



## Christmas Events:

**Nominate a Family:** Do you know someone that can use a helping hand this Christmas? Complete a form at the CLC welcome center and return it to our office asap. The applicant must attend our December 10th service to receive their gift from the church.

**Christmas Caroling:** Wednesday Dec. 20th from 6-8p.m. Adults will be going to Woodhaven and The Extreme Teens will be going to the Trafford Highrise. For more information contact our office.

**Childrens Church:** Christmas Program Dec. 17th during service. Practice on the 16th.

**Candlelight Service:** Sunday Dec. 24th at 7pm.

# Merry Christmas!

## Children's Church News:

Kids Pre-K to 6th grade will be practicing for the Christmas Program Saturday Dec. 16th @ 4pm. Pizza will be served following the practice. The Christmas Program will be presented on Dec. 17th during service.



## Sign ups for Toys for Tots are as follows:

December 2nd from 4pm - 6pm  
Pick up for Toys for Tots is on Thursday December 21st from 5pm - 7pm. Please come between these hours.

There will be donation boxes in CLC's lobby for anyone interested in donating new toys to toys for tots. If you have any questions please contact our church office during normal business hours.

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Or Current Resident

Christian Life Church  
900 7th Street Extension  
Trafford, PA 15085

Matthew 1: 21, "And she will  
bring forth a son, and you  
shall call him Jesus, for he  
will save his people from  
their sins." NKJV

# December 2017 CLC Newsletter Merry Christmas!



# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR GARY SIMPSON

## "Faith and Christmas"

One of my favorite Christmas songs is Mark Lowry's "Mary Did You Know?" The lyrics go like this: Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new; This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you? Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod, and when you kiss your little baby you've kissed the face of God? Mary, did you know? The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again, the lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb! Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations? Did you know that your baby boy was Heaven's perfect Lamb, and the sleeping Child you're holding is the great, the Great I AM? Oh, Mary, Mary, did you know? There are some who believe that Mary was divine and equal with God but Scripture never says this. If she were divine she would have known the answers to all the questions in this song.

Christ's supernatural power, His ability to walk on water, save souls, heal diseases of all kinds, control the weather even the very fact that He was God would have been evident to her. But it wasn't. When the Angel Gabriel visited her to tell her what she was chosen to do, Luke Chapter 1 tells us she was ... "Greatly troubled at his words and wondered ... what they meant." She asked, "How will this be?" An interesting thing about the Christmas story is the amount of uncertainty involved. The Jews knew that God promised to send "Messiah", one who would deliver them, but they didn't know who it would be or when He would come. The Magi heard that a king of the Jews would be born and they followed a star but they had no idea where they were going. When Mary first told Joseph she was pregnant with the Child of God he didn't believe her. When an angel of the Lord appeared to some shepherds in the field, they were terrified. We have the luxury of hindsight because we can read the nativity story in the Bible, but none of these people had that. They were confused and frightened because they didn't know what was going on. They were uncertain. There is only one remedy for uncertainty.

It's called faith. You have to choose to believe, then live in the confidence that you've made the right choice. Mary believed the Angel Gabriel. The Magi believed and the star led them to Bethlehem. The Shepherds believed the angel of the Lord and found the baby in the manger. They all took a step of faith and were rewarded by being involved in the greatest event in the history of mankind. How about you? Are you uncertain about who Jesus is and why He came? Skeptics and critics demand scientific proof. Angels, a virgin birth, a special star and God becoming man is all foolishness to them. They can't handle the uncertainties because they don't have any faith. But to those of us who believe in the nativity story, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ display the power of God. We believe because we have faith and the Bible says ... "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and CERTAIN of what we do not see." (Heb. 11:1). Do you believe the Christmas Story? If you're not sure, you can be. You can be certain that God sent His one and only Son to Earth to save mankind, and that includes you. All you have to do is have faith.

*Merry Christmas*

## Sunday Mornings

9:30am Sunday School & Extreme Teen Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service & Kids Church  
Nursery & Pre-K available during service

## Wednesday Nights

7:00 pm Recovery Group (classroom 1)  
Extreme Youth(7th-12th) - Kids (birth-6th)  
Women's Growth Group  
Bible Basics in the Sanctuary

To Find your Growth Group, stop by the Welcome Desk, email [info@christianlife.net](mailto:info@christianlife.net), or call the office between Tuesday and Friday @ 412-856-4420 for more information. Thank you.

## Location

900 7th Street Ext, Trafford, PA 15085  
412-856-4420 office hours Tues. - Fri. 9:00am -5:00pm  
[clc@christianlife.net](mailto:clc@christianlife.net)

## Need Prayer?

Email [prayer@christianlife.net](mailto:prayer@christianlife.net)  
Lead Pastor Rev. Gary Simpson  
Children's Directors Mike & Jeanne Robinson  
Worship Leader Ryan Bradley

We are collecting chocolate this month for the local food bank if you would like to donate please feel free to drop them off in our lobby. Thank you for giving so generously! Many blessings!!!

## Upcoming Events

### Extreme Teen News:

Extreme Ugly Sweater Christmas Party on Dec. 13th from 6-8:30. Wear your ugly Christmas sweaters and come prepared to have a fun night of fellowship.

The Extreme CLC teens are collecting 500 canned goods for our local food bank. If you wish to contribute to this please give it to a teen by the end of the month. Thank you for your support.

### Children's Church News:

**Children's Christmas Program** is December 17th during regular service. Practice will be Dec. 16th @ 4pm pizza to follow.

### BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

#### Birthdays

3rd - Jeff Warman	23rd - Gary Earhart
7th - Dave Helmstatder	Kayla Kunkle
8th - Gary Simpson	24th - Mike Wolski
Melanie Johns	26th - Russ Whiteside
17th - George Adamson	28th - Gary Earhart Jr.
Gretchen Laux	29th - Gillian Ritchie
20th - Roy Fink	Lissa Brown

#### Anniversaries:

10th - Robert & Charlene Hodder  
27th - Larry & Colleen Wilson



## Monthly Groups @ CLC!

**Hooked on Helping**, Crocheting group that will be meeting in classroom 1, Dec 7th and 21st. Any individual that is interested in learning and/or knows how to crochet is welcome! Learn a skill or help mentor others. Have a relaxing time of fellowship, charity, and encouragement!

**Extending Hands**, February 1st & 2nd. Feeds the homeless and needy in Pittsburgh. Come lend a hand to help prepare the food on Thursday and or serve it on Friday in Pittsburgh. All help is welcome.

**First Friday Worship & Prayer**, December 1st. Everyone is welcome to come and join in worship and prayer!

**Word Seekers**, Bible study will be meeting at 7pm at the Whiteside's on Dec. 8th.

**Womens Daylight Small Group**, will not be meeting until April under the leadership of Joyce Fink.

**Pack and Pray**, check weekly bulletin for dates and times. For more information please contact Jesse or Emily Simpson.

## CLC DOOR KEYS

Due to an upgrade in our security system, we need to verify all key holders to the church. If you have a door key, please stop by the office during normal business hours, this week. Thank you and have a blessed month!!

