



**December
2016**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
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Loves Park, IL 61111**

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If we have missed your birthday or someone else's, please contact the office to inform us.

- 5 Judy Kloster
- 10 Theresa Thode
- 11 Scott Saylor
- 17 Katie Clow
- 18 Jane Block
- 21 Marty Barker
- Tina Leinbaugh
- 22 Virgil Smith
- 24 Jim Hardin
- 25 Cole White

Contacting Pastor Mitch
Call or Text
(815) 391-3133
Email: mitch@ihgg.net
Blog: IHGG.NET

A CHRISTMAS VERSE

BY EUGENE FIELD

Why do the bells of Christmas ring?
Why do little children sing?

Once a lovely shining star,
Seen by shepherds from afar,
Gently moved until its light
Made a manger's cradle bright.

There a darling baby lay,
Pillowed soft upon the hay.
And its mother sung and smiled:
"This is Christ, the holy Child!"

Therefore bells for Christmas ring,
Therefore little children sing.

<http://www.accuracyproject.org/t-ChristmasPoems.html>

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Morning
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:25 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesdays
5:30-6:15 Meal
6:30 - 8:00 AWANA
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

NO Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day

NO Sunday School

Worship Service @ 10:25



No AWANA
Or Adult Bible Study
December 21st or 28th

Gift & Devotional Reading Recommendations

Tired of the bad taste in your mouth from the year of political turmoil? Are you ready to cleanse your palate from all the political mud-slinging? It is Advent, a good time to shift our eyes from human attempt to fix our problems to God's perfect solution for humanity's corruption. The greatest gift of Christmas is the opportunity to remember the greatest of all gifts given by God Himself. While I give you the book price at Amazon.com most of these can be found at Christianbook.com and a few can be found at the local bookstore.

Advent Reading Choices

As is typical of John Piper's advent books, this is a collection of two or three page readings for each day of December leading up to Christmas Day. These are excellent books to buy for yourself or give as a gift.

The Dawning of Indestructible Joy: Daily Readings for Advent – by John Piper

\$6.23 paperback or \$5.92 kindle at Amazon.com

Good News of Great Joy: Daily Readings for Advent – by John Piper

\$7.99 paperback or \$2.99 at Amazon.com

For the family with younger kids. Once you get them into the story, your kids will ask to read from these three books as they tell three converging advent stories. Our kids loved them. They have a reading for each day of Advent, so four books give you the next four years of advent reading. Buy one and try it.

Jotham's Journey: A Storybook for Advent – by Arnold Ytreeide

\$11.31 paperback or \$15.99 kindle at Amazon.com

Bartholomew's Passage: A Family Story for Advent – by Arnold Ytreeide

\$15.80 paperback or \$9.99 kindle at Amazon.com

Tabitha's Travels: A Family Story for Advent – by Arnold Ytreeide

\$11.31 paperback or \$9.99 kindle at Amazon.com

Ishtar's Odyssey: A Family Story for Advent – by Arnold Ytreeide

\$13.55 paperback or \$15.99 kindle at Amazon.com

Gift Ideas:

Dangerous Journey is a wonderfully illustrated abridged version of John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. This is a great gift idea for your kids or grandkids, even those who are non-believers. Even the oldest adult will enjoy looking at the illustrations as well as reading this time honored story about Pilgrim's journey to the Celestial City. This is also a good coffee table type book as well.

Dangerous Journey: The Story of Pilgrim's Progress – by Oliver Hunkin

\$17.53 Hardcover at Amazon.com

Gifts for older readers looking for good devotional material

Voices from the Past: Puritan Devotional Readings – by Richard Rushing

\$22.40 cloth-bound or \$16.00 kindle at Banneroftruth.org

A Year with C.S. Lewis: Daily Readings from His Classic Works

\$20.29 Hardcover \$10.49 Kindle at Amazon.com

The One Year Christian History (One Year Books) – by E. Michael Rusten

\$10.59 paperback \$9.99 kindle at Amazon.com

Enjoy a good read over the Advent Season & give gifts that will encourage others to read as well.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch