

December 12, 2024

GIFTS

With the Christmas Season upon us, it is time for another one of my favorite traditions of the holidays. The PNC Christmas Price Index. For the past 41 years, PNC has calculated the prices of the 12 gifts given in “The Twelve Days of Christmas”, and this year is quite a doozy. This year, if you were to buy your true love every item from “The Twelve Days of Christmas” it will cost you 5.4% more this year. More than double last year’s increase of 2.7%. This year, according to the PNC Christmas Price Index, it would cost you \$209,272 to buy the 12 items mentioned in the song. It is mind-blowing to think that just four years ago those same items would have cost \$105,561. The simple fact is inflation makes shopping a challenge. Especially if your true loves want two turtle doves, which would cost you an estimated \$750 for the pair.

Whether it is shopping for regular groceries and everyday needs, or shopping for gifts and meals for Christmas, stuff costs a lot of money. Maybe this year you are on a tighter budget than usual, or maybe you are simply trying to cut back on some of the over-spending of years past. Regardless of the reason, I have nine perfect gift ideas that will never go up in price. The first is a gift that you can give to anyone, even those who are ungrateful. The gift of love. **Luke 6:35** says, “But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.” For those who tend to be a “scrooge” this time of year, or for those who are truly having a difficult or sorrowful time, give the gift of joy. Take time to reach out to them and make sure to share with them the joy that you have in Christ. **Psalm 16:11** says, “You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

The next three gifts are ones often talked about during this time of year but are seldom seen. They are the gifts of peace, patience, and kindness. These are gifts that can be given to people of all ages. They never go out of style or get old either. As Paul says in **Ephesians 4:32**, “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” Give the gift of kindness to your family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors. Be patient with others, even during the holiday rush, focus on the peace that you can give to others because of the peace that Christ gives us. Jesus tells us in **Matthew 5:9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

Another gift that never goes out of style and won’t break the bank is the gift of goodness. It is a gift that is good to give any time of the year, and it is good for all seasons. **Galatians 6:9-10** says, “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” One last gift to give to others is the gift of gentleness. Paul tells Titus in **Titus 3:2** “speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.” Let us make sure our gentleness is seen by others not only during the holidays but all year long. After all, the wisdom from above is first pure, peaceable, and gentle. (**James 3:17**)

For my last two gifts, why not get yourself something for Christmas? These are also gifts that once you use, it can be a great benefit to all who are around you. The first gift for yourself is faithfulness. **Proverbs 3:3-4** tells us, “Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So, you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.” As you live in faithfulness to God, not only will you abound in His blessings, but that faithfulness will begin to spread to others as well. It is a true gift that keeps on giving. The final gift to give yourself is the gift of self-control. **Proverbs 16:32** says, “Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.” On the other hand, **Proverbs 25:28** says, “A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.” Without the gift of self-control, we are open to all sorts of attacks and fears of the world, but if we open and use the gift of self-control, we are fearless and stronger than the most mighty of warriors. **2 Timothy 1:7** says, “For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” With all the holiday shopping and gift giving this time of year, I hope you take this gift guide and give the gift of fruit that isn’t affected by inflation. The fruit of the Spirit! (**Galatians 5:22-23**)

Andrew Spivey

SCHEDULE CHANGE

Services for Wednesday, December 25th, have been moved to Thursday, December 26th. Please make a note of the change.

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – John 4
Wednesday Read – John 5:1-11
Luke 4:16-30



Questions for last week's reading of;
John chapter 2-3; Luke 3:19-20

Questions:

1. What was Jesus’ first miracle?
2. What did Jesus do when he saw people selling animals in the temple?
3. What was Jesus talking about when he said, “destroy this temple and in 3 days I will raise it up.?”
4. What did Jesus mean when He told Nicodemus that man must be born again in order to see the kingdom of God?
5. How did Herod punish John the Baptist when John told Herod to stop sinning?

UPCOMING EVENTS

** 4:15 Singing class every Sunday*
Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm*

- Dec.25th – Merry Christmas
(church office closed Dec 24th & 25th)
- Dec. 26th – Wednesday night services will not be held on Wednesday, the 25th. We will have services on Thursday, the 26th.
- Dec. 29 – 5th Sunday Singing/evening service
- Jan. 1st – Happy New Year
(church office closed)

SYMPATHY

Our Love and Sympathy to **Fate & Faye Evans** on the passing of Faye's mother, **Opal Harper**, on December 6th. Visitation is on Friday December 13th from 3-7pm at the Springhill Funeral Home. Visitation also on Saturday, December 14th from 11am - 1:30pm with the funeral to begin at 1:30 pm. Please keep the family in your prayers.

ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY

December 15, 2024
9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Brent Smith
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Allyn Hosman
Scripture Reading.....Mike Lyle
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Tim Strickland
Lord's Supper.....Eric Stephenson
Servers.....B. Sever, R. Buck, C. Nelsen
J. Cherry, M. Ellis, C. Suddarth

Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....David Thompson

4:15 Singing Class

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Allyn Hosman
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Garrett Rowlett
Sermon..... Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....David Johnson
Closing Prayer.....Tony Butler

WEDNESDAY

December 18, 2024
7:00 PM

Welcome.....Allyn Hosman
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Carl Newby

Ushers for December.....T. Cummins/A. Williamson
Communion Care for December.....C/P Newby

Door Greeters – West Door.....C/P Newby
East Door.....L/J Clark
Visitor's Desk Volunteer..... Linda Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
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 Gallatin, TN 37066
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Ida Lou Sherrill mother of Alex Sherill, is in rehab at The Waters of Gallatin, Room 407. **Myra Rasnick**, mother of Meredith Andrews, had surgery for a broken fibula. **Jean McCurdy**, mother of Olivia Nelsen, had surgery for breast cancer. Surgery went well. **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby has completed his chemo treatments. He returns to the doctor in six months. **Larry Bailey**, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with lung cancer. He has begun chemo.

SHUT-INS

Jean Deaton, Mary Spivey
 (new addresses for both Jean & Mary, please call the office)

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	92
Morning Worship.....	145
Sunday Evening.....	71
Wednesday Evening.....	70
Contribution.....	\$7,307.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$10,008.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Adam Williamson	

PRAYER LIST

Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Mary Spivey; Charlie Cliburn; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Sara Hosman; Shauna Lockett; Tony Perry; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Lena Baggett; Pat Watson; Frances Catron; Charles & Jackie Williams; Pat Crump; Scott Seals son of Charlie & Wanda Seals; **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby; **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; **Jean McCurdy** mother of Olivia Nelsen; **Elaine Reynolds**, friend of Christie Coleman; **Alan Greene**, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; **Bethany Shoulders**, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; **Samantha Hager**, friend of June Thompson; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Wade Kennedy** father of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org

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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister

TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister

GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister