

Greetings!

We are done with Advent and heading into our 12 Days of Christmas. The season continues, as do the opportunities to worship, reconnect with Jesus, and share with others the incredible story. The baby Jesus is born, but the story is just getting started. As we will hear Sunday, he will be taken to the Temple and his parents will continue to get confirmation of his person and ministry from unlikely sources – in this case Simeon and Anna. A visit from some very wise men will soon follow as they finish their journey from the east looking for the new king and bring some much needed gifts to the new baby and his family. There will be a flight to Egypt to keep him safe, and a return to the temple when they come back to the land of Israel. And that is just getting us warmed up!

The point is that we should not be in any hurry to finish our remembrance/commemoration/celebration of the birth of Jesus. There are many special ways we can celebrate and share with those around us and each other. The New Year should have no effect on the narrative and the enjoyment of the season. In fact, as we head into yet another year, it can be just what we need to springboard ourselves into an amazing year of personal spiritual growth, of the best year of relationship with God we have ever had! One of our goals this year is to make sure that we are providing opportunities for personal and group studies so that everyone can strengthen their understanding, commitment and appreciation for Jesus and can take that “next step” along the path of real life faith. And, while we are at it, why not invite someone to take that “next step” with you? It is always more fun to grow with someone than to grow alone! Keep an eye open for them as they come and pick one that is right for you!

See you at Church, and around the Kingdom!

Pastor Roger, Lead Servant, and co-Worshipper