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Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship Service.....10:15 a.m.  
Sunday Night Services.....6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Cable Channel 13 \* Local 25  
Worship Service.....8:00 a.m.  
Sunday & Wednesday Evening.....8:00p.m.  
Church Office: .....273-1278



*From the Mess on the Desk of Van*

I will be finishing up F<sup>2</sup> in a couple of weeks. Some of you might be ready for me to move on, but consider this; Jesus' ministry for three years was all about announcing and giving a call to people to have the opportunity to follow Him. The co-creator of the universe and of men's souls is giving an invitation for all of us to be a disciple of His. Not just know about Him, but to be able to choose to follow His example and be like Him. Can you believe this? Jesus allows us this opportunity! Most people don't realize the privilege that's being offered to them. Look at the list of those who got a chance to hear, see and respond. Simon, his brother Peter, Nathaniel, Nicodemus, Samaritan woman, a royal official, the Sanhedrin, invalids, demon-possessed, thousands, Lazarus, Mary, Martha, Judas Iscariot, Zacchaeus, rich man, poor widow. Some said yes to the commitment of following Jesus. Others said no. Many thought being a fan and cheering for Jesus from the bleachers would be Godly enough. It sounds good, yet it doesn't pass the test. Read Matthew 16:21—27 and then be honest with yourself. (Trust me, Jesus already knows where you stand). Ask yourself two simple questions.

- 1. Do I want to be like Jesus?
- 2. Do I care passionately about what Jesus cares about?

I'll tell you what you should like about Paul. He spoke it the way it is. Not the way it was. The way it still is! "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-unless, of course, you fail the test?" Paul - II Corinthians 13:5

Christ is in me and I am growing more Christ-like. Is He in you? Will you join me?

—Van

# THE CHALLENGER

HILLSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*Love God and Serve Him Faithfully*

Volume 26

December 2011

Issue 12

*As A Baby Jesus Came*

As a baby Jesus came  
From His home above  
He left His throne and who He was  
To teach us how to love

As a baby Jesus came  
Wrapped in swaddling cloth  
Willingly took on humanity  
Though He was one with God

As a baby Jesus came  
To one day grow to be  
The saviour of the human race  
People like you and me

As a baby Jesus came  
As God's eternal light  
That will never be extinguished  
But forever shine out bright

As a baby Jesus came  
The hope of eternal life  
Reconciling us back to God  
Giving meaning to our lives

As a man Jesus died  
His blood poured out for all  
Cleansing and forgiving us  
For to this He was called

We thank Him that He came a babe  
And grew to be a man  
And for His sacrificial love  
His nailed scarred feet and hands

Through it all we can live on  
With Jesus Christ our Lord  
The babe that came that first Christmas  
Is what we thank Him for

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**Our Annual Holiday Dinner will be on December 4, 2011 at 6:00 pm in the Family Life Center. Joyful Noise will be providing a Christmas Concert. Please bring two of the following three items: vegetable, salad or dessert. Please come and enjoy.**



*Merry Christmas*

## MISSION MOMENTS

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work in a closed country? What about working in two closed countries at the same time? Our mission focus this month is on a group that does just that. CRAM (Christ Reaching Asia Missions Worldwide) is a ministry directed by C.Y. and Patricia Kim. C.Y. is a native of South Korea. Patricia is from the States. The two met while they were students at Johnson Bible College in Tennessee. They incorporated CRAM in 1998.

After working several years in South Korea, they felt the call to work in other areas of Asia. At the present time CRAM is working in Hunchun, China, and in nearby North Korea. (At one time they also were establishing an orphanage in Vietnam, but that door has closed for the present.)

God has provided many open doors for CRAM to work in two of the most difficult areas of the world. In North Korea, much of their work centers in a city called Rajin. There they have an orphanage called The Morning Star Children's Home. This home provides for 85 children from the ages of 1 through 17. This orphanage has led to the construction of a home for youth over 18 who, for various reasons, will probably not be able to find employment. The Morning Star Home for Youth was dedicated in June and will provide for 192 young people as they receive training for various trades and skills.

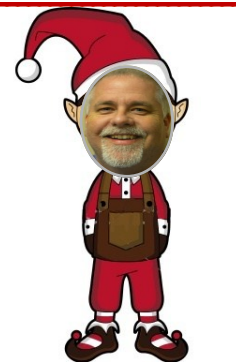
In China CRAM has established the Hunchun Special Education School. This school meets the needs of special children. One of the teaching methods used in working with these children is Hippotherapy—using horses to help the children in their development.

Other projects in China include the Good News Bakery, which provides on the job training for students, as well as providing food for people in North Korea. The Hope Farm raises both livestock and crops to help provide food for the school. There is also the Burning Heart Ranch where the Hippotherapy Program is conducted.

Similar programs are also provided in North Korea.

C.Y. and Pat are always encouraging people to come and work with them in this very important work for the Lord. More information can be found at their website:

[www.cramwinc.org](http://www.cramwinc.org) or contacting them by e-mail at [cramwinc@cramwinc.org](mailto:cramwinc@cramwinc.org).



## From the Desk of Larry Osborn

*Sometimes the Youth Minister position is overlooked and the many cards and gifts during Pastor Appreciation Month meant a lot to me. I'm grateful to this congregation for recognizing this specialized ministry and so I and the youth of Hillside Christian Church are very grateful.*

*Now that we are into the holiday season, I want to encourage you to share the "reason for the season" as has been said many times before.*

*These past two months have seen a lot of growth in our youth ministry. Our mentor program on Wednesday nights has been awesome. Mentors have been sharing stories of how they are connecting with students and students have been sharing how the adults are pretty cool.*

*Our student leaders have stepped up to learn how to lead and be involved in the life of the church. I have really enjoyed working with these students.*

*We will be having a Dodge ball tournament on December 28th to raise money for the Rapha House in Joplin.*



*It's hard to believe, but one year ago, Robin, Alex and I rolled into Nowata, Oklahoma. You have accepted us, befriended us and given much love to our family. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of the work for the Kingdom of God here at Hillside. We love this congregation!*

*The Longbons*

F.Y.I.

There will be no evening service on December 25th or January 1st.



### NOTICE

*The church office will be closed on November 24th & 25th, December 26th and January 2nd.*

## Notes of Thanks

Thank you for letting us use the Family Life Center rent free for our "Women of All Walks" luncheon. It was a great success! You helped us to bless many women of our community and to be blessed in return. Thanks again!

Kim Thomas  
Nowata County  
Christian Women

I am so thankful for all the prayers including those on the prayer chain and for the cards from all who sent them. I really do appreciate everyone at HCC. I love everyone of you.  
Lewie

*In the spirit of the season  
We have found the perfect  
Reason to gather  
Family and friends...  
James Alexander Reinsager  
And  
Kelly Lynn Noblitt  
Request the honor  
Of your presence  
At their marriage  
Friday, the Twenty Third of December  
Two Thousand Eleven  
At Five Thirty in the evening  
First United Methodist Church  
500 South Johnstone Ave  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma  
Reception to follow in  
Wesley Hall*

### Tips For Reducing Holiday Stress

With our overcommitted schedules, it is often difficult to avoid stressing out over the holidays. Here are a few ideas to help keep you sane during this stressful time.

1. **Take care of yourself.** Remember to eat well, sleep well, and exercise. You will have much more energy to make things special for your family. Have healthy snacks on hand to curb the holiday munching on cookies and candies.
2. **Set limits and a budget.** Make a list of all of the people you have to buy for and how much you plan to spend on each person. Keep a running list of the gifts you have purchased. This will keep you from overspending.
3. **Be realistic.** Sit down with a calendar and set realistic goals. How much time do you have each week to devote to shopping and cooking? Block out time on your schedule to prioritize the most important things.
4. **Do not expect perfection.** Unrealistic expectations are a major cause of stress.
5. **Delegate.** Ask for help with shopping and food preparation. Ask everyone to bring along a dish to family get-togethers. This spreads the expense and the time.
6. **Prioritize.** Remember that you don't have to attend every open house and holiday party. Practice saying, "No thank you. We already have plans for that date but thank you for the invitation."
7. **Don't forget to breathe.** Take three deep cleansing breaths each morning and each evening. This will help keep the oxygen flowing and you will recall this skill during times of high stress.

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