

The History of Christmas



Is Christmas History or Myth?
Sunday, December 4, 7 - 9 p.m.
City Church Sanctuary

Pastor Tom Flaherty will be teaching about the birth of Jesus. People like Richard Dawkins, atheist, and others have called into question the historicity of the Christmas Story. This talk will establish what history says and arm you with some apologetics to be able to answer questions that may come your way about the birth

of Christ. Invite those who may question the believability of the Christmas Story. It will strengthen your faith as you hear just how reliable this story is - and will reignite your celebration of this truly remarkable day in history!

Christmas Services

Sunday Services leading up to Christmas Day

Sunday services in December will feature messages from Pastor Tom, Pastor John and Pastor Greg on the wonders of this blessed season celebrating our Savior coming to the earth.

Christmas Eve Services

We will be having two special services on Saturday, December 24, at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. The services will include carols, candle light, and creative elements that will help us remember that our dreams are restored and joy is found through Christ's coming to us, bringing the light into the world.

Christmas Day Service

Sunday, December 25, 11 a.m.

Join us for this ONE shortened service on Christmas morning. We will sing carols and have a short sermon to celebrate the birth of Jesus.



City Church Christmas Party
Sunday, December 11, 5 - 9 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

There is nothing quite like a great Christmas party with other believers - it's the best reason to celebrate! SO, please come and party with us as we give thanks for the best present ever given to mankind - JESUS!

Everyone in the City Church family is invited for a night of Christmas celebration! Come and enjoy a potluck dinner, board games, bingo, Christmas cartoons, crafts, and even Karaoke and carol singing! Something for everyone to celebrate Christmas with your City Church family.

December Calendar



Womens' Christmas Brunch

**Saturday, December 3,
9 - 11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall**

We'll have a Christmas brunch and plenty of time for fellowship, Christmas carols, Christmas bingo and a Thriftmas exchange (like white elephant) of \$5 and under new, or used, fun or practical.

Please bring a dish to pass:

- A-H - fruit/salad
- I-R - hot breakfast entrees
- S-Z - baked goods/breads

Free Concert!

**Saturday, December 3, 7 p.m.
City Church Sanctuary**

Spasenie, an amazing band from Belarus will be performing at concert at City Church! Spasenie has been around since 1989, and have released many cd's with styles varying from traditional Russian/Jewish sound to a mix of rock and jazz. Their unique musical style is an experience you don't want to miss!

Brian Montrey, City Church's worship pastor, has worked and traveled with Spasenie on and off for the last five years. The concert will feature mostly older originals, but Brian will join them for a few songs. Recently Brian collaborated with them on a cd called "Reboot," which is available at City Church, or online at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/bmontrey>.

Voluntary donations to Spasenie can be made in the giving boxes on December 3. There will not be an offering taken during the concert.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing

**Youth Group
Wednesday, Dec. 7, 5:30 - 8:30 pm
Dress warm & festive!**

The Prime Timers Celebrate Christmas!

Friday, December 9, 6 p.m.

This special evening will begin with the opportunity to share Christmas greetings with one another while enjoying punch and appetizers. This will be followed by a complete meal including soup, salad, chicken cordon bleu, mashed potatoes and gravy, and mixed vegetables.

Then we will sit back and have the opportunity to discover what went through Mary's mind when she was told she would bring forth the Son of God. An original stage play written by Karen White, entitled *Through the Eyes of Mary*, will take us into Mary's life and thoughts as the chain of events leading up to our Lord's birth unfolds. Biblical facts, with some fiction, will weave a story that will remind us that Mary was a young, naive, normal teenager chosen by God to be a part of His glorious story. We will be blessed as we experience firsthand her part of the story of our Savior's miraculous birth.

The evening will conclude with another opportunity for friendship while we indulge in Christmas cookies and ice cream.

The cost is only \$5.00 per person and guests are welcomed. Simply sign up and pay at the Information Center. Each person or couple is also asked to bring a half dozen Christmas cookies.

Plan now on being a part of this God-centered evening as we celebrate the Christmas holiday season together.

I Corinthians Study

Saturday, December 10, 9 a.m.

There's no timeline with this study. We listen to what God is saying to us through His word. Relax, set aside responsibilities for two hours to fall in love with Jesus while building relationships with one another. Meets in Pastor Tom's office from 9 to 11a.m.

on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call ahead in case location changes. Contact Janice H. at 608.513.0212. Childcare not provided/infants are welcome.

The River/Packer Townhouse Christmas Party Friday, December 16

The River, the busiest pantry in Madison, set new records for family visits in March 2011 with 2,528 and again in April with 2,584 visits. Andy and Jenny Czerkas attend City Church and are the directors of this much needed resource. For more information on how you can help during the holidays, please check out their website at: www.riverfoodpantry.org

The River/Northport Apts. Christmas Party Saturday, December 17

See related event above and check out the website at: www.riverfoodpantry.org

Youth Christmas Party Wednesday, December 21, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Please bring a white elephant gift for a hysterical gift exchange (P.D. needs socks, hats or silly ties - jk!), and a snack to pass. Girls bring something sweet; guys bring a 2-liter of soda and something salty.

City Church Building & Offices Closed Monday - Friday, December 26 - 30

Week of Prayer & Fasting for 2012 Monday - Friday, January 9 - 13

Check out our church website:
citychurchonline.org
for ALL the regularly scheduled events.