



Koinonia *focus*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MOORELAND FIRST BAPTIST | JANUARY 2018

I couldn't help but see that everything is turned upside down.

As the New Year begins, I'm thinking about some goals and positive changes I need to make in my life. What about you? It's interesting that our young adult population have made it clear what they want in life. According to research collected by Pew Research for the MacNeil/Lehrer Productions' *Generation Next* project, 18–25-year-olds listed the following as their top life goal:

- Be rich—81 percent
- Be famous—51 percent
- Help people who need help—30 percent
- Be leaders in their community—22 percent
- Become more spiritual—10 percent

As I looked at this list of goals, I couldn't help but see that everything is turned upside down. What would happen to us if we made becoming more spiritual by deepening our relationship to Jesus #1. Then, developing our leadership skills by leading others to know Christ #2. Then, helping others in the name of Jesus #3. Then, becoming famous for Jesus by how we live #4. And finally making wealth last. Nothing wrong with being wealthy as long as it doesn't become our focus in life.

Let's pray for one another that we each identify some specific areas that Jesus would increase in our lives in 2018.

Philippians 3:13-14 (NKJV) ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Pressing On in 2018,

David

The Holiness in Being Broken

Men,

Begin the new year by dedicating one Saturday morning, once a month to join in corporate prayer with fellow brothers. The second Saturday of each month is designated by the church for the Men's Prayer Breakfast. You are the Church, Christ's Ambassadors. Ambassadors are more than messengers. They are representatives of the sovereign who sent them. We can't say it any better than God's Word, "But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God..." 2 Corinthians 6:4-7a
 Saturday, January 13, 7:00 a.m.
 Justin and the guys will cook up a hot breakfast to start the morning.

Ladies,

January will start the year for the Ladies' Prayer Brunch/Salad Supper which is held every other month on the 3rd Saturday of the month. This special prayer time has been set aside for intimate prayer, for personal pleas to our God, who knows all, sees all, hears all, can do all things, as His children cry out to Him! As we gather together, we too, strive to carry out and encourage each other as God's Word instructs. "...to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed." Titus 2:4-5 In searching women of the Bible, we find Huldah, a deeply devout woman, made her God-given spiritual gifts available to God, and she was obedient and faithful to deliver the Word from God to her people. Join us as we encourage each other to be like Huldah(2 Kings 22), January 20, 9:00 a.m. Bring a *brunch* item for all to share.

TeamKid 2 & 3 years old

Ladies' Salad Supper/Prayer gathering



Proverbs 4:5

"Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth."

Missions Committee
 January 18, 6:00

The Missions Committee will be scheduling and planning mission opportunities that are upcoming.

Church Council
 January 18, 7:00

The Church Council will be looking into planning the Spring/Summer calendar.

Visibly Fit to Firm & Fabulous

Ladies,

We have heard the call for a ladies exercise class so Glenda Ross & Brenda Starr have come up with a plan. Wendie Pett has an exercise/fitness DVD series we would like to introduce to you. We will begin with "Visibly Fit, 7 daily moves that slim, sculpt and shape your body without ever needing equipment. Your body is your own gym!" As we improve our fitness, we will then introduce the next series, "Firm & Fabulous". This series has 3 DVD's that work on separate areas of the body--all without the need for any equipment! We will begin January 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the new building. The plan for now is to meet every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. We may add early morning time once we know the needs of those wanting to join in. The DVD will only take about 20-30 minutes. We can add walking too if you would like. For those interested, we do have a treadmill and an elliptical trainer also available.
 "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you...therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."
 1 Corinthians 6:19-20



Powerhouse Student Ministry

Brothers and sisters,

The other day on the radio, I heard a man outlining ways to be happy in 2018. His advice essentially boiled down to only focusing on what is right in front of you. While there is some wisdom there that could potentially help, I didn't necessarily feel like that was great advice. I feel that what gets us into trouble, leads us into stress and worry, and tempts us to doubt God's goodness is only focusing on what is right in front of us. In doing so, we lose sight of how our story is woven into the grand story of redemption that God is telling through history. We neglect to celebrate God's great faithfulness to us and worship Him accordingly. We get lost in the hurt, the loneliness, and the darkness rather than look to the God who is the way, the truth, and the life.

So, I want to leave you with a short passage that God inspired Paul to write to the church at Colosse:

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. – Colossians 3:1-4

The key to living life the way God wants us to is to remember that Christ is our life. It is not found in focusing on what is right in front of us, but rather what is ultimately in front of us: the glory to be revealed to us and in us because of Christ.

Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Brian

Candy Cane On The Nose
Youth Christmas Party



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UPCOMING EVENT

January 29 & 30
Southern Hills Baptist Church, OKC

 OKLAHOMA STATE
EVANGELISM
CONFERENCE

URGENCY

"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us.
The night is coming, and then no one can work." John 9:4