



# w e l c o m e

"Now I bring the first fruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Deuteronomy 26:10

CCC staff

Pastors: Charlie Bethel, Wayne Carson, Jake Rosen

Administrative Assistant: Gina Edwards

Church Office Hours: Tue.-Thu. 9 AM - 4 PM

4 December 2011 | Kislev 8 5772

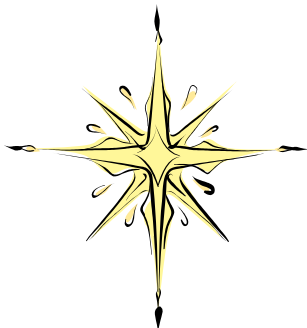
office@claytoncommunitychurch.com | www.claytoncommunitychurch.com

Weekly Operating Budget: \$4,500  
Nov. 27 General Offering: \$2,275.75

The offering box is located in the hallway. CCC gives 15% of its regular offering to missions. Any additional offerings to missions should be a sacrifice beyond your regular commitment to the ministry of Clayton Community Church.

It is Lord's Supper Sunday! On the first Sunday of every month, we devote a vital portion of our Sunday morning to communion. If you are familiar with the practice and are a believer in Jesus please join in, but don't feel like you need to do it because the rest of the people are. We believe worshipping God is best done with understanding. Feel free to participate or not as the Spirit leads.

Would you like to know about Clayton Community Church? Please ask one of the Ushers for our Welcome booklet. Children are dismissed to their Sunday school classes at 11 a.m. The cry room is available for those with infants who need to be fed and cuddled. It's located to your right as you enter the sanctuary. Nursery is available for infants through 2 1/2-year-olds on the bottom floor of the Education Wing. Worship Bags (crayons & paper) are available during the service. Shalom!



## Christmas Quiz



*Don't look at the answers until you've written your guess!*

1. On what days, other than December 25 is Christmas celebrated ?
2. Where did the name "Christmas" come from?
3. Is it disrespectful to refer to Christmas as "Xmas"?
4. Who first popularized the tradition of having "Nativity Scene" displays?

1. Christmas has also been celebrated by the early Church on January 6, when Epiphany (the revelation that Jesus was God's son) and the Baptism of Jesus were celebrated. Today, Epiphany mainly celebrates the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus, but back then it celebrated everything! Jesus' Baptism was originally seen as more important than his birth because this was when he began his ministry. But soon people wanted a separate day to celebrate his birth.

When much of the world switched from using the Roman or "Julian Calendar" to using the shorter "Gregorian Calendar" implemented by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582, 10 days were lost (so that the day following October 4, 1582 was October 15, 1582)! Many Orthodox and Coptic Churches that still use the Julian Calendar celebrate Christmas on January 7. The Armenian Church celebrates it on January 6, and in some parts of the UK, January 6th is still called "Old Christmas."

2. The name "Christmas" comes from the phrase "Mass of Christ" (or Jesus). A mass service (sometimes called Communion or Eucharist) is where Christians remember that Jesus died for us and then came back to life. The "Christ-Mass" service was the only one that was allowed to take place after sunset (and before sunrise the next day), so people had it at midnight!

3. Some believe it is incorrect to call Christmas "Xmas," as it takes the "Christ" (Jesus) out of Christmas. But that is not quite right! In the Greek language and alphabet, the letter that looks like an X is the Greek letter "chi" (pronounced "kye" - it rhymes with "eye"), which is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ, or Christos. The early church used the first two letters of Christos in the Greek alphabet, chi and rho, to create a monogram (symbol) to represent the name of Jesus. This looks like an X with a small p on the top. So Xmas can also mean Christmas; but it should also be pronounced "Christmas" rather than "ex-mas".

4. Saint Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223. This was a "living" nativity intended to illustrate the event of the birth of Jesus. It was inspired by a visit to the Holy Land where he saw Jesus' traditional birthplace. The scene's popularity inspired communities throughout Christendom to stage similar pantomimes. Eventually, the nativity scene came to proliferate in Western culture, inspiring many works of art.

### Christmas Quiz Answers

## Women's Christmas Luncheon

The women of CCC are invited to our annual Christmas Luncheon--sign up today!

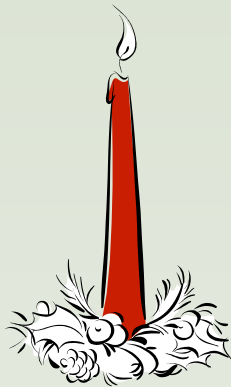
PLACE: Doris Hibbs' home,  
5 Algonquin Wood Place,  
Glendale, MO 63122

DATE: NEXT Sunday,  
December 11, 2011

TIME: Immediately  
following service at CCC

MENU: Butternut Squash Soup from  
Algonquin Country Club (their finest),  
Salad, Croissants, Carmel rolls, Snow  
Ball Christmas Cake (Doris' specialty),  
Coffee, Tea

COST: \$4.00 per person



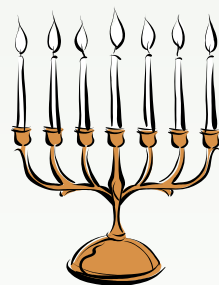
## Christmas Camp

The last Super Saturday of the year is Christmas Camp on Dec. 17, 5:30-8:30 PM for kids ages 3-12. Want to help out? Event invitations, sign up sheets and registration forms are available. Contact Elisa Doty for more information: 314-440-8599 or ebdoty@gmail.com.



## Merry Messiahmas Hanukkoncert

Beit Chesed is hosting a Messiahmas & Hanukkah celebration and concert Friday, Dec. 23. There will be a family time with Hanukkah candles and dreidels 6:30-7 PM, and the concert begins at 7 PM.



## Christmas Eve Service?

Should we have a Christmas Eve Service this year? Please call or email the office and let us know what you think: 314-961-2232 / office@claytoncommunitychurch.com

## points of interest

- ◎ **Disposing of Trash** - There are two large, BLUE garbage cans under the back porch of the church for disposing of trash after events, etc. The large brown can is for recycling only and the small cans will not be emptied on trash day.
- ◎ **"Raise the Roof"** - Donations are being collected to replace the fellowship hall roof. Envelopes are available in the hallway. Drop your donation in the offering box. The amount needed is \$14,000; the total is approximate and will vary depending on market conditions. So far \$5,230 has been received, with less than \$9,000 left to raise!
- ◎ **One-on-One Discipling** is a mentoring program to get one grounded in the basics of the Christian faith. Contact Barb Foy or Jack Scharr for more information, or fill out a discipling information card and drop it in the offering box. *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I commanded you."* (Mat. 28:19-20)

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem  
& the Middle East

Our Soldiers Stateside  
Ft. Bliss, TX - Nate Wagoner  
Westpoint - Mark Allen

Our Soldiers Overseas:  
Afghanistan - Jesse Campbell, John Oros,  
Joe Seavey  
South Korea - Joshua Hudson  
Israeli Army - Sarah Mizrachi, Liel Meyuseff

*If you have updates to this list, please contact the CCC office. To join the prayer chain, e-mail the church and we will send you an invitation to the CCC Prayer Warriors Yahoo Group.*

## ongoing weekly events

- **Adult Sunday School:** Sunday before church, 9:30-10:30 AM in the CCC fellowship hall. Open to all.
- **Kibbutz Girls:** Monday, 6:30-8:30 PM at CCC. Geri Weis, 314-849-2977
- **Chesterfield Small Group:** Tuesday, 7 PM. Jake Rosen & Jack Scharr, 314-504-8539
- **South City Small Group:** Tuesday, 7 PM. Roger & Debbie Phillips, 314-781-8482
- **Beit Chesed Messianic Congregation**  
Shabbat Service: Most Friday's, 7:15 PM.  
Jake Rosen, 314-504-8539,  
[www.beitchesed.com](http://www.beitchesed.com)