



*Tryon
Church
Chatter*



December, 2023

Bob Grant, Pastor

Lorna Dever, Editor

828-817-1544 (Call or Text) serendipitykids@gmail.com

Pastor Bob's Blog
"A Letter from Jesus"

"I had to write to tell you how much I love you and care for you. Yesterday, I saw you walking and laughing with your friends; I hoped that soon you'd want Me to walk along with you, too. So, I painted you a sunset to close your day and whispered a cool breeze to refresh you. I waited -- you never called -- I just kept on loving you.

"As I watched you fall asleep last night, I wanted to touch you. I spilled moonlight onto your face -- trickling down your cheeks as so many tears have. You didn't even think of Me; you went to bed without talking to Me. I wanted so much to comfort you.

"This morning I exploded a brilliant sunrise into glorious morning just for you. But you woke up late and rushed off to work -- you didn't even notice. My sky became cloudy and My tears were the rain.

"I really do love you. I try to say it in the quiet of the green meadow and in the blue sky. The wind whispers My love throughout the treetops and spills it into the vibrant colors of all the flowers. I shout it to you in the thunder of the great waterfalls and compose love songs for birds to sing for you.

"I warm you with the clothing of My sunshine and perfume the air with nature's sweet scent. My love for you is deeper than any ocean and greater than any need in your heart. I want you to realize how much I care.

"My Dad sends His love, too. I want you to meet Him -- He loves you with His great Agape Love! He cares, too. Fathers are just that way. So, please; call on Me soon. No matter how long it takes, I'll wait -- because I love you. And it's signed:
(Your Friend, Jesus)

Thank you, Pastor Grant



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10am - Thrift Store Open 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	27 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 6:30pm - Church School Board	28 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	29 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	30 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	1 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 12pm - Wings Social Committee	2 Offering: STB Local Budget 9:15am - SS & Church 12:30pm - Visitors Lunch (Conf.)
3 10am - Thrift Store Open 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	4 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 6:30pm - Church School Board	5 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	6 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	7 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	8 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 12pm - Wings Social Committee	9 9:15am - SS & Church 12:15pm - Fellowship Lunch @ 1:30pm - MC: Bible Study Group 6pm - MC: WINCOS-SASSY Soc.
10 Thrift Store Closed Wings Social Committee-SASSY 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	11 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 6pm - Finance Committee 7pm - Church Board Meeting	12 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 6pm - Finance Committee 7pm - Church Board Meeting	13 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	14 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	15 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 1:30pm - MC:STB Thrift Store	16 Offering: Local Budget 9:15am - SS & Church 12:30pm - Visitors Lunch (Library) 5pm - MC : Private Event
17 Thrift Store Closed 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	18 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open	19 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open	20 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	21 8am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	22 TSOAS (noon dismissal) 9am - Church Office Open 9am - Thrift Store Open	23 9:15am - SS & Church 12:15pm - Fellowship Lunch 1:30pm - MC: Bible Study Group
24 Thrift Store Closed 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	25 School Christmas Break Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 11am - SASSY Christmas Dinner	26 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 11am - SASSY Christmas Dinner	27 Church Office Closed MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	28 Church Office Closed 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	29 Church Office Closed 9am - Thrift Store Open	30 Offering: Carolina Youth 9:15am - SS & Church
31 Thrift Store Closed 12pm - Voice of Prophecy (1160)	1 MC: STB using gym for boxing	2 MC: STB using gym for boxing	3 MC: STB using gym for boxing 9am - Thrift Store Open 7pm - A/V and Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Bible Study	4 Church Office Closed 9am - Thrift Store Open 10am - Morgan Center	5 Church Office Closed 9am - Thrift Store Open	6

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- 17 Richard Watson
- 18 Myrna Esh
- 19 Hannah Busch
Greyson Eckmann
Gerald Tary
- 24 Michael Wolff
- 26 M Comins
- 27 Richard Bayley
- 28 Tara Eckmann
Tonya Kim
- 29 Judah Kim
- 30 Lynn Bayley
- 31 Brenda Brittain



Monday's ONLY, 6:15 - 8 p.m.
September 18 - November 6, 2023
Tryon Seventh-day Adventist Morgan Center
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Bob & Karen Dendy

Although Bob was brought up in Raleigh NC, he was born in Indianapolis and moved to FL but from age 5, he lived in Raleigh. In 1991 he moved to Asheville for his job, opening an office for his HVAC equipment company. He lived in Asheville from 1991 – 1996 when he had a job offer in Greenville SC with a competitor HVAC equipment company. He worked there for ten years and one of his contractors, a family-owned business, tried to get him to come to work for them. They had his attention especially since they were very good Christian people. Unfortunately, in 1999 his wife left, leaving him a single parent so the offer to work with this family was appealing. It would give him more time to be with his boys, Chad and Seth. They are grown now, Chad (34) and Seth (32). Bob is looking forward to his first grandchild soon as Chad & his wife are expecting. When asked what brought him to this area, he said his current wife, Karen. They met through friends at the upstate SC BMW Motorcycle Club in 2008. Karen was dating one of Bob's customers. His friend asked Bob why not give Karen one of his business cards which he did and she wound up calling him on Christmas Eve – his birthday. They dated two years and married in 2010. Karen already was living in Columbus so Bob joined her and bought into her home.

Bob was raised an SDA, third generation. His grandmother and aunt would discuss the Saturday Sabbath issue. They attended a tent revival in Indianapolis. His grandfather worked for the railroad and came down to Raleigh often and tried steering his wife (Bob's grandmother) away from the tent meetings. She contracted rheumatic fever and it was thought by all at one point that she was dead. However, God had other plans and she woke up turning a corner with her health and grandmother now knew it was Jesus who healed her. There was a ripple effect and Bob was a part of that effect in coming to know the truth about the Adventist beliefs. Bob and his siblings all went to Adventist schools. He committed his life to Jesus and was baptized when he was 13 years old.

When Bob married Karen, he was attending the Greenville SDA Church but he came to our church in Tryon about 2012. When asked if he had any hobbies, he does. Although physically limited right now, he still likes motorcycles, fishing, snow skiing, bicycling and hiking. He can only fish currently. He really likes motorcycles.

He has taken some memorable vacations but one that comes to the top took place just this year to Denmark and Copenhagen. He always wanted to see the Northern Lights and he and Karen shared that desire. Although the weather didn't look promising to see the Lights, the last night they were in Tromso the night sky cleared and it wound up being a highlight of their stay in Norway. They also went sailing in the fjords. They were gone ten days from March 7 through March 17 of this year. The trip was a combination of business and pleasure. Another trip they enjoyed was to Aruba going scuba diving and had a lot of fun!

We asked Bob what a typical day for him was like. He is still working out of his home reviewing blueprints and looking at HVAC equipment. He interfaces with mechanical contractors and design engineers, prepares bids, and provides quotes and prepares documentation for the contractors, design engineers and the owners.

On the home front, Bob does the grocery shopping, cooks, and helps Karen wherever needed. They love their dog, Bella, who is a Labradoodle and three years old. They regularly take her to the dog park. Bob's favorite Bible verse is John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

Bob's favorite interests have been racing motorcycles, sky-diving, extreme snow skiing and scuba diving but he and Karen would still like to visit upper California, into Oregon and Washington. They hope to go to New England next year. Someday he'd like to go back to Jackson Hole, WY where he and Karen snowmobiled 52 miles in the Grand Tetons. While there, they also went out with a Wildlife Biologist watching Elk, Moose, Mountain Goats and late in the afternoon went to the edge of the prairie and where all these bison passed right by as they entered the woods for the evening.

Bob loves our church and is happy to be back after being at the Hendersonville SDA Church for a while. We are so glad he is with us too. Take an opportunity to say "hi" and get to know Bob; you will be glad you did!





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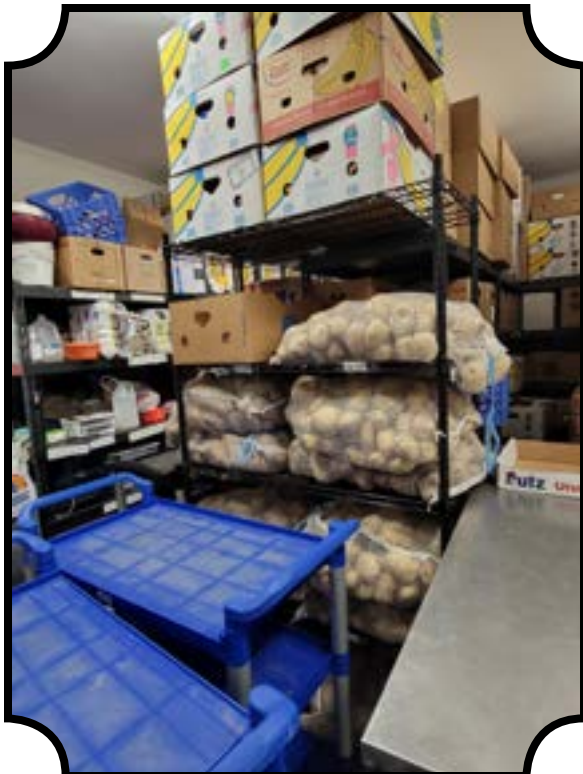
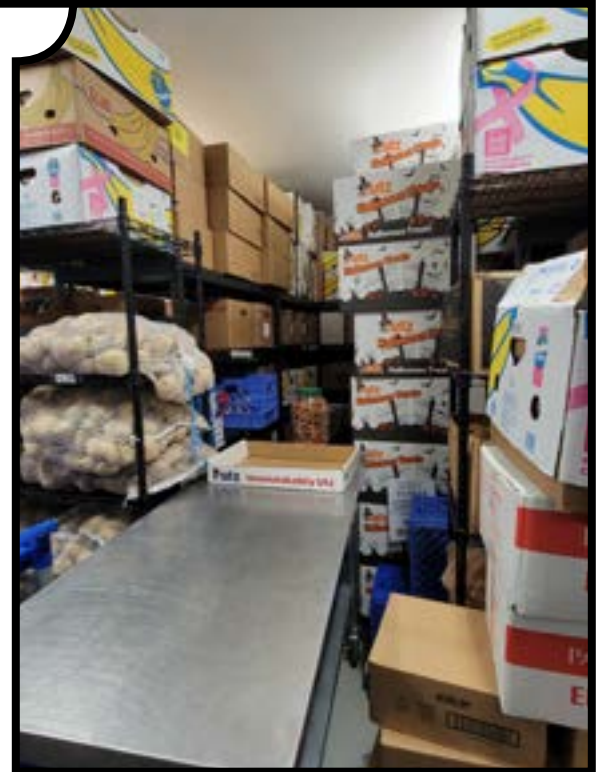
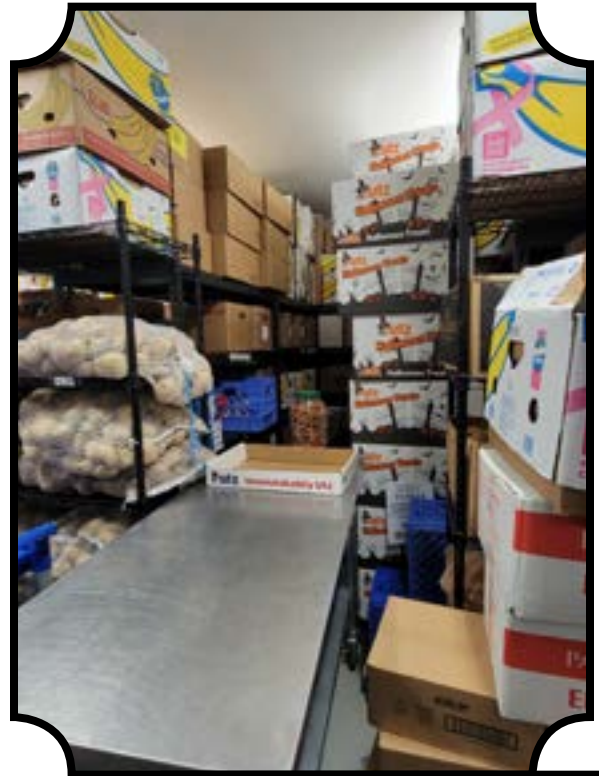
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As of November 2023, Share Thy Bread is now its own 501c3 organization. It will still be affiliated with the church but now we can receive grant funding from sources which won't give directly to religious organizations and give our own tax deductible receipts. Please share this with anyone you think might be interested in giving to our ministry.

We continue to expand our ministry with the Healthy Opportunities Pilot (HOP). We are now serving 30 families in Polk County with healthy foods and fresh produce every week, many delivered right to their homes. This is just one part of the thousand plus people we serve every month. We continue to ask for your prayers as we share Jesus while meeting people's needs.

We would like to share a thank you note from the residents of Highwood Apartments in Columbus, where we do a delivery to seniors at their homes.

"We want you to know how thankful we were for the turkey you provided for our Thanksgiving meal. One of our residents baked the turkey, others brought vegetables and desserts. These are seniors who have no family to spend holidays with. On behalf of these 14 men and women, thank you."



School News

Christy Durby

Mrs. Durby's 1st & 2nd grade class started learning about Operation Christmas Child in October. We began by watching videos about packing shoeboxes and stories of the children who receive the shoeboxes. The children then got busy writing letters and drawing pictures to include in each shoebox.

The families of our class, along with generous support from Woman's Ministry and church members provided enough supplies and postage to put together 39 shoeboxes!

Mrs. Pixie Paradis came and helped our class pack the shoeboxes and then she returned on Saturday night to help me go through them to verify they were each packed with as many items as possible.

It is suggested that each shoebox contain a wow gift as well as other smaller toys, hygiene items, school supplies, tee shirts, socks and underwear. We were blessed to be able to provide soccer balls and play ground balls along with air pumps to inflate them. Some included small radios. We also had a wonderful donation of Beanie Babies from our thrift store.

During collection week our class visited a church drop off center in Columbus. Mrs. Laura Morgan, an enthusiastic volunteer, gave us a tour, shared what happens next with our shoeboxes on their journey to the intended children, and she recounted wonderful stories from children, some now grown, who have received boxes and which item had been most meaningful to them. We learned that every child can only receive one shoebox in their lifetime. Children in many areas can attend a 12 week Bible school, similar to VBS to learn about Jesus.

Each of our students was so enthusiastic to pack their shoeboxes and they thought long and hard what to include. We prayed for the children who will receive our shoeboxes and we hope to one day meet them in the Heavenly Kingdom. Thank you for your prayers and support! It was a blessed and meaningful experience.



Our Goal ~ God's Plan

Michael Meadows

Exciting news! The church school reached our goal of forty full-time students...in November. The budget for this year was based on having an enrollment of forty students and we have been praying for an increase in enrollment and we were blessed to reach that number this month. That means that we have forty students, along with their parents, families, and friends who have direct interaction with our teachers, school, and campus for up to 180 days. What a wonderful opportunity to share Christ with these young people and their families as they come to our church campus every weekday! Along with the good news, we do have some financial needs we could use your help with. 1. Prayer - Please pray for more students to enroll. Each class has openings, especially our lower grades. Each student allows our wonderful staff to share Jesus and provide a quality education. Also, each added student brings added revenue to make the school more self-supporting. 2. Donate – Because we did not start the year with the budgeted number of students, the school is working with a deficit from lack of funds for the first four months. If you feel led, please consider giving through the church to the school through “Worthy Student – Member donations.” No amount is too small. Although we are seeking consistent monthly donations to help with budgeting, if you cannot, even a one-time donation would be appreciated. 3. If you cannot give monthly or a larger one-time donation, please continue to share with the children during lamb’s offering each Sabbath morning. Each cent and dollar support those with needs to attend the school. About one-quarter of our students receive some amount of assistance with all families paying something each month.

Last year, more than ten church families volunteered to donate monthly to worthy student to help children in need to receive a Christian education. Thanks cannot go far enough for the generosity you have shown in the past. We have a need again this year and ask for your prayers, consideration, and assistance. If you would like to make a one-time or monthly payment, you may put it in your tithe envelope under “Worthy Student – member donation” or feel free to speak to Michael Meadows or Debbie Owens if you have questions or would like to pledge an amount.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration and continued support of our school and these amazing young people! Blessings!

8th Grade Fundraiser

Our school 8th grade class is raising money for their 8th grade trip! Please support their class by purchasing some great and affordable knives from this website! They also have gift sets perfect for Christmas! You can order directly from the link and the items will be shipped right to your house.

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=7713522.c02d8e&mibextid=Zxz2cZ>

Thank you for supporting the 8th grade class! If you have any questions contact Kari Owens or Sara Wolff.



Missionaries to Peru

Wanangwa Hartwell

Please remember to pray for our missionaries that will be gone to Peru from December 21st through January 4th. They will be building a church in Cabana and doing a health clinic and a children’s program. We look forward to hearing the stories of their experiences on their return. Please pray for safety and good health and many opportunities to share Jesus. They still need financial support too so please consider giving to the trip. Thank you so much!



The Myth of Spot Reducing
Bev Cook

Many individuals believe that by exercising a specific area, the fat in the localized area will be utilized, thus reducing the locally stored fat. Although inches may be lost as the muscle tightens and strengthens, localized exercises do not require enough caloric expenditure to burn much fat. In addition, the body works as a unit, mobilizing fat from areas of highest concentration and not from specific localized areas. Exercise, even when localized and especially when done vigorously with the whole body, draws from all of the fat stores of the body, not just from the local deposits. All persons, however, have a genetic predisposition to deposit fat more readily in certain areas which are the last areas to slim down through a fat reduction program of exercise and fewer dietary calories.

A study utilized outstanding tennis players to investigate this phenomenon. They postulated that if spot reduction were a reality, the nondominant (inactive) arm should have substantially more fat than the dominant (active). They found absolutely no difference in the fat contents of the two arms despite greater arm girths (muscle hypertrophy) in the active arms. Both arms had the same amount of fat despite differences in activity. (Annals Int. Med. 74, 1971:408-11)



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SASSY

The December 10 Game Day will be combined with the Church's annual Christmas party. Several tables will be set up in the Conference room in the the Morgan Center for games. Fun activities for all will be from 12-3. Please bring finger food to share. Popcorn, and drinks will be provided.

An evening of touring outdoor Christmas decorations were enjoyed Tuesday, the 28th. It was a cold and windy day so upon returning to the Moran Center the piping hot tea and cocoa was a welcome treat, along with some delicious cookies.



A Musical December

Wanangwa Hartwell

We would like to invite you to a couple of special worship services in December. First, on Sabbath, December 16, the children (and teachers!) of your Tryon Seventh-day Adventist School will be sharing their Christmas program filled with choir and handbell music. There will be some special surprises and hopefully a whole lot of blessing. We hope you can join us!

“Come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!” The very next week, on Sabbath, December 23, please join us as we worship together in song, remembering the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Julie Rayburn and Jennifer Khan have organized a beautiful service of music to welcome in Christmas. We hope you will join us for a high Christmas Sabbath.



Are you ready for Christmas? Have all your gifts picked out? There is a table full of free books and DVDs outside the door of the church library that you can take for gifts or for your own collection.

We also added some really nice books to the library for you to check out. There are some good new books in the men's and women's collections, a great new biography written by Bradley Booth and the autobiography of Roger Morneau. There is also a DVD of sermons by U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black and a DVD of beautiful Christmas harp music. We hope you will enjoy these and other items in the church library as part of your holiday season.

Lastly, we want to remind you that there are various types of literature available for sharing. A recent brochure (there's a stack in the display by the free books table) reminded me that Pocket Signs (of the Times) are easy to purchase and distribute. The church offers many of these in the free literature room, as well as Glow tracts and other books available for mass distribution. There are still a lot of copies of *The Great Controversy*, which is now also the sharing book for 2024. Let Wanangwa know if there's something you would like to see in stock or a specific title you want to give someone.

Looking for a good devotional book for the coming year? We will be ordering from the ACBC and there are many excellent options this year. In addition to the daily devotional and the Ellen White devotional, there are books for all ages, as well as a women's devotional and an edition of the Clear Word arranged into a year of daily readings.

The signup sheet is on the table by the DVDs of the church service. Please put your name and the quantity you would like of each devotional by Sabbath, December 16. To pay, mark your tithe envelope "2024 Devotionals." I will contact you when the devotionals arrive and work out arrangements to get them to you.

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. Psalm 95:6.

"The Lord has a special interest in the families of His children here below. Angels offer the smoke of the fragrant incense for the praying saints. Then in every family let prayer ascend to heaven both at morning and at the cool sunset hour, in our behalf presenting before God the Saviour's merits. Morning and evening the heavenly universe takes notice of every praying household." ~ Ellen White, My Life Today, p. 29

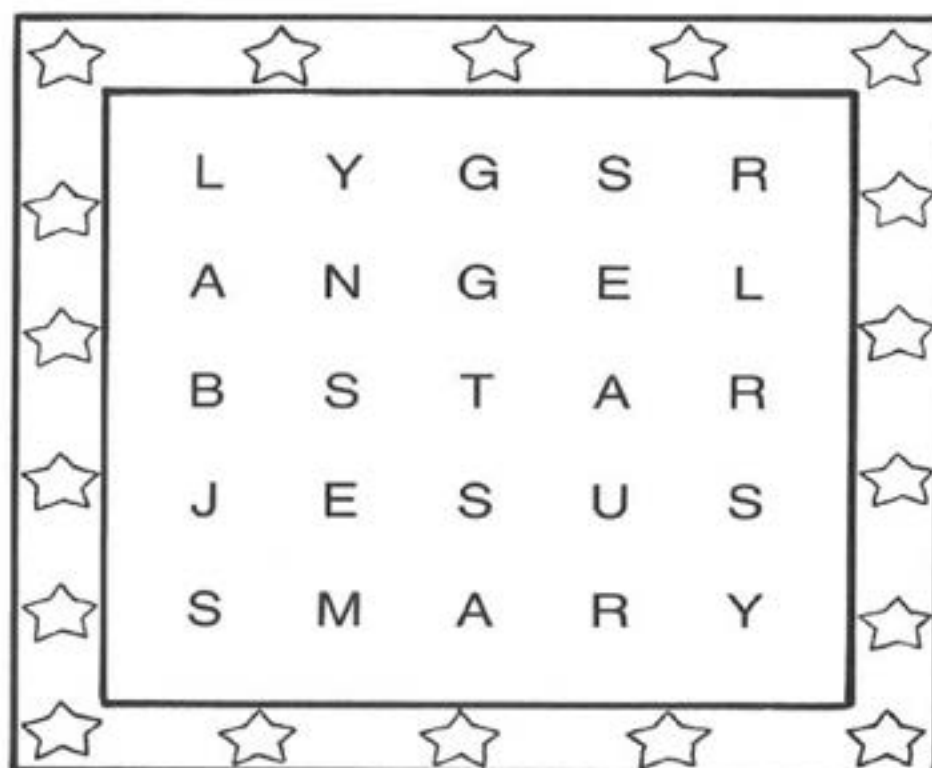


CHILDREN'S CORNER

3-6

Find these Christmas words in this puzzle. Circle each one.

MARY ANGEL STAR JESUS



CHILDREN'S CORNER

7-12

Fill in the blanks by completing this puzzle. Write the name of each object in the boxes beside it. The letters in the darker boxes spell the missing word.

Jesus said to _____ for Him to come again.

