



ENCOURAGE...
LOVE...
HOPE...
FAITH...
DECEMBER 2013

DECEMBER 2013

UPCOMING WEEKENDS

Men's #50
March 20-23, 2014
Ben Wilds • Rector

Women's #50
April 3-6, 2014
Jo Arrington • Rector

Men's #51
October 2-5, 2014
Jim Arrington • Rector

Women's #51
October 16-19, 2014
Lillian Arrington • Rector

THE GIFT OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

Blessed be the name of the Lord! From this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its going down The Lord's name is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations, His glory above the heavens. Psalm 113:2-4

What Christmas traditions do you enjoy? Maybe you always bake cookies, decorate the tree at a specific time, or read the Christmas story before you open gifts— and maybe you've been doing these things for years, if not generations. But maybe some traditions have changed with time. The rich, buttery cookies Great-Grandma baked have been replaced by healthier oatmeal bars, or the tree gets decorated whenever a large group of family members is under the roof at the same time.

Unlike some of our Christmas traditions, our God does not change from year to year, from generation to generation, or even from century to century. He who came as a Baby to the manger in Bethlehem still comes to us— as risen King—whatever our humble circumstances. May we, in turn, go out to others in his name to share his love and grace.

The Son of God, eternal throughout time, infinite in every way, entered the confines of a twenty-four-hour day and the finiteness of a human body in order to dwell among us. And he would do more— far more—than visit and observe. Jesus left his Father's side, took on human flesh, and walked among us in order to die for us.

And God had spoken through prophets to call people to watch for the coming Messiah. He sent angels to announce Jesus' birth, and Jesus revealed his identity through his signs and miracles and teaching—and his death and resurrection. Yet many people missed him—and still miss him today.

The night our Savior was born in Bethlehem was a night like many others before it— but unlike any night since. Would you have recognized its significance? And whom will you help recognize it even now, two thousand years later?

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:15-18



**EXPECTANCY
IS THE
ATMOSPHERE
FOR MIRACLES.**
Edwin Louis Cole

**“Christmas is
 love in action.
 Everytime we love,
 every time we give,
 it's Christmas.”**
Dale Evans

As Christmas and the close of 2013 approaches, we are reminded of all of the blessings that we have. One of the amazing blessings that we have had as the newsletter couple for the last three years, is the opportunity to have been given the honor to serve the Tres Dias community as a part of the Secretariat. We experience mixed emotions, as we close out this year...we also close out our season as the newsletter couple. We have been stretched a lot, learned a lot about ourselves, developed relationships, and have allowed God to speak into and through us as we prayed, studied and prepared something to keep the community informed of upcoming events, and hopefully a little bit entertained as well. God has blessed us in amazing ways by our being willing to serve Him and the community in this capacity. Because of this experience, we would encourage others to prayerfully consider the opportunity to serve the community as a part of the Secretariat. We pray blessings on the community and are excited about Robert and Debbie Bass being able to bless the community as they begin their journey as the new newsletter couple.

Bill and Tracy Pafford • NFTD 19 • Newsletter Couple 2010-2013

LOVE...

HOPE...

FAITH...

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**May Your Christmas and New Year
 Be Filled With His Amazing Love.**

For unto you is born this day in the city of David
 a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11