

Monthly Newsletter of
Woodland Hills Baptist Church
| December 2018

the connection



Hear Evangelist Herman Cramer

Sunday, December 2 at 10:30am
Main Campus

Church Wide 2019 Budget Presentation

Budget will be presented. Q & A
time follows. Sunday night,
December 2 at 7:00pm in the
Worship Center

LIFEGROUP dec 9
5:30-7:30
CONNECT

Register your children online at whbchurch.com

**Candlelight Lord's
Supper Service**

Sunday Morning
December 23
One Service at
10:30am
Worship Center

*A
Purple Hull
Christmas*

The very first words my Mama ever taught me was "Peas and Thank You!". And I've never lost my love for either of those two words! "A Purple Hull Christmas" will be one that will have you asking for more "peas" and leaving saying "thank you"! You'll most definitely be entertained by the award winning "Purple Hull" Bluegrass band...with their charisma and heart for the Lord, and their beautiful God-given gift of music, you'll most assuredly be blessed.

And...as if that weren't enough, the Woodland Hills HillsPraise Choir and Ensembles have a slew of variety that will leave you guessing as to what's coming next. From Jug Bands, to Stomp routines and an angelic handbell choir, the sights and sounds of Christmas will be ever-present. Our prayer for you and yours this Christmas is that the gift of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, would be more real to you and ever-present in your life this Christmas season than ever before. Come and celebrate His miraculous birth with us on **Sunday, December 16 at 6:00pm...** You won't regret being a part of "A Purple Hull Christmas!"



from my heart
Bro. Charles Hunt

my mouth, O LORD, and teach me Your ordinances." It is also described in Exodus 35:5 when Moses commanded "whoever is of a willing heart" to bring offerings for the construction of the temple. Exodus 36:3 then calls these gifts "freewill offerings." Leviticus 7:16 described it also as a gift of animals which were subsequently to be eaten by the priests of God. This was different from many of Israel's offerings because it was not always done at a "prescribed" time, but just what and when their heart moved them.

Would you join me in doing this special "freewill offering" during the month of December? God has been so good to us. We are praying that the Preschool and Children's Building will be built debt free. Would you pray about what God would have you do in an end of the year freewill offering to BFE? Or maybe God has led you to give a free will offering to finish the Ministry Budget for 2018 strong.

Let's make giving a top priority as we finish out 2018.

There's another part of this offering that is very important...it is the freewill offering of the mouth! We give an offering with the words that we speak. This is a sacrifice that everyone can give equally. When giving of our finances, we emphasize, "Not Equal Gifts But Equal Sacrifice." That's because some people can give more than others. So we all sacrifice to give, but the amounts are different. But when we're talking about giving an offering of our mouths, this is an offering that all people can give freely, equally, regardless of means or ability.

Let's use this month to tell people about Jesus...let's speak freely and unashamedly about what Christmas really is! Merry Christmas!

Preparing People For The Coming Lord.

Bro Charles

The people of Israel were commanded to offer a number of different offerings: the lamb for Passover, the daily sacrifices at the temple, etc. But none of the offerings were "freewill offerings."

In Psalm 119:108 the Psalmist prays: "O accept the freewill offerings of

Christmas Fellowship and Outreach 12 Days of Christmas

Sunday, December 23 at 5:00pm

Grand Hall

Bring snack finger foods and Christmas candy canes. We will divide in groups and visit all shut ins and retirement homes to sing and hand out candy canes.



Eden Place

Thursday,
December 6

6:00pm

Hosted by Youth



Corrie ten Boom Live!

December 2

6:00pm

Evelyn Hinds as
Corrie ten Boom.

This is a dramatic
portrayal of hope
and inspiration for
all age groups.



THE Gift OF CHRISTMAS

FEATURING
THE LIVING NATIVITY

Prestonwood Baptist Church Saturday, December 8

Bus leaves church at 9:00am. Tickets available on a first come, first serve basis by calling the Church Office at 903.757.3110



Hilltoppers

A Prayer to Put Jesus First This Christmas

by Debbie McDaniel

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

No room for them. No vacancy. No place. Words that still seem to hang close, even today.

In a world that seeks to crowd Jesus out, where busyness abounds, and hearts are stirred to focus on other things, it can be hard sometimes to choose to keep Him first. It's all too easy to get caught up in the whole hurried dash of the holidays, and to give our attention to what seems more urgent. Our focus gets blurred; and the most important gets pushed aside.

It takes an active and daily choice to put Christ first, especially in a culture that says you're too busy to focus there. Or that life is too full. And there's no more room.

He is the One who brings true meaning to Christmas.

He is the One who brings real peace in this all-too-often hectic season.

He is the only One worthy of our time and attention as we slow down the maddening rush around our lives.

We can know all of this in our heads, but may He help us to really believe it in our hearts...and choose to live it out this season.

Renewed.

Refreshed.

Making room for Him, first.

Dear God,

Help us to keep our focus first on Christ this season. Please forgive us for giving too much time and attention on other things. Help us to reflect again, on what Christmas is really all about. Thank you that you came to give new life, peace, hope, and joy. Thank you that your power is made perfect in our weakness. Help us to remember that the gift of Christ, Immanuel, is our greatest treasure, not just at Christmas, but for the whole year through. Fill us with your joy and the peace of your Spirit. Direct our hearts and minds towards you. Thank you for your reminder that both in seasons of celebration and in seasons of brokenness, you're still with us. For you never leave us. Thank you for your daily powerful Presence in our lives, that we can be assured your heart is towards us, your eyes are over us, and your ears are open to our prayers.

What a great Hilltoppers Fall Banquet we had! Thank you to everyone who made it such a great time of fellowship and worship together.

- **Bro Jim Bob and Louverl Griffin sharing through music. What an awesome testimony of God's faithfulness.**
- **Bro. Jim Walsh bringing the Word!**



HillToppers Christmas December 11 at 4:45pm

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ and eat and fellowship together in Marshall at the Wonderland of Lights!



WHBC Kids

Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During the Month of December we are starting a series titled JESUS IS! Christmas is a time that kids look forward to with great expectation. The presents, decorations, and all of the holiday fun brings out the kid in ALL of us. However, these things are not what Christmas is all about. Christmas is all about the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Jesus' birth was something that the nation of Israel had looked forward to for a long time. Although they didn't know that the Messiah's name would be Jesus, they did have a very good idea about what He would be like. The prophet Isaiah prophesied many years earlier about Jesus and gave several descriptions of His character. In this series, the children will learn some incredible lessons based on that prophecy from Isaiah. Ultimately, they will learn that Jesus is Emmanuel - "God With Us." Please pray that this series is a blessing to the children as we celebrate this timeless story that changed the world this Christmas!

WHBC ANGEL TREE

This year Woodland Hills sponsored 50 "Angels" on our Angel tree. Thank you to each and every person who sponsored an angel this year. Each year we are overwhelmed at the response from our church family!!! Your time and effort and resources in finding just the right gift for your angel is so appreciated, and helps to make Christmas so special for a child in our area! Please take time to pray for the child and family that will be receiving these gifts this year. We are humbled to give as we remember that God gave to us His greatest gift...His Son Jesus! Thank you and Merry Christmas!

BLESSING BOXES

These are the new missions project for our children. We will take turns stocking the boxes with food and necessities. There is one posted on the Page Road side of WHBC, and one out at Mason Creek Campus! Anyone in need can freely take what they need! Praying for these to be a blessing to people in our area! Thank you His Heart, Our Hands for Building and painting them! You did an outstanding job!!! As I have loved you, love one another. John 13:34



SUNDAY SCHOOL PREVIEW

December 2 - Anticipating the Coming King
 December 9 - Angels Visited Mary & Joseph
 December 16 - Jesus was Born
 December 23 - No Sunday School
 December 30 - Fifth Sunday Celebration

PRIMETIME

Jesus is the Best Gift Ever Series
 December 19 - Class Christmas Parties
 December 26 - No Services (Wednesday Night Services will resume on January 9)

THE STAR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MOVIE PARTY

Sunday, December 9 · 5:30-7:30 in the Grand Hall

Menu: Hamburger Sliders, Tater tots, Christmas Desserts

Kids: Bring a \$5 Boy or Girl Gift to exchange in the gift exchange and a dessert. Children will be eating, playing games, and then watching the movie...THE STAR!

KIDSPRAISE – Sunday Nights at 6:00

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...IT'S THE CHILDREN!

Beginning December 2, children Kindergarten – Fifth Grade will begin the 10:30 Worship Hour with their families. If your child is present for the Sunday School hour, please pick them up from the Grand Hall before Worship. Children will have the opportunity to worship with their families, and then will be dismissed to Children's Church for an age appropriate study through the Bible.



Special Thank you to our Leaders who are working with our Children at our Mason Creek Campus. Cassie Locke, Katie Mitchell, Julie Canales, Ali Hopkins, we appreciate you!!!

Christy Mayfield
 Children's Director
christy@whbchurch.com

Sunday School December Preview

December 2

Isaac & Rebekah

December 9

God's Promise to Isaac

December 16

Angel Spoke to Mary & Joseph

December 23

Jesus was Born

Worship Hour Only-No Sunday School

December 30

New Year's Activities

December Events
 2-Evelyn Hinds, "Corrie" ten Boom, Preschool Praise Performance
 9-Life Group Connect Christmas Parties, register your child online
 16-Hills Praise Christmas performance
 23-Church Wide Fellowship (No childcare)
 30-No Evening Services

YIPPEEE!!!

Fun Friday with Mommy Ministry for mummies to fellowship with other mothers, and activities for their little ones. **December 7 & 14: 9:30-11:00**

Location: Main Campus

DECEMBER, 2017

sprouts

Preschool Ministry

Ages 2 (by Sept 1, 2017) - PreK



Wednesday Nights (2's-PreK)
 Scripture memorization, crafts, story, rec, and snack.
 5, 12, 19-Normal Activities
 Dec 26-No Wednesday Night Services
 Theme night: Dec 19-gift wrap a book (under \$5) to exchange with friend

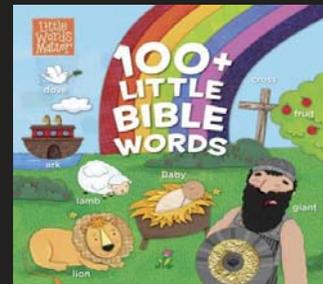
COOL!



FYI....

LifeGroup Connect
 Christmas Parties
 5:30pm

Items in Need:
 Baby Wipes/
 Lucky Charms/Fruit Loops cereals
 Drop off items at church office or with Rosio



Nursery and Crawlers: Through out the year infants-crawlers will be read 100 little Bible words with monthly crafts. They may also participate in Wednesday Night themes.

Rosio Newton
 Preschool Director
 903-930-2220



DEC, 2018
WHBC Student
Ministries
Newsletter
"You are the light
of the world."
Matt 5:14

Hawaiian Christmas Luau

December 9 5:30-8:00pm

Join us for a luau like no other. Please bring 1 white elephant gift valued at \$10 or less and dress Hawaiian Christmas!

No Illuminate

December 26

Merry Christmas. Hope you will spend this time celebrating the birth of Christ with family and friends. See you in 2019!

Disciple Now 2019

Save the Date

January 18-January 20

More info coming within the next week. You won't want to miss this!

Students to Eden Place

Thursday, December 6 at 6:00pm

We will have the opportunity to host a meal at Eden Place and bring some Christmas cheer. If you are able to help please let Bro. Jason know ASAP.

Family Ideas for Serving Others at Christmas

Jim Burns -President of HomeWord and Executive Director of the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University

It's recorded in Matthew's Gospel, (Matthew 10:8) that Jesus said, "Freely you have received; freely give." Though our lives may not always be everything we hope for them to be, God has richly blessed each one of us. One of the ways we can demonstrate that we are grateful to God for his many blessings is to help others.

Christmastime provides an opportunity for your family to roll up your sleeves and get involved in helping to meet the needs of others in your community -- showing them the light and love of Christ. Here are some family ideas for reaching out and helping others during the Christmas season:

1. Donate your family's time to help out at a food kitchen or a food bank.
2. Take your family to visit someone you know who lives at a nursing home, who lives alone, or is confined at home because of poor health.
3. Invite neighbors who don't have plans to join your family for Christmas dinner.
4. Provide some (or all) of the Christmas dinner groceries for a needy family in your community. Take the family along to make the delivery.
5. Have your family gather winter clothes and coats that don't fit any longer, or are no longer wanted or needed -- and distribute them to homeless people in your area -- or deliver them to a local shelter.
6. Make some bag lunches and take your family into the community to distribute them to homeless people in your area. (Make sure ahead of time that your local authorities allow this type of distribution.)
7. Make more Christmas treats than you need for your holiday meals. As a family, deliver extras to the neighbors or to a needy family in your area.
8. Find an elderly person in your area that could use some help at the grocery store. Better yet, invite them to your home for a special holiday meal.
9. Find a family in your area that could use some help to take care of fall yard cleanup, basic repair or weatherization around their home. Buy the needed materials and get to work as a family!
10. Invite a neighbor's family over to your home for a simple, fun family game night.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering 2018

Every Church. Every Nation.

It's more than a catch phrase. It's at the core of what we do. We believe every church—and every church member—has a critical role to play in bringing the gospel to the world. Your church's participation in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a key part of that.

Your Gifts Transform Lives

Because you and your church give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, IMB missionaries can take the gospel to unreached peoples around the world. Every dollar you give makes a difference, because 100% of the money collected goes to the work of reaching every nation.

The Story of Lottie Moon

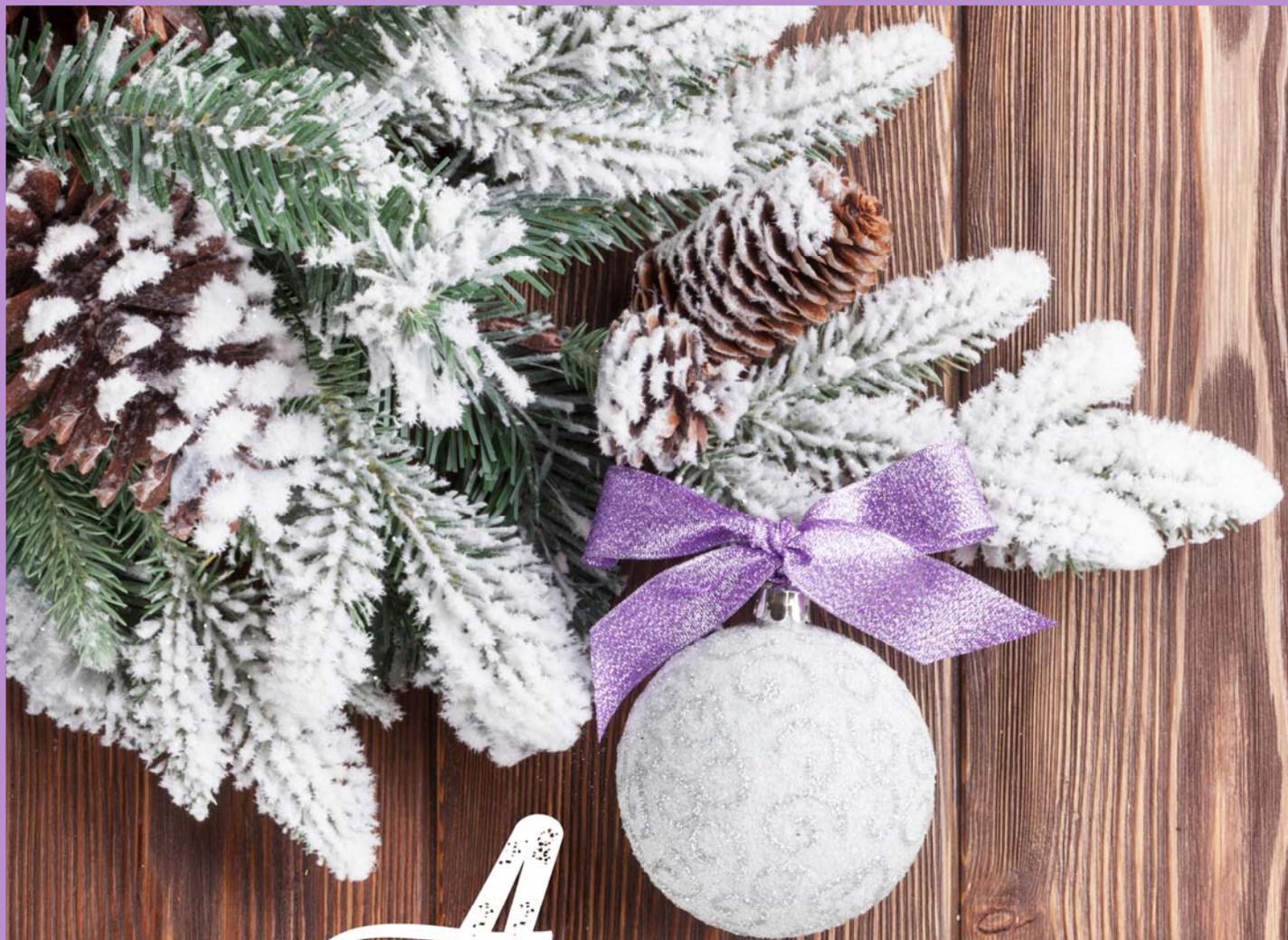
In the 1800s, a missionary named Lottie Moon wrote letters from China urging American churches to fund more overseas workers. After Lottie's death on the mission field, an offering was started in her name. The offering was established to empower international missions efforts for Southern Baptists.

The 2018 goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is \$160M.

You can give by marking your envelope LOTTIE MOON and placing it in the offering. Or you can go online and give.



Had a great Jr High Retreat as we got away and talked about what it means to be a "Child of the King." Here are just a few highlights. Special thanks to Mrs. Amy Timmons for all your hard work and being a great female sponsor!



A
Purple Hull
Christmas

Sun, Dec 16 at 6:00pm

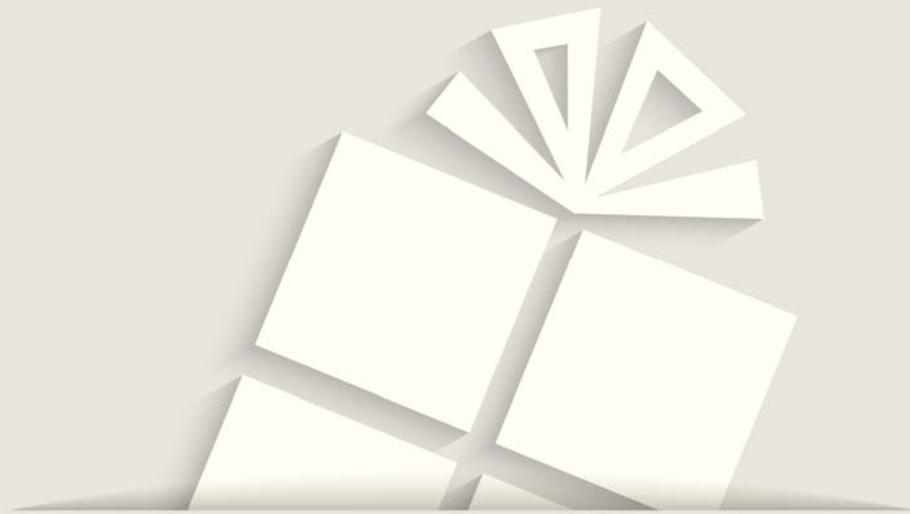
Featuring HillsPraise Choir & The Purple Hull Band

December 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Bro. Cramer 10:30am Stewardship Meeting 4:30pm Church Council Meeting 5:00pm Corrie ten Boom Live 6:00pm Town Hall 7:00pm	3	4 Shamgar Brigade 8:30am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	5 Arabella Service 10:00am Budget Q&A 6:15pm	6 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Eden Place Meal/Service Hosted by Youth	7 Fun Friday with Mommy 9:30am Adult Game Night 6:00pm	8 Prestonwood The Gift of Christmas 9:00am
9 Church Wide LifeGroup Christmas Parties 5:30pm	10 Stewardship Meeting 6:30pm	11 HillToppers 4:45pm Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	12 Arabella Service 10:00am	13 Hawkins Creek 10:15am	14 Fun Friday with Mommy 9:30am	15 Kindermusik Playdate 10:00am
16 A Purple Hull Christmas 6:00pm	17	18 Shamgar Brigade 8:30am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	19 Arabella Service 10:00am Church Wide Fellowship 5:30pm	20 Hawkins Creek 10:15am	21	22
23 Christmas Candlelight Worship Service 10:30am (No LifeGroups) Fellowship/ Outreach 5:00pm	24	25	26 Arabella Service 10:00am No Midweek Services or Activities	27 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Page Place II 6:30pm	28	29
30 No Sunday Evening Services	31					Kindermusik Schedule (except December 24-January 4) Mondays 10:00am Thursdays 10:00am Fridays 11:00am Playdate: Dec 15 10:00am





December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1-Anaiya Amos
1-Jan Humphrey
1-Kayden Johnson
1-Wyatt Morgan
1-Braxton Mull
1-Shirley Perkins
1-Mary Walton
2-Jim Fleck
3-Dale Dawes
3-Malaiah Gaona
3-Mary Ann Sanders
4-Charlotte Block
4-Tabitha Lair
4-Carolyn Northcutt
4-Kate Richardson
5-Kim Allen
5-Walker Cherry
5-Lonnie Jones
5-Sondra Lockhart
5-Scott Simpson
5-Iva Dee Smith
6-Amanda Barker
6-Makenna Hargrove
6-Nicole Roadcap
7-Stephanie Canaguier
7-Mason Frith
7-Reyne Merrell
8-Jennifer Koenig
9-Jaydan Adams
9-Betty Hudman
9-Jason Pevey
10-Johnny Horton
10-Wesley Long
10-Ann Sullivan
11-Johnny Lummus
11-Linda Motley
12-Rocky Burton
12-Don Kuykendall
12-Brandy Wooley
13-Ray Hairston
13-Brianna Taylor
14-Alton Blair
14-Jennifer Perkins
14-Hayden Roadcap
16-Mary Bobo
17-Ashley Daugherty
17-Ila Ford
17-Richard McAfee
17-Mark Mowery
17-Julie Mowery
17-Jacob Owen
17-Michele Walker
18-Vernon Burks
18-David Mason
18-Danna Miller
19-Sue Childress
19-Brianna Lansdale
20-Ramon Hill
21-Bill Darby
21-Griffin Gesik
21-Breann Jones
21-Aaron Perkins
22-Kim Hall
22-Shamiah Morris
23-Kellen Weaver
24-Denise Bowens
24-Michael Hill
24-Jessica Purifoy
25-Cecellia Cox
25-Tess Davis
25-Weldon Richie
26-Ginger Richardson
27-Reese Richardson
27-Cathy Williams
28-Cody Hargrove
28-Lillian McClung
28-Lyndon McClung
28-Kitty Minor
28-Amber Showler
29-Cindy Downey
29-Layne Hopkins
29-Crystal Hurst
29-Mike Putney
30-Daniel Golden
31-Nora Chucci

2-William & Carla Buchanan
5-Paul & Leann Spencer
6-Thomas & Diana Graves
8-Ricky & Shanen Lamar
8-Marty & Christy Mayfield
10-Michael & Renae Purifoy
13-Steve & Lana Snider
15-Charlie & Sandy Johnson
15-Lance & Amy Wingfield
17-Danny & Crystal Jones
17-David & Tana Scholl
17-Jeff & Maryann Thomas
18-Mark & Debra Alford
18-Mark & Jan Humphrey
19-Lee & Sheri Hopkins
19-Lonnie & Kahlan Stanley
20-Marshall & Cona Jones
23-Jason & Shayla Heaton
27-Rocky & Lauren Burton
30-Billy & Kim Hall
30-Clay & Stacey Perkins



Reliant

by Kason Kuykendall

2 Chronicles 16:7-9 At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the Lord your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the Lord, he gave them into your hand. For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars."

That's a wrap... 2018 is drawing to an end; there's nothing that we can do to change the events in the year 2018. No doubt as we all look back over the year there are some things that we are proud of; and there are some things that we are ashamed of. There are some areas that we seized the opportunity, and there are others that we squandered the privileges the Lord placed in front of us. There are ways we excelled as a spouse, parent, friend, etc. and there are ways that we failed. My hope for my life is that I am growing; I hope that I was more like Christ in 2018 than I was in 2017, and my hope is that this growth continues into the year 2019. Growth does not come naturally, we do not wake up one morning and realize that we have matured in our Christ-likeness; rather it is a choice and a struggle of daily dying to self.

What's it going to take to have more victories in 2019 than we had in 2018; I believe one of the first things we are going to have to do is to rely upon God. You will notice in the text above that Asa the King of Judah relied upon the king of Syria, and not on God (v.7). Therefore, Judah lost the battle with Syria; and because of their lack of faith they will now suffer many hardships through various wars (v.9).

It's easy in life to become self-reliant. Our money, jobs, bank accounts, positions, education, and relationships can make us disillusioned and give us a false sense of security. Notice **verse 9 "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him."** God will not accept those who reject his sovereignty and lean on themselves; however, God is looking aggressively to support those who are wholeheartedly committed to him. God is looking for those who will live righteously and seek after his will.

Let it be true of our lives that God can find our heart's blameless toward Him. May it be true that no matter how many bank accounts, possessions, or positions we hold; we will always know that we are dependent upon God and that every good and perfect gift is from him. May 2019 be an incredible year of Kingdom work!



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Longview, TX

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weekly schedule

SUNDAY

- 8:30am Arabella Service
- 8:45am Coffee & Donuts
- 9:15am LifeGroups
- 9:30am Worship at Mason Creek
- 10:30am Worship
- 5:00pm Bible Drill/4-6th graders
- 6:00pm Children's Choir Practice
- 6:00pm Worship & The Word

MONDAY

- 5:30pm Meal
- 6:15pm Celebration Place
- 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery

WEDNESDAY

- 5:15pm Fellowship Meal
- 6:00pm Children's PRIMETIME!
- 6:00pm HillsPraise Choir Practice
- 6:00pm Youth
- 6:15pm Wednesday Gathering



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