

# Youth News

## Preparing for Christmas

Every year, when stores begin playing Christmas carols, being at church feels a bit like we're dragging our feet. We spend all our time talking about having to wait and having to prepare for the Christ child, but we don't do anything that feels all that... Christmasy. Sure, we put out our Christmas decorations. We get to have Christmas treats during coffee hour. But something seems to be missing. Oh wait! We don't sing any Christmas music! Ok... that's not quite true, we sing a lot during Lessons and Carols, but... that's only one Sunday!

Our hymnal is full of them – *We Three Kings, Silent Night, O Little Town of Bethlehem!* There are so many, can't we sing a few each week instead of pushing them all into one Sunday or waiting until Christmas Eve?! Believe it or not, there is a reason for waiting – Advent!

Advent is the first season of the Christian year. It is the season of waiting and preparation. It is the time we set aside to remember the story of Jesus' birth from its beginning (we talk about the prophecy heard in Isaiah that foretold the birth of a Savior) to its end (the night Jesus was born in a manger). We focus on the waiting because it reminds us of the time when we were without Christ and we try to refrain from singing Christmas hymns because, well, Jesus isn't born yet!

Now, I still sing carols in my car... but that doesn't mean I don't remember that Advent is for preparation and waiting. Besides, that makes Christmas day all the more exciting!

Have Patient Advent a Merry Christmas!

### Senior High

### Chaos

December 1 – Serving Others

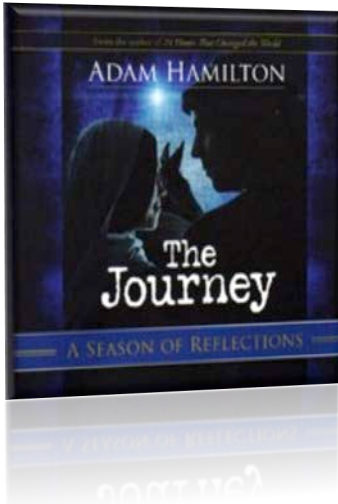
December 8 – What is Advent?

December 15 – Christmas Party!

December 4 – Preparing...

December 11 – Waiting...

December 15 – Christmas Party!



Starting December 4 the Youth Sunday School will be starting a study called "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem." Everyone in our church will be studying this either in their own Sunday School class or in

worship--the Advent sermon series will be based on "The Journey" too!

If you've never been to Sunday School before, or haven't been for a long time, this would be a great time to start up again! Hope you'll join us in Sunday School during Advent!

- Pastor Jonathan

# PICTURES!

Sr. High Scavenger Downtown Scavenger Hunt!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>Calendar!</b>				1 Sr. High Youth Group! 7-9pm	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:15am Chaos 5-7	5	6	7	8 Sr. High Youth Group! 7-9pm	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:15am Chaos 5-7	12	13	<b>CHRISTMAS PARTY!</b>  <b>DECEMBER 15</b> CHAOS – 6-7:30pm SENIOR HIGH – 7-9:00pm			17
18 Sunday School 9:15am  NO CHAOS	19	20				24
25  NO S.S NO CHAOS	26	27	28	NO SENIOR HIGH YOUTH DEC. 23 OR 29	30	31