

The Ambassador

Delivering the Truth that Sets People Free

We are therefore Christ's Ambassadors (2Cor. 5:20)

www.AMBASSADORNEWSPAPER.COM



By Pastor David Dena
Praise Chapel Yuba-Sutter

A Continuing Legacy for Our Community

A new chapter begins. Hello, Yuba-Sutter communities and beyond—my name is David Dena, my wife and I pastor Praise Chapel Yuba-Sutter, and it is both an honor and a humbling responsibility to announce that our church will be continuing the stewardship of The Ambassador newspaper.

This publication has long been a cornerstone in our region, a place where testimonies, community stories, local encouragement, and the heart of God have been shared freely. I believe, without

question, that God inspired Seth to create The Ambassador years ago, and through his faithful stewardship it has impacted countless lives.

A Friendship Years in the Making

My wife and I have known Seth and Angie for at least 15 years. Over the years we've partnered in ministry, attended the same

impact of their work unfold.

Within the last year, they began fellowshiping with us at Praise Chapel. It was during this time that we learned more about the health challenges Seth has been facing. Angie shared the growing difficulty of carrying the workload and stress of keeping The Ambassador going.

“We didn’t want to see the paper end... we prayed together, and here we are, continuing the vision.”

community events, and supported many of the same outreach efforts. Their heart for the region has always been evident, and it has been a blessing to watch the

When they opened up about possibly needing to step away, our hearts were moved. We understood the weight of the situation and the importance of

preserving something that had become so valuable to the community. After multiple conversations, prayer meetings, and moments of seeking God’s wisdom, the mantle was placed into our hands. This wasn’t a quick decision. It was something we approached with prayer, humility, and deep respect for Seth and Angie’s legacy.

The Team Behind the Paper

One of the most encouraging aspects of this transition has been the strength of the existing team. We're thankful to have Teresa Davis who does the graphic design and layout. The Ambassador has a remarkable group of writers who pour into

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**The Christmas Penguin
by Christy Boals**

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**Godly Wisdom from
Pastor Johnny Burke**

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THE AMBASSADOR

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The Ambassador

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Sunday Services:
9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.
Website: www.acyc.family
Pastor Greg Mansur

Church of Glad Tidings
1179 Eager Road, Yuba City
www.churchofgladtidings.com
(530) 671-3160
Saturdays - 7pm
Sundays - 10am
Thursday - 7pm

Faith Tabernacle-Yuba City
Pastor Bill & Trudy Gibson
760 Spiva Ave., YC
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Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:30am
(Traditional Hymns & Praise and Worship Music)
Sunday Evening 6:00pm
Thursday Bible Study - 6:00pm

Household of Faith
World Outreach Ministries
1179 Eager Rd., Bldg.#200
Live Oak
(530) 763-2756
Sun. 10:30am & Wed. 7pm
www.facebook.com/cccplo

Loma Rica
Baptist Church
11449 Hill Rd., Loma Rica
Sun. 9:30am-Prayer/Bible Study
10:30am - Morning Service
www.lrbaptistchurch.com
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Praise Chapel Yuba/Sutter
2 Counties · 1 Vision / 1 Church · 2 Locations
Yuba City - 398 Aylor Ave
Pastor David & Marci Dena
Plumas Lake - 1662 Broadway
Pastor Mike and Dee Priebe
Sunday Morning @ 10:30 am
(530) 300-1458

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All to Him I freely give
I will ever love and trust Him
In His presence daily live

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504 J St., Marysville
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www.agapewc.com

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www.cornerstoneyc.com
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10:50am - Contemporary
Friday - 1:00pm

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faith100d@gmail.com
FaithLuthernMarysville.org
Sunday 10:00am

Hallwood Community
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hallwoodchurch.org
Stacey Hanson, Pastor
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THE AMBASSADOR

- ✍ The Ambassador is a free, monthly publication promoting unity and revival among the local Yuba-Sutter area Bible-believing churches
- ✍ The Ambassador has a circulation 6,000 - 7,000 and is distributed in local churches and businesses in the community.
- ✍ The purpose of The Ambassador is to pursue the great commission of Christ by making disciples and to encourage, inform, challenge and connect the local body of Christ.
- ✍ We believe in the inspiration and authority of the Bible as the written word of God. We believe that God exists as One, in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ✍ We believe that the atoning work of Christ (His death) on the cross and His resurrection is the ONLY means of salvation and the only way to Eternal Life in Heaven.
- ✍ We welcome editorial content from anyone wishing to promote the mission of The Ambassador. All articles and advertisement content is subject to the approval of the editor.
- ✍ Views expressed in The Ambassador do not necessarily reflect those of our sponsors or advertisers.

Editor/Publisher - Seth Halpern - Advisory - Dave Kugelman - Layout/Design - Teresa Davis

INSPIRATION

WWW.AMBASSADORNEWSPAPER.COM

Great Expectations

By Paula McBride

What a curious mixture bubbles in the cauldron of expectations. There are highs and lows, reasonableness and unreasonableness, good and bad. Some people are so confused by their expectations that they throw out the whole pot of soup and stuff their emotions in with the mess. They don't realize that expectations are beliefs that come from their thought processes and can often be flawed by logic and the bias of hope and desire. Sometimes, we "get our hopes up" based on a false premise or a misreading of the evidence. Often, we form expectations automatically, without conscious effort. When expectations are not met, pain ensues, and we often place blame on something or someone who did not live up to our expectations—even if our expectations were unreasonable.

Our loving God, who formed us and knows us so well, is aware of our struggle with expectations. The Bible opens with tragedy when Eve expected to gain supernatural knowledge but was instead deceived by the serpent. Almost every chapter has its dismal tale. How lost we would be if God had not stepped in with His Great Expectations.

But God did step in and filled His Book



with truth, not based on fickle human logic and bias, but on His goodness and the eternal life He has prepared for us. Some of the most precious revelations are found in the accounts surrounding the birth of Jesus.

Think of young Mary. Possibly she expected a traditional marriage to Joseph and a peaceful life in Nazareth. This was a perfectly logical expectation, but God had something much greater in mind when He commissioned her to be the mother of His Son. Joseph, too, yielded his expectation to God's greater plan.

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, stumbled a bit with his expectation and had to remain mute until God revealed His greater plan. His wife, Elizabeth, though,

expected to be barren her whole life but praised God when it was revealed she would have a son.

The shepherds expected they would always be looked down upon because of their lowly association with sheep. How brilliantly God moved in with His greater plan by inviting them to be the first to see the newly born Son of God.

The wise men from the East expected to see an adult king in a lavish palace, but when God revealed His greater plan, they didn't hesitate to bow down in their worship and presentation of gifts to a baby.

The Christmas season can resurrect pain of failed expectations, but we can trust God who is infinitely greater than our fragile way of thinking and feeling. Isaiah had comforting words for those who felt their expectations had been dashed. "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine" (Isaiah 9:2 nlt). We know that light is Jesus.

Let's toss out expectations based on our own faulty thinking and embrace the "great expectation" awaiting all God's people: abundant life on earth and eternal life in heaven.

"For Those Who Live in a Land of Deep Darkness, a light will Shine" -Isaiah 9:2 NLT

*Happy Birthday
Jesus*

*Happy Birthday, Jesus
the candles are for You:
the carols, decorations
the celebrating, too.*

*Happy Birthday, Jesus
Yours is the brightest flame
so when we light the candles
we light them in Your name.*

*Happy Birthday, Jesus
each time the season starts
we share the love You gave us
that burns within our hearts.*

*Happy Birthday, Jesus
we hope that every day
this love will keep on burning
and You will light the way.*

Don Monroe

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• The Christmas Penguin •

By Christy Boals

www.gracefilledpurpose.com

None of my family even remember how it happened, but somehow a penguin ended up at the Nativity.

I have written before about our unfortunate baby Jesus and all of His escapades at Christmas time. However, I did not mention that there was also an unexpected visitor that night alongside the usual cows, sheep and donkeys...a penguin! The plastic Christmas penguin happily participates in the re-creation of the Christmas story every year as my younger children prop him up by the manger.

Like our unexpected friend, this year has also been full of the unexpected. All of our Christmas mornings will probably look a little unusual. Maybe we are missing people or activities that we are used to having on Christmas. And maybe there have been some things added that we wish were not.

The first Christmas was also full of the unexpected. I'm sure Mary's first choice for a delivery room was not a stinky stable. Joseph was certainly not expecting to be a father before he was a husband. Those shepherds were most definitely not expecting angels, and even though the Jewish people had been longing for a Messiah, they were



not expecting a baby!

BUT, God knew it all. He is never surprised by circumstances. In fact, He engineered every single one of those facts, and He is still in charge of our circumstances today. Nothing that has happened this year has been unexpected for God. He sees the big picture of all of eternity and He sees you, right where you are this Christmas morning.

So, while today may be a little different, or a lot, remember that God is still here in the midst of our situation. In fact, one of the names for the Messiah is 'Immanuel, God with us.' How comforting that is when things keep popping up in life with all the unexpectedness of a penguin in Bethlehem!

"Behold, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel" (which means, "God with us"). Matthew 1:23

Bible Word Search

MARY'S MOMENTS

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ADORATION
ANNUNCIATION
ASSUMPTION
AVE MARIA
COMPASSION
DEVOTION

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HOLINESS
HUMILITY
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ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

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CALENDAR

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ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY

ROAD TO RECOVERY (Christian 12 Step Support Group)- Sundays, 7:00pm
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City

MONDAY

GRIEF SHARE - Mondays at 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Praise Chapel Church -398 Aylor Ave. - Yuba City
A grief support program that meets weekly to help give encouragement after the death of loved one. Anyone can attend on any week because each class is "self-contained." For more information contact the church at 530-870-0511.

TUESDAY

PRAYER FOR THE NATION - Every Tuesday Night 7PM - 8:30PM
Church of Glad Tidings- 1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak, CA 95953
(530) 671-3160 - info@churchofgladtidings.com

STRONGHOLD SERIES - 2nd Tuesday of the month - 7pm
Church of Glad Tidings - 1179 Eager Rd., Live Oak, Building 200
Join us as Jess Parker shares on a particular topic. Corporate prayer to follow.

WEDNESDAY

GRIEF SHARE; GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Wednesdays, 6:00pm,
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City
For those dealing with the loss of a loved one.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Wednesdays, 6:00 pm
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City
A group activity for adults to read, discuss, and apply scripture, fostering spiritual growth, understanding of God's word, and fellowship with other believers.

COLLEGE AGE BIBLE STUDY (Ages 17-25) - Wednesdays, 6:00 pm
Faith Tabernacle -Yuba City • 760 Spiva Ave - Yuba City
A college age group bible study to read, discuss, and apply scripture, fostering spiritual growth, understanding of God's word, and fellowship with other believers.

THURSDAY

EMBASSY OF GLORY (formerly Embassy House of Prayer)-
Prayer Every Thursday Night 7:00-8:30pm
Church of Glad Tidings - 1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak
The church today is in an all-out war against the evils of darkness. The body of Christ is called to step up and be aggressive in their prayer life.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Thursdays, 6:00 pm
Faith Tabernacle -Yuba City • 760 Spiva Ave - Yuba City
A bible study to read, discuss, and apply scripture, fostering spiritual growth, understanding of God's word, and fellowship with other believers.

FRIDAY

MEN'S PRAYER & BREAKFAST - Every Friday Morning at 5:30am
Church of Glad Tidings - 1179 Eager Rd - Live Oak, CA 95953
(530) 671-3160 - info@churchofgladtidings.com

PRAISE CHAPEL COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT

Every 1st and 3rd Friday
Praise Chapel - 398 Aylor Ave., Yuba City
(530) 300-1458

PRAISE CHAPEL COMMUNITY SINGLES GROUP

Every 2nd and 4th Friday
Praise Chapel - 398 Aylor Ave., Yuba City
(530) 300-1458

PRIME TIMERS

First Friday every month at 12:00 (Noon)
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City
Potluck luncheon for 55+, bring your favorite dish and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH YOUTH NIGHT

Every Friday Night.
Word of Life - 1229 Buchannon Street, Marysville
Come expecting a miracle - Come hear the truth that will set you free.
We have Games, Worship, Fellowship

SATURDAY

MEN'S WALK & TALK

1st Saturday of the Month 10AM
Church of Glad Tidings - 1179 Eager Rd (Building 500) - Live Oak, CA 95953
Looking for a place to find fellowship and develop friendships? Join us for Walk & Talk the first Saturday of the month. For more information contact Phil Britton (530) 300-0408 or churchofgladtidings.com/events

BETHESDA HEALING WELL

3rd Saturday of the Month 10AM - 12PM
Church of Glad Tidings - 1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak, CA 95953
(530) 671-3160 - info@churchofgladtidings.com
Come to receive prayer and be refreshed while soaking in an atmosphere of worship and praise. Sorry, No Childcare.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Every 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 am.
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City
Food, Faith and Fellowship.

NIGHT OF PRAYER

Every Last Saturday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City
Worship Music, Testimonials and Prayer

CALENDAR

• Prayer List for December 2025 •

- 1-Dec **Travelers**- Pray for the safety for all those traveling this holiday season.
- 2-Dec **Pastors**- That God would give them strength, courage and wisdom to speak the truth from the pulpit.
- 3-Dec **Homeless**- Safety, health and provision. Bless the Twin Cities Rescue Mission and other local homeless ministries.
- 4-Dec **World Affairs**- Pray about international activities that point to the Last Days.
- 5-Dec **Veterans**- Pray for all those who served our country and their families to get the assistance they need.
- 6-Dec **Marriages**- Pray that relationships would grow and families would seek the Lord together.
- 7-Dec **Local Ministries**- Pray for continued financial support and volunteers to meet needs (see page 3)
- 8-Dec **California**- pray for our Godly representatives (including James Gallagher and Doug LaMalfa) to fight against liberal and harmful state policies.
- 9-Dec **Discipleship**- Pray that believers would seek to follow Jesus and become more like Him every day!
- 10-Dec **Mental Health**- Pray for all the millions of people who are dealing with Holiday depression. Pray they feel loved.
- 11-Dec **Restore America!** - Pray against the divisiveness and violence in this nation.
- 12-Dec **Israel**- Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem in all conflicts with other countries.
- 13-Dec **Human Trafficking**- Pray for the freedom, healing and restoration of survivors and for traffickers to repent.
- 14-Dec **Hanukkah**- Pray that the Jewish people would know that the Messiah has come and His name is Jesus!
- 15-Dec **Addicted**- pray for those under the control of substances that they would surrender to the Lord, pursue and receive the treatment they need.
- 16-Dec **The Persecuted Church around the world.** Pray that believers would stand strong in the midst of brutal persecution.
- 17-Dec **Orphanages**- Pray for children to find a loving, bible believing home.
- 18-Dec **Race Relations**- Pray for Race relations in our nation. Pray for understanding and collaboration between races and an ease of racial tension.
- 19-Dec **Pray for your neighbor**- for opportunities to serve them, pray with them and share the Gospel with them!
- 20-Dec **Seniors and Elderly**- Pray for renewed physical and mental strength.
- 21-Dec **Youth**- Pray that they will wake up and become aware that "woke" thinking is a tool of Satan.
- 22-Dec **Pray that fathers** would give Godly wisdom and have a positive impact and influence on the lives of their children.
- 23-Dec **Mental Illness**- Pray for those who deal with Mental Health issues or suicidal thoughts.
- 24-Dec **Pray for each of us** to be bold by the Holy Spirit to speak and act in accordance with God's Word and His Way!
- 25-Dec **Christmas** - Thank you Lord for Jesus who came into the world to Live & Die for us!
- 26-Dec **Global Revival**- Pray that our global chaos would lead multitudes to repent and follow the Lord!!
- 27-Dec **Pray for China, Sudan, North Korea and other nations** that God would intervene and the leadership would restore civil rights.
- 28-Dec **Revival**- Pray for a revival in the hearts of His children to spread the world to all nations!
- 29-Dec **Life**- Pray that abortion clinics would be shut down that people would choose life for their babies!
- 30-Dec **Ambassador**- Pray for Seth & Angie Halpern and David & Marci Dena as they transition leadership hands of the Ambassador Newspaper ministry.
- 31-Dec **New Year's Eve** - Pray for protection and wisdom for all during this night of celebration and (often) carelessness.



*Finding Freedom
in God's Perfect Peace*

If you would like to experience the peace and transformed life that God can provide through Jesus Christ and you are willing to commit your life to the only one who can truly set you free from your sin, you can pray to the Lord right now and ask Him to forgive you of your sins. Because of what His Son, **Jesus**, did by dying on the cross, your sins will not be held against you by God anymore. You can experience freedom for the rest of your life on earth and then have a life in Heaven with God for eternity. God's part of the deal is already done. Your part is to confess your sins, repent (or change your ways) and believe that He is Lord. If your life is out of control, let Him take over control.

For help, questions, or more information, contact us at The Ambassador or any of the churches listed on page 3.

HAPPY RETIREMENT

Seth & Angie Halpern



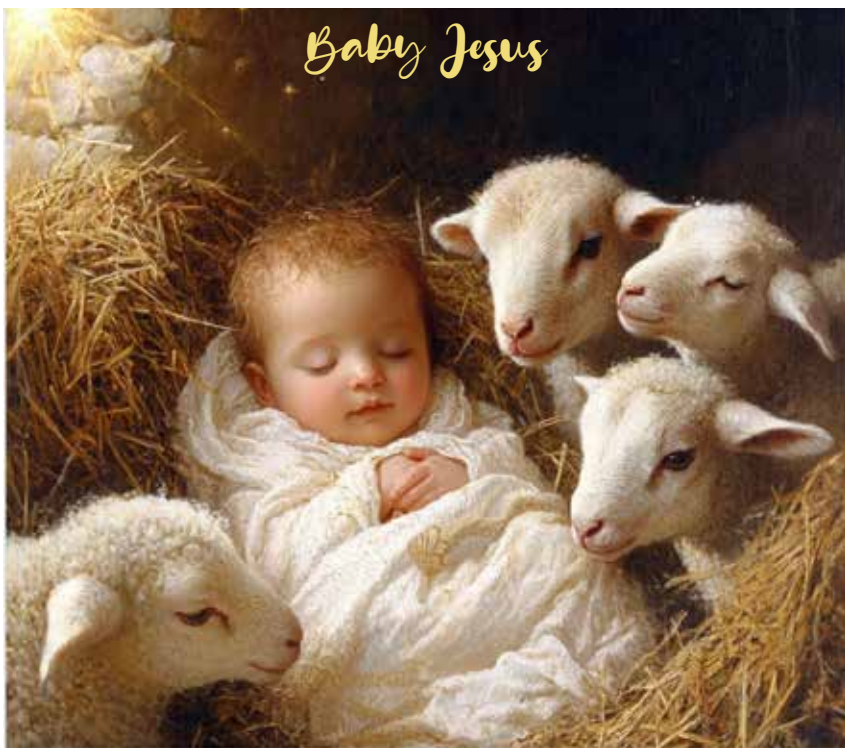
20

Wonderful
YEARS

"Thank you for your many years of faithful service to God's ministry and His people.

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May God Richly Bless Your Retirement!



His first cry brought hope.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is giving; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." -Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

His second cry brought salvation.

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." -John 19:30 (KJV)

His final cry will bring glory.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first." -1 Thessalonians 4:16 (KJV)

Are you ready for His return? Jesus is coming soon, Believe in the Gospel today:

"Christ died for our sins...he was buried, and...he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." -1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (KJV)

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- GODLY WISDOM FROM OUR SPIRITUAL LEADERS -

Scripture Verses I Look To In Hard Times

By Pastor Johnny Burke
New Beginnings Wesleyan Church

Everyone walks through seasons of difficulty. I often remind our congregation that following Christ doesn't come with a promise of a trouble-free life. Scripture never says **if** storms come—it says **when**. The Bible prepares us for the reality that challenges are part of the journey of discipleship.

One of the first passages I turn to in difficult moments is John 14:6, where Jesus says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." At first glance, it may not seem like a verse about trials. But this passage has a grounding power. It pulls my focus away from the noise of the moment and brings me back to what is eternally true. It reminds me that life is about more than the struggle in front of me—there is a heaven, a Father who loves us, and a Savior who shows us the only way home.

When life becomes overwhelming—health concerns, relationship struggles, financial pressures, political turmoil—



it's easy to shift our eyes from the eternal to the temporary. When I do that, I lose perspective. I begin to forget that Jesus is **the* Way, *the* Truth, and *the* Life*—not just one truth among many competing for my attention. John 14:6 recenters my heart and reminds me that what matters most is my relationship with Christ.

Another passage that strengthens me is found in Isaiah 6. In this powerful moment, Isaiah suddenly finds himself in the very presence of God. Immediately he recognizes his unworthiness and brokenness—yet God cleanses him, forgives him, and restores him. Then God asks, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Without hesitation, Isaiah

responds, "Here I am. Send me."

That response always challenges me. It reminds me that my past, my struggles, or my imperfections do not disqualify me from God's purposes. What qualifies me is not my résumé, background, or ability—but the righteousness of Christ and a willing heart. God can use anyone who is ready to say, "Send me," no matter what storms are raging around them.

When life is shaking, these passages anchor my faith. They remind me who Jesus is, what He has done, and how He calls us to live—focused on eternity, grounded in truth, and available for His purpose.

"Name that Christmas Carol" Game



This "Name that Christmas Carol" quiz celebrates these hymns by testing your familiarity with them – one lyric at a time. Can you name them?

1. Strike the harp and join the chorus
2. Let men their songs employ
3. O hush the noise, ye men of strife
4. Out jumps good old Santa Claus
5. A symbol of good will and love
6. Herod the King, in his raging
7. Let steeple bells be swungen
8. The horse was lean and lank
9. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
10. While shepherds watch are keeping?
11. With the angelic host proclaim
12. His blood mankind hath bought
13. And a cup of good cheer
14. And all the bells on earth shall ring
15. No ear may hear his coming
16. And the running of the deer
17. Radiant beams from thy holy face
18. Asleep on the hay
19. With every Christmas card I write
20. Sing, choir of angels

Answers on Page 13



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LIFE MATTERS presented by Yuba-Sutter Right To Life

Planned Parenthood Could be Held Accountable for Falsely Claiming Abortion Pills are Safe

By Jerry Cox

On November 6, Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier filed a lawsuit against abortion giant Planned Parenthood for lying to women by claiming abortion pills are, “safer than Tylenol.”

The lawsuit is similar to one official in Missouri filed in July. The Florida A.G.’s legal complaint says:

The “safer than Tylenol” marketing campaign has been ongoing for years and targeted to women in Florida. Just a few weeks ago, Defendant Planned Parenthood Florida Action proclaimed on X.com that “Mifepristone is safe. Safer than Tylenol.” That claim is manifestly false.

Abortionists typically use two separate pills for a chemical abortion. Mifepristone is administered to kill the unborn baby. A second drug called misoprostol causes the baby to be expelled from the woman’s body. Both carry serious risks and consequences.

A study by the experts at the Ethics and Public Policy Center found the abortion



drugs mifepristone and misoprostol are at least 22 times more dangerous than the U.S. Food and Drug Administration labeling indicates.

Researchers noted that from 2017 to 2023, nearly one in nine women suffered serious health complications such as sepsis, infection, and hemorrhaging as a direct result of abortion drugs.

All of this has prompted the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to launch a formal investigation into the abortion drugs and their safety.

The Florida Attorney General’s Office cited these findings and others in its lawsuit, writing:

These are inconvenient truths for Planned Parenthood, whose business model is built around high-margin chemical

abortions. So rather than admit the danger of chemical abortion, Planned Parenthood lies. The abortion conglomerate not only assures its patients that abortion drugs are “extremely safe”—a dubious claim itself; it repeatedly declares that abortion drugs are “safer than Tylenol.”

In fact, abortion drugs are not safer than Tylenol. These claims have no basis in reality and have been repeatedly debunked. Nevertheless, Planned Parenthood continues to make them: on its website, in printed materials, on live television, and during interactions with patients.

Arkansas law generally prohibits abortion except to save the life of the mother, and it is a crime to mail or deliver abortion pills into the state. Abortionists who break the

law are subject to criminal penalties. They also may be sued for malpractice, and they may face professional discipline — like suspension of their medical licenses.

Unfortunately, pro-abortion lawmakers in some states have enacted “shield laws” to protect abortionists who ship these dangerous abortion pills across state lines. Groups like Planned Parenthood are also spending millions of dollars to promote abortion to women from pro-life states like Arkansas. That’s a serious problem.

Fortunately, Attorney General Tim Griffin has threatened legal action against companies advertising abortion drugs in Arkansas. The attorney general says these groups may be penalized under the state’s Deceptive Trade Practices Act. He has also urged the federal government to restrict abortion drugs and let states like Arkansas enforce their pro-life laws.

Abortion drugs end the lives of unborn children, and they hurt women. They simply should not be for sale in America. We appreciate Florida Attorney General Uthmeier and Arkansas Attorney General Griffin for each standing up against abortionists.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1: "A NEW CHAPTER"

this community month after month. Their dedication has kept the paper consistent and impactful, and their commitment to continue is a blessing.

We also have new writers joining in, including voices from local pastors and leaders who have felt led to contribute. There are new monthly segments in development—columns that highlight faith, local stories, leadership, testimony, youth voices, and more.

Our desire isn't to replace the foundation Seth built but to build upon it, expand it, and help it grow into the full vision he originally saw.

The Future: Print, Digital, and Beyond
Yes, The Ambassador will continue in print—its tangible presence matters.

Many people in our region look forward to holding it in their hands each month, taking time to read testimonies, devotionals, and community messages.

But this next chapter includes more:

- A stronger digital presence
- Expanded social media engagement
- Audio and radio connections
- New multimedia storytelling formats

As seasons change, so do the ways people receive information and encouragement. We want to honor the legacy while also preparing the paper for the future.

And let me be clear: while Praise Chapel has the honor of stewardship, The Ambassador will remain a community outreach, not a Praise Chapel outreach. It belongs to the people, to the region, and to the heart of the community.



Pastor David & Marci Dena

About My Family and Calling

My wife Marci and I have been married for 28 years, and God has blessed us with four children—our oldest daughter is 27, our oldest son 22, our younger son 18, and our youngest daughter 16. We don't have grandkids yet, but we're excited for that season when it comes. I'm 52 and Marci is 47—though she looks closer to 30. God has been good to us.

I became a licensed minister in 1995 and was ordained in 2001. Praise Chapel Yuba-Sutter is where we were saved, where we grew spiritually, and where we served as assistant pastors before being launched to lead churches in Grass Valley

and Plumas Lake.

In 2024, we returned to take the leadership role at Praise Chapel Yuba-Sutter when Pastors Chris and Angela Madsen thought they were stepping into retirement from the position. Today, the Madsens are pastoring in Colusa, and it's beautiful to see the fruit of their ministry flourish there.

In recent months, you may have noticed articles written by my wife. Her heart for women, her insight, and her ability to speak life into others have made her contributions especially meaningful.

My Heart for Worship and Creative Ministry

Alongside pastoring, I have always had a deep passion for worship and music. I am a psalmist at heart, and music has been one of the ways God has allowed me to minister over the years.

You may have seen the ad in The Ambassador (page 9) for "Studio Now," the radio station God inspired me to create. Every song played on that station—spanning more than 25 years of writing—is original. The styles vary widely: praise

CONTINUE ON PAGE 13

The Ambassador Ministry

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CONT'D FROM PAGE 12: "A NEW CHAPTER"

and worship, rock, country, folk, rap, R&B, hard rock, 70s-style, inspirational, and more. My hope is that people will find something that speaks to them.

Rooted in Community, United in Purpose

Both Marci and I were raised in this community. Our roots run deep, our relationships are meaningful, and our hearts are invested in seeing this region thrive—not just spiritually, but in unity, compassion, and shared purpose.

One of the things I love most about the Yuba-Sutter region is how local pastors and community leaders work together. It isn't about building our own kingdoms—it's about building God's Kingdom.

To all of The Ambassador's sponsors, advertisers, and contributors: thank you.

Your support allowed Seth and Angie to carry this paper for so many years, and your continued partnership will allow us to carry it forward.

Passing the Baton

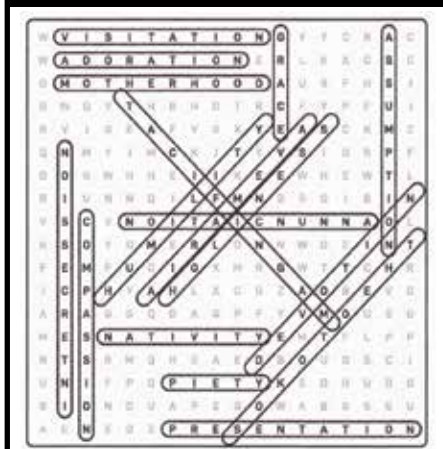
Seth and Angie have entrusted us with something sacred, and we do not take that lightly. We ask for your prayers, your support, and your grace as we navigate this transition. This is a new chapter—but the heart of The Ambassador remains the same.

We also ask for continued prayer for Seth and Angie. They have poured out so much for this community, and this is a season where they need to be lifted up.

God bless,
Pastor David Dena



ANSWERS TO BIBLE WORD SEARCH FROM PAGE 5



From Page 10

ANSWERS: Name that Christmas Carol"

1. Deck The Halls / 2. Joy to the World / 3. It Came Upon the Midnight Clear / 4. Up On the Housetop / 5. O Christmas Tree / 6. Coventry Carol / 7. Ding Dong Merrily On High / 8. Jingle Bells / 9. We Three Kings of Orient Are / 10. What Child Is This / 11. Hark The Herald Angels Sing / 12. First Noel /

13. We Wish You Merry Christmas / 14. I Saw Three Ships / 15. Oh Little Town of Bethlehem / 16. The Holly and the Ivy / 17. Silent Night / 18. Away In a Manger / 19. White Christmas / 20. O Come All Ye Faithful.



Bible Trivia: How Well Do You Know The Bible?

1. *What was the result of Christian preaching to the Hellenists in Antioch?*
 - (a) Many believed;
 - (b) they rejected the message; or
 - (c) they persecuted the preachers.
2. *What does Acts 11 say Barnabas did when he came from Jerusalem to Antioch?*
 - (a) He encouraged them;
 - (b) he reproved them; or
 - (c) he lorded it over them.
3. *What event did the prophet Agabus predict?*
 - (a) A great revival in Samaria;
 - (b) imprisonment of Peter; or
 - (c) a great famine in the world.
4. *How long did Paul and Barnabas stay in Antioch teaching the people in the church there?*
 - (a) One year;
 - (b) two years; or
 - (c) three years.
5. *About the time that the church grew strong in Antioch, what did Herod the king begin to do?*
 - (a) Kill all Jewish believers;
 - (b) harass the church; or
 - (c) levy heavy taxes on people in Judea.
6. *At what event is Paul first mentioned in the book of Acts?*
 - (a) at the meeting of the Sanhedrin;
 - (b) at the stoning of Stephen; or
 - (c) at his conversion on the road to Damascus.
7. *When the priest of Zeus came to offer sacrifice to Paul and Barnabas, what animals did he bring for the sacrifice?*
 - (a) Sheep;
 - (b) oxen; or
 - (c) pigeons.
8. *What did Paul and Barnabas do when the people of Lystra proclaimed them to be Greek gods?*
 - (a) They got angry;
 - (b) they tore their clothes; or
 - (c) they ran out of town.
9. *Where did Paul go on the Sabbath when he was in Philippi?*
 - (a) The synagogue;
 - (b) the marketplace; or
 - (c) the riverside.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 14

Christmas Traditions

By Seth Halpern

Christmas is a time of family traditions. Some of those traditions lead to embarrassment for many years to come. Not all Christmas photos are bad, in fact, they often serve as precious reminders of loved ones and blessed experiences.

Many of us do something special for this season. We are a people who like to remember certain events in our own special way whether there is a history of several generations or a newly minted tradition. For many, choosing and decorating the tree is a long-standing tradition, as well as sending out greeting cards, putting out cookies for Santa, going caroling, or a host of other activities.

Other nations have their own unique traditions to celebrate the season. In Japan, many families have Christmas with the Colonel- they eat KFC on Christmas Eve! Many German families hide a pickle in the Christmas tree, earning a gift for the child who finds it. Ethiopians celebrate Christmas on January 7th. Theologians have long debated when Jesus was really born and today most scholars believe it wasn't Dec 25th. There are so many opinions and traditions around the world that what's important is what it means to you and your family. Right? Well, yes and no.

The Christmas season is undoubtedly one of the most special times of year. It brings families and loved ones together with warm memories of the past and thankfulness of the present. We enjoy watching the children's excitement over gifts and reflect over the passage of time. Unfortunately, for some, the holiday season is a difficult time of loneliness or regret over past mistakes. The truth is that whether the Christmas season



for you represents a time of happiness and fun or a time that you would rather sleep through, something critical is being left out. That "something" is really "someone" and it is how the day derives its name. This is the day that our world has chosen to honor and celebrate the birth of Jesus the Messiah ("Christ" in the Greek language). It's His birthday (or at least the day we've decided to honor Him). It is odd that most who "celebrate" His birthday don't even recognize Him on this very day. It would be like having a birthday party for your Uncle Joe and not inviting him! Even for many who do understand that this is about the birth of "Baby Jesus", we often don't portray the story as it was. It was not a "Silent Night", but more likely a cold night in a noisy, smelly barn. It would be a time when a madman ruler stirred by the devil would seek to kill babies because of a perceived threat to his kingdom. It would lead to a man whom people (supposed God-fearing

people) would reject and send to His death. But it was the beginning of what would become our freedom. Our freedom from death, our freedom from evil, and even our freedom from ourselves. This baby would live a perfect life and then pay the price of a tortured death so that we can be reconciled to God. So that God HIS Father, would become God OUR Father. The skeptics can argue about dates, locations and all the rest, but there can be no argument about who is the most significant person in the history of the world. This is why the calendar is divided into the years before He came to us (B.C.) and after (A.D.). He changed the world. He changed the calendar. Have you let Him change your heart? It doesn't matter what traditions and activities you and your family participate in this Christmas or whether you have family or not. The important issue this Christmas is whether or not you have invited Jesus to celebrate it with you. Merry CHRISTmas!

*A Special Prayer for
The Ambassador Newspaper
as we transition
to new Editors.*

Lord, we lift up The Ambassador Newspaper and our entire team of The Ambassador Ministry to you. We pray for your guidance and wisdom in our continued work to serve the Christian community in Yuba, Sutter, Butte, and surrounding counties. Bless our efforts to share faith, hope, and truth through their articles and outreach. May we be sustained and grow in our impact, effectively navigating any challenges and transitions we face. We ask for your protection and favor upon our ministry, in Jesus' name. Amen.

BIBLE TRIVIA ANSWERS FROM PAGE 13

1. (a) Many believed (Acts 11:20, 21). This marked the beginning of a great response among the Gentiles to the gospel.
2. (a) He encouraged them (Acts 11:23). The name Barnabas means "Son of Encouragement."
3. (c) A great famine in the world (Acts 11:28).
4. (a) One year (Acts 11:26).
5. (b) Harass the church (Acts 12:1).
6. (b) At the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:60). Paul was known as Saul at this time. He held the coats of those Jews who stoned Stephen.
7. (b) Oxen (Acts 14:13). That they wanted to sacrifice such valuable animals shows what important gods they considered Paul and Barnabas.
8. (b) They tore their clothes (Acts 14:14). This act demonstrated how appalled were these missionaries.
9. (c) The riverside (Acts 16:13). There was no synagogue in Philippi.

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merry Christmas

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THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE."
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