

THE WEST END BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT, TENNESSEE



THE LORD'S DAY - DEC 19, 2010

Tom Mooty - Senior Pastor

You are very welcomed and wanted here today; and we pray that you will want to come back. If you are one of our visitors this morning, please complete the card which is included in your Newsletter and place it in the offering plate; and don't forget to use the special prayer request section on the flip side of the card.

SUNDAY MORNING

Continental Breakfast - 9:00

Choir Practice - 9:30

Bible Study for all ages - 10:00

Southern Gospel Concert - 10:30

(To save valuable radio time, announcements are presented on the screens as you enter the auditorium)

MORNING SERVICE BEGINS AT 10:57

Praise and Worship Music
(Led by Matthew Maynard)

**WLIK (1270 AM) LIVE BRADCAST
and INTERNET OUTREACH
www.wlik.net (click on "listen live")
"The Sonshine for Shut-Ins Service"
(Sundays 11:00-12:00)**



Great Special Music and Singing
(Choir directed by Charlene Jonson)

Worship with Tithes and Offerings
Announcements - PrayerTime

**PRESENTING OUR CHILDREN'S CHURCH
"Merry Christmas - From Jesus and From Us!"**

CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS FROM BROTHER TOM

TONIGHT

Activities and Coffee Club at 4:30
Choir Practice at 5:00
Church at 6:00 - R V Maynard to Preach

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

The Family Life Center is open for activities and fellowship at 4:30; and the Coffee Club meets in the Lion 'n Lamb Café at 5:00. All classes (for all ages) begin at 6:00. The Children's Church will assemble in the "Game

Room"; the Youth will meet in the "Youth Room"; and the adults meet in the Chapel to update the prayer list with Brother Tom, and enjoy a thought-provoking, well planned Bible Study led by Brother Paul Stiefvater.

IMA SYNE SAYINGS

(Sayings from our Highway 25/70 Sign)

**It's OK to say "Merry Christmas".
You can have your "happy holidays" anytime!**

It's Christmas; not Xmas.

**Keep Christ in Christmas.
You'll thank me someday!**

Celebrating Christmas Around the World

Christmas has been celebrated by Christians in nearly every country on the globe; and, while there are many common practices, there are also some unique twists:

Christmas in Russia

Most Russian Christians practice the Orthodox faith, in which Christmas is celebrated on January 6. Beginning on December 1, Russians recite special prayers and some even fast until Christmas. To celebrate Christmas Eve, January 5, the Russian Orthodox Believers partake in a twelve course meal honoring each of the twelve Apostles. Traditional foods include fish, beet soup, stuffed cabbage, and stewed dry fruit.

Russian children believe that the "Babushka" ("grandmother") brings them presents. Legend has it that Ba-

bushka had planned to travel with the wise men to meet the Baby Jesus; but she decided against it because of inclement weather. She regrets that to this day and still visits the children with gifts to "atone" for it.

Christmas in The Netherlands (Holland)

In The Netherlands, Christmas comes a bit earlier than in North America! On December 5th, Dutch children and their families celebrate St. Nicholas Eve, when the legendary "Sinterklaas Avond" is believed to bring gifts to well-behaved children. After this joyful, present-filled day, the country turns its attention to preparing for the separate religious festival of Christmas on December 25th and the Three Kings Day on January 6th.



Christmas in England

Christmas celebrations in England are quite similar to those in the United States. The highlight of Christmas Eve dinner is the traditional

Christmas pudding; which, according to legend, must be prepared with thirteen separate ingredients, representing Jesus and His twelve disciples. Before cooking the pudding, the chef drops a silver coin into the mixture, which is believed to bring wealth and happiness to whomever receives it in his portion.

Decorating the Christmas tree has been a tradition in England since at least 1841, when Prince Albert set up a decorated tree in Windsor Castle. Stockings are also hung by Christmas Eve so that "Father Christmas" can stuff them with goodies.

In England, children set out brandy and mince pie for "Father Christmas", along with a carrot and bowl of water for the reindeer. At 3pm on Christmas Day, families gather around their "telly" for the Queen's Christmas address to the nation.



Christmas in Germany

In Germany, Christmas celebrations start on December 5th, when St. Nicholas makes his rounds bringing gifts for the children. (The "naughty ones" just receive a lump

of coal - which is actually a very practical gift in that society). The tree ("tannenbaum") was originally decorated with open-flame candles; but today, most Germans favor the safer electronic Christmas lights. The tradition of decorating a Christmas tree actually began in Germany; as the German-born Prince Albert of England introduced the custom to the British people. Another tradition that started in Germany is that of the Gingerbread House, which was popularized in the famous German folk story of Hansel and Gretel.

Christmas in Australia

In Southern Hemisphere countries such as Australia, the only "white" seen on Christmas is probably the white caps at the ocean. Indeed, many Aussies spend Christmas day at the beach, enjoying a seaside barbie ("barbeque"). Santa usually arrives on a surfboard dressed in red swimming trunks. Christmas Eve supper often features cold salads and meats, along with a fresh dessert of strawberries and cream. (Notice the seeming absence of any "official" religious observances).

Christmas in Mexico

For the Mexican people, Christmas celebrations are very much focused on the religious themes of the holiday. Most families attend midnight mass on Christmas Eve. Children also anticipate a visit from "el Ni-o Dios" (the Holy Child), who brings gifts to good little children. On January 6, "Reyes Magos" is celebrated when it is believed that the three wise men come to visit, also leaving gifts for the children - oftentimes in their shoes.

Since evergreen trees are very expensive in Mexico, poinsettias (which actually originated in Mexico) are often used to decorate Mexican homes. Piñatas filled with candies are also common Christmas decorations.



Christmas in the Philippines

In the Philippines, Christmas ("Pasko") celebrations begin on December 16 and run through the first Sunday of January, when the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated. This three-week long celebration includes rituals such as the "Simbang Gabi" (a series of nine Catholic masses starting at dawn from December 16-24). Other traditions include the Christmas Lantern, a star-shaped lantern used to decorate homes, offices, shops and street lamps; Christmas caroling; and the "Noche Buena" ("The Good Night"), a traditional Christmas Eve feast featuring roasted pig and other delicacies.

"TAKE FIVE WITH TOMMY"



Be sure to read "Five Minutes with Tom Mooty" in each Thursday's edition of the Newport Plain Talk. The column can also be accessed and forwarded to friends from our website: www.webaptistchurch.org and clicking on the link to the "Pastor's Blog".

RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM 2011

If you would like to contribute a small amount all along, you may write a check to "West End Baptist Church", marked "Relay for Life". Remember, if we contribute all along, we will be able to have quite a bit to give at the Rally in June, 2011. Please remember this very worthwhile organization. A donation of any amount entitles you to place a card on the "Relay Tree" "in honor of" or "in memory of" anyone you designate. See Angella Thomas for details on how you can get involved.



THE CHILDREN ARE LISTENING; SO, LET'S MAKE IT PLAIN.

We are very happy that you parents, grandparents, guardians (et al) are bringing your kids to attend and participate in our several Children's Ministries.

There's a nursery for the babies (0 - 3); classes in our Sunday School; and the Children's Church meets whenever the church is in session; and in the summer, the children enjoy our Vacation Bible School. Please attend our Church Christmas Party tonight at 6:00. Kid-friendly finger foods and drinks are the order of the night. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this time of recognition of special people and especially our children.