

God Is With Us While We Wait

I. GOD IS WITH US WHILE WE QUESTION

II. GOD IS WITH US IN THE EXTRAORDINARY

III. GOD IS WITH US IN THE ORDINARY

IV. GOD IS WITH US WHILE WE WATCH AND WAIT



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

Today's Scripture December 24, 2023

PASSAGE: "God is With Us While We Wait," Advent Week 4

TEACHER: Pastor Kirk Crager, Guest Teacher

Bulletin Updates

LOANER CAR NEEDED FOR CHUCK BUTLER

Pastor Chuck Butler's car has run it's last mile, and Chuck has an immediate need for a loaner vehicle. If you have a car he can borrow while he looks for a replacement or a lead on a used vehicle, please contact him at 208-420-3828.

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.



JANUARY GLOBAL OUTREACH PRAYER CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Prayer calendars are ready for you to pick up and begin your new year with as we pray alongside our global outreach workers.

YEAR-END GIFTS FOR GLOBAL WORKERS

There's still time to make year-end contributions to our global outreach workers for 2023. Go online to colecommunity.churchcenter.com and clicking on the dropdown menu under "General Giving." Checks can be made out to "Cole to the World" with a note indicating who it is for.

- Allan & Patricia Matamoros, Middle East - (Please give differentiate from support funds for tax purposes)
- Rod & Keila Parada, Peru
- Renata Santos, Africa/Asia
- Priscila Matamoros, Spain
- Clark & Janet Dingcong, Philippines

Thank you for your generosity! hearts for our workers!

Financial Update

as of December 18, 2023

This Week's Giving	\$21,913
YTD Spending	\$425,538
YTD Giving	\$472,746

Give online at
colecommunity.churchcenter.com/giving