

Holidays

By Don Wagner, for the elders

Well, the holiday season is here again. There is the sound of carols being sung and music at almost every place you enter while out shopping. There is the smell of pine needles in the air, hot apple cider laced with cinnamon and nutmeg, with cookies and holiday candy to share. There is joy having your children and grandkids sitting with you at the dinner table for a wonderful meal, knowing everyone is safe and that the memories they are making will stay with them a lifetime. God has been so good to us and blessed us in so many ways. There are no words we can use to express our gratefulness and gratitude toward Him.

This is a special time of year when we focus on family but we shouldn't forget the command our God gave to us about loving Him and One Another. In the book of Matthew, chapter 22 and verses 37-40, He said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

We sometimes forget there are those who have no family close by and who are very lonely this time of year. It's our duty and privilege as Christians to follow God's command and include those who have no family in our activities whenever possible. To brighten someone's day and extend hospitality and love is showing God's love in a simple act.

Our family at Karns is something special to all of us. We are coming to the end of a very good year with a lot of new members. We have lost several members but have also gained several. Our family keeps growing both in numbers, but most importantly, has grown in spirit and in the truth from God's word.

The elders thank each of you for your cooperation and hard work in obtaining our goals for 2011 and we are looking forward to 2012. We would like to wish everyone a good and a safe holiday season full of love for all.