



Warwick Valley Church of the Nazarene

teen newsletter

December 2010 Edition

Extradorinary Moment

We must take darkness seriously, even around Christmas. We take darkness seriously because the Bible does, and because darkness is no small part of our everyday lives. Also because darkness is what the light of Christ makes its way into. Living in darkness, we watch in hope for the light. Isaiah says: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined." (9:2)

The ironic thing about Isaiah's statement about the light shining in a land of darkness is that it was made at a time when there was really no light to be seen at all. This statement was made at a very dark time in the life of the people of Israel, and there were to be many, many dark day and years ahead. Right in the middle of these dark days, though, Isaiah sounds forth this claim of a vision of light.

Here in Isaiah 9 is this brief encouraging word - inserted into the middle of warnings of the coming of night - that makes the claim that darkness will end and a new era of peace and hope will dawn.

It's not that the light of Christ does away with the darkness but that the light of Christ is tough and tenacious, so however great the darkness (and sometimes it is very great indeed), the light still shines.

One of my favorite descriptions of the proper "Advent Attitude" is from Frederick Buechner as he describes that hushed sense of anticipation at the beginning of a play or concert:

The houselights go off and the footlights come on. Even the chattiest stop chattering as they wait in darkness for the curtain to rise. In the orchestra pit, the violin bows are poised. The conductor has raised his baton. You can feel your heart beat. The extraordinary moment just before it happens. Advent is the name of that moment.

Advent is a time of waiting, and sometimes we wait in darkness. But we also wait with anticipation and hope.

Brent Beasley is a Pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, TX.

Cross Training...

EVERY Wednesday night 7-8:15pm @ P2... You don't want to miss it!



December's Photo of the month!

Don't Forget! The last Sunday of every month is PINK SHIRT SUNDAY!!!!

Stuff You Need to Know

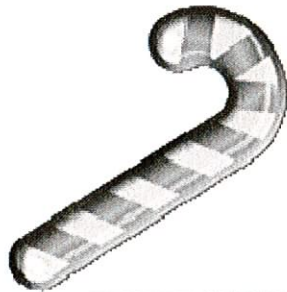
Saturday, December 11th 10a @ P2

We're going to film a youth group music video starring you! Afterwards, we will be going Christmas Shopping @ Garden State Plaza. You will need to bring money for lunch and must rsvp.

White Elephant Party

Mon, Dec 27th 12-2p @ P2

Please select a gift that you received at Christmas that you really don't need, re-wrap it and bring it with you along with \$5 for a pizza lunch.



Teen/Tween Christmas Party...
Wed, Dec 15th 6-8:15p... YOU MUST sign up @ either P2 or in the church foyer. Bring a snack and a friend!

Did you know?

Did you know that the wise men didn't actually get to see Jesus until he was around 2 years old? So much for those guys being part of a nativity set! They never made it to the manger!

dates you need to know...

Dec 4 (Sat) Help Portrait * Dec 11 (Sat) Video filming/Shopping * Dec 15 (Wed) Teen/Tween Christmas Party * Dec 26 (Sun) Pink Shirt Sunday * Dec 27 (Mon) White Elephant Party *

