

#### LAST SABBATH RECAP:

Thanks to the Breakfast Crew for a cozy and delicious Christmas “Breakfast With the Family,” to the Chisholm Trail Academy Choir for their beautiful musical concert during church, and to Pastor Alan for his inspiring message! It was all a lovely Sabbath blessing!



#### THIS SABBATH:

- Pastor Kevin will be bringing the Message of Hope: “Silent Night”
- The Offering emphasis is for Adventist Community Services (ACS), which supports the network of humanitarian programs throughout the North American Division. Your offerings are used to offer goods and services to those in need, expanding the reach of hope and wholeness to our communities.



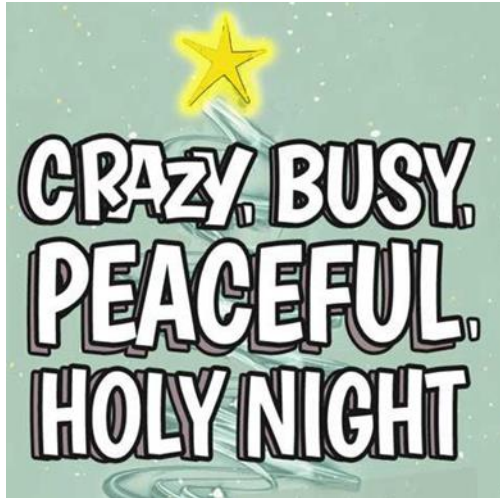
#### FROSTY FIESTA WINTER CHURCH SOCIAL:

Okay, I’ve gotten some more information on the church social this Saturday night... Not only will there be a judged Ugly Sweater contest and hot chocolate bar, but there will also be cookie decorating and Christmas ornament decorating stations. This sounds like a great family event that the kids can really get into! Bring your favorite table game(s), ugliest/gaudiest sweater, and we’ll see you at 6:00!

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS:

Get ready to enjoy these upcoming Christmas programs:

- The annual BAS Christmas play will be held on December 13th at 7:00 pm in the BAS Gymnasium. Enjoy a beautiful play acted by our 7/8th graders and sung by our PreK-8th grade choir and discover what a "Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night" is really all about. Light refreshments will be served after the program. Please remember there is additional parking in the upper lot behind the shed. Please do not park on any grassy areas. Thank you.



- On December 16, the worship service will be brought to you by our adorable children enacting the greatest story ever told, along with specials from the Church Choir and congregational carols. We hope you'll join us!

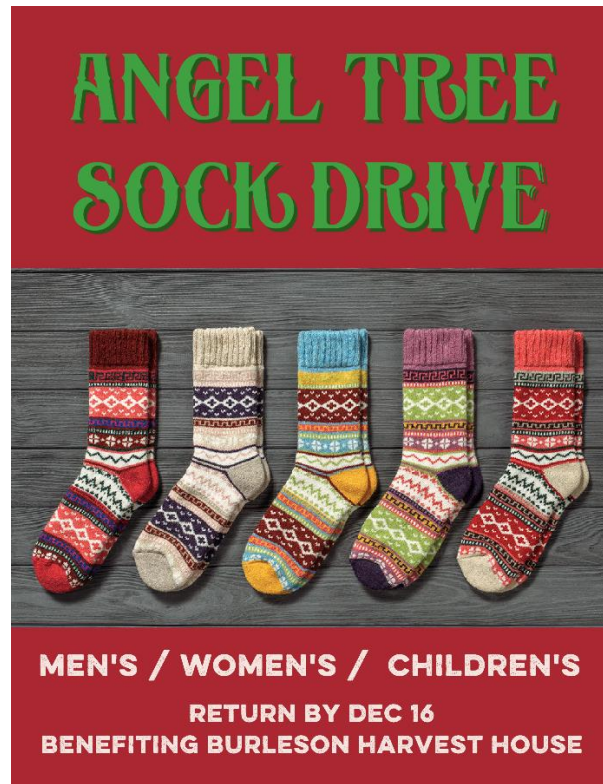


## NEXT STEP REMINDER:

All of the Next Step Women's Center staff have now been "adopted" and are being prayed over. Thank you to everyone who stepped up (pun intended) to intercede for and encourage these women and men in their important ministry. Don't forget to bring your card of encouragement and affirmation to the Connect Corner by December 16<sup>th</sup> so we can get them delivered in time for their Christmas party.

#### ANGEL TREE SOCK DRIVE:

I'm seeing pairs of socks beginning to multiply underneath the Angel Tree! From what I understand, the greatest need is for children's socks. Pick up a pack the next time you're at the store, and thank you for donating to this effort in support of the wonderful work Harvest House does in our community.



#### SWAU ALUMNI LEGACY GOLF CLASSIC:

And now, a message from Southwestern Adventist University:

Greetings Burleson Church Family. We need your support as we prepare for our upcoming April Alumni Legacy Golf Classic. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 to support, through scholarships, students who are the first in their family to attend college. This group of students especially need financial help for their sophomore and junior years. We are looking for individual and business sponsors as well as golfers and potential golfer contacts to make this golf classic a success for our students. Please contact Tom Bunch, text 817-437-0628 or at [buncht@swau.edu](mailto:buncht@swau.edu). Thanks for your help in supporting Christian education.

I leave you with a Christmas challenge: Every time you turn on your Christmas lights, recite this prophetic verse from Isaiah 60:1 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Thank you, Jesus, for stepping into this dark world and filling it with the light of your salvation!

Have a blessed week, friends. ~ Liz ~





Grace is always  
**singing  
somewhere.**  
Good news rides on  
**wings of light.**



GraceNotes

**It's a story filled with angels, and so a story filled with grace.**

**An angel reveals to an aged priest that his wife will bear a son named John. The angel Gabriel announces to a virgin that she will be the mother of the promised Messiah whose very name announces our salvation. Her fiancé—like Joseph of old, a man of dreams—is counseled by an angel to welcome the gracious plan devised by heaven to save the world.**

**Another angel declares to startled shepherds that the Messiah has been born in Bethlehem, and the night sky shines like noon as thousands of angels celebrate the grace gifted to us.**

**As the story of Jesus' birth so richly shows, grace is always reaching out to weary, broken people like us. Carpenters and homemakers, shepherds and preachers—to each of us comes the good news that “the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).**

**Every time we fear that we are desperately alone, heaven reminds us, as the poet says, that “There are angels in these fields.”**

**Grace is always singing somewhere—in our homes, our churches, and the places where we work. Good news rides on wings of light.**

**So stay in grace.**

**—Bill Knott**

#### MORE RANDOM FUN FACTS:

- The oldest person ever to have lived (whose age could be authenticated), a French woman named Jeanne Louise Calment, was 122 years old when she died in 1997.
- The oldest-known living land animal is a tortoise named Jonathan, who turned 190 years old in 2022. He was born in 1832 and has lived on the island of St. Helena in the Atlantic Ocean since 1882.
- The heart of the blue whale, the largest animal on earth, is five feet long and weighs 400 pounds. The whale in total weighs 40,000 pounds. For comparison, an elephant's heart weighs around 30 pounds. And a human heart? A mere 10 ounces. But did you know that octopuses have three hearts?
- Cows don't actually have four stomachs; they have one stomach with four compartments, and the platypus doesn't have a stomach at all; their esophagus goes straight to their intestines.