

The Air Hill Breezes



2020

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Office Hours Mon., 8 am - 1 pm
Wed. - Fri. 8am - 1 pm

In the year 1968 the nation was in turmoil. The Vietnam War was escalating, political protests were mounting, and racial tensions were stressed. That year already included the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy. Matthew Dallek on History.com asks, "Was 1968 America's Bloodiest Year in Politics?"

Then on December 24, 1968, a little hope glimmered. The Apollo 8 astronauts televised live from orbiting the moon. This was their message:

William Anders: *"For all the people on Earth the crew of Apollo 8 has a message we would like to send you". "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light: and there was light.' And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness."*

Jim Lovell: *"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.' And God made the firmament and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day."*

Frank Borman: *"And God said, 'Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear': and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called the Seas: and God saw that it was good." Borman then added, "And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas, and God bless all of you - all of you on the good Earth."*

Fifty-four years earlier, just months after WWI began, an unofficial truce occurred on Christmas. It became known as the Christmas truce. It was another glimmer of hope in the midst of a darkened world. Wikipedia describes it this way:

Roughly 100,000 British and German troops were involved in the informal cessations of hostility along the Western Front. The Germans placed candles on their trenches and on Christmas trees, then continued the celebration by singing [Christmas carols](#). The British responded by singing carols of their own. The two sides continued by shouting Christmas greetings to each other. Soon thereafter, there were excursions across No Man's Land, where small gifts were exchanged, such as food, tobacco, alcohol and souvenirs, such as buttons and hats. The [artillery](#) in the region fell silent. The truce also allowed a breathing spell where recently killed soldiers could be brought back behind their lines by burial parties. Joint services were held. In many sectors, the truce lasted through Christmas night, continuing

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AIR HILL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"To grow a healthy, loving, Christ centered church family that has a passion for reaching the community and the world for Christ"

Cont. from pg. 1

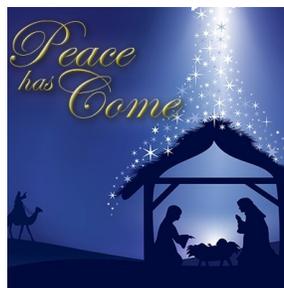
until *New Year's Day* in others.

About 1914 years before that Christmas truce, the world was just as messy. Herod the Great ruled over Israel. He possessed a ruthless reputation; he had his wife, three sons, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, and uncle murdered, to name a few. Another king was born towards the end of his reign. It was described this way:

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. Luke 2:4-7

What a quiet and humble way for the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, to enter this tumultuous and violent world. The world still battles each other, but occasionally it pauses to remember Jesus. However, may you, the followers of Jesus, let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, at all times and in all ways, even in the midst of this world of viciousness.

Pastor John



The Gospel Challenge: December

The challenge: This year read and meditate through the gospels. Begin each day (you may choose another time) and for at least 15 minutes read and ponder the gospel reading for the day. Before you begin each reading, ask God to help you know Jesus more. For added benefit to your life, write down every insight you gain from that time or from your thoughts about the gospel as you think of it throughout the day.

Each month I will give you the next month's readings. (It will take three months to go through each gospel.) Note: I will give you 25 readings for a month. If you miss a day, you may catch up another day.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. John 14:1-14 | 10. John 17:1-5 | 19. John 19:38-42 |
| 2. John 14:15-21 | 11. John 17:6-19 | 20. John 20:1-9 |
| 3. John 14:22-31 | 12. John 17:20-26 | 21. John 20:10-18 |
| 4. John 15:1-8 | 13. John 18:1-18 | 22. John 20:19-23 |
| 5. John 15:9-17 | 14. John 18:19-27 | 23. John 20:24-31 |
| 6. John 15:18-27 | 15. John 18:28-40 | 24. John 21:1-14 |
| 7. John 16:1-11 | 16. John 19:1-16 | 25. John 21:15-25 |
| 8. John 16:12-24 | 17. John 19:17-27 | |
| 9. John 16:25-33 | 18. John 19:28-37 | |

Plan created by NavPress as part The Discipleship
Journal Reading Plan
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11.20.20

Nippon NEWSFLASH



“...For the joy of the LORD is your strength.”
Nehemiah 8:10



These were our 5 students for the fall term.
(Dominic, Isaac, Nick, Peter, Kazue)

Dominic's Salvation!

We praise the Lord for answering our prayers and bringing Dominic to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ! On the last day of SYME this fall, he decided to put his trust in Jesus. God used many family trials, physical trials, and Christians to pour into his life and bring him to the place of seeing his need for a Savior. Please continue to pray for him that he will return to SYME next year to finish two more terms in order to graduate from the SYME program. Dominic comes from a mostly unsaved family, so we want to have the opportunity to disciple him as a new believer.

Relationship Building Opportunities

Julia (Japanese co-worker) and I had the privilege of spending some extra time with one of our English Café students by going to a cooking class in town. When Julia shared the gospel with her during our International Café event, she seemed very closed-minded and uninterested. There have been other times at café that we have discussed spiritual things; and she seems to put up a wall. However, in spite of that, she continues to come regularly to café and has also talked about visiting a nearby tourist town for fun sometime. It is encouraging to see her desire to get to know us more outside of English Café. Pray for God to open her heart to the gospel and for wisdom in being a testimony to her.

Word of the Month:

聖書 (seisho) Bible

The first character in “seisho” (bible) means holy. The second character means book. It is a Holy Book!

Praises & Prayer

Praise God for the opportunity to help our co-workers, the Koike's, in northern Japan by assisting their online English classes for kids.

Pray for more students for next year. We would love to have 10-12.

Wisdom to find a new apartment that will help meet the needs of our interns and guests.

These are the elementary girls I have been doing English practice with online! They are so cute and fun!



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FROM THE OBERHOLERS



Brethren in Christ U.S.
WORLD MISSIONS

Hello Prayer Warriors,

As is the case with other parts of the country and the world, Covid numbers are on the rise here in the Four Corners Region. As a result, the state of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation have imposed lockdowns for the next several weeks, or maybe longer. While many in our region understand the importance of controlling the spread; most people are so exasperated and weary of the government's orders. Not being able to gather with family and friends for the Holiday season seems to have added insult to injury. Here are a few Covid related requests you can join us in praying over the Four Corners Region.

- Pray for restored health for those who are recovering from the virus and for peace for those who've lost loved-ones. Pray peace for those whose lives are being turned upside-down because of the lockdowns. Pray also for the children who don't fully understand why holiday traditions are being canceled.
- Pray for all Christians in our region to be a positive witness for Jesus. Pray for local pastors and churches to be voices of truth and reason and not voices that add to the confusion and negativity.
- We need wisdom for our Sunday morning gathering. Do we keep meeting as normal, should we create a second meeting time/location, do we cancel all in-person gatherings?
- Pray above all for the Lord to be glorified!

We praise God that Jason's contacts with the fire department has led us into a relationship with a Navajo lady Loraine, who joined us at one of our church groups recently. Not only does Loraine desire to worship with us regularly, she is praying for her children and grandchildren to attend as well. Join us in praying for Loraine's children to make it a priority to gather for worship and fellowship. Pray for her family members who have not yet made a decision to accept Christ as Lord.

Jason and Bekah continue to have regular contact with various members of the Begay family. The whole family has shown interest in attending our Sunday morning group, however, on two different occasions they had vehicle problems that derailed their plans for coming to church. Pray against any spiritual attacks that might be preventing the Begays and other Navajo families from fully experiencing God's purposes for them.

Our family's Thanksgiving celebrations expect to look a lot different this year. Instead of carrying on the tradition of inviting guests in our home for a large meal, we plan to celebrate just as a family. Pray for us to have creativity and opportunities in the midst of the limitation to still show the love of Christ to our friends and neighbors!

Blessings to all!

Jason, Rebekah, Christy, Abby, Jessie, Caleb, Josh, & Amos

We serve with Brethren in Christ U.S. World Missions. Contributions preferenced for our ministry may be sent to BIC U.S., 431 Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-5812 or donated online

For
Unto
us a
CHILD
is born
Unto us a Son
is given, and the
Government shall be
Upon His shoulders,
and His Name shall be called,
Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace!
Isaiah 9:6

Church Board Highlights

- The church board motioned to accept the Personnel Committee Roster.
- The church board motioned to accept the 2021 proposed budget of \$247,940 through congregational approval at the December Personnel and Finance Council.
- A motion was accepted to allow outside groups to use our facility with a building use agreement and insurance.
 - This has been sent to the Property Managers to discuss.

December Spiritual Exercise:

Just as God the Father gave us the gift of Jesus in our spiritual poverty, and just as the Magi gave gifts to poor family of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, so also give gifts to those in need. Give a gift to those in financial need, such as a sweatshirt for the Christmas Outreach.

Also, give a gift to those in spiritual need:

Look, Love, Listen, Learn, and Lead.



The Christmas Backstory

We enter the Christmas Story too late. We consider Jesus's coming, but we forget that He had to leave where He was to come to where we are. We are so thrilled by the baby in the manger that we don't pause to remember who that baby is. We forget that the eternal Son of God left the Father's presence, which He had known and enjoyed since before time began, in order to become—amazingly—that baby in that manger.

This should take our breath away! It should cause us to ponder the glory He left and to contemplate the darkness into which He came. Think of the perfect relationship He left behind to embrace the brokenness that our rebellion had inflicted upon His creation. And think of the privileges and positions He set aside so He could come to serve—when in reality He deserved to be served.

Excerpt from "Before Christmas" by Bill Crowder

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and use the link below,

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Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase
to Air Hill Brethren in Christ Church
every time you shop. An easy way to give
to the ministry of Air Hill Church.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1142759>

*For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.*

(Luke 2:11)



DECEMBER

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 6:30 Prop. Mgt 7 pm Praise/ Prayer	2	3 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	4 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	5
6 9 am Worship 10:15 S.S. 11 am Worship	7	8 7 pm Praise/ Prayer	9	10 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	11 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	12 10-5 Gym in Use
13 9 am Worship 10:15 Council 11 am Worship	14 8:30 am Ladies Sewing 7 pm Church Board	15 7 pm Praise/ Prayer	16	17 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	18 5:30-8 pm Gym in Use	19 9-9 Gym in Use
20 9 am Worship 10:15 S.S. 11 am Worship 12-5 Gym in Use 6:30 Christmas Caroling	21	22 7 pm Praise/ Prayer	23	24 10-4 Gym in Use 7 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 10-8 Annex in 	26 11-3 Gym in Use 1-8 Annex in Use
27 9 am Worship 10:15 S.S. 11 am Worship	28	29 7 pm Praise/ Prayer	30	31	2021 Happy New Year	