

January 15, 2017

Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Volume 22.01

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"The Power of Praise"

Our theme for 2017 is "The Power of Praise."

Hebrews 13:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Hebrews 13:15 (AMP)

¹⁵ Through Him, therefore, let us constantly and at all times offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, which is the fruit of lips that thankfully acknowledge and confess and

glorify His name.

To praise is to exalt, to magnify, to glorify, and to declare the goodness and the greatness of something or someone. Praise should be as natural for the believer as eating, breathing, or drinking. We are told to praise God "in," "for," and "with" all that we are. In other words, we are told where, why, and how to praise Him.

The writer of Hebrews begins this verse with "through Him." This is where all true praise begins. The concept of "through Him" or "in Him" or "by Him" is a common theme in the Bible. We are told that "in Him" we have been blessed, chosen, adopted, forgiven, born-again, and secured. And, "through Him" we have been raised, redeemed, and reconciled to God. And it is *through Him* that we offer our "spiritual sacrifices" to God.

Remember the words of Jesus when the Scribes and Pharisees tried to stop the praise of the people during the triumphant entry? *Luke 19:40 (KJV)*⁴⁰ And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

How much of this the crowd really understood what was going on, I cannot tell. But they responded by quoting their praises from a messianic psalm (Ps. 118:25-26). Praise is contagious. You see, praise causes things like standing, singing, shouting, clapping hands, raising hands, dancing, playing instruments, and even testifying. All of these are done for glory to the object of their praise.

Praise always has an outcome. What's the outcome of our Praise? What does praising God do? In a word, praise can transform your life. It transforms depression into expectation, darkness to light, sorrow to joy, and even hopelessness into anticipation. There is power in your praise. Praise has the ability to change your life.

¹*Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.*

² Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

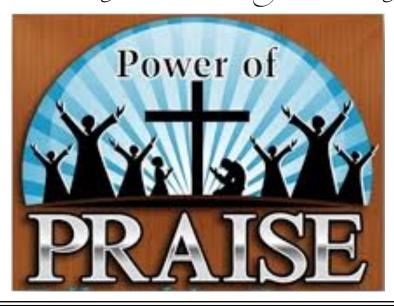
³ Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his

pasture.

^₄ Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. ^₅ For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

The psalm also admonishes us not to *forget* the blessings of the Lord. It is the business of the church to praise the Lord. Have a great new year praising the Lord!!!

Pastor Robert, Sr. and Lady Bessie Herring and Family



Prayer and Supplication for our Pastor

Father God, in the name of Jesus, we come in humble submission as we approach this new year. Father, we pray that You would bless our Pastor as he faithfully moves forward on his mission.

Father, we pray that You continuously order his steps, moving every impediment that threatens any pathway to his victory, whether mentally or physically. And always reminding him that there is a balm for every situation that he faces.

So Father, in faith, we pray that everything that we have asked, be done according to Your will. Father we know that You can, we just pray that You will.

Then Father, as we close this prayer, we lift his family up also. It is our desire that You continue to lead, guide and direct them in what ever endeavors they undertake in Your name. Bless their homes, finances, and their goings and comings in Jesus' name we pray. We close this prayer with an Amen and Thank God.

Amen

P. Cross



CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM

One day I had lunch with some friends. Jim, a short, balding golfer type about 80 years old, came along with them---all in all, a pleasant bunch. When the menus were presented, we ordered salads, sandwiches, and soups, except for Jim who said, "Ice Cream, please. Two scoops, chocolate.

I wasn't sure my ears heard right, and the others were aghast. "Along with heated apple pie," Jim added, completely unabashed. We tried to act quite nonchalant, as if people did this all the time.. But when our orders were brought out, I didn't enjoy mine. I couldn't take my eyes off Jim as his pie a-la-mode went down. The other guys couldn't believe it. They ate their lunches silently and grinned.



The next time I went out to eat, I called and invited Jim. I lunched on white meat tuna. He ordered a parfait. I smiled. He asked if he amused me. I answered, "Yes, you do, but also you confuse me. How come you order rich desserts, while I feel I must be sensible? He laughed and said "I'm tasting all that is Possible. I try to eat the food I need, and do the things I should. But life's so short, my friend, I hate missing out on something good. This year I realized how old I was. (He grinned) I haven't been this old before."

"So, before I die, I've got to try those things that for years I had ignored.

I haven't smelled all the flowers yet. There are too many trout streams I haven't fished. There's more fudge sundaes to wolf down and kites to be flown overhead. There are too many golf courses I haven't played. I've not laughed at all the jokes. I've missed a lot of sporting events and potato chips and cokes. I want to wade again in water and feel ocean spray on my face.

I want to sit in a country church once more and thank God for His grace. I want peanut butter every day spread on my morning toast. I want un-timed long distance calls to the folks I love the most. I haven't cried at all the movies yet, or walked in the morning rain. I need to feel wind on my face. I want to be in love again.

So, if I choose to have dessert, instead of having dinner, then should I die before night fall, I'd say I died a winner, because I missed out on nothing. I filled my heart's desire. I had that final chocolate mousse before my life expired.." With that, I called the waitress over.. "I've changed my mind, " I said. "I want what he is having, only add some more whipped cream!"

This is my gift to you - We need an annual Friends Day! Live well, love much & laugh often - Be happy. Be mindful that happiness isn't based on possessions, power, or prestige, but on relationships with people we like and respect. Remember that while money talks,

CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM SINGS!

Shared by S English

Thought Of The Month

"Long long ago, in a far far Galilee, Jesus walked led by the spirit. Come walk with us as we are led by the Spirit in 2017!"



Shared by J&P Author unknown



TRADITIONAL SOUTHERN NEW YEAR'S DAY MENU

Of all the events we celebrate in the South, the menu for a traditional Southern New Year's Day probably carries the most tradition. Each component has a special meaning. We wouldn't think of letting New Year's Day get past us without enjoying this traditional meal. The foods represent progress, blessings, money and gold.

PROGRESS - A pig roots forward. A chicken scratches backwards. A cow stands still. Pork symbolizes forward progress. Ham, neckbones, pork chops, pork roast, pork pot, chitterlings, etc. They can also represent the bounty of the land.

BLESSINGS - The Southern tradition of blackeye peas symbolizes blessings. Cook them with ham hocks, salt pork or hog jowls. Grains represent abundance because they swell when cooked, so Southerners add rice for Hoppin' John. One legend originates in Louisiana, from the French Creole word for pigeon peas. Others tie it to the Carolinas, with African and French roots. Either way, culinary historians can trace the dish as far back as the early 1800s. Some believe that you need to eat 365 peas - to represent 365 days of the year.

MONEY OR WEALTH - Collards, turnip greens and kale are popular in America, symbolic for paper money or wealth. They are usually cooked with some kind of smoked meat. The Germans like their sauerkraut. The Danish eat their kale with cinnamon and sugar.

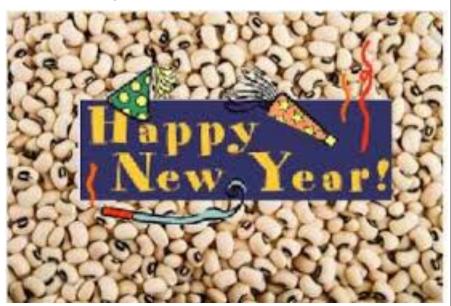
GOLD - Combread cooked in little medallion shaped pieces represents gold. The peas themselves, as a round food, also represent coins. Round, green lentils are traditional in many different cultures, for prosperity. Italians, for example, have a dish called cotechino con lenticchie, sausage and green lentils, eaten just after midnight. Germans and Brazilians also eat lentil dishes. Round cakes are a tradition in some cultures.

No doubt there are some dishes you cannot start the new year without, and the history behind those family new year traditions is fascinating:

Grapes: Eating 12 grapes for each chime of the clock at midnight has Spanish origins. Grape growers allegedly began the tradition as a way to get rid of a surplus of grapes. In addition to each chime of the clock, each grape also represents a month of the year. If you get a grape that is sour, it may mean that month will be a rough one.

Most fish are OK, though some traditions caution against eating bottom dwelling fish because they can hold you down. The Japanese also eat shrimp for long life. Cakes and sweets for New Year's can be found all over the world.

Ma Bell



THE JOY OF MINISTRY

Brother Hill Honored

One of the standards of a Sunday service is hearing the choirs and/or soloists singing songs of Zion at Mt. Bethel. We have been blessed to have one of the best in the city of Jacksonville as the Minister of Music, and his name is Brother Ricky Hill. On third Sunday, the Music and Arts Ministry honored him for his dedication and service throughout the year. Brother Hill is normally here at the church four to six days a week practicing with and playing for the S. A. Thomas Choir, the R. E. Herring Male Chorus, the Mt. Bethel Praise Team, and the Youth Choir. Brother Hill became a part of the Music Staff in 1996 and was appointed as the Minister of Music in January 2015.



He has been into music for the majority of his life. He took lessons starting at the age of eight taught by Mother Helen Bellamy, and began playing for his first church at the age of 13. Besides Mother Bellamy, Brother Hill has studied music under Mr. Verdell Jakes, Mr. Willie Ross, and then took his skills to Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University. Brother Hill was greatly influenced by his father, Richard Hill, Jr., who opened his horizon to all types of music. He mastered his craft by teaching himself to play by ear.

Brother Hill organized the "H.I.S. (Hallelujah, I'm Saved) Community Choir" at the age of 20 along with other groups such as H.I.S. Men, H.I.S. Ladies, Covered in Jesus' Name and UNITY. He wrote and produced music for plays such as "I Am My Brother's Keeper," written by his cousin, Sandra McCoy. He has traveled all over the country playing for a number of today's famous recording artists that you hear regularly by way of radio and other media. He has taught and been a mentor to a great number of local and national musicians who still contact him to this day. Brother Hill also produced his own CD, "Music 4 the Soul," released in December 2005.

The Music and Arts Ministry, along with the Mount Bethel family, just wants to say "Thank You" to Brother Richard Hill III for the hard work, commitment, and dedication to the craft that he has perfected over the years to the glory of God. "To be used of God is his desire."

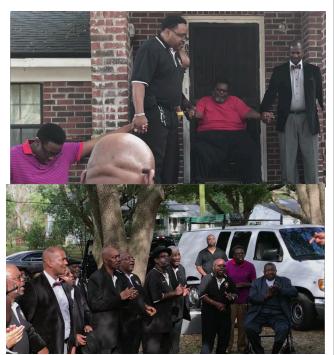
I would like to thank Sister Houston, Sister Hill, Sister Scott, and Mother Bellamy for contributing to this story.

D Bell

Outreach Ministry with the R.E., Herring, Sr. Male Chorus

In November of 2015, one of our very own members, Deacon Boykins, fell ill and has been unable to return to church since then. This started a chain of prayers from all who wish him a speedy recovery and a quick return to church when he is able to come

back. A lot of folks were thinking of ways that we can let him know we are thinking of him and this gave Brother Terence Wright an idea. So on December the 8th and 15th, Brother Wright visited the R. E. Herring, Sr. Male Chorus rehearsals and brought to the men a suggestion that the entire male chorus would visit Deacon Boykins and sing a Christmas carol and another song to let him know how much we love and miss him. After maybe a one second vote it was determined that after worship on 3rd Sunday we would swing over to his home and surprise him. So following service on December 18th the entire male chorus along with Brother Wright and a few Deacons paid Deacon Boykins a surprise visit. Brother Ronald Boykins went inside and asked him to just come out to sit outside for a few minutes, and the look on his face when he saw the brothers was a priceless moment. After a few words from Brother Wright, the R. E. Herring, Sr. Male Chorus sang "Oh Come all Ye Faithful" and "We've Come This Far by Faith." After all was said and done all who attended joined hands and Brother Irving closed out with prayer. Deacon Boykins is looking forward and is very ready to come back to church and get back into what he loves, which is praise and worship.



BEING HONEST

My teacher asked what my favorite animal was and I said, "Fried chicken." She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right because everyone else laughed.

My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal.

I told my dad what happened, and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animals very much. I do too...especially chicken, pork and beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened and he laughed, too. Then he told me not to do it again. The next day in class, my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was. I told her it was chicken. She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken. She sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today my teacher asked me to tell her what famous person I admire most. I told her, "Colonel Sanders." Guess where I am now.

Shared by S Taylor, Atlanta, GA 2012

POSITIVE MESSAGE

Directions To Our Father's House

Make a Right onto Believeth Blvd.

Keep straight and go through the Green Light, which is Jesus Christ.

There, you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water.

When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and Keep Straight.

You are on the King's Highway - Heaven-bound.

Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Ghost.

Then exit off onto Grace Blvd.

From there, make a Right turn on Gospel Lane.

Keep Straight and then make another Right on Prayer Road. As you go on your way, Yield Not to the traffic on Temptation

Ave.

Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END.

Pass up Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue.

Also, pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane, and Backbiting Blvd.

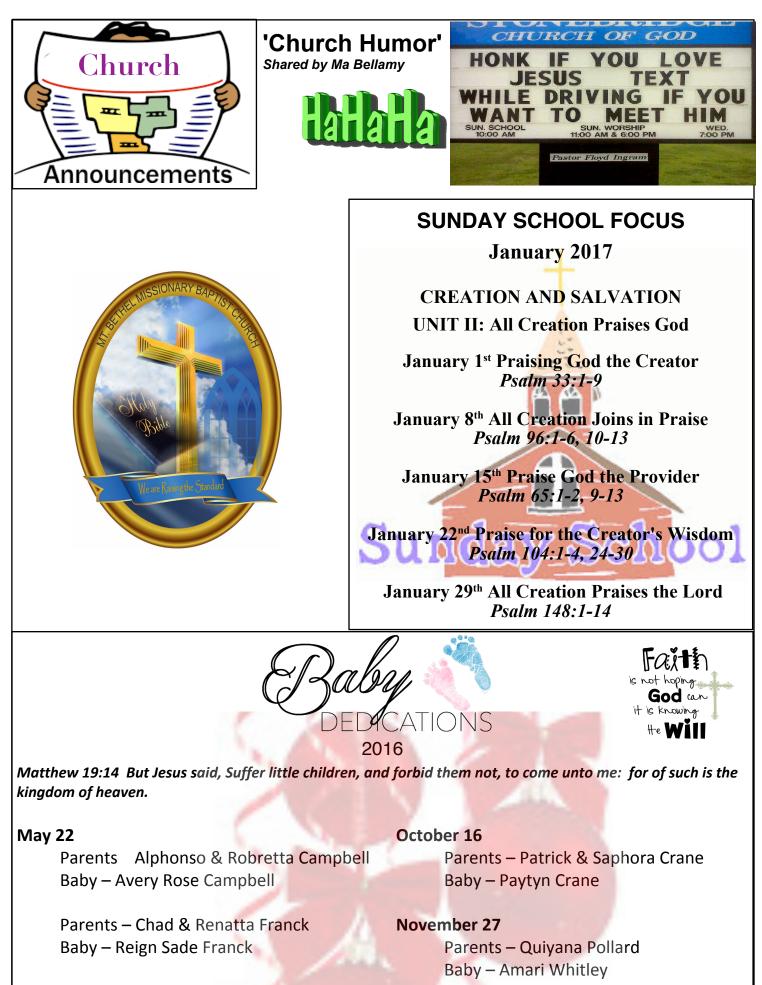
However, you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, Persecution Blvd. And Trials and Tribulations Ave.

But that's all right, because VICTORY Street is straight ahead!



D Bell

Member Information for Church Telephone Directory
Today's Date
Please check one
District # District Leader
Old Name (as appears in current directory_
Name
Old Address
Current Address
City StateZip
Telephone
Yellow Pages Current Business Name
Standard Newsletter Name District Telephone # District Birthdate Anniversary Spouse's name Birthdays of other members in your home:



August 21

Parent – Auhndi Thomas Baby – Journey Thomas

P Lewis

New Testament

H M D U P U R F F T A X S F W W Q C C R H C P A R L L O E B U P P Y V F R P O T MGTYPBWALABNJI MYVADT G A E H O S M A Z E O J L A M K E H I X I NOMELI H P Q M S Z U A J C J V I P G E M X S T M F V N X N H K Y D N J G P C A D C A S S N A I S E H P E N Z R R H J G P A S N A I H T N I R O C Z D S Z DUVFSRVPLHEVGSTJ RGPY WDYQTRPLIOXYFMICBKXP V E G H K I M Q M N N M I X T M E G C C R E V E L A T I O N S I P A U D A E E Z V WYI R W A Z R K S N A I S S O L O C D S H K Z W G A L A T I A N S Y K K W H Z P T P S K U A D R O M A N S G N U E F Q B O C C E G Y P V S U S S V U Z B H E C N MHAE S E I S P J L O K N R X T C F G I T I L T E WX U N G U W E K E T A N I T M E E B J F Q Y Z T W W F J S A B O V Y E R O E W Q W Z L A S Z S M S M V



<u>Words List</u>

Matthew Mark Luke John Acts Romans Corinthians Galatians **Ephesians** Philippians Colossians Thessalonians Timothy Titus Philemon Hebrews James Peter Jude Revelation





Here are the answers to last month's What's your Nickname challenge. If you would like to try this again with more Nicknames please feel free to let us know. *Ma Bellamy*

Skeeter - Fred Bennett Punk - Eliza "Judy" Drinks Hootie - Vivian Cherry Bochie Boy - Arthur Barney Bobby-Robert Simmons, Bobby Smiley Tillie - Matilda Reed Floppy Dog - Earl Lang Aunt Teddy - Louise Adams Sawmill - Mr. Orant Scrap Iron - Gregory McCoy Egor - Tony Rosier Buzzard - Arthur Davis Pretty Tony - Willie James Thomas

Vinnie Rose - Bervinda Mincey Aloysius - Emanuel Rosier Butch - Michael Rosier Toe Boy - Warren Rosier Hoggy - Walter Robinson Bootie - Maurice Anderson Panny - Anchantra Davis

Snookie - Bertha Monroe Tuuga - Ernestine Baker Snooky - Cora Lee Allen Patsye - Barbara Van Blake **Buddy - Harry Simmons** Red - Clyde Norris Uncle - Tommy Adams Green - Vander Norris Woofie - Randall Rodgers, Sr. Monkey Do - James Adams Jitterbug - Bennie Davis, Jr. Goat Man - Darren Garlington Pookie - Andrea Chever, Renata McIntosh, **Deborah Holt Davis** Hawk Eye - Ronald Norris **Buster - Emanuel Rosier** Turkey Leg - Walter Rosier, Jr. Pumpy - Randall Rodgers, Jr., General Monroe Dump - Juanita Harrity KiKi - Chakita Dormevil Carma - Carmalita Williams

WHAT A JOY IT IS TO WELCOME OUR

NEW MEMBERS

JOINED OUR FAMILY				JOINED OUR FAMILY	
Sierra Tyler	7/31		Braelend Dudley	11/20	
Joshua Jennings	8/14	\C0.	Madison Dudley	11/20	
Johnetta Ellerby	10/30	0 3	Veleeka Dudley	11/20	
Min. Connie Bend	11/20		Victoria Dudley	11/20	
Rev. Stafford Dudley	11/20	New Members	Zettie Givens	11/20	



January 2017

January 2017	
Rev. Gary Kitt	1/01
Bro. Dondre Rosier	1/01
Bro. Ronrico Green	1/01
Sis. Roseana Burnett-Brown	1/01
Sis. Veleeka Dudley	1/01
Sis. Margaret Thomas	1/01
Sis. Miracle Prince	1/02
Sis. Alexis Davis	1/02
Sis. Johnnetta Elerby	1/02
Mo. Donna Gosine	1/04
Dea. Michael Jones Sr.	1/04
Sis. Katrina Jones	1/04
Mo. Betty Ingram	1/06
Sis. Diane Williams	1/06
Sis. Stephanie Davis	1/07
Bro. Stanford Harrity	1/07
Sis. Tamia Bradley	1/07
Sis. Cynthia Morrell	1/08
Sis. Linda Barney	1/09
Bro. Thaddeus Anderson	1/09
Bro. Ralieyh Floyd	1/09
Sis. Aundrea Jones	1/10
Sis. Saundra King	1/10
Sis. Tonia Harris	1/10
Sis. Frances Twyman	1/11
Sis. Shirley Dixon	1/11
Sis. Tracie Hubbard	1/11
Bro. Robert Lee Davis	1/11
Sis. Torien Easterliing	1/12
Bro. Branden Jackson	1/12
Sis. Estelle Brown	1/12
Dea. Anthony Davis, Sr.	1/14
Sis. Catherine B. Newman	1/14
Bro. Anthony Crummell Jr	1/14
Sis. Ebony Easterling	1/14
Bro. Marvin Johnson Sr	1/16
Bro. Terry Clark, Jr	1/17
Sis. Shirley Hinson	1/17
,	
Rev. Aaron Jacobs	1/18
Bro. Isaiah Solomon	1/19
Sis. Paytie Cross	1/19
Sis. Samone Carlyle	1/20
Bro. William Martin Sr	1/20
Sis. Lamekia Carlyle	1/20
Sis. Derrell Mixson	1/21

Sis. Stephanie Washington Mo. Rebecca Jones Sis. Kera Skinner Dea. William Cherry Jr Sis. Lawanda Williams Sis. Antoinette Bing Sis. Lucenda Ferguson Bro. John E. Corley Sr Bro. Larry Mathis Sr Sis. Barbara Harrity Sis. Frances Boyd Mo. Mary H. Bellamy Bro. Fitzgerald Miles Sis. Jetta Loggins Sis. Carlene Spencer	1/21 1/22 1/23 1/24 1/24 1/26 1/26 1/26 1/27 1/28 1/29 1/29 1/29 1/30 1/30
5	
Sis. Jetta Loggins	1/30
Sis. Carlene Spencer	1/30
Sis. Cherlynette Nelson Sis. Charilyn Grace	1/30 1/30
Bro. Ernest Alston	1/31
Sis. Bessie Forest	1/31
Sis. KeAusha Haynes	1/31



January 2017

Stan & Priscilla Thomas	1/02
James & Cynthia Boykins	1/15
John & Geri Crumley	1/20
Isaiah & Ruby Solomon	1/22

William & Vivian Cherry1/25 59th Anniversary



If there's any Birthday or Anniversary missing please contact the office at (904) 764-8032

MT. BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH January 2017

Emphasis: The Force of Faith-Past, Present and Future

Mark 11:22, Romans 4:13-16, Corinthians 4:13

Sat			21 9:A Deaconess Ministry		
_	~	1 4	9:A	58	
Fri	G	13	50	27	
Thu	5 7:00P Male Chorus	12 7:00P Male Chorus	19	26	
Wed	 9:00A Prayer Line 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir 	11 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	18 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	25 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	Notes:
Tue	3 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	10 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	17 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	24 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	31 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study
Mon	2 7:00P Empowered Brethren	6	16 MARTIN KINIC KINIC	23	30 6:30P Trustee Ministry 6:30P Missionary Society 7:30P Deacons
Sun	 Happy New Year HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY 11A Morning Worship 	8 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class Leadership Training 11A Morning Worship	15 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class Leadership Training 11A Morning Worship	22 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class Leadership Training 11A Morning Worship	29 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship