

Bear Creek Church

Services at 9:00 & 10:30am

Christmas Eve: Candlelight Service at 5:30pm

Christmas Morning: one service at 10:30am

New Year's Day: one service at 10:30am

The Christ Child:

Immanuel, God with us, a promise kept, a child. By definition, a baby is dependent on adults for everything—food, shelter, protection, and love. A baby is unable to use logic and reason. It needs constant attention. But the baby Jesus—this child created the world. This child existed before anything or anyone. This child was God. Imagine: he's the creator of the world and suddenly he feels cold and hungry. Imagine: becoming human was not a twist of fate, or a punishment from a higher being; it was a choice. God chose to give up everything—to become nothing.

This child was a King. A King in a dirty stable, wrapped in rags—but a King with a plan.

This child would bring **hope**. Not just a wish, but the confidence that God would defeat Satan, that good would win over evil.

This child would bring **peace**, even in the midst of great suffering and trials—a peace that assures his followers that he is in control even when it feels like nobody is.

This child would bring **love**—a love that would never be taken away, a love that is beyond our understanding.

And this child would bring **joy**, for he would deliver us.

CONGRATULATIONS to Nate and Nikki at the birth of little Jean (like the French for “John”), and to Scott and Violet on the birth of little Jayce. And thanks to those of you who will bless these expanding families with gifts of meals in their homes! We love babies, and especially when we are celebrating the incarnation of God as a babe.

WOMEN'S BUNCO NIGHT: Ladies, please join us for an evening of fun on Friday, January 13th, from 7-9pm, at Janis Lockridge's home. We will play a rousing game of Bunco and enjoy getting to visit with each other between rounds. Bring a snack to share if you would like. Janis' address is 4359 Navarro Springs Ave, Medford 97504

Advent is the time of year when the church prepares for the celebration of the birth of Christ so long ago, while anticipating His return. To help us in our worship, we light Advent candles to represent themes of this season. The Advent candles and readings focus on four things that God gives to us through his Son's birth: hope, peace, love, and joy. The season of Advent ends on Christmas Eve with the lighting of the Christ candle to celebrate this child, this gift, this salvation that God promised and delivered to His children.



BEAR CREEK CHURCH,
MEDFORD OREGON

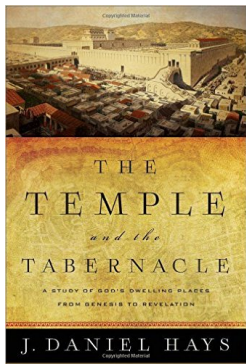


WWW.BEARCREEKCHURCH.ORG
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BEAR CREEK CHURCH
P. O. BOX 4732
MEDFORD, OR 97501

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN SEMINAR: In order to insure that our Church continues to be a safe place for our precious children, and for the sake of the protection of all children in our entire community from child sexual abuse, we are hosting two “Protect Our Children” seminars in conjunction with the Children’s Advocacy Center. We encourage all to attend, but especially any of you who have contact with our BCC kids through Sunday School, the Nursery, our Disability Ministry Team, or wherever. It would be useful for all parents, grandparents, uncles, aunties, brothers, sisters, caregivers, babysitters, etc. There are two seminars from which to choose: Tuesday Jan 24th from 6:15 until 9 pm, and Wednesday Feb 1st from 6:15 until 9 pm. Both will be held in a Medford Public Library meeting room. The Library is located at 205 S. Central Avenue. I recommend you enter from the Central Avenue entrance. No RSVP is necessary.



AT THE BOOK TABLE: *The Temple and the Tabernacle* by J. Daniel Hays. This beautiful book traces the history of God’s presence with his people in the Tabernacle and Temple, his leaving them due to their persistent and shocking sin, never to return until 400 years later the Son of God Himself walked into to the Temple. Visually stunning and theologically rich, this full-color resource brings together the latest scholarship and archeological discoveries to make God's dwelling places come alive for modern believers. It places these important structures in their historical and theological contexts, connects them with the overall biblical story, and shows how they bring meaning and depth to the faith of Christians today.

End of Year Giving

Christmas Morning is the last Sunday to give. Remember that you can give up to December 31st using any of the following options:

- 1. Give ONLINE**
BearCreekChurch.org/Giving
- 2. Give by TEXT**
Text the dollar amount to:
(541) 214-BEAR (2327)
- 3. Give by MAIL**
P.O. BOX 4732
Medford, OR 97501

See www.bearcreekchurch.org for a list of our current small group opportunities

UPCOMING

Dec 24 th	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at BCC - 5:30pm
Dec 25 th	Christmas Morning Service at BCC - 1 service only at 10:30am
Jan 13 th	Women’s Game Night: A fun opportunity to get to know others in a casual atmosphere. Details to come.
Jan 24 & Feb 1	Protect Our Children Seminar - 6:15pm - 9:pm at Medford Public Library. No RSVP required
Mar 18 th	Women’s Mini Conference - more details to come.
Jun 29-Jul 3, 2017	BCC Campout