A note from Pastor Owen Scott...

The precise day, season and year in which Jesus was born in Bethlehem is not known. Jesus, in all likelihood, was born in late fall, not December 25th. The church in Rome in the 4th century, in an attempt to Christianize pagan practices, tied together the birth of Jesus and winter solstice. The early Christians never observed Christmas for three centuries because of the celebration of the Emperor's birthday and emperor worship, etc. Jesus, the heavenly King, was not to be compared with an earthly king. So, why do Christians 2000 years later celebrate this event with so much enthusiasm? Simply because the supreme fact in the history of the world is that God became man in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The infinite and eternal God came to visit planet earth as a human and gave Himself as a sacrifice for our sins. This is why we sing carols, put up lights, have special services and exchange gifts! We celebrate because no greater event has ever happened..."Nunc gaudet ecclesia!" (Now the church rejoices!) Thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift. A saviour has been born...Hallelujah! We do indeed have something to celebrate!

Valley Church...

There's a place for you!



Equipped in the Spirit...Equipped in the Word Going everywhere...meeting needs in Jesus Name

December 27th, 2015

Lynn Valley Full Gospel Church 1160 E. 29th Street, North Vancouver V7K 1C2 Ph. (604)980-0307 E-Mail info@valleychurch.ca Website: <u>www.valleychurch.ca</u>

Sunday at Valley Church...

Services at 9:00 & 11:00 am – This morning *Jorge Rios* will be speaking. There is a supervised Mini-Kids Centre for children under 3 years in the 11 am service. (The Mini-Kids Centre is unsupervised during the 9 am service – Parents are asked to stay with their children.) Nursery facilities available to mothers with babies.

Join us for a coffee & cookies on the patio! Join

us for coffee on the patio after the service today...a great chance to meet a new friend.



What's happening at Valley Church?

The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Years – It will reopen on Tuesday, January 5th.

ESL (English as a Second Language) <u>will resume on Monday</u>, <u>January 4th</u>. For info call Elaine Englar at 604-986-4288 or Margot Fraser at 778-980-4452

Intercessory Prayer Group (cancelled this week)

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the nursery - If you are a part of the Valley Church family, you are invited to join this group to pray each week. <u>If you have a prayer request, please fill in the</u> <u>enclosed prayer card</u>. The group also appreciates hearing about your *answers to prayer*!

Ladies Morning Out on Thursday mornings will resume in January. Childcare is provided. For info, contact Kristina at kristina kurtz@hotmail.com

Young Adults Group will resume in the new year on Thursdays at 7:30 pm at the church. For info, give Simon & Oyuki Bodlack a call at 778-689-4636 or contact them at <u>simonbodlack@gmail.com</u>

New Year's Day Worship Evening – 5 pm on Friday, January 1st

Marcel & Kristina Kurtz, Austin & Jordan are spending Christmas in Victoria with Marcel's family. Luke & April Ratzlaff are with their families in Chilliwack. The Hechanovas are enjoying a week in the warmth of Mexico.

If you are new to Valley Church or would like to pass on some new information, please take a moment to fill in a Valley Church Connection Card and drop it in one of the boxes beside the exits. You'll find the cards in the holders on the chairs in front of you.

Send in your photos – Please share some of your special moments with us by emailing us your favorite family photos to use in the bulletin!



NO PARKING! A reminder not to park in the Blue Shore parking spaces OR any of the RESERVED 24 HOUR spots - If you do, you may be towed.

Online donations at Valley Church are possible – You can give your offering online through PayPal. Go to the bottom of our web page at <u>www.valleychurch.ca</u> and click on the PayPal button.



Year End Giving – If you wish to receive a tax receipt for the 2015 taxation year, please submit your offering TODAY.

Newcomers Lunch – Mark Sunday, January 17th at 1 pm on your calendar if you have started coming to Valley Church in the last 6 months – We would like a chance to meet you! If you are planning on coming, please fill in the enclosed form and drop it in a connection box or leave it in the office.

Photos on front – *Clockwise from top...Nigel Banks* visiting from Toronto last Sunday having a chat with Lani & Benny Hechanova; Isabel Eldred & Tasneen Jambulatov doing the Advent reading; Luke & April Ratzlaff among the first to see Star Wars; Dean Boser & Mel Sanderson reunited for Christmas