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New Year's Resolutions

By R. Wilson (edited)

"I never make New Year's Resolutions, anymore," the man told me, "I never keep them, anyway." I can remember all too many resolutions I've made and let slip away, too. But I believe New Year's resolutions are worth making. Let me tell you why.

First, we all need changes. Some we find very hard to admit to ourselves. I've heard people who say, "I have no regrets about my life. If I had it to do over, I'd do it the same way again." But that attitude is way too blind and self-serving so far as I'm concerned. There is great power in confession--to ourselves, to God, to others. Owning up to our failures is the first, painful step on the road to something better.

Second, when we change calendars is a good time for reassessment. How did last year go? What do I want to do differently this year?

Third, New Year's is an excellent time for mid-course corrections. Sure, we might fail in what we set out to do, but if we fail to plan, the old saying goes, then we plan to fail. If you're so fearful of failure that you never set up your row of tin cans to shoot at, you're not very likely to hit any at all. Failure is not the end. For the person who determines to learn from it, failure is a friend.

Fourth, New Year's is a time to learn to rely more heavily on the grace of God. Now I've met a few self-made men and women and so have you, but so often these people seem proud and driven. There is another way: beginning to trust in God's help. One more secret from the Apostle Paul: "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength," he said (Phil 4:13, NIV). And God's strength saw him through a lot--through pain, through joy, and through accomplishment.

If this last year, you didn't practice relying on the Lord as much as you should have, there is no time like the present to make a New Year's resolution. In fact, why don't you say a short prayer right now--use these words if you like: "Dear God, I want the new year to be different for me." Now spell out in prayer some of the changes you'd like to see. And close this way: "Lord Jesus, I know that I'm going to need a lot of help for this. So right now I place myself in your hands. Help me to receive Your strength. Amen." Good. Now you've got a much better chance of a Happy New Year.

GATHERING TIMES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

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OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

GREENBANK FOOD PANTRY

Thursday Evenings—Doors are open 6:00-7:00 PM

Volunteer Schedule:

Wednesdays 10:00 AM
Thursdays 9:30 AM & 5:30PM
Fridays 9:00 AM

To volunteer contact: Ed or Sue Maynard
302-994-3800

Order of Worship
We Praise Thee O God, Our Redeemer—R44
Welcome
We Praise Thee O God—R61
Praise Your Name O Jesus—G50
We Will Glorify—G84
Scripture Reading & Prayer
His Name is Wonderful—G131
What Child Is This?—R207
Communion
Offering
O, Come All Ye Faithful—R210
"Reboot"
Wonderful Story of Love—TPH
Closing Prayer



**Help keep our prayer list current
 by providing regular updates
 on family and friends.**

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Kathy Sheppard: aunt in hospital; **Christina Steiner's parents:** Safe travels; **Clark family:** safe travels; **Christina Steiner's grandparents:** healthy bodies and minds; **Sons of Elmore Martin:** to resolve differences; **Jonathan Mitchell Jr:** health concerns; **Azalea Garvin:** needs surgery; **Mike Anderson:** knee replacement; **Larry Saenz:** bypass surgery; **George Adair:** fractured sternum; **Lillie West:** strength during the holidays; **Chelsea Brasefield:** healthy, full-term pregnancy; **Sam Nash:** emotional struggles; **Sharon King:** trouble with her hand; **Lakeisha Smith:** health issues; **Monica Green:** medical problems; **Brian King & family;** **Linda Jones;** **Lucas Kirkland:** clinical trials for Duchenne's MD; **Jeffrey Clark Jr:** transitioning back into society; **Clarence Barton** (brother of Penny Price) in the hospital; **Debbie Davis;** **Nate McCollum;** **Jocelyn Clark**

SHUT-INS: George Adair; Connie Dowds; Joan Gaynor; Agnes Ignudo

LONG-TERM ILLNESS/RECOVERY: Ed Maynard, Joyce Gamble, Miriam Castro, Marie Difilippo, Dustin Lackford, Michael Mugrage, Felicity Ray, Gwendolyn Brady, John Arnold, Bud Polk, Evelyn Kline, Emma Green, Gloria Edwards, Daisey Mae Wright, Glenda Schinnerer

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Rachel Johnson, Kyle Cox, Heather Abosch, Brent Tucker, Tatiana Vargas, Kristal Moreta, Mackenzie Naseery, Ethan Reed, Prissila Sanichar, Antonio Sanichar, Adriana Moreta

MISSIONS/MINISTRIES: Ghana Bible College, Samuel Agbeta (Nkwanta, Ghana), Delaware Christian Campus Ministry Foundation; Camp Manatwny; Chad & Amy Westerholm (Mozambique); GriefShare

OUR COUNTRY: Leaders, Military, Law Enforcement, Firefighters

GREENBANK NEWS

GRIEF SHARE EVENING OF HOPE-1/13/2020 (6:30 p.m.)

This is only open to those who have already attended GriefShare. Our new sessions for the GriefShare Program that are open to all will begin on March 16. You may register for this online or see Mike or Judy Barker, or Sherry Kirkland.

FOOD PANTRY—December 26

Thank you to everyone who has and those who will be helping with the food pantry during the holidays. We provided 1026 meals to 114 people in 42 families this past week. 5 families were new.

NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH TODAY OR JANUARY 5

WINTERFEST—PAYMENT #2 DUE

If you have your payment today, please give it to Sherry Kirkland.

SUNDAY AM 9:30 ADULT BIBLE CLASS IN THE BLUE ROOM

George Kirkland has begun teaching a new class on the subject of Angels for the next few weeks. All are welcome to come.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Work has begun on the Greenbank Road bridge. The road will be closed to through traffic until April 2020 or until the work is complete. The only access to the church building during this time will be from Rt. 41-Newport Gap Pike. When leaving, you will have to turn right onto Greenbank Road and right onto Newport-Gap Pike. It is illegal to turn left onto Newport-Gap Pike.

	<u>12/29/19</u>	<u>In His Service</u>	<u>01/05/20</u>
<u>Last Week</u>	R. Mickowski	Worship Leader	S. Willis
	P. King	Scripture & Prayer	D. Mattis
	M. Ray	Usher	B. Davis
	D. Anderson	Communion	M. Brasefield
	R. Lewis	Offering	M. Welsh
	R. Stafford	Pass	D. Bower
	M. Galeano	"	B. Pennington
	M. Anderson	"	M. Johnson
	D. Asbell	"	R. Irwin
	C. Mason	Greeters	R. Lewis
	Maynard	"	Brummett
	E. Greenwood	Shepherd's Prayer	E. Greenwood