

## **Advent Devotional: Celebrate the Story!**

This Advent, the Worship Team is producing an in-church devotional similar to what we have done in previous years. We are asking the pastors, staff, elders, and deacons to participate in this project by sharing their gifts with the congregation in the form of a written devotional for this booklet.

The theme for Advent is “*Celebrate the Story!*” and we would like the devotionals to reflect this theme, but most importantly, to have them connect to your own experiences. We want this to be about sharing our faith with one another and celebrating God coming to us.

We have kept the Advent theme broad-based on purpose because we want these devotionals to be your stories. Some questions to ponder as you think about this theme and what you will write about might be: *What is important to you about this story of Advent? What stands out? Why do you celebrate this story? What about it is important to you? Do you have expectations for Advent? Where are you in this story? Perhaps you might think about your favorite character(s) – Mary? Joseph? The angels? Maybe the shepherds? What about the Wise Men?—and picture yourself in their place. How would you tell the story?*

Advent begins on November 29 (in other words, we need 27 devotionals!) In order to have enough time for editing and production, submissions need to be in no later than **October 11, 2009**. For those of you familiar with the Upper Room devotional, we will be following a similar format:

- Scripture Reference (will be provided if desired)
- Devotional – no more than 250 – 300 words
- Prayer – short one or two sentence prayer.

The Worship Team encourages your participation in this project. We have always had positive feedback from the congregation whenever we have done an in-church devotional. I will be coordinating this project, so please get in touch with me (contact info below!) if you (1) would like to contribute a devotional or (2) have any questions about the Advent devotional. I have examples of devotionals for you to look at as well as suggestions for scripture texts to use, if needed. I would request that devotionals be submitted to me in a Word document format.

Thank you for your help and participation in this Advent project! **Let's Celebrate the Story!**

Blessings,  
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