

THIS WEEK IS ALSO POSTED ON THEVAILCHURCH.COM/EVENTS

SUNDAY, DEC. 15

Community Prayer

Fireside Room every Sun. 8am

ACTIVATE – Jr High Student

Ministry in The Loft 9:30-10:30am

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Sanctuary 4-5pm
Reception in Gym 5-6pm

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Fireside Room 7-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18

Men's Prayer Time

Fireside Room 12:30-1:30pm

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Fireside Room 6:30-7:30pm

WELCOME TO THE VAIL CHURCH! If you have a prayer request or you are new to our church, please fill out a Connecting Card in your bulletin or the seat pocket in front of you. If you are new, please take it to the "Get Connected" table to receive a welcome gift. Otherwise, drop it in the offering basket. Thank you for choosing to spend part of your Sunday with us!

CHRISTMAS EVE VOLUNTEERS Christmas Eve is just a little over a week away! We still have 120 openings for all sorts of volunteers. Make sure to log on to the Christmas Eve Volunteer page on our website to see how you and your family might serve. We have needs for anything from baking cookies to greeting to parking and more! Please join our team!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES are scheduled for **1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm and 9pm**. If you regularly attend TVC, we encourage you to come to any of our five Christmas Eve services ***other than the 5pm service – which is the most highly attended service by out of town guests.***

GROUPS

TheVailChurch.com/Groups

As we look to 2020 & a new semester of Group Ministry here at TVC, we are interested in launching a couple of new groups around the specific needs of ***divorce care*** and ***single parenting***. If you have any interest in exploring the possibility of facilitating or co-facilitating one of these groups, please let us know by email: Tracey@TheVailChurch.com.

WWW.THEVAILCHURCH.COM

THE VAIL CHURCH • PO Box 955 • 39209 Hwy 6
AVON, CO 81620-0955 • T 970.949.6585

YOU CAN FIND US ON FACEBOOK, OR BY DOWNLOADING OUR APP



JOY *to your* WORLD

— Joy in God's Promise to You —

Pastor Craig Smith • 12/15/19

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years. (Luke 1:5-7)

Three spiritual elements that impact our joy...

- _____ : it's never _____
for God to answer your prayer – “Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: ‘Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.’” **(Luke 1:11-15a)**

🔍 _____ **is a command because life requires** _____ – “Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.” **(James 5:7-8)**

- _____ : a desire for _____
motivated by fear – “Zechariah asked the angel, ‘How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.’” **(Luke 1:18)**

🔍 **To doubt _____ thing is to trust _____ thing more** – “What he trusts in is fragile; what he relies on is a spider's web. He leans on his web, but it gives way; he clings to it, but it does not hold.” **(Job 8:14-15)**

- _____ : human doubt doesn't _____
His promise – “The angel answered, ‘I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their proper time.’” **(Luke 1:19-20)**

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. (2 Cor. 1:20a)

When God delivers, we rejoice...

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy...He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, ‘His name is John.’ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loosed, and he began to speak, praising God. (Luke 1:57-58, 63-64)