



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

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DAILY DEVOTIONAL FROM PASTOR SELL

Monday, January 10

It was sad driving around on January 3. The Mount Joy Public Works department was removing the Christmas Stars which had adorned the light poles on Main Street. A little further down the road, a man on a ladder was taking down the garland and lights from the front of his house. So many people were removing the signs of the holidays. I was in a retail store and all signs of Christmas were gone and replaced with the red of Valentine's Day. I felt like we brought the baby home for a week and declared "been there, done that, put the baby away and get on with the next thing." What happened to the twelve days of Christmas? Traditionally the church celebrates Jesus' birth until Epiphany – January 6.

People love the magic of Christmas - the tree, cookies, family gatherings, the lights, the candles of the church service. Unfortunately, the magic is quickly gone, and we are on to the next experience. Christians hold on to the joy of the season. They realize the baby grows up and ultimately goes to the cross to save us. The Christmas magic, the birth of a savior, should continue throughout the year.