



# December 2011



## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **December 4:**

Christmas Crafting  
Junior/Senior High School  
Youth Group—Christmas Party

### **December 6:**

W@C Christmas Party

### **December 9:**

Senior Saints Luncheon

### **December 17:**

WORKDAY  
“Brown Bag Christmas”  
Movie Night-pending

### **December 24:**

Christmas Eve Service

### **December 25:**

“Happy Birthday Jesus”

### **December 26:**

Office closed

### **December 31:**

NYNYE Party

## **You Want What!**

by Ray De Loe

Christmas is about thirty days away and the lists are being written with all the gifts children and adults want under the tree. It has become a part of our tradition at Christmas to compile these wish lists and present them to family and Santa Claus. You know the big guy in the red suit with the sleigh and reindeer who will spend the eve of Christmas day delivering gifts to every house around the world. Before you get ready to throw me under the bus, we still have presents under our tree that are from Santa.

I have been asked several times what I would like for Christmas and I have a list of items that would be nice to have. As many of you know, an I-pad would be nice to replace the one someone else is now enjoying. A new pair of Nike's would be helpful as mine are starting to show some wear and tear. A new billfold would also be nice and I like the tri-fold leather type, black or brown in color.

We have received lists from our grandchildren and as expected, they have many things they would like to receive. They would like new games for Xboxes and PlayStations along with books, CD's etc. Oh and our daughters and sons-in-law have also put their lists together.

Now, I have no problem with putting these lists together. In fact I like to receive them as it helps shorten the length of time needed to go shopping. However, we can be sidetracked from what Christmas is truly about. Allow me to put another list before you to consider as an alternative for this next year, not just Christmas.

I want for Christmas and in the year to come that no one spends the holiday alone. I want for Christmas that Crossroads Christian Church becomes a leader in our community in spreading the love of Christ. I want for Christmas that the economy of our city, county, state and country grows so that all who want a job can have one. I want for Christmas that all our men and women in the military will be brought home safely to their families. I want for Christmas that each of us would put others first in our life.

Lastly, I want for Christmas that each one of us would grow in our relationship with Jesus. I pray that we truly become followers of the one whose birth Christmas is truly all about. We all know that in Christ our list is complete.

New CCC Members:  
Peter and Delia Aguilar  
Debra Smith  
Alyssa Trevino

***Our Vision: GLORIFY GOD***

***Our Mission: Grow in Christ, Serve in Love, Bring Others to Jesus***

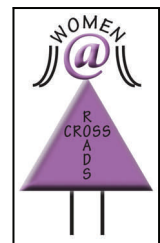
They had been through a lot during the past several months since she had been told she would have a child. But she was not married. Oh, sure, that happened but not when you're a virgin. Not only was she going to have a child but he would be the son of God. It had taken a little getting used to the idea. Of course her fiancé had to find out. Even though he knew the child wasn't his, he had considered her and the child and had not demanded the traditional punishment of stoning. God himself had intervened to let him know that the child she carried was the son of God. Finding that he and his intended wife were chosen to be parents for this precious child, he supported her and they were married. Together they had dealt with this among the two of them. Later as it became apparent that she was going to have a child, they talked with their families and friends. That had been a struggle. Some were supportive, while others did not understand. Still others could not forgive what they knew was sin and wanted to give their advice. The hardest were those who shunned them.

Eventually life had found a sense of normality again. That was until Caesar required everyone to return to their own area for a census to be taken. Now they were traveling the long distance to Bethlehem. They had traveled all day yesterday and still had several hours to go. The baby was due soon and she was getting tired. Her back ached from sitting on the donkey. He did not want her to walk so she continued to ride. She would be glad to get to the inn so she could rest.

As they continued, dusk started setting in. She was now very tired but was also having more pain. Finally they saw some of the lights of Bethlehem. He stopped at the first inn, but it was full. They continued on to find that the case for all inns. Eventually they were offered the stall where the animals stayed. At least it got them some protection. That was when she knew the time for the baby to arrive was tonight. He helped her deliver the tiny baby. They wrapped him in cloth and used the animals feeding trough for a bed.

Sometimes things don't happen the way we expect. Things seem hard, uncomfortable, confusing, or unfair. Sometimes we don't see the big picture until time passes and we have the benefit of hindsight. However, God promises "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called for his purpose." (Romans 8:28; ESV) May we always do our best to look forward and remember God's promise!

Submitted by Rhonda De Loe



## W@C Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30pm

All ladies are invited to join in the food, fun, and fellowship. Please bring a soup, salad or a dessert to share; also an ornament to exchange.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer; for questions, contact Ginger Stark.

# Missions Matters

Thank you to the congregation for lifting up Bible Translators, David Robinson, Steven Piki, and Denny Ram in prayer this November. Please continue to lift them up, that the translation of the Bible into the Mbore language will continue unhindered. We are thankful for the dedication and hard work of these men.

## **“*BROWN BAG CHRISTMAS*” December Project**

For the Christmas season, the Brown Bag Ministry, Clothes Closet, and the Missions Ministry will be teaming up to provide a Christmas meal, clothes, and a gift for personal needs, to approximately 150 less fortunate in Salinas. Lee Interrante, Brown Bag Coordinator, will head the project, joined by the Clothes Closet and Missions teams.

The event will take place Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at the New Methodist Church in downtown Salinas. The church’s minister is asking help from churches in the community to provide a more positive environment for those seeking to change their lives and to get a fresh start. The church provides rooms with computers for people to prepare resumes, monitors behavior, and provides a safe place away from drugs. **Awesome!**

### **“HOW CAN I HELP?”**

**SIGN UP** at the Missions table to let Lee know how you can help. Here’s what we need:

**FOR THE MEAL >> 8 - 9x13 pans of cobbler or dessert—(Lee has pans)**  
>> **Homemade cookies**  
>> **Fresh fruit**

**FOR THE BROWN BAGS >> Adult socks and gloves, shaving cream**  
>> **Items for women**

**FOR THE EVENT >> Manpower for set-up and tear-down  
of the Clothes Closet before the meal**  
>> **Volunteers to serve the meal (noon-2:00pm)**

Monies may also be donated thru Crossroads to **“Brown Bag Christmas.”**

Thank you in advance for your generous donations of time, effort, food, and monies to reach out to our community in Jesus’ name. The brown bags will include a note from Crossroads. May He be praised by our efforts!

“Sent to Serve” on December 17<sup>th</sup>!  
Clothes Closet, Brown Bag, and Missions Teams



# Christmas Eve Service

## Saturday, December 24 at 6pm



Movie Night  
 Saturday, December 17  
 This event is pending,  
 more information will be announced.



WORKDAY  
 December 17



Elder/Involvement Minister: Ray De Loe  
 Phone: 831 444 9104  
[www.cccsalinas.org](http://www.cccsalinas.org)  
[crossroadschurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crossroadschurch@sbcglobal.net)

Elders: Vince Interrante  
 Jerry Lemmon  
 Alan Stark  
 Lyn White

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

TRICIA KAISER	12/01/1971
CYDNEY MC COY	12/02/1999
JERRY LEMMON	12/05/1954
KATY LEMMON	12/06/1978
DEBBIE LEMMON	12/08/1953
LORRAINE MC COY	12/14/1946
SAMANTHA RANGEL	12/15/1996
C J MC COY	12/17/1969
JEANNE BROWN	12/19/1950
JONATHAN CLARK	12/21/1996
BRANDY STARK	12/26/1975

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

CLINTON & LORRAINE MC COY	12/09/1967
BILL & RUTH LIPPERT	12/13/1951

### CURRENT GROWTH GROUPS/CLASSES

#### Sunday Morning Classes

Nursery thru Adult (9am)  
 Nursery/Toddlers (10am)  
 Pre-K (10am)  
 Kindergarten-5th (10:30am); no class 1st Sunday

#### Sunday

5:30pm	Growth Group, CCC
5:30pm	Growth Group-Vargas resumes in Jan

#### Wednesday

9:30am	Ladies Growth Group, CCC
6pm	Gospel of John, Palacios Home

#### Friday

7pm	Growth Group , Lemmon Home
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#### Youth Groups

Junior High Youth Group, Second Sunday  
 High School Youth Group, Second Sunday