



## Pastor's Corner

Dear friends,

A most merry and blessed Christmas season to you! Wherever you found yourselves over Christmas - home snuggled up with a blanket with a good Jane Austen book in your hands and a cat on your lap; traveling to be with family; worshipping with us on Christmas eve; or everything in-between - I pray you were able to truly feel what this season is all about: the astounding fact that our God looked and saw that his beloved world was hurting and made the choice to “step down” into humanity (the Incarnation) in order to bring us hope and help us along our way. And, because of that one act, the course of our lives changed forever.

At First Christian, it is our fervent desire to lead lives that reflect our gratitude for this amazing gift God has given us in Jesus Christ. And, as I look back over the past year and reflect, I believe that this desire is one of our church's defining values, and it has led us to engage in important ministries. YOU, dear friends, have embraced new ministries (Back-Door Blessings, Justice in Action), continued to support established ministries (the donation barrel that goes to different designated groups throughout the year, Kamp Kaleo, our Elders homebound communion visits, PraiseFest), and have committed to join me in envisioning new ways to be the hands and feet of Christ to this world in the coming year.

This coming year at First Christian will be filled with meaningful worship, opportunities that allow us to grow in our faith, and ministries through which we will share our love with the community. I am excited that you want to journey with me towards something special and meaningful; and I thank you for your faithfulness to this church. Each one of you are a blessing, and we need your gifts and graces to do what we do!

God bless you in this coming year, with Peace, Joy and a renewed spirit.

Pastor Kara

