and full of glory." The joy of which I speak is rooted in the most basic and profound of Christian confessions. God is love. I am loved. Talk about the ways God reveals God's joy. Talk about the ways God reveals God's love.

Holiness and Joy

The truly holy person is joyful. If our salvation is merely sin management this will produce a rather severe and dour person. However, if salvation is the return to the Father's heart joy will be the result. My favorite definition for holiness is "love expelling sin." Perhaps I would add the nuance, "love expelling sin creating a joyful life." What is the relationship between joy and holiness? Have you ever considered joy to be an essential ingredient for holiness?

Prenatal Joy

This joyful moment between Elizabeth and Mary was celebrated with an unknown future on the horizon for both women. Both of these women are facing extremely risky pregnancies and yet they joyfully celebrate. But how can that be? What is their secret? Why are they joyful rather than fearful?