



Featured Event:



The Royal Rangers need your help! See Page 4 to see how you can help.

More Events:

December 5
Orphanage Outreach

December 5
Christmas Karaoke
6pm (Rec Room)

December 10
Children's Christmas Program
6pm

December 15
Toys For Tots

December 24
Special Christmas Eve
Service - 10am only

December 31
Special New Year's Eve
Service - 10am only



The Best Christmas
by Pastor Ed Rutherford

The Christmas party was over. Several of the men were sitting at the table reminiscing about the Christmas days of their childhood. The conversation turned to the best Christmas of their lives. As they went around the table, they noticed one man hadn't said anything. They asked, "Come on, Frank. What was your best Christmas?" Frank said, "The best

Christmas I ever had was when I didn't even get a present." The others were surprised. They had to hear the story as Frank began to talk.

"I grew up in New York. It was the great depression and we were poor. My Mother had died when I was just eight years old. My Dad had a job but he only worked two or three days a week, and that was considered good. We lived in a walk-up and we just barely had enough food and clothes. I was a kid and didn't really notice.

"My Dad was a proud man. He had one suit. He would wear that suit to work. When he came home, he would take off the jacket and sit in his chair still wearing his shirt, tie and his vest. He had this big old pocket watch that had been given to him by my mother. He would sit in his chair, and the chain from the watch was hanging out, connected to the fob in his vest buttonhole. That watch was his proudest possession. Sometimes I would see him just sitting there, looking at his precious watch. I bet he was thinking of my mother.

"One year, I was about twelve, chemistry sets were the big thing. The cost was two dollars. That was big money but every kid wanted a chemistry set including me. I began to pester my Dad about it a month or so before Christmas. You know, I made all the same kid promises. I would be good. I would do my chores. I wouldn't ask for anything else again. My dad would just say, 'We'll see.'

"Three days before Christmas he took me to the carts. There was this area where all the small merchants keep their street carts. They would undersell the stores and you could get a good buy. He would take me to a cart and pick out some little toy. 'Son, would you like something like this?' I, of course, would tell him, 'No, I want a chemistry set.' We looked into nearly every cart and he would show me some toy car or a toy gun, and I refused it. I never thought that he didn't have the money to buy the chemistry set. Finally, he said, we better go home and come back the next day.

"All the way home, I pouted and whined about the chemistry set. I repeated the promises and said I didn't care if I never got another present. I had to have that chemistry set. I know now that my Dad felt guilty about not being able to give me more.

(continued next page)

The Best Christmas (Cont.)

He probably thought he was a failure as a Father and I think he blamed himself for my Mother's death. As we were walking up the stairs he told me that he would see what he could do about getting me the chemistry set. That night I couldn't even sleep. I could see myself inventing some new material. I could see the New York Times... 'Boy wins Nobel Prize!'

"The next day after work, my Dad took me back to the carts. On the way, I remember he bought a loaf of bread, he was carrying it under his arm. We came to the first cart and he told me to pick out the one I wanted. They were all alike, but I went through them like I was choosing a diamond. I found the right one and almost yelled, 'This one Dad!'

"I can still see him, reaching into his pants pocket, to get the money. As he pulled the two dollars out, one fluttered to the ground, he bent over to pick it up and as he did, the chain fell out of his vest. The chain swung back and forth. No watch. In a flash, I realized that my dad had sold his watch. He sold his most precious possession to buy me a chemistry set. He sold his watch, the last thing my mother had given him, to buy me a chemistry set.

"I grabbed his arm and I yelled, 'No!' I can see him looking at me, a strange look on his face. 'No Dad, you don't have to buy me anything.' The tears were burning in my eyes. 'Dad, I know

you love me.' We walked away from the cart and I remember my Dad holding my hand all the way home."

Frank looked at the men. "You know, there isn't enough money in the world to buy that moment. You see, at that moment, I know that my Dad loved me more than anything in the world."

That is the way that God loves us. He didn't just say it. He showed it. He gave the most precious thing anyone could give. He gave His Son.

Have a blessed Christmas!

Love You,
Pastor Ed

Meet Tina Feiner



We love and appreciate Tina here at Orange Hills. Tina faithfully serves on one of our Worship Teams, joyfully singing and praising God. She also sings in the "Hymn-Song" worship team. She willingly serves and helps wherever asked and is a real blessing to many here at Orange Hills. We love and appreciate Tina's love for the Lord and her service here at Orange Hills. God bless you Tina as you continue to serve Him.

Children's Ministry

This month KidZone will be doing their very first Christmas musical titled "Christmas Around The World." This musical includes a fun skit and some familiar and some not so familiar songs.



You'll experience *Joy To The World* sung to the beat of African drums, and *Silent Night* accompanied by the exotic Asian Chinese culture. This will be quite a new and exciting experience! **The performance will be on December 10th during the 6:00pm service.**

Also in KidZone we will be looking at the true Christmas story as we study the days leading up to the birth of our Lord and Savior. Please don't miss out on the events this month!

KidZone meets on Sunday mornings during the 10:00am service.

Missionettes

It's been a tradition in our home each year to decorate teddy bear cookies and create our own ornaments. With my children becoming older and Christmas getting busier and more hectic I suggested this year that we cut back on some of our activities.

The looks of complete horror on their faces made me wish I could rewind and erase what I had just said.

There is another tradition that I hope my children never wish to forget. The real reason we celebrate this most wonderful time of year, the birth of our Savior, the greatest gift of all.

On Wednesday, December 13th we will share that tradition with our Missionettes by having their Christmas party from 7 - 8 pm with fun, food and games.

My wish for you is that you be able to take a moment here and there to enjoy the peace and complete joy that knowing the Lord brings.

Merry Christmas!



Now is a Great Time to Join Bible Quiz

Did you know an investment of only 15 to 30 minutes a day can make you a competitive quizzier and introduce you to a world of fun and fellowship? Quizzers study hard, play hard and form lifelong friendships. In our next meet coming up January 13th, the teen novice and B-level teams will be quizzing over chapters 8 and 9 of Acts.

The JBQ teams will be studying the third quarter of the material and are looking for new rookie and C level quizzers. With 72 ten point, 48 twenty point and just 24 thirty point questions, new quizzers have plenty of time to come up to speed. If you are interested in joining, talk to Ron or Donna Pryer.

November Results



Orange Hills Bible quiz teams featured 3 new quizzers and had 5 teams at the November meet. Thomas Pryer moved up from the novice team to bolster our teen A-team, "It is Only Nine in the Morning." The result was impressive, with the team winning all of its games to finish in 1st place. James Pryer finished with the second highest individual score while Mary Pryer finished 3rd and Thomas finished 8th.

Our Teen B-Team, "These Charges are True," featured our two newest quizzers Ana Plett and Tim Vosecky who teamed with Timothy Pryer to finish 2nd in the division. Ana finished 3rd, Tim finished 6th and Timothy finished 8th in individual scores.

Our JBQ A-Team, "OH No!" finished 2nd for the 2nd meet in a row. The team of Sam, John and David Pryer lost only two games in JBQ's most competitive division. Sam finished with the 3rd highest individual score and David finished 8th.



Archie Williams joined James and Abraham Lynch to form our JBQ B-team, "OH Wow." The team which won the C-division last month moved up a division with same results finishing in 1st place. James finished with the highest individual score and Abraham finished 8th.

The rookie team of Faith Pryer and Grace Lynch continued to impress with Faith finishing with ninth highest score. The team of two 7 year olds is one of the smallest and youngest teams but has the longest team name: "Saved by Grace through Faith."

Quizzing into the New Year

We have a tentatively scheduled our annual quizzing into the New Year party for Saturday January 6. This day of practice and fellowship helps get the quizzers focused on quizzing after the holidays and includes the annual adult quiz when the parents learn what it is like to be a quizzier and the quizzers get to be officials.



With all the wonderful things that happened in November, we feel that it is important to allow our youth to spend some time with their family during the Christmas season.

This coming month we will only be having two Wednesday night services. We are also having a **Christmas party on Friday, December 8th**, and of course...**Knott's Praise 2007 on New Year's Eve**.

We want to thank everyone for their prayers as well as their support of Crossfire Youth Ministries this year, and we are looking forward to an even more incredible coming year!

December 8 - Christmas Party
December 31 - Knott's Praise 2007

Messages in December

Sunday, December 3

"Gifts That Keep On Giving"

Sunday, December 10

"Our Attitudes At Christmas"

Sunday, December 17

"Cantata...One Bethlehem Night"

Sunday, December 24

"The Night Before Christmas"

Sunday, December 31

"If You Only Knew" Year Celebration

Why Rangers?

Royal Rangers is designed to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ. We do this through a variety of activities: weekly meetings, games, crafts, sports, lectures, camp-outs, field trips, training camps, hikes, and so forth. The boys are taught Biblical principles through Bible studies and devotions, as well as through the example of godly leaders called Commanders.



Royal Rangers is designed to meet the physical, spiritual, mental and social needs of boys and young men ages 5 through 17. Boys meet during the mid-week or family night service at church. The boys meet together as a group called an "outpost." The outpost is further divided into 5 age groups to better meet the different needs of the boys.

Royal Rangers gives boys a chance to grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ through adventure and discovery. It also gives them a chance to make new friends. Above all, it is our prayer that the boys will come to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and begin a personal relationship with Him. We want to grow Godly men.

Think about it, these boys are growing up to be the future of this nation. Let's give them a solid biblical basis that they can stand on. God bless!

The Royal Rangers need your help! We have 3 different age groups and only 2 commanders! If you would like to get involved and make a difference in the lives of these great boys, please contact Pastor Brian in the Church Office.



One Bethlehem Night December 17th All Services

The Christmas story comes to life in this inspiring dramatic musical focusing on the humanity of the people who witnessed Christ's birth. Meet the young, expectant mother and her husband, as they come to Bethlehem for the census. Meet the innkeeper and his wife, who have the chance of a lifetime to make a bundle of money, but who find even greater blessings in the birth of a King.

Meet the Rabbi, who anxiously awaited the promised Messiah all of his life. You will be inspired and entertained by this Broadway-style musical with its original music and drama as they consider what it might have been like on that One Bethlehem Night.



"For unto you is born this day in the City of David, our Savior who is Christ the Lord!" How special are those words to believers.

December brings a lot of stress and busyness; just don't forget what we are celebrating and take time for what is really important.

Our **Women's Ministries Christmas Party** and **Secret Sister Reveal** will be held on Thursday, December 7th. Invite your friends as we enjoy a delicious meal, sing Christmas Carols, and exchange gifts in our beautifully decorated Banquet Hall (Fellowship Hall). If you do not have a Secret Sister, please bring an ornament to exchange. This event is one of the highlights of Women's Ministries each year. The meal is a planned pot-luck (the sign-up sheet is in the foyer).

We are planning some great events for this winter and spring. My goal is to make our meetings and events meaningful, both spiritually and socially.

If you haven't become a part of Women's Ministries, I invite you to come to the Christmas Party and I know you will be glad you did!

I hope you have a Very Merry Christmas and that 2007 will be a wonderful year of His Peace for you and your family.

Meet Betty Rich



Betty joyfully serves the Lord here at Orange Hills. She is our very efficient church book-keeper and also serves as hostess each Sunday morning, greeting people, serving coffee and donuts to all. We love and appreciate Betty here at Orange Hills, and pray God's best for her. Thank you, Betty for your willingness to serve.