

Valley Evangelical Free Church

The best product at the lowest price every day! How often do we hear or read that in the advertisements that flood our mail boxes and take so much of our television time?

Then we are told that if we have the right club card we can get it even cheaper plus get a rebate as well. I look in my wallet and it is full of cards from local businesses to the big box stores as well as several motel chains.

Then we are told that we can “buy one and get one free.” I

remember a wise man telling me many years ago, “Nothing is free, someone always pays.” You don’t get one free. You buy two at the price of one. Just try returning the free one for a refund.

As we approach the Christmas season, we can keep this all in mind. Jesus came to earth to provide salvation free of charge to any who will simply accept it by faith. You can’t pay for it, you can’t work for it, it is simply free on our part.

But, you ask, didn’t you just

say, “Nothing is free, someone always pays?” Yep, you’re right, Jesus paid, with his life. His life is what paid for my salvation and that’s not cheap.

As we approach Christmas, let us keep in mind the reason for the season. Jesus was born to become the Savior of the world.

Attend a church this Sunday...and every Sunday...to celebrate Jesus coming.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Marvin Porter



*Look at the candy Cane
What do you see?
Stripes that are red
Like the bloodshed for me*

*White is for my Savoir
Who is sinless and pure
“J” is for Jesus My Lord, that’s for sure!*

*Turn it around
And a staff you will see
Jesus my shepherd
Was born for me!*

The History of the Candy Cane

The candy cane was first introduced in the late 1800s by a candymaker in Indiana. He wanted to make a candy that could be a witness during the holiday season. He began with a stick of pure white to show the virgin birth and the sinless nature of Jesus Christ. The hardness of the candy was to represent Jesus as the solid rock, the foundation of the church, and the firmness of the promises of God. The white stripes on the candy cane

represent the purity of Christ. The small red stripes symbolize the scourging of Jesus before he was hung on the cross. The large red stripes show the blood that Jesus shed for each of us on the cross. The shape of the candy cane represents the shepherd’s staff because Jesus is the good shepherd. If you flip the candy cane around, you will notice the letter “J” which is the first letter of Jesus’ name. Have a merry Christmas and always remember the reason for the season ... and the candy cane!

Community Bible Church

Christmas
Luke 2:11 (KJV) 11For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

‘Tis the season to be jolly, or is it the season to be full of anxiety and to be stressed out? The pressure of the Christmas season seems to grow and grow until we are ready to explode. The season of year that should exemplify peace and grace ends up the season of stress and strife. The question for us is: does it really have to be that way? Is the pressure the result of a wrong focus? There are obligations, cards to send, gifts to buy, traveling, and big dinners – all these are O.K., but wouldn’t it be good to remember that Jesus’ birth is the primary reason that Christmas even exists?

It’s great to buy gifts, but we need to remember that the reason we buy gifts at this time of year is because Jesus was God’s great gift given to mankind for the forgiveness of our sins. When you choose cards they should be joyful and reflect a mood of optimism that the story of Christmas embodies. When you visit family and friends it’s to celebrate and share the good things of this season.

The traditions in your family, traditions that your children will remember and maybe pass on to their children

are largely based on the idea of giving, and none of this would be so if God had not first given us His Son. How sad if we should allow greed and selfishness and secularism to dictate what our Christmas season is like. It would be great if we read our families the Christmas story from Matthew and Luke and explained what the world was like in Jesus day. Maybe it’s time to take your family to church to celebrate this Christmas season or choose some way of your own to honor the Lord if it’s not possible to make it to church. There are regular church services, and there are candlelight services at many of the local churches. We are having a Christmas Eve candlelight service at Community Bible Church this year at 6 p.m. and you would be welcome to come.

May your Christmas glorify the Lord Jesus and be honoring to that name that is above every name. Remember Jesus is the reason for the season. Hope to see you Sunday.

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

MINISTRY AT CBC

SUNDAY, Dec. 18
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Musical
“Heaven on Earth”
Praise and Prayer 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14
A.W.A.N.A. 6:30-8 p.m.
Preschool – 6th grade

THURSDAY, Dec. 15
CCA Christmas Program 7 p.m.

Senior Exercise Class
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY
9-10 a.m. in Dining Room

Enjoy some peace and a routine Christmas: by Glenn Mollette

It’s easy to get tired of the same routine. We bring out the same old Christmas tree, same decorations and with almost the same holiday schedule. For good or bad though, Christmas is rarely exactly the same each year. Every Christmas brings a change.

Rarely will you celebrate Christmas with all the same people every year. Consider yourself very fortunate if you do. In many households someone will be missing. Sadly, the missing person is often someone who has been lost in death. Human life is frail and not much is required to eliminate us from living.

The human body is awesome but disease, old age and unfortunate events can take us out of this world easily. Your Christmas celebration may not be impacted this year but if you live long enough you will eventually celebrate the season without parents, siblings, a spouse or

even a child. We don’t like to think about such loss and grief but every Christmas brings an empty chair or a reason to experience grief.

The people of Christmas are God’s greatest gift to us. Our health and our family and friends are the best of life. Take time this Christmas to enjoy the people in your life. Hug on them, love them and be very kind to them. You may not have them next year and you’ll be glad you cherished them. Or, you may be the one missing next Christmas. Hopefully everyone will sit around the table and talk about what a kind and loving person you were...or maybe they won’t. Don’t take the chance; turn up your kindness, love and thoughtfulness this year.

You don’t have to shower people with gifts. Gifts are nice and it helps the economy but most people just need a little love and a few kind words. A little affirmation and appre-

ciation always go a long way. Make a list of people you need to call, send a kind email to or visit in person.

My wife and I love going to see a lady in our town. She is 95 years old and still very independent. She is a greeter at her church, gardens and drives wherever she wants to go. She visits people in the nursing home who are 15 - 20 years younger. She is an easy person to visit because she always inspires us and makes us laugh. She is always kind, never grumpy and has a sweet spirit about life. She exercises every day and eats her vegetables. She is our mentor and we want to be just like her. Therefore, be kind, eliminate grumpiness and be sweeter. People might want to come and spend a little time with you. We always take her a little something when we go to see her like a poinsettia or something simple. You would think we had taken her a bar of gold or diamonds because

she is always so appreciative and grateful.

We need people in our lives because life is not that exciting staring at walls for 24 hours a day. This is what happens to people in nursing homes so often.

Every Christmas has problems. Life is filled with problems. Mary and Joseph had lots of problems their first Christmas. No room in the Inn, taxes to pay, an unplanned pregnancy, and eventual threats from King Herod which caused them to flee into Egypt for safety. People all over the planet will deal with problems this Christmas. What is your problem this Christmas? How are you going to deal with it and move forward? Sometimes there is no answer to life’s problems except to work over or around them. Whatever your problem is this year, please try to not allow it to mess up your Christmas. Finally this Christmas try to

take a new look at the person of Christmas - a little baby. Whatever your religious spin in life is you can’t feel too ill about the baby of Christmas. Years before Jesus’ birth it was told that a babe would be born in Bethlehem and the government would rest upon his shoulders. He would be called wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father and the prince of peace. If you see or experience nothing else about Christmas this year hopefully one descriptive word about the baby will penetrate your life and that is peace. Also, be further blessed with a lot of routine.

Glenn Mollette is a syndicated columnist and author of 11 books. He is read in all 50 states. Visit www.glennmollette.com. Contact him at GMollette@aol.com. Like his facebook page at www.facebook.com/glennmollette.

Places of Worship

BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ
541-592-3923
“Come Join the Worship!”
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Sonny Moore
www.bridgeviewcc.org

7th DAY ADVENTIST
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.
Pastor Christian Martin
Church (541) 592-3218
Madrone Adventist School
541-592-3330

IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Watkins St., CJ
Phone 541-592-3876
Pastor Charles Chase
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.
Child-care for small children

Illinois Valley Praise Center
28569 Redwood Hwy. CJ
Non-denominational
Bible-believing Church
Sunday school - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Thursday Seekers 7 p.m.
Youth group Thursdays - 7 p.m.
www.ivpraisecenter.com

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Dave Gordon
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ
Office: 541-592-3896
Email: cbccca@gmail.com
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Christian Academy
Pre-K to 12th grade
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST CATHOLIC CHURCH
407 W. River St., CJ
541-592-3658
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Holy Days TBA

TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH
10343 Takilma Road, Takilma
Pastor Dan Robinson
Bible Study / Prayer Time
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m

First Baptist Church of Selma
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma
541-597-4169
Pastor Monty Pope
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship - 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
East River Street
& Lewis Court, CJ
Annemarie Richardson
Lay Pastor.
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Church Phone: 541-592-2290
www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net

VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
498 Laurel Road, CJ
P.O. Box 1248
Pastor Marvin Porter
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
evfree@frontiernet.net
541-592-6160

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ
541-592-3956
Pastor Mark McLean
Morning Worship
9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study

ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ
541-592-2006
Rev. Bryant Bechtold
Sunday Worship
Service 10:30 a.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood, Relief Soc. - 12:10 p.m.
Bishop
Larry Hammersmith
541-592-3919

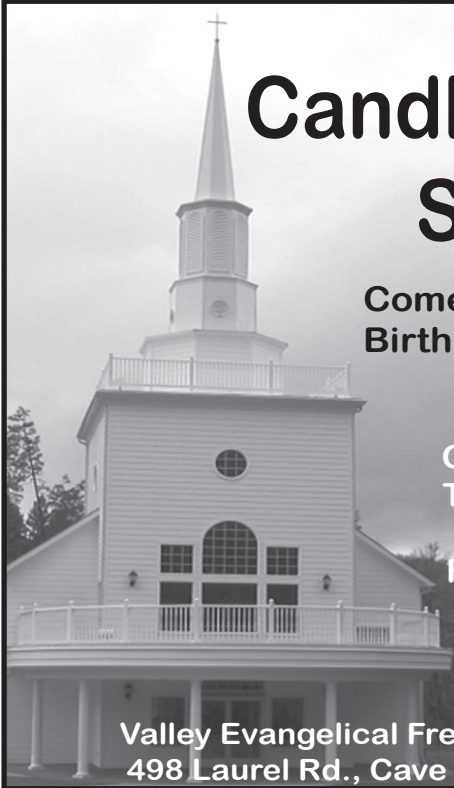


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TUES - FRI 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
SAT 10 AM - 2 PM
SUN & MON CLOSED
23772 Redwood Highway
KERBY, OR
541-592-4838



Candle-light Service

Come Worship the Birth of our Savior

6 p.m.
Christmas Eve
Thursday Dec. 24.
Refreshments following

Valley Evangelical Free Church
498 Laurel Rd., Cave Junction