

# The Christmas Story



*St. Helena Seventh-day Adventist Church*  
1777 Main Street ~ St. Helena, CA 94574 ~ (707) 963-4461  
Church website: [www.SabbathFellowship.org](http://www.SabbathFellowship.org)

**December 24, 2005**

# Announcements



**A**GES AGO, seekers set out on a long and uncertain journey in search of the promised Messiah. Their quest was gloriously rewarded, thanks to that guiding star. We welcome you to the St. Helena Seventh-day Adventist Church. Whatever led you here today, we believe that God rejoices in having you in this place. We pray that your search for God may be rewarded beyond your expectations. If you are looking for a new church home, or if you have a prayer request or praise, please feel welcome to complete one of the information cards located on the pew in front of you; then place them in one of the offering boxes located at the exits. Visitors, please join us in the Fireside Room after services today for a very special time of Fellowship & Refreshment.

**VICTORY CLASS** meets **today** after services on the front rows.

**JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM** each **Wednesday** from **3-5 p.m.** in the Church Library. If you have needs to be prayed for, or if you wish to pray for others, be sure to join us here.

**THROUGH THE BIBLE BOOK-BY-BOOK** continues to meet each **Wednesday** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Fireside Room. Come **December 28** having read the book of Deuteronomy. We'll be looking at the big picture. All are invited.

**OUR ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE** agapé feast communion will take place at **5:00 p.m., Sabbath, December 31** in the Fireside Room. This most special time of forgiveness and renewal is a very sacred occasion that we hope all of you will be able to attend. Plan to bring fruits, bread and/or nuts to share with your spiritual family. Please **RSVP** to the Church Office by **December 28** with what you plan to bring so our facilitators will know how to plan.

**PASTOR BOB** and family are with his wife's family in Loma Linda from December 18-27. In case of pastoral emergency, contact our head elder, *Dan Oliver* at 963-7143. For other needs, call the Church Office.

# The Church at Study



## 9:15 a.m. ~ Song Service

Chorister: Charinette Guerrero  
Pianist: Betty Brand  
Superintendent: Beverly Cramer

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## 9:30 a.m. Sabbath School Classes

**Memory Text:** "Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."  
*Ephesians 6:13 (NKJV)*

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## 10:30 a.m. ~ Family Time

raise in Song	The Music Team
Announcements	Beverly Cramer
Special Music	" <i>Stille Nacht</i> " The Juniors <i>lyrics by Joseph Mohr, 1818</i>
Christmas Carols	The Music Team



## Ancient Words

*by Michael W. Smith*

Holy words long preserved For our walk in this world, They resound with God's own heart Oh let the Ancient words impart.	Holy words of our Faith Handed down to this age. Came to us through sacrifice Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.
Words of Life, words of Hope Give us strength, help us cope In this world, where e'er we roam Ancient words will guide us Home.	Holy words long preserved For our walk in this world. They resound with God's own heart Oh let the ancient words impart.

### CHORUS:

Ancient words ever true  
Changing me, and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts  
Oh let the ancient words impart.

### CHORUS

Ancient words ever true  
Changing me, and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts  
Oh let the ancient words impart.

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*“I Wonder as I Wander”* by John Jacob Niles      **Les & Brenda Purdy**

*“One Bright Star”* by Vince Gil      **Aimée & Dan Oliver**

*“O Holy Night”* by Adolphe C. Adam      **Norman Skeels**

*“What Child Is This?”* R. Vaughan Williams      **Timothy Oliver**  
accompanied by **Judit Rüfenacht**

*“One Small Child”* by David Meece      **Chris & Isabella Doellerer**  
**Sierra, Autumn & Jolié Trogdon**  
accompanied by **Debi Taylor**


*“Christmas Today”* by Vince Gil      **Aimée & Dan Oliver**

Background piano music: **Dan Oliver**



*We invite you to linger for a time of fellowship  
in the Fireside Room following the service.*



“Jesus, the Majesty of heaven, the royal King  
of heaven, laid aside His royalty, left His  
throne of glory, His high command,  
and came into our world to bring to  
fallen man, weakened in moral power  
and corrupted by sin, aid divine.”   
*The Adventist Home, p. 480*

## More Announcements



**DAVID GATES**, president of Gospel Ministries International (GMI), felt God's calling to serve the Davis Indians in the village of Kaikan in the interior of Guyana, South America. After much prayer, he left his job and paycheck as Computer Science teacher at Caribbean Union College in Trinidad and took his family of seven into the jungle, embracing God's plan. Little did he know that in less than eight years GMI would have taken the good news of Jesus soon return to well over 100 million people. David will be here to speak on **Sabbath, January 14**, giving the morning message; and will speak again for two meetings in the afternoon. (The times will be announced later.) Don't miss this very special day. Please tell you friends!

“God would be well pleased if on Christmas each church would have a Christmas tree on which shall be hung offerings, great and small, for these houses of worship. . . .

“ The tree may be as tall and its branches as wide as shall best suit the occasion; but let its boughs be laden with the golden and silver fruit of your beneficence, and present this to Him as your Christmas gift. Let your donations be sanctified by prayer. . . .



*A very special  
“Thank You”  
to  
Whiting Nursery  
(738 Main St., St. Helena)  
for donating the beautiful Christmas Tree!*

## Still More Announcements



“**FINAL EVENTS**” produced by *Amazing Facts* would make a great evangelistic tool or a nice stocking stuffer. We ordered extras, so if you would like one or more at \$2.00 each, please see the Secretary. If you already ordered yours, please pick them up from the Church Office.

**2006 DEVOTIONAL BOOKS** that were ordered had not arrived by the time of this printing. However, if you placed an order, please check with the Secretary to see if they arrived late in the week.

**DID YOU KNOW** that the Voice of Prophecy “recycles” used postage stamps? This project is so important to the **VOP** that the income from it, about \$1,000.00 a month, is included in their yearly budget. Save those cancelled stamps with about a quarter inch of envelope around them. If you bring them so trimmed, we will mail them directly to the volunteer that oversees this project.



**Today**, you have the special opportunity to give to the Good Samaritan Fund. The red envelope in your bulletin is for this gift. Please place your envelope on the Christmas tree in the Narthex as you leave today. If you exit at the side door, a basket will be there in which you may place your offering. Ellen White wrote, “*In every church, special efforts should be made to show our gratitude to God by bringing our offerings for His cause. Let those who desire a Christmas tree make its boughs fruitful with gifts for the needy.*”

*The Review & Herald, 1882*

**AS YEAR END APPROACHES**, we want to thank you for your faithful giving throughout the year. And just a reminder, any contributions that you wish to be included in your 2005 donation receipt, must be received *or* postmarked by **December 31**. Please remember the Church Family Budget. Currently, we have a **deficit** of \$20,736.00. Again, we thank you for your continued and faithful support.

