

Global & Local Outreach Highlight

Russ and Karen Smyth
Anchored International

Dear Friends,

It was a casual conversation with someone who had a serious question about the pain God gave to women bearing children. In the moment it came to me, an answer that seemed to fit the moment. Could it be that God gave us feelings such as pain, guilt, fear, shame and grief to serve as gauges on a dashboard, so we would understand that something is wrong? These universal feelings should cause us to desire the relief that only God can bring. These are the feelings and questions that often bring people to the Bible to look for answers.

Missions trip to Chiapas, Mexico: I had the privilege of going on a short missions trip to Mexico for CDA Bible Church to visit Diego & Tammi Morales. They have been learning the language and building relationships so they can share the gospel in the tribal language. Their living conditions are rough by USA standards, but they fit right in with their neighbors. Through the generosity of the church and several individuals, we were able to bring nine pieces of luggage with school books and computers for the children, Christmas presents from Grandma Miller, and many other good and helpful things.

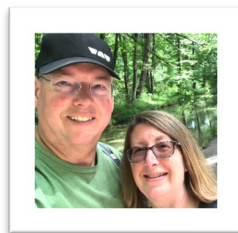
Missions trip to Seattle? Karyn & I have been involved in short-term missions since 1989 when we took our first missions team to Venezuela. We thoroughly enjoy helping send people out, knowing the work God will do in and through their lives. Next week I will be driving the Cale family to Seattle to catch a plane to Thailand for their missions trip. Please pray for God to use them greatly and to plant the seeds of serving God in the hearts of their children.

Prayer requests:

- Pray for the Lord to raise up more laborers for the harvest, and people to work alongside us in the ministry.
- Pray for an end to the war in Ukraine.
- Pray for the teams translating Come and See into Chinese, Indonesian and Chichewa.
- Pray for us to be an encouragement and blessing.
- Pray for the people in our Bible studies and discipleship courses to grow spiritually.
- Praise the Lord for all the encouragement, prayers and tangible help we receive.

Thanks again for your prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Lord bless you in every way.

In Christ's Love,
Russ & Karyn



SCAN
QR CODE
TO SEND
A GIFT
FOR
SMYTHS



COEUR D'ALENE
BIBLE CHURCH

Weekly Ministry Guide



December 14, 2025

www.cdabible.org

5350 N. 4th Street • Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815 • 208.664.4883

— Prayer Requests and Updates —

♥ **There is room on the prayer list for your requests.** Please use a prayer card from the pew, call (208) 664-4883 or email (office@cdabible.org).

Cale Family Mission Trip: Please continue in prayer for the Cale family as they prepare for their mission trip to Thailand.

Doris McKay: Pray for Doris, as she had surgery on Wednesday. Ask the Lord to guide her doctors in caring for her medical needs. Pray for peace for Doris and her husband, Jerry.

John Chandler: Praise God that John was released from inpatient care and now can continue physical therapy from home. Pray for peace and strength for each day. Include his wife, Maryann, in your prayers.

Joi DeLoney: Please continue to pray for her surgery recovery and the nerve pain from where the sutures are located. She will have reconstructive surgery on December 22. Pray also for Jacob in finding a new job after the surgery.

Kris Morrow: Please pray for Kris' full recovery from complications after a routine medical procedure in October. Pray for wisdom as specialists evaluate and address each issue. Ask the Lord to give strength to Kris and the family as they support one another in this challenging time.

Shirley Mooring: Pray for Shirley to recover from a recent fall, in which she fractured her arm and injured her face and side. Pray for her husband, Charles, and praise God for their children who are very supportive.

— Thank you —

Dear Church Family: Please accept my heartfelt appreciation for everyone's prayers and thankfulness for God's steadfastness. Thank you, John Chandler

— Prayer Gatherings —

Prayer Gatherings: Here's our passionate encouragement: choose one or more of the prayer gatherings listed below. To add the discipline of prayer to your life can only bring benefit to your soul...and at the same time will have impact on the world around you!

- Pre-Worship Gathering Prayer Group - 9:45 AM
- After Worship Gathering Prayer Group - 12:00 PM
- Thursday Morning Men's Prayer Group - 6:00 AM
- Thursday Morning Women's Prayer Group - 11:00 AM

Scan the codes below to share a prayer request or reserve the prayer room.



Prayer Request



Prayer Room

— Events, Ministries, and Opportunities —

Year-to-Date Giving:

Giving need through the end of November 2025: \$725,940

Giving actual through the end of November 2025: \$645,998

Giving deficit of: **\$79,942**

End-of-Year Giving: Every year, we are grateful for your year-end gifts, which help us meet our annual obligations. Your gifts also allow us to enter the new year with some seed money for a new year of ministry. We are always so amazed at how God uses all of you to express amazing Christmas generosity. To make a year-end gift, you can either:

- Place your gift in one of the offering boxes found in the worship center or church lobby (please mark your gift "year-end giving"). The last Sunday to give in this manner is December 28, 2025.
- Give online at the CDA Bible website: click the 3-line menu, then select "Give." The gift must be made by December 31, 2025. (www.cdabible.org)
- Mail your gift to the church office at CDA Bible Church, 5350 N. 4th Street, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815. Mailed gifts must be postmarked by December 31, 2025.
- Hand-deliver your gift at the church office Monday-Thursday from 8am-3pm.
NOTE: The church office will be closed from December 22 to January 5.

Once again, thank you for thinking about us as 2025 comes to a close. We are excited to see what God has in store for us in 2026!

Youth Group: On Wednesday, December 17, at 6:30 PM in the Youth Lounge, the Youth Group will gather for a holiday party and worship time. Contact Robbie or Hannah Harmelink at harmelink@cdabible.org with any questions.

CBC Food Bank Requests: Just two things on our wish list this week: **canned tuna and canned chili**. Please leave donations on the cart in the lobby by the nursery.

Mark Your Calendar

Sundays: Man-to-Man Cancer Support (12pm) GR

Mondays: Splendor Senior Adult Bible Study (10am) YL (no break)

Wednesdays: Wednesday Gathering is on break until Jan. 7

Thursdays: Ladies' Bible Study is on break until Jan. 8

Thursdays: Ladies' Prayer Team is on break until Jan. 8

Saturdays (2nd & 4th): Women's Coffee Fellowship (8:30am) Lobby

Dec. 14: Christmas Caroling Various Groups (12PM) LCC-CDA

Dec. 17: Youth Group Christmas Party (6:30 PM) Youth Lounge

Dec. 17: Ladies' Christmas Caroling (6:30 PM)

Dec. 21: Women of Valor Luncheon (12PM) Gym

Dec. 22-Jan. 4: Church Office Closed (Reopens Jan. 5)

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service (5:00 PM) No childcare

Dec. 28: Family Sunday (Kids 4yrs-5th gr. Stay in church)

Group Discussion Questions

Advent—Joy

- 1. Biblical Joy vs. Happiness:** The sermon distinguishes biblical joy from worldly happiness or pleasure. How would you define the difference in your own words, and where have you seen this distinction in your life?
- 2. Joy in God's Presence:** Psalm 16:11 says, "In Your presence is fullness of joy." What practices or moments most help you sense the presence of God, and how does that influence your experience of joy?
- 3. Mirror Neurons & Spiritual Formation:** The sermon mentions that we "mirror" the emotions of those around us. How does spending time with joyful believers or with God Himself shape your emotional and spiritual life?
- 4. Joy in Salvation:** From the lost sheep to the prodigal son, Jesus teaches that heaven rejoices when the lost are found. Why do you think salvation brings such "great joy" in Scripture, and how have you experienced joy in your own salvation story?
- 5. "Great Joy" Across Scripture:** The phrase "great joy" appears in moments of anointing, deliverance, worship, Christ's birth, resurrection, ascension, and the spread of the gospel. Which of these moments speaks to you the most and why do you think it is associated with "great joy"?
- 6. Simeon's Joy:** Simeon experienced profound joy when he finally saw the promised Messiah. What can Simeon teach us about waiting on God and about recognizing God's promises when they are fulfilled?
- 7. Joy in Hard Circumstances:** The sermon notes that joy comes from the inside, not from circumstances. What helps you maintain joy during seasons of difficulty, stress, or uncertainty?
- 8. Joy as a Witness:** Early Christians often responded to Jesus with joy, which became part of their testimony to others. How can believers today reflect joy in a way that draws others toward Christ?

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—JOY

Dr. Nathan Duncan, Senior Ministry Director
Sunday, December 14, 2025



Message Notes:

1. Biblical joy is different than h_____ or p_____.
2. Biblical joy is a s_____ of being.
3. Biblical joy comes from i_____ despite our c_____.
4. Joy in the Old Testament is the result of d_____ or v_____ from one's enemies.
5. Joy in the New Testament is still used in reference to v_____, but it is more about s_____ victory.
6. Jesus' teachings on joy focus on s_____ and the deliverance from d_____ and s_____.
7. The joy of God came to focus in h_____ h_____ in Jesus Christ.
8. The note of joy and e_____ runs through the entire biblical account of the coming of Christ.

Scriptures visited in this message:

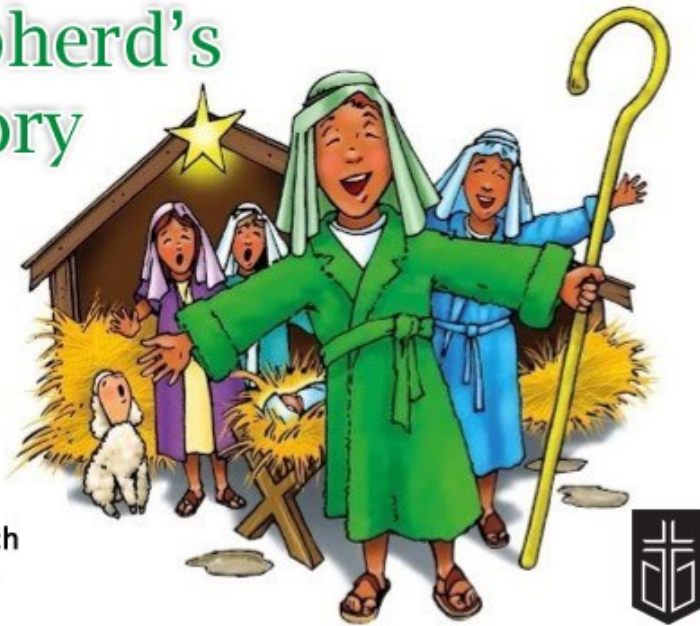
Psalm 96:11-13; 104:31
Exodus 15:1-2
1 Samuel 18:6
Ecclesiastes 2:1
Isaiah 65:18-19

Matthew 2:10; 26:6-8
Luke 2:9-11 ;10:17; 15:4-32; 24:51-53
Acts 15:3
Philippians 1:25
Jude 24

A Shepherd's Story

Kids'
Christmas
Musical

Sunday
December 21
10:30 AM
CDA Bible Church
Worship Center



NEXT WEEK! Our Kid's Christmas Musical is truly a highlight of the Christmas season. Please invite your friends and family and neighbors to this special service on Sunday, December 21st at 10:30am. God uses these little children to tell the Gospel story in songs and skits and verse. What a blessing! (Below is a sneak peek at what they are memorizing!)

Luke 2:8-14 NKJV, Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"



Ladies' Christmas Caroling

Gals of all ages, please join us in singing Christmas carols at our local retirement centers, where we can encourage seniors with the music of the holiday season. We will carpool to nearby facilities and bring warmth and love to our neighbors through songs about the precious gift of Jesus our Savior.

Dates:

Sunday, December 14, right after church at 12 PM

Wednesday, December 17, at 6:30 PM

Sign up in the lobby, so we know how many groups we can assemble to reach as many hearts as possible!

Contact Marilee Finney with any questions:

Email: marilee@cdabible.org

Text: 208-661-9852





You're Invited!

*Sunday, December 21st
12:00 P.M.
The Gym*

Women of Valor is a group of widows and older single women of the church who gather for a meal and a time of support and encouragement from each other and our ministry team. This event always proves to be a great time of warm fellowship and delicious food provided by the ministry team.

Just bring yourself and a hearty appetite!

This event is open to widows in the community.

CDA Bible Church, 5350 N. 4th St., CDA, ID 83815



Advent—The Season of Expectation

The Advent season is a four-week period in the Christian calendar that prepares people for Jesus Christ's birth at Christmas, while also pointing ahead to his promised return. Each Sunday of the season traditionally spotlights a key theme—like hope, peace, joy, or love—to invite reflection and expectant celebration. It's a season that includes practices like prayer, lighting candles, giving to those in need, and worship. Advent reminds us that we're living during the time between Jesus' first and second advents, leading us to lament the hardships we experience in a still-broken world, while also forming us into people who wait with longing for the renewed world to come.

For Advent 2025, we will be hearing from several members of our CDA Bible Church staff. Here's how things are lined up regarding the Sunday morning events/messages:

Be sure to pick up your copy of the Advent scripture readings for your home devotional times during the Advent season. Available at the welcome desk.

December 14

Nathan Duncan (Senior Ministry Director) speaking on "Joy"

December 21

Kid's Christmas Musical

Justin Hunter (Young Adult Ministry Intern) speaking on "Love"