

Today's Scripture December 17, 2023

PASSAGE: "God Comforts While We Wait," Advent Week 3

TEACHER: Pastor Kirk Crager, Guest Teacher

Bulletin Updates

YEAR-END GIFTS FOR GLOBAL WORKERS

Are you considering 2023 year-end giving or updating your monthly giving for 2024? This year, Global Outreach is highlighting the financial needs of our five National Workers.

- **Allan & Patricia Matamoros, Middle East** - \$3270/yr travel expenses (Please give to "Allan and Patricia Travel Expenses - #2322" to differentiate from support funds for tax purposes)
- **Rod & Keila Parada, Peru** - \$500/mo regular support
- **Renata Santos, Africa/Asia** - \$250/mo regular support + \$1425/Jan-June '24 travel expenses
- **Priscila Matamoros, Spain** - \$200/mo regular support + \$5000/yr travel expenses
- **Clark & Janet Dingcong, Philippines** - \$1000/mo family & ministry expenses

You can give to any or all of these needs at colemcommunity.churchcenter.com by clicking on the dropdown menu under "General Giving" to find the account for each or by writing a check to "Cole to the World" (with a separate note indicating who it is for). Thank you for your generous hearts for our workers!

REGISTER FOR THE MEN'S WINTER RETREAT JAN. 26-28

Come join us for our annual Men's Retreat at the Quaker Hill Conference Center in McCall happening January 26-28, 2024. Steve Walker will lead us in a discussion of what makes a man "tough for God." The registration fee will remain at \$140, but thanks to a generous gift, we are excited to offer a discounted rate of \$100 for the first 40 men who register before midnight January 7, 2024.



WINTER GEAR DRIVE

We're collecting winter gear of all sizes (youth and adult) for the Boise School District. You can bring new or gently used boots, gloves, coats, and hats to our collection bins located in the lobby.

Financial Update

as of December 11, 2023

This Week's Giving	\$7,147
YTD Spending	\$410,371
YTD Giving	\$450,833

Give online at
colemcommunity.churchcenter.com/giving

Elder Updates

Greetings loved ones,

The Christmas season is now in full swing with all its joy, excitement, and fun activities. It's always surprising how fast the year goes by and 2023 was no different. Now it's time to enjoy this month of celebrating Advent, reflecting back on the blessings of the past year, and looking forward with anticipation to the wonderful year that God has ahead for us in 2024.

As we reflect back on this year, the first thing we'd like to do is give thanks to God for His faithful provision for us in so many areas. One of those areas was meeting our need for a teacher each week. Throughout the year, He supplied us with many adept teachers from various Treasure Valley churches that filled our pulpit and helped supplement the teaching of our own beloved Pastor Chuck and several of our global workers. God is continuing to do so in December as we have the privilege of Pastor Kirk Crager returning to preach a special Advent series. Additionally, God also provided for all our financial needs! How thankful we are for that! In addition to these gifts, He continues to bless us with an awesome church staff and many wonderful volunteers that make life as an elder so much easier. Thank you, Lord!

As we head into 2024, please continue to pray for us as we are getting much closer to making the decision for our church's future. Pray for a decision focused on honoring and glorifying our Lord. Pray for a decision targeted at preserving our church's culture and the special love, unity, and peace that has developed in this season. Pray for a decision that is also focused on equipping us better to more effectively reach our local and global communities with the good news of the Gospel. We greatly covet your prayers for us as we seek and listen to the Lord in this matter.

We'll end with a couple personal thoughts. This past year was a good year for us here at Cole Community with some good developments like Deacon installations, children's outreach events, and lots of potlucks to name a few. We have something really special going on here at our church right now, and you are a very loving flock that lives out the "love one another" very well. Let's keep all that going well as we enter 2024 and strive to add to it and make it even better.

Lastly, we want you to know that we love serving and shepherding you—our flock—at Cole Community Church. You are an amazing bunch of saints that we love to fellowship with, and we truly look forward to serving you as best we can in 2024. It's going to be a great year for Cole Community Church.

In Him,

Jim, Jim, Josh, and Mike
Cole Community Elder Board