## **Keep the Focus on Christmas!**

We are exactly one week away from Christmas! Does that evoke excitement or fear in you? For the kid in us it evokes excitement. The adult in us worries about all that is left to do. How many more gifts left do you have to buy? How much food or other holiday things do you need to purchase? Sadly too many of us get caught up in the hustle and bustle of this season so that our focus gets diverted. Our focus can too easily be upon completing our list rather than the true reason we celebrate this time of year, the birth of our Savior!

In our commercialized world it is easy to forget the true meaning of Christmas. Our country is becoming ever more secularized. Christmas is being obliterated so much so that now instead of our kids having a Christmas break it's called a Winter break. You hear Happy Holidays but rarely hear, Merry Christmas. At OUR CHURCH we never will lose focus on what this season means, the birth of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Christmas is named for Him who came to show us the way to God.

So here is a word of advice, slow down this next week and enjoy the true meaning of the season. Stop and listen to those carols. Read the text of your Christmas cards proclaiming the birth of our Messiah. Take in the lights while thinking that Jesus is THE light of the world. Do what you can today but don't let the rush of this season cloud out the joy meant for this season. Let's keep the focus on Christmas!

Here at OUR CHURCH we continue to stay focused upon our mission. **State your mission statement.** Every week we pass the plate and ask you to contribute generously so that we can continue that mission. Every gift counts. We use your gifts to spread the message of Christmas to our town, state, nation and indeed the world. Your generosity allows us to stay focused upon our mission. So, please consider a generous gift today.