

# Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

**"The Christmas Rush"**  
By Cody Shepherd,  
Youth Minister,

Norton Christian Church

I hate Christmas shopping. Some people may like it, but I hate it. Some people spend weeks deciding on what the right gift is for everyone. I walk through a store and throw stuff in a cart that I think looks cool. I think it just adds to the mystique of what my family refers to as "Cody presents". Even my own family has no idea what I might give them. One year it may be an MP3 player (last year for one of my sisters) or another year it might be a lifetime supply of Pez (haven't done that yet, but I like the idea).

A couple weekends ago I was with my girlfriend and her family for Thanksgiving. I learned of a special tradition they have. The day after Thanksgiving they get up before any sane person would and wait in lines that travel 3/4 of the way through the parking lot of Shopko and Wal-Mart at 4:40 in the morning. I decided to be a good sport (as I'm still trying to impress the family) and join them. The weird thing I find out about this whole ordeal, is that, as a guy, this shopping is actually more fun. It's the closest thing I've had to since high school! Shopping is boring...competitive shopping is fun!! I was side-stepping little girls and old ladies, body checking guys twice my size (not really). It was mass chaos once the doors opened for business.

In the midst of all this chaos it taught me some great lessons.

Make sure to pad up before participating in competitive shopping.

We are a very blessed country. In the midst of chaos much like our society today our Savior was born in quietness and in a humble situation to all people. Make sure to take time this Christmas to worship the Savior!!!

## Sleep in Heavenly Peace



*Peace is the stillness of a baby sleeping. Peace is a quiet walk in the woods, the tranquility of a small pond. Peace is gentle love for one another.*

*Great word...Peace! It seems to be in stark contrast to our busy, crazy lives today. More and more things to do, too much traffic, noise and crowds everywhere we go; and in the world around us, war and natural disasters.*

*These things are not peaceful. But, peace is not something outside ourselves. It is within. It is the quiet calmness of mind and soul, unperturbed, undismayed.*

*It is difficult to acquire this frame of mind, this serene spirit. To achieve it we need guidance and help. We can turn to our church. There, we can get our problems in order; get a better perspective on our difficulties and consult with our Creator. "May the God of peace...equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him..." (Hebrews 13:20-21)*

*Peace of heart is a two-way street—our way to God, and His way to us. Let God help you find peace within as you attend your chosen house of worship each week.*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Isaiah	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms
49:1-26	24	96	97	98	99	100

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society

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## NORCATUR NEWS

### By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Lee and Lora Arnold were Thanksgiving guests of JuliAnna and Mark Baker and family.

Bob and Jo Milner, Paonia, Colo., were callers Saturday morning, Nov. 26, of Bee Nelson. Bob and Bee are cousins. The Milners are former residents of Clayton.

Bill Craig left Thursday, Nov. 17, for Denver where he joined his son, Clayton Craig, for a flight to Portland, Ore., where they visited Bill's brother, Roy Craig. They did lots of visiting, sightseeing and enjoyed a crab fishing trip. They flew on to Vancouver, British Columbia, where they visited Leonard Craig, another of Bill's brothers. After more visiting and sightseeing, they returned to Denver and Bill drove home Friday, Nov. 25. He was very glad to be home before the blizzard struck.

Winners of the Cardinal Bar and Grill pool tournament held Monday, Nov. 21, were: first, Danny Heller, Norton; second, Stan Miller, Norcat; and third, Billy Smith, Norton.

Birthdays: Troy Wentz - Dec. 1; Ruth Dickey - Dec. 2; Scooter Matchett - Dec. 5; Terri James - Dec. 7; Jonathan Fick - Dec. 8.

Guests of Ron and Jerry Temple for Thanksgiving were Mary Wyrens, Ceresco, Neb.; Larry, Suzanne, Simone and Marcus Cahoj, Atwood; Ryan, Corey, Noah and Ava Grace, Wamego; Jessica and Caden Rhodes, Colby; Megan Rhodes, Hays; Jerry and Lisa Rhodes, and Scot and Tracey Hartzog of Norcat.

Dave and Patty Stapp, Kaitlyn and Sam spent Thanksgiving in Emporia with Jerrod Poire and Kortney Stapp. Kaitlyn remained for a longer visit. She returned home on Saturday, Nov. 26.

Wayne and Norma McCallister and Bee Nelson were houseguests of Tara Nelson and Anita Volskay in Independence, Mo., from Friday, Nov. 18, to Monday, Nov. 21. While there they attended the 89th annual performance of Handel's "Messiah" by the Independence Messiah Choir, numbering more than 320 people, on Saturday evening, Nov. 19. Anita's father, Henry Volskay, is a 30-year-member of the choir, which sang to a full house in New York's Carnegie Hall in 2000. Wayne, Norma and

Bee returned to Norcat on Monday, Nov. 21.

Thanksgiving Day guests of Bee Nelson for a carry-in dinner were Oran and LaVerne Milner, Lula Hix, Marguerite Clark, Bob Sawdon, Gwynn Ward of Clayton and Twila Henry of Norton. The group also helped the Milners celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary. The ladies played chicken foot dominoes while the guys watched football games.

Dorothy Magers, sister-in-law of Rea Magers, and her daughter, Paula Melhauser, and Paula's twin boys, 20-year-old Chris and Pres, all of Greeley, Colo., came to Rea and Dee Magers' on Wednesday, Nov. 23. Thanksgiving Day the group went to the 4-H building at Lyle to spend the day with Toots Magers and more Magers relatives. There were 23 present for the big feast.

Leslie and Lynn Ward, and Frank and Velda Ward, Norcat; Steve McMurray of California; Kaley Ward, Hays; and Keith Heller, Norton, were guests of Ruby Pflieger of Norton on Thanksgiving Day. Ruby is the mother of Lynn and Steve.

Thanksgiving guests of Dorothy Ward were Mark, Debra, K.J. and Brandon Ward of Hugo, Colo. Saturday morning Deb, Dorothy and Brandon attended the Holiday Craft Fair at Oberlin. Mark and K.J. met them there and the Mark Wards proceeded home from Oberlin, and Dorothy returned to Norcat.

Frank and Velda Ward were guests of Dorothy Ward from Monday evening until their electricity was restored.

### CHRISTMAS DRAWING

The Norcat Christmas Drawing will be held Saturday, Dec. 17, in the all-purpose Room at the City Building, at 4 p.m. The pre-school, Cardinal Kids Connection, will have a bake sale then. Following the drawing will be a free-will donation fund-raising supper, chicken and noodles with baked potato and cinnamon roll, with proceeds also going to the pre-school. Items donated for the drawing need to be brought to the city office or pre-school room by Dec. 14. We need lots of donations to have enough items for every family attending. If you have questions contact Deb Marshall, Chris Dempewolf or Lois Wentz.

## ALMENA NEWS

### By ESTHER MARBLE

Friday, November 25, Nate Gregory and his fiancée, Lacie Robinson of Wichita, came to visit Rita Bieber at Calvert. Nate is a great-nephew of Rita. They had spent Thanksgiving with Lacie's parents of rural Agra. During the evening they went to Norton to visit Donald Moody at Whispering Pines. Donald is a great-uncle of Nate.

John Bieber and Chris Bieber, both of Wichita, came Friday night after Thanksgiving to spend several days with Rita Bieber at Calvert. Barbara Wassinger of Ness City and Donald Moody came for Sunday dinner. Barbara returned home shortly after dinner because of the storm coming in. John and Chris are both here for the opening of deer season.

Hunter guests of Rita Bieber at Calvert last week were John and Chris Bieber of Wichita; Brenden Werth of Russell and Marc Davidson of Wichita. They filled their licenses but were not lucky enough to get a big deer. They all returned to their homes on Saturday.

Ellis Fisher called Esther Marble Tuesday afternoon to tell her that June had her knee operated on Monday at Kearney, Neb. and she was doing great.

Sid and Sheila Geil and Carissa came to his mother Alberta Geil's on Thanksgiving Day and left Sunday. John Geil and sons were down Friday afternoon. Alberta had Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday. Other guests beside the family were her niece Cathy Reeves of Hays and nephew Larry Hawks, Almena.

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Saturday, Dec. 10th  
6 to 8 PM

Come Celebrate  
the  
Christmas Story  
at the

First United Methodist Church  
805 West Wilberforce  
Norton, KS

# Living Nativity