



**God's Light  
shines on our  
dark places at  
Christmas!**



## ***CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM***

December 17, 2023 during the 10:30 am Worship Service

### ***'Twas the Night Before: The Christmas Story for Kids***

In this one-act, children's Christmas play, the story of Jesus' birth is told. As the storyteller narrates in rhyme, Joseph, Mary, the Innkeeper, and a Shepherd share their stories.

*Nursery will be provided for newborns through 2 years of age.*

**NOTE: This worship service will be an in-person service only.**

**It will not be live streamed or placed on NLC's website.**





**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**  
**5:00 pm in the Gymnasium**

Glo-stick candles will be provided for children 12 years old and younger.

*Nursery will be provided for newborns through 2 years of age in the Fellowship Hall.*

This service is an in-person service only.

The service ***will not*** be live streamed or placed on NLC's website.



**New Cumberland, PA**  
**[www.nlcfamily.org](http://www.nlcfamily.org)**

## **FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARY UPDATES**

### **Darin & Kathy Ishler - South Africa**

The Ishlers begin with sharing that "The Lord is Good". A story about food was told and ended with a challenge: "Take a few minutes to thank God for His Goodness and listen to the "Goodness of God" sung by CeCe Winans. Next is a "Congratulations!" to Ella who has officially graduated high school. Darin & Kathy took Ella "...on an epic senior trip. Darin and the girls zip-lined, bungee jumped, and went for a helicopter ride overlooking the Cape Town harbor." In a few months Ella will return to the states to get a job before beginning college next fall." Praises they share are: 1) Tyler coming to visit for Christmas; 2) Great turn out for the Child Protection Workshop; 3) Kathy attended a Thrive Retreat. Prayer request are: 1) Waiting for their visas to be processed; 2) Church building plans to be processed quickly; 3) Their health and safety; 4) Wisdom as their kids make decisions.

### **Tony & Becky Rizzo - Youth Action Ministries**

Tony begins by saying Christmas is their favorite time of year. "The most important thing about Christmas and the Advent Season is the opportunity to worship the Lord and again fall in love with the Lord and His goodness to us, His children." The Rizzos then give an update on each of their children & families. "We thank the Lord for each of our children and grandchildren. We pray they continue their walk with the Lord and serve Him. Please remember them in your prayers too." Their update ends with "We hope you have a blessed Christmas and New Year. We hope you get to spend time with your family and loved ones. This is the most significant time of the year of rejoicing in the Lord for His goodness to us."

### **Kirk & Julie Zuercher - China Outreach Ministries**

Kirk shares about the Open Doors Report on International Education Exchange. "This is an annual report detailing information on international students at higher education institutions in the US. ... According to this year's report, the number of students from China is holding steady. Chinese students continue to be the largest demographic among international students so the door to reach them continues to be wide open." "The opportunity to reach Chinese students with the gospel of Jesus Christ is still vast and one that we take on with great excitement." Kirk & Julie gave an update on their children Keving & Kelsie and their families. They end their update with "God is still changing lives one by one. He calls each of us to share His love with those around us. That is what COM is all about. Thank you for joining us in this work and being a part of our family around the world."

### **Nick & Darianne Serino - Alaskan Arctic**

The Serinos begin by sharing about the Thanksgiving feast at the church. There were about 30 folks and many brought food and/or family. People gave lots of good testimonies that blessed everyone. "Darianne and I are so thankful for Bro. Jim Ferris from FBBC in Rochester, NY in 1977 knocking on our door and showing us how we could know for sure we could have sins forgiven and a home in heaven from a King James Bible! Wow! It has been nothing but a great and miracle filled adventure ever since!" The Serinos are planning an East Coast Furlough this spring. There are over 15 churches to visit in a short period of time. It has been 11 years since they have seen some of their supporting churches! Nick & Darianne ask that we "...pray for more missionaries to answer the 'call of the wild' here in the Arctic. The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are fewer and fewer, is God calling you?" They also ask that we pray for their health - Darianne has a bad wrist and Nick "messed up" his right shoulder.

### **Charles & Janet Baldis - Slovakia**

The update begins with "Thanksgiving is a time for food and family and fellowship. We were sad that we couldn't be with our family in America for Thanksgiving, but we were blessed to have Emma's family come celebrate with us this year. Another small thing we were thankful for was to have harvested some pumpkins this fall. Pumpkin pies and cookies are not part of the culture here, so it was special to be able to have them!" Charles & Janet celebrated their 40th anniversary in Ireland, then traveled to the US to be with family, especially their new granddaughter. Charles' father turned 97 and they know there are not too many more birthdays to celebrate with him. Prayer requests are: 1) There is a need for good Biblical worldview books in Slovakia, 2) A retreat for Slovak youth leaders after the New Year, and 3) As the Biblical worldview ministry grows, there is a need for a bigger team. Please pray as they raise the support to be able to hire more workers, and that God would provide people who have the same passion for Biblical Worldview.

### **Hannah Strayer - Togo**

Hannah shares the story of 10 year old Martin who does not lack for energy, intelligence, or adventure. He enjoys playing and has joined in games with Hannah, the Ward kids and other students. "We play anything from Keep Away to soccer and Martin is in the thick of it cautiously running as fast as he can with his arm outstretched to help him avoid collisions and his ears attuned to the ever changing flurry of action. His inability to see does not hinder his desire to enjoy his life." Martin is in 3rd grade and is proficiently reading the Bible in braille. Over the summer break some school staff visited with him and asked him to quote verses he had memorized as they shared the Gospel with his mother. The staff asked Martin to explain the Gospel to his mom. He explained the Gospel to her. Clearly, he had been listening very intently in class and understands salvation. After more discussion, Martin's mother said she would accept God's gift of salvation. What a wonderful reason to praise the Lord! Hannah's praises are: 1) Her residency papers are being processed, 2) The shipment arrived and nothing was damaged, and 3) South Africa trip went very well. Hannah asks that we pray for: 1) The residency card process goes smoothly and quickly, 2) Students leave on break Dec 21st, and 3) The project for the Togo 50th to continue to come together well.

### **Sam & Megan Beard - Jeju, South Korea**

As 2023 comes to a close, the Beards are thankful for a wonderful fall in Jeju. Three people were baptized and four couples completed their church membership class. They continued to see a steady flow of new visitors to Nations Baptist Church. Their co-workers Mike & Jill Ivey (Megan's parents), returned to Jeju following their emergency furlough. In October they led their people to begin praying and looking forward to the next step God is leading their church to take...planting a second location in "Shin Jeju" city! The small Bible study group has been meeting weekly for prayer, seeking God's direction for this new church plant. "We hope to identify a meeting space by February; please pray that we can find a space that is conveniently located near a major bus stop, as most people will walk or use public transportation. We're praying towards launching the first service on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Megan just had her check-ups and her doctors are pleased with her progress. She is now three years into the 5-year treatment plan to reduce risk of cancer recurrence. Please continue to pray for her sleep and stress management, as this is critical to managing the side effects of her medications. "Thank you for your partnership to engage the nations with the gospel from Jeju, South Korea!"

### **Tina Baldis - Slovakia**

Tina begins her update with a thank you: "Thank you all for being a support and prayer partner. There's so much to love about Christmas. Whether it's the miraculous story of Jesus' birth or the cherished time we spend with family and friends, this is truly a blessed time of year. And I would like to share a few of my blessings..." In September, Tina & Emma began writing a Biblical worldview study (God's Big Story) which they use for weekly meetings with their girls from camp. In November there was a 13th birthday celebration similar to a Jewish Bat Mitzvah for Noemi. They "promised as a church to pray for her and help her develop into a mature and godly woman." The Lord has really bonded the girls from camp, as many do not have Christian friends outside of this group. The seminary undergraduate and master's level student that Tina teaches are required to take English classes. Tina was given permission to use whatever materials she wanted in teaching English. "Since I have a passion for teaching God's Big Story through Creation, Fall, Redemption and Restoration, I decided to use these materials along with aspects of defending your faith. It has also been a blessing that many have commented on how this class challenged them to grow in Christ and learn many new things. The discussions are dynamic and enjoyable." Tina's prayer requests are: 1) Hosting a youth group leadership weekend retreat for churches in Slovakia. Please pray as we present a challenge to view all of life (not just the spiritual life) from God's perspective; 2) Pray that God will lead in the research and writing of the Biblical worldview study on God's Big Story; 3) As the Biblical worldview ministry grows, there is a need for a bigger team. Please pray for us as we raise the support to be able to hire more workers, and that God would provide people who have the same passion for Biblical Worldview; 4) Tina has not been in the States in 4 years, and she needs to know when God would have her to go. She is thinking of going to the worldview conference that the Colson Fellows sponsor at the end of May/beginning of June. Please pray for her to have wisdom to hear God's voice in all of these decisions. Tina ends with "Wishing You a Very Merry Christmas!"

You are invited to join us for a

# Christmas piano recital

Dec 15th at 7 pm

Featuring the students of  
Debbie McNaney

Students will celebrate the  
Christmas season with piano  
music, rhythm cups,  
Christmas carols and more

Light refreshments and fellowship  
following the recital

New Life Church  
530 Big Spring Rd  
New Cumberland, PA  
[www.nlcfamily.org](http://www.nlcfamily.org)

Hosted by Red Cedar FP

*An Olde Town Christmas*

at   
**THE LINK**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH 10AM-9PM**

SLEIGH RIDES  
FUN RUN/WALK | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
HOLIDAY LIGHTS  
FOOD & RETAIL VENDORS  
LIVE NATIVITY

## **FREE Admission to Public Event**

Join us on **December 16th from 10 AM-8 PM** and experience the joy of the season featuring:

- A LIVE Nativity
- Walk through charming Drexel Hills and vote for the best holiday lights Caroling and **LIVE Entertainment**
- Crafts and Games for YOUTH
- Hayrides and Sleigh Rides
- Food and Refreshments available to purchase
- Holiday Gift Shop available
- Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus
- An appearance by The Grinch
- Check back for BIG Announcements regarding additional activities of this spectacular holiday event!

For more information, go to: <https://thelink4youth.org/an-olde-town-christmas/>

# CONNECT CARD

Welcome to New Life Church! We love welcoming and connecting with people from our community. If you are visiting with us today, please complete the top portion of this card so we can connect with you. You may place your card in the basket when exiting the worship service. Thank You!

## How did you hear about us?

Friend/Family    Friend/Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Website     Advertisement    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle:    First Time Guest    Returning Guest    New Resident    Would Like To Be Contacted    Member    Regular Attender

## Contact Information

(Please Print - Thank You!)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_    Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Family Information

(Please Print - Thank You!)

Age Group (please circle):    13-18    19-25    26-35    36-45    46-55    56-65    65+

Category (please circle):    Married    Single    Engaged    Divorced    Widowed    Youth

Children (names & ages): \_\_\_\_\_

-----**-FOLD HERE AND PLACE IN BASKET-**-----

I have a **PRAISE** that I would like to share with the (circle all that apply):    Congregation    Pastor    Staff

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

I have a **PRAYER REQUEST** that I would like to share with the (circle all that apply):    Congregation    Pastor    Staff

I Would Like The Pastor To Contact Me

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# Hark The Herald Angels Sing / King Of Heaven

## Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With angelic hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

## Verse 2

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace  
Hail the Son of righteousness  
Light and life to all He brings  
Risen with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

## Chorus

King of Heaven come down  
King of Heaven come now  
Let Your glory reign shining like the day  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven rise up  
Who can stand against us  
You are strong to save  
In Your mighty name King of Heaven come

## Verse 3

Christ by highest heaven adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King the newborn King

## Chorus

King of Heaven come down  
King of Heaven come now  
Let Your glory reign shining like the day  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven rise up  
Who can stand against us  
You are strong to save  
In Your mighty name King of Heaven come

## Ending

King of Heaven come King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come down  
King of Heaven come now  
Let Your glory reign shining like the day  
King of Heaven come

# Angels We Have Heard On High

## Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

## Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis deo

## Verse 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song

## Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis deo

## Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn King

## Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis deo

## Verse 4

See Him in a manger laid  
Jesus Lord of heaven and earth  
Mary Joseph lend your aid  
With us sing our Saviour's birth

## Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis deo

## Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis deo

# I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

## **Verse 1**

I heard the Bells on Christmas Day  
Their old familiar carols play  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth good will to men

## **Verse 2**

And thought how as the day had come  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along the unbroken song  
Of peace on earth good will to men

## **Verse 3**

'Til ringing singing on its way  
The world revolved from night to day  
A voice a chime A chant sublime  
Of peace on earth good-will to men

## **Verse 4**

And in despair I bowed my head  
There is no peace on earth I said  
For hate is strong and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth good will to men

## **Verse 5**

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep  
God is not dead nor doth he sleep  
The wrong shall fail the right prevail  
With peace on earth good will to men

# Crown Him (Christmas)

## **Verse 1**

Crown Him with many crowns  
The King who left His throne  
Creator of the universe  
Born to the world He holds  
And with that first drawn breath  
The Word has become flesh  
Emmanuel has come to us  
O crown Him all the earth

## **Verse 2**

Crowned by the angel choir  
They tell His royal birth  
Sing glory in the highest height  
And peace upon the earth  
They break the silent night  
Announcing endless worth  
The King of grace and love is here  
O crown Him all the world

## **Verse 3**

Crowned by their royal gifts  
Gold frankincense and myrrh  
Wise men approach this manger throne  
With honors from afar  
Behold the Son of God  
And bow down in this place  
The Prince of Peace has come to us  
O crown Him with your praise

## **Verse 4**

Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing  
God sent His Son for me  
Now hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

## **Tag**

Awake my soul and sing  
God sent His Son for me  
Now hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

## **Ending**

Crown Him crown Him crown Him with many  
crowns  
Crown Him crown Him crown Him with many  
crowns

# **WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

## **New Life Church**

### **December 10, 2023**

Unwrapping The Gift Of Light!

Four Ways God's Light Shines On Our Dark Places At Christmas!

<sup>2</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." *Matthew 2:1-2, NKJV*

<sup>8</sup> Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. *Luke 2:8-10, NKJV*

#### **The Darker The Night!**

- ◆ When we face the dark days of Disappointments!
- ◆ When we face the dark days of Distress!
- ◆ When we face the dark days of Doubt!
- ◆ When we face the dark days of Depression!

## **The Brighter The Light!**

- ◆ God encourages us when we are Disappointed!
  - ◇ <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. *2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV*
  
- ◆ God strengthens us when we are Distressed!
  - ◇ <sup>13</sup> I can do all this through him who gives me strength. *Philippians 4:13, NIV*
  
- ◆ God guides us when we are Doubtful!
  - ◇ <sup>12</sup> When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12, NIV*
  
- ◆ God offers hope and healing when we are Depressed!
  - ◇ <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 15:13, NIV*

## **NLC's 2023 Verse**

But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;  
*1 Peter 2:9, NKJV*