

# Today's Scripture December 3, 2023

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**PASSAGE:** Isaiah 9:2-7, "God Works While We Wait," Advent Week 1

**TEACHER:** Pastor Kirk Crager, Guest Teacher

## Bulletin Updates

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### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE**

A total of 99 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were delivered to the Boise drop-off location this year to be sent to Samaritan's Purse. A big THANK YOU to Lynda Squire and her team for all their work and especially for Lynda's coordination of this ministry. Thank you to the Cole Community body for your generosity and continued prayers. Your generosity to the children overseas was amazing!

### **SAVE THE DATE FOR DECEMBER'S KEENAGER MEETING**

Our group of Keenagers (60+) will meet Monday, December 11 at 11 A.M in the Fireside Room for a time of worship, Christmas songs, prayer, and study of I Peter. Visitors are always welcomed, and lunch is provided. For more information, call Pastor Chuck at 208-420-3828.

### **BEATITUDE SERIES POSTED ONLINE**

You can now stream the complete Beatitude Series featuring Rock Harbor by going to our Cole Community Church channel at <https://www.youtube.com/ColeCommunityChurch>.



### **DAILY BREAD CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS NOW AVAILABLE**

"O Holy Night: 10 Reflections with Carols of Christmas," is a special booklet provided by Our Daily Bread and available on the Welcome Desk. Our supply is limited so please only take one per family.

### **CHURCH LIBRARY RESOURCES**

Come by Cole Community's Church Library and check out the abundant Christmas resources available. We plan to be open all Wednesdays in December, and Sunday mornings before/after the church service this month (including the 24th and 31st!)

## Financial Update

as of November 27, 2023

This Week's Giving	\$4,227
YTD Spending	\$372,573
YTD Giving	\$426,483

Give online at  
[colemcommunity.churchcenter.com/giving](https://colemcommunity.churchcenter.com/giving)

# Elder Updates

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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