

NOWTHEN ALLIANCE CHURCH

Equipping people to find Life and Faith in Christ

This edition of the NAC eNews will focus on Christmas, including a showing of the film “The Star of Bethlehem.” We will follow up with details about the transition to three services in January, winter quarter adult Sunday School classes, and the first Taiwan 18 information session. We will conclude with an introduction to Cherie Morgan, our new director of Children’s Ministry. **THIS SUNDAY we will celebrate Amanda Wilder** – There will be cake in the café and a place to drop a card of encouragement, if you choose.



The “Star” is showing at Nowthen on December 17: beginning at 9:45am in room 101 (Axis room). The “Star” begins with the Biblical account of Jesus’ birth, adding relevant historical context from first century authors such as Josephus. From that base, researcher Rick Larson summarizes the astronomical investigation he has done using modern astronomy software to provide a compelling image of the Star that the Magi followed from Mesopotamia to Bethlehem in the fall of 2 B.C. You can learn more about this film at: <http://www.bethlehemstar.com/>



PrimeTimers: In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation the PrimeTimers are hosting a presentation on Martin Luther on Thursday, December 21, in the cafe. The event begins with a potluck lunch at 11:30am, followed by the presentation at 12:30pm. All invited.

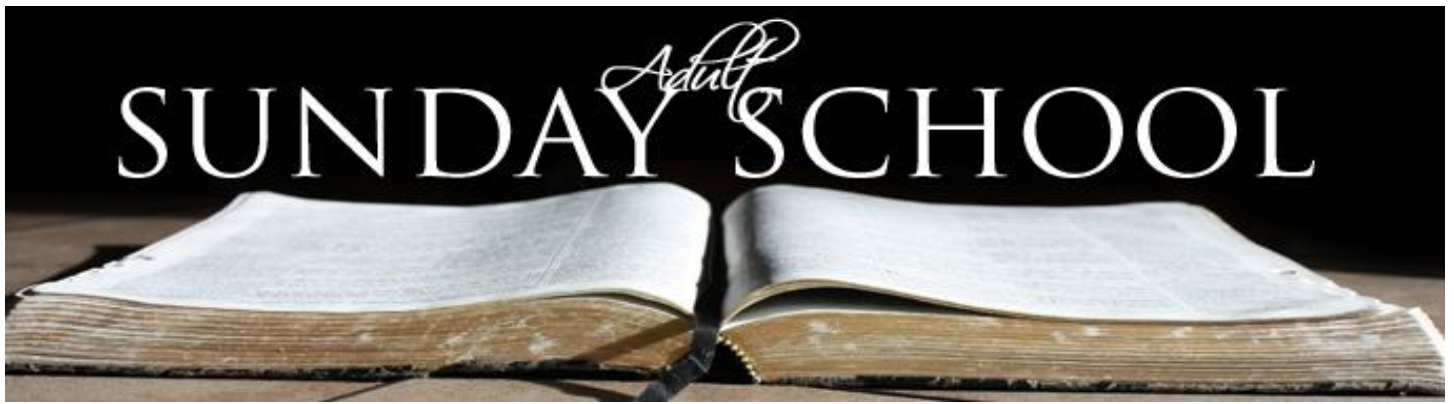
Hope Has Come



Christmas Services 2017: Beginning December 10th we will be looking topically at the hope God's People in the Old Testament were waiting for, leading up to Christmas Eve where we will celebrate that Hope Has Come. Join us for these messages this holiday season as we remember where our hope is found. This year, Christmas Eve happens to fall on a Sunday. There will be services 8:30am, 11:00am, and at 3:00pm. All three services will be similar with the same message. The 8:30am service will be in the sanctuary while the 11:00am and 3:00pm services will be held in the lower worship center. The nursery will be open for the 8:30am and 11:00am services, but note that there will be no children's church and no café service. The nursery will not be open for the 3:00pm service, but we encourage you to bring children to these family friendly services. Invite a friend and learn more about why we know that "**Hope Has Come.**"

A CONCERT OF PRAYER

Concert of Prayer: On Sunday, January 7, we want to meet as a congregation to give thanks for the growth and to pray for our transition to three services. The event will begin at 5:00pm with a potluck meal – broasted chicken and beverages will be provided, each family should bring a side or desert to share. At 6:00pm we will begin the concert of prayer – a combination of an old-time hymn sing and tent prayer meeting. All small group leaders are encouraged to invite their groups to participate. A children's video will be shown in room 101 (Axis) for those old enough to enjoy, along with nursery service for those families that would need it.



Adult Sunday School: The winter session of Sunday School begins January 21, but a concise summary of all three options will be provided during all services on January 14. Lawren Ingalls will continue his class on the discipline of Scripture reading and Prayer in room 203. Chris Heino will facilitate the “Financial Peace” class in room 101. Don Nydam will lead a brand new class that I’d describe as a combination worldview & comparative world religions course. This class will be held in the sanctuary.



Usher & Greeter Team Meeting: A pair of meetings has been scheduled for all ushers and greeters, choose the time that best fits your schedule. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 7, beginning at 9:45am in room 101. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00pm in room 101. Both meetings will last 30 minutes and will consist of safety and emergency training, and an overview of these important roles.



Taiwan 18: Nowthen will be sending a short-term team to Taiwan in early September of 2018. The first information session for this trip will be held on Sunday, January 14, at 9:45am in the conference room. Plan to attend if you are considering this trip or contact Pastor Bruce.



New Sunday Service Time

New Sunday Service Schedule: Beginning January 14, 2018, there will be three worship services at Nowthen. The first (traditional) service will meet in the sanctuary at 8:00am. Contemporary services will be held at 9:30am and 11:00am in the lower worship center. Sunday School will be held during the second service, starting at 9:30am. Note the earlier start time for all Sunday School classes beginning on January 14.

Women's Ministry

Tuesday Morning for Women: The winter sessions will begin on Tuesday, January 9 and registration begins right after Christmas. In addition to the Wellness Workout class at 8:30am, the follow classes will begin at 9:15am. “Spiritual Disciplines to help grown your faith,” led by Lawren Ingalls. “Authentic: Developing the Disciples of a Sincere Faith,” facilitated by Bette Boesiger & Leah Burquest. On Wednesday evenings Liz Lorenz and Sheila Damborg will facilitate the “Authentic:” class at 6:30pm in the conference room. More details coming soon!



Introducing Cherie Morgan: Beginning January 1, Cherie will be our new director of Children's Ministries. The following is a brief introduction to Cherie and her family. “My

husband, Matt and I live in Ramsey with our daughter and two dogs. We are expecting a baby boy the end of March. My husband and I enjoy spending time as a family as well as playing board games. A couple of my hobbies are running and painting. I am hoping to get back into both after the baby comes. I recieved my B.S in Youth Ministry and my Masters in Miinistry Leadership from Crown College. For the past seven years I have worked at Grace Fellowship Church as the Grade School Director. It has been a great experience working with kids, volunteers and parents. I am looking forward to working at Nowthen Alliance. We are very excited to get to know everyone and be a part of a new church family.”