



## Words from Our Pastor- Bob Mitchell

December 2017

### Important to Note:

- One Service Sunday Dec 3
- Parent's Night Off
- Christmas Drama
- One Morning Service Sunday Dec 24
- Candlelight Services

As is often the case, I'm finding it easy to read the Scripture through the filter of what's currently happening in my current circumstances. I am gaining a greater insight through my experience of the range of emotions that were swirling within Mary and Joseph as they headed toward parenthood.

Mary's pregnancy thrust this couple into a great deal of uncertainty, as to what their future might look like. (I can identify with that uncertainty these days.) If the manner in which God worked to bring this pregnancy about did not produce enough stress, the governmental decree to travel (nine months pregnant) to the city of ancestry would complicate the situation (I can also identify with multiple stressors occurring at the same time.) Mary and Joseph would be without the familiar comforting presence of their families during a



pivotal time of their lives.

Then there was the absence of clear provision when they arrived at Bethlehem. No room in the inn intensified the complications of the stress they were under (Read: loss of Zak, Jon AND Matt.)

And yet... look at what God did! The miracle of His salvation coming in the most unexpected of ways! We now revel in this yearly celebration...our favorite season of the year for most.

Is all of this a divine call for me to reverse the polarity of how God's fingerprints are to be seen? Perhaps He is telling me that I shouldn't view Scripture through the filter of my current circumstances; instead I need to look at my current

circumstances through the filter of the Scriptures. To remind my heart in the midst of transition or loss, God is at work in ways that are pregnant with divine potential! I need Mary and Joseph's account to re-enforce my faith that God is most certainly up to something right now, though I might not be able to see it clearly yet.

I want for you to join me this Christmas season in keeping God's Word central and primal: to interpret my circumstances through the Scriptures, not the other way around. In so doing, I believe that we will all experience the wonder of God's work among us.

Adoring Him, I am privileged to be,

Your Pastor, Bob

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## Pastor Fred Jantz



I was handed my special blue decorator bag which contained a big Trader Joe's 1 pound dark chocolate bar (a piece broken off each day will make the sweetness last well into the month) and lots of "appreciation" cards

from Lincoln people. I decided to sit down and read them all at once.....WOW, what a blessing that was. It just seems to warm my heart that there is appreciation for one's service to our Lord. Thank you so much

for your words of kindness. You really did make my day ---- even the month of October. I appreciate you as well....It is good to be loved and to love in return.

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## Children's Ministries - Kristen Lambdin



Christmas is upon us! We are so excited to celebrate Jesus' birth with our kids at Lincoln. We are starting up a series for the month of December called Amazing Christmas. In this series we are learning about an Amazing Choice, an Amazing Night, our Amazing Future and the Amazing Gift we have because of Jesus. It is sure to be amazing!

During our AWANA program last week the kids packed 88 shoeboxes for kids in need around the world! It was so much fun to experience through the kid's eyes. They were excited to be a part of blessing others, and I loved that we were able to kick off the Christmas season with this act of giving. Thank you all for your donations!!

We will be hosting a Parents Night Off on

December 1st from 6-8pm. We have planned an evening of ornament making, cookie decorating, and fun games! So drop off your kids and take a couple hours off. The event is for 1st-6th graders and our Nursery will be open for 2-4 year olds who are potty-trained. Contact me at (209) 405-3869 or [kristen@lincolnpres.org](mailto:kristen@lincolnpres.org) to sign up!



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## The Monthly Newsletter of Lincoln Presbyterian Church

900 Douglas Road, Stockton CA 95207  
209.477.2783  
FAX: 866.783.4037

Dr. Bob Mitchell, Pastor  
Fred Jantz, Senior Executive Pastor  
Dr. Al Van Selow, Administrative Pastor

Website: [www.lincolnpres.org](http://www.lincolnpres.org)  
Email: [office@lincolnpres.org](mailto:office@lincolnpres.org)

Tom BetGeorge, Director of Music/Worship Leader  
Kristen Lambdin, Director of Children's Ministries  
John French, Special Projects Administrator  
Cheryl Pannabecker, Office Manager

## Christmas Drama Presentation

Sunday, December 3rd  
 One Service Sunday  
 @ 10am

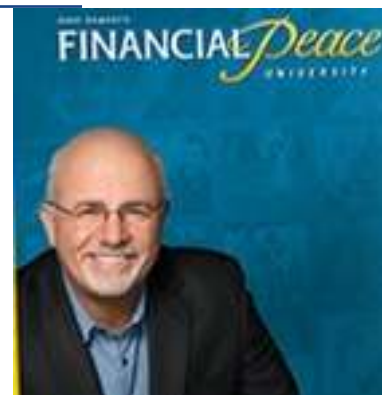
Presenting  
 "Casting Call"  
 A Christmas Play, by  
 Eddie James, Skit Guys Inc.



## Financial Peace University

It's important to have a plan for your money. What's yours? If you're looking for ways to get a handle on your finances, consider joining the Financial Peace University class on Thursday eve-

nings for 9 weeks starting on January 11th at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room. Cost is \$100 per family unit. You can sign up online at: [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com)



## Treasurer's Report-Carol Bedell

<b>Operating Fund:</b>	<b><u>October</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>	<b><u>% of Annual Budget</u></b>
Income	\$64,463	\$616,023	77%
Expense	\$61,423	\$578,075	72%
Net	\$ 3,040	\$ 37,948	

### October Financial Report



Through ten months of 2017, we are still in the black! Thank you for your gracious giving. We also have \$355,845 in the Kingdom Growth account for our new building.

## Deacon Message

At this time of year we are so thankful for all the blessings of the year. One of the blessings of being a member of LPC is having a deacon. The early church set up deacons to care for the members of the church. At LPC each Deacon has a "cluster" of approximately 15 families

whom he or she is responsible for nurturing in concrete ways. This includes a monthly phone call, text, card or personal contact. They are also responsible to pray for each cluster member, both for specific needs and their well-being in general. Administering to the spiritual and physical

needs of LPC members is the number one priority of the Deacons.

This Christmas, may you experience the wonder of God's glory, the richness of His blessings and the loving care of LPC's Deacons.



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## Security Reminder

Praying for the peace and prosperity of Stockton should be a part of every believer's daily prayer time. Otherwise, how will the city ever change for the good?

Unfortunately, churches are considered easy targets for vandalism, property damage, and theft. A big THANK YOU to our volunteers who patrol the LPC parking lot & church grounds during regular church services.

In addition to prayer, there are some practical things you can do to avoid becoming the victim of property theft, especially when it

comes to having your vehicle broken into:

1. Don't leave valuables in your car, even if they are out of sight. This includes sunglasses, cell phones, GPS devices, electronic mounting devices, chargers, cables and accessories, books, Bibles, gym bags, etc.
2. Don't leave your house keys or your garage door opener in your vehicle. After breaking into your vehicle, any thief can easily gain access to your home with these items.
3. Don't leave mail in your car as it provides your personal information to a thief, making it much easier to steal your identity.
4. Don't keep your vehicle registration or insurance card in the vehicle. A thief can use your registration to make a fake title and potentially get a title loan against your vehicle.
5. Always lock your car, roll up your windows, close your sunroof, and activate your car alarm if you have one.

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## 2018 Flower Chart



Now available for sign ups. If you would like to provide flowers for one of the services next year, please write your name in the space provided on the chart (located in the Narthex) and if the flowers will be in memory or honor of a special day. The arrangements run approximately \$40.

If you sign up for flowers, you will need to call the florist on Monday to place your order using a debit or credit card, or you may go to the florist to pay by cash or check.

Charter Way Florist  
5620 N. Pershing Ave  
956-9087

Also, note that if you purchase the flowers for a Sunday morning and would like to keep them, please notify the office or pick them up by noon on Sunday. Otherwise, they are taken to a nursing home or other care facility. Thank you.



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## Adult Discipleship

### Sunday Mornings

**December 3 & 24 - One Service @ 10am.** Adult classes will not meet.

**7:25am: "The Holiness of God"** Join us in the Fire-side Room. Led by Patrice Verhines and Carol Bedell, light breakfast included.

**10:20am: "The Good Book" with Kyle Idleman.** Led by Lise Karnes in Pastor Matt's Office.

**10:20am: "Ephesians"** with Pastor Van Selow and Lavon, in the Fireside Room.

### Wednesday Evenings

**6:00 pm:** A continuing book by book journey through the Bible. Led by Ed and Denise Miller, Fireside Room.



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## Congregational Meetings & Annual Report Deadline

Session has called a Congregational Meeting on December 10th immediately after the first service to nominate the Elders, Deacons and Trustees.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, February 11, 2018.

The deadline for articles for the 2017 Annual Report is January 18th.



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## Directory Updates

Elgin & Mary Robinson  
1715 E Alluvial Ave Rm 272  
Fresno CA 93720



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## December Birthdays

- |                      |                      |                  |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1 Sara Blicharz      | 14 Cynie Downs       | 26 Irma St. John |
| 2 Patty Roek         | Holly Meyers         | John Montalvo    |
| 3 Wendy Bell         | Gela Wachholz-Yee    | 27 Jed Asis      |
| Amanda Stogner       | 16 Rachel Peña       | Tyler Graham     |
| 4 Cori Reynolds      | Joyce Korock         | 28 Heidi Fedor   |
| 7 Jennifer Gutierrez | 18 Sue Groenewegen   | 29 Joy Greenlee  |
| Amy Kirkland         | Gabe Laguna          | Analynn Madarang |
| Dorothy Wilkins      | Scott McGregor       | Bill Wagner      |
| 9 Leonard Tacla      | 19 Barbara Morefield | 30 Ben George    |
| 11 Richie Senegor    | Alyson White         | Pat Winterberg   |
| 12 Susan Blythe      | 20 Ryan Klinker      | Bob Yamaguchi    |
| 13 Lauren Knapp      | 21 Sandy Parker      | 31 Ray Johnson   |
| Julie Senegor        | 22 Carroll Johnston  | Loren Tacla      |
| 14 Lori DeMercurio   | 23 Karen Gantt       | Chris Balgemann  |



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - 9:00 am Service

### December 3 - One Service @ 10am

**Greeters:** Patty Roek, Lillian Harris  
**Ushers:** Maria Montalvo, Betty Crecelius, Charito Lopez,  
Jane Carson  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Mark Gantt

### December 10

**Greeters:** Ro & Tambi Loyd  
**Ushers:** Barbara George, Ron & Joyce Korock,  
Craig Potter  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Jim Duncan

### December 17

**Greeters:** Sandy Harmon, Jennifer Gutierrez  
**Ushers:** Tim Sass, Dave Hungerford, Leroy Alford, Frank  
Beasley  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Bruce Parker

### December 24 - One Service @ 10am

**Greeters:** Carole Meehan  
**Ushers:** John & Carol Sharpe, Dottie Edaburn,  
Lavon Van Selow  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Billy Heinrich

### December 31

**Greeters:** Suedee Howell, Dave Hungerford  
**Ushers:** Gabe Laguna, Prilla McGregor, Vaughn Pipes,  
Maria Montalvo  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** John Sharpe

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - 10:45 am Service

### December 3 - One Service @ 10am

**Greeters:** Bill & Merrilee Chapman  
**Ushers:** Dave & Sharon Olney, Drew & Holly Meyers  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Stan Kaneko

### December 10

**Greeters:** Patrick & Heidi Fedor, Keith Evans  
**Ushers:** Tom & Janet Beck, Bill & Carroll Johnston  
**Video Tech:** Billy Heinrich  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Bill Wagner

### December 17

**Ushers:** Dave & Sharon Olney  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Bob Yamaguchi

### December 24 - One Service @ 10am

**Ushers:** George & Vicky Alavazo, Dave & Sara Blicharz  
**Video Tech:** Tammy Hannon  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Jim Wilcox

### December 31

**Greeters:** Brant & Sandra Fetters  
**Ushers:** Holly Meyers, Dave & Sharon Olney  
**Sound:** Kaylee Webb  
**Security:** Gabe Laguna

Thanks to the  
Assembly Crew of the  
December Life @ Lincoln!



## Flowers



If you have signed up for flowers, you will need to call the florist on Monday to place your order using a debit or credit card, or you may go to the florist to pay by cash or check.

Charter Way Florist  
5620 N. Pershing Ave  
956-9087

### December Flowers

17 Poinsettias  
31 Leroy & Cynthia Alford

## Pew Supply

### December

6 Linda Davies  
13 Lisa Richers  
20 Ila King  
27 Lorna Zink

# Hello December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6-8 pm Parent's Night Off	2
3 10:00 am Worship-Christmas Drama "Casting Call" 6:00 pm Sr. High 8:30pm Young Adults	4 6:30 pm Hula for Health	5 12:00 pm Quilting 1:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Jr High Band 7:00 pm Commission Mtgs.	6 9:30 am Retired Guys' 5:45 pm Jr. High 6 pm: Awana Bible Study	7 5:30 pm Rehearsal 7pm Christmas Choir	8	9
10 Communion 7:30 am Adult Ed 9:00 am Worship 10am Congregational Meeting 10:20 am Adult Ed 10:45 am Worship 6:00 pm Sr. High 8:30pm Young Adults	11 6:30 pm Hula for Health	12 12:00 pm Staff Lunch 12:00 pm Quilting 1:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm P/B/S 6:30 pm Jr High Band	13 9:30 am Retired Guys' 5:45 pm Jr. High 6 pm: Awana Bible Study	14 5:30 pm Rehearsal 7pm Christmas Choir	15 L@L Deadline	16
17 7:30 am Adult Ed 9:00 am Worship 10:20 am Adult Ed 10:45 am Worship 6:00 pm Sr. High 8:30pm Young Adults	18 6:30 pm Hula for Health	19 12:00 pm Quilting 1:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Jr High Band 7:00 pm Joint Session/ Deacon Meeting	20 9:30 am Retired Guys' 6 pm: Bible Study	21 5:30 pm Rehearsal 7pm Christmas Choir	22	23
24 10:00 am Worship  5 & 7:30pm Services	25 	26	27 6 pm: Bible Study	28	29	30
31 7:30 am Adult Ed 9:00 am Worship 10:20 am Adult Ed 10:45 am Worship 8:30pm Young Adults  New Year's Eve						

# Lincoln Presbyterian Church

900 Douglas Road  
Stockton, California 95207

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We're on the Web at:  
[www.lincolnpres.org](http://www.lincolnpres.org)


**December 2017**


Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 -12 noon & 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**LIFE @ LINCOLN DEADLINE  
December 15**

Follow us:  Lincoln Presbyterian Church

 @lincolnpres

 @lincolnpresbyterian

## Weekly Schedule

**Sunday** (One service @10am on December 3 only)

7:25am - Adult Sunday School  
9:00am - Worship & Children's Sunday School  
9:00am - Adult Sunday School  
10:20am - Adult Sunday School  
10:45am - Worship & Children's Sunday School  
6:00pm - Sr. High Group  
8:30pm - Young Adults (every other Sunday)

### **Wednesday**

5:45pm - Jr. High Group  
6:00pm - Adult Bible Study  
Celebrate Recovery  
Awana

Various Growth Groups meet in homes & at the church during the week. Please call the office for details.

## Sermon Titles

December 3 - One Service @ 10am  
"Casting Call" Christmas Drama

December 10 - "Bethlehem: The Unexpected Expectation" (Luke 2:1-7) ~ Pastor Bob Mitchell

December 17 - "Herod: My Ego Is Not My Amigo" (Luke 2:1-8, 16) ~ Pastor Bob Mitchell

December 24 - One Service @ 10am  
"The Birth-Day" (Luke 2:6 Galatians 4:4) ~ Pastor Bob Mitchell  
5 & 7:30 pm Candlelight Service - "Arise! Shine!" (Isaiah 60:1-6) ~ Pastor Bob Mitchell

December 31 - Pastor Fred Jantz

*Lincoln's Mission:*

*To know and love God, to know and love people,  
and bring the two together through Jesus Christ.*