Date: 12/3/2016

Title: Huddle Up!

Theme: We need to huddle up here in church each week to keep from growing cold spiritually.

Objects: Picture of emperor Penguins, penguins in a huddle in Antarctica.

Text: Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Here the writer of the book of Hebrews is telling the Christians not to give up meeting together to worship God, like some other people have done.

He says we need to keep meeting together on Sabbath and encouraging each other, because Jesus is coming back for us someday soon.

Have you noticed that the weather is getting colder?

Some people have already gone to Florida where it is still nice and warm.

The rest of us are getting out the winter clothes, making sure we have warm hats and mittens.

I just got a new snow shovel for my birthday, and now I’m ready to shovel snow!

You know there is a certain bird that just loves the snow. It’s called a penguin.

I have a picture here of the Emperor Penguin [show picture, point out dad, mom, and kid.]

Penguins cannot fly at all but they are really good swimmers. Their wings are more like flippers than like wings. They can hold their breath for 18 minutes under water, and they can dive to more than 1,000 feet deep.

You can see these penguins are standing on snow. That’s because they live in one of the coldest places on earth: Antarctica.

The Antarctic is really cold. In the winter time the temperature can go to 60ºF below zero and winds can be 50 mph. That’s really, really cold.

Penguins have a layer of fat to keep them warm and tiny feathers that cover their whole body to help insulate them.

But when it gets really cold, they do a very interesting thing: they huddle together.

Here is a picture of a penguin huddle. They all push together so that they are facing each other, and they all huddle together to keep warm.

A penguin huddle can have thousands of penguins all huddled together to keep warm. [Show picture].

Come on. Let’s have a penguin huddle. We’ll put the littlest ones in the middle where it’s the warmest and those who are bigger will be around the outside.

Now the penguins do a very interesting thing. They keep moving around so that everyone gets a chance to be in the middle where it’s the warmest, and they take turns being on the outside where it is coldest.

That way, none of the penguins die when the really cold weather comes.

If one just tried to stay by itself in the cold weather, it would die.

But when they all huddle together and take turns being on the inside and on the outside, they are all saved from freezing to death.

The church is like a penguin huddle.

When we come here each Sabbath for church and SS, we huddle together and keep our lights burning bright for Jesus.

The sad thing is, when people don’t come to church anymore, they grow cold.

They’re like a penguin standing all alone. And they’re in danger of freezing to death.

Do you want to stay in the huddle and keep warm for Jesus?

Let’s make sure we’re here every Sabbath so our lights will burn bright for Jesus and not go out.