

WESTSIDE story

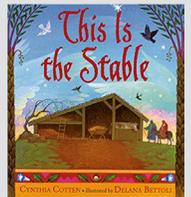
Church Events

- **Dec 10** Children's Christmas Program
- **Dec 15** Movie Nite: *I'm Not Ashamed*
- **Dec 17** The Cantata & Carry-In to Follow; No Evening Service
- **Dec 24** No Evening Service
- **Dec 25** Merry Christmas!
- **Dec 31** Marriage Retreat Registrations Due!; No Evening Service
- **Jan 1** Happy New Year!
- **Jan 14** Soup Swap @ 6p
- **Jan 26-28** Marriage Retreat at Gull Lake Ministries

5 Recommended Childrens Books for the Christmas Season!

(Recommended by blogger: Jacquie Fisher)

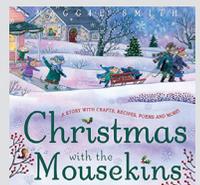
This Is the Stable is a beautifully illustrated version of the first Christmas. Kids will enjoy the rhyming verse and flow of the story as they learn who visited Bethlehem that night. If you have a play manger scene like this , this is an awesome book to pair with it during Advent!



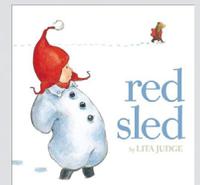
Mortimer's Christmas Manger is about a mouse who doesn't like his mouse hole -- it's cold and dark and lonely. So when he happens upon a manger scene one night, he thinks it's the perfect place for a mouse his size! Wonderful illustrations add to this great story of the true meaning of Christmas; kids will love following Mortimer's journey!



Christmas with the Mousekins is a newer book that quickly became one of our favorites! The Mousekin family is preparing for Christmas and readers can follow along & do activities with them. The book includes easy crafts, recipes, poems and stories. It's a great book to inspire fun, handmade decorations for your house!



Red Sled shows what happens when the woodland animals take a red sled out for some nighttime fun. The outstanding illustrations and sparse text make this wonderfully enjoyable and sometimes laugh out loud funny! I just love the pictures in this mostly wordless picture book!



Christmas Is Coming! is another wonderful book to read on Christmas Eve day! Juliette and her parents are getting ready for Christmas Day baking cookies, decorating the tree, wrapping gifts. I love the gold-tipped illustrations in this book - the pages look like they glow as you read!



Visit the church library for other great books and movies!



Reaching and Teaching Our World for Christ

Maximizing Everyday Moments in Your Marriage

(excerpt from Focus on the Family)

By Greg Smalley

It takes time together to keep a relationship strong and vibrant. We all “get” that marriage doesn’t have cruise control or an autopilot setting. The problem with most marriages isn’t that we don’t know we should spend time together; the problem is that we’re too busy.

Fortunately, the solution is simple. Instead of waiting for long, uninterrupted blocks of time to strengthen your marriage, take advantage of key moments that happen every day. I call this “maximizing everyday relationship moments.” Let me describe a couple of these potential moments:

Saying goodbye and hello. On a typical day, one or both of you will leave the house in the morning. How you say goodbye to your spouse can strengthen your marriage. The key is to kiss your spouse before he or she leaves the house. I’m not talking about a pathetic kiss where you lean forward and barely graze your spouse’s lips. I’m talking about a real, five-second kiss! You’re not adding anything new to your busy plate; you’re just taking advantage of a moment that will happen anyway.

How do you greet your spouse when he or she arrives home at the end of the day? The key to maximizing this moment is to use attention, excitement and affection. Walk over, give your spouse a kiss and say, “Welcome home. I’m glad you’re back.” This sets a positive tone for the rest of your evening together.

Saying good night. There are at least two unique opportunities to strengthen your marriage when you say good night. The first is to express gratitude. Thank your spouse for something specific: “Thanks for being a great provider” or “Thanks for washing the dishes.” The other opportunity is to pray together. Imagine how strong your marriage could be if the last thing your spouse heard before falling asleep was you praying for him or her.

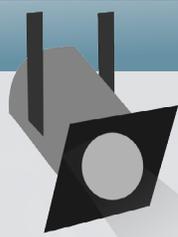
Marriage Retreat

visit www.westmissionarychurch.com/marriage-retreat for details and registration!

Registrations are due Dec. 31

Join us at Gull Lake Ministries as we go through the
Deep Love Assessment!





get to know *The Greggs*

Josh and Julie Gregg first met on a blind date in high school. They have been married for almost 10 years and were blessed with their first child, Liam, in November 2016.

Josh is a graduate of South Adams High School. He is the Assistant General Manager of NRP, a company just outside of Montpelier, ever since the facility was first built six years ago.

Julie is a graduate of Bluffton High School. She completed her undergraduate degree at Anderson University and graduate degree at Ball State University. She has been in the Jay School Corporation for ten years and is currently the principal of General Shanks Elementary.



Liam, their son, loves exploring new things, music, and playing with Mom and Dad. They also have a dog named Nawla. As a family, they love to swim, play games, read books together and go on vacation - especially to the beach!

The Gregg's favorite family verse is from Joshua 1:9, *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."*

Vice President Pence to Visit Israel and Egypt in December

(excerpt from CBN News)

Vice President Mike Pence announced in October that he will travel to Israel and Egypt in late December at President Donald Trump's request.

Pence made the announcement in Washington in keynote remarks at In Defense of Christians' annual solidarity dinner for Christians in the Middle East.

He said he'll deliver a message during the trip "that now is the time to end the persecution of Christians and all religious minorities."

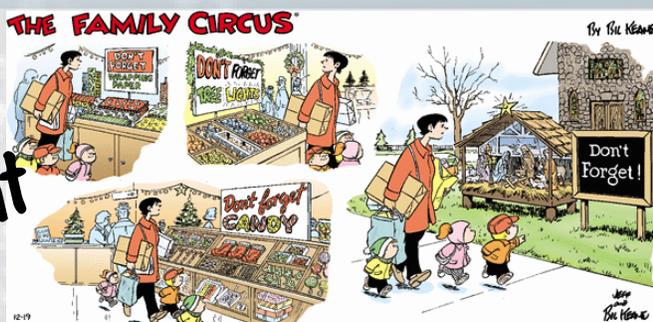
The vice president will visit Israel during Hanukkah. He'll discuss the prospects for a Middle East peace agreement in separate meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Pence is also expected to address U.S. policy toward Iran and highlight Israel's space program.

Pence will meet with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi and highlight U.S.-Egypt cooperation on security issues. Pence also plans meetings with government and religious leaders to discuss combating the persecution of religious minorities, including Christians, in the broader Middle East.



Family Thought



The Magic of Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence

Sundays

Sunday School: 9:00am

Morning Service: 10:00 am

Nursery and Children's Services Available (am)

Unity 66 Youth Group: 6:30pm

Evening Service: 7:00 pm

Wednesdays

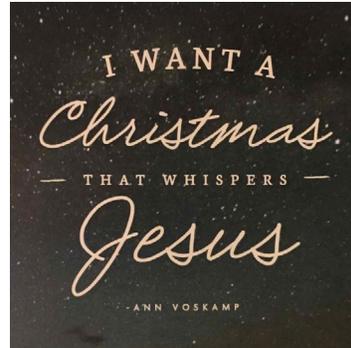
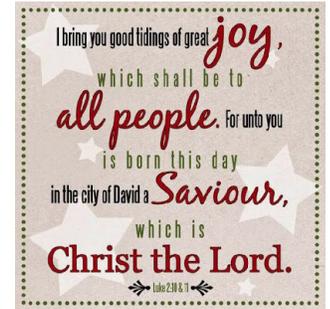
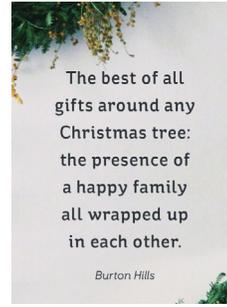
AWANA: 6:30pm

Unity 66 Fellowship: 6:30pm

Bible Study: 7:00pm

Nursery Available

CHRISTMAS QUOTES



West Missionary Church
1223 W. Water St.
Berne, IN 46711