



Happy New Year 2020

New Year Resolutions

by Rod Ellison Randolph church of Christ Universal City, TX (dates edited)

In many circles, New Year's Resolutions have become more of a joke than a serious attempt at changing behavior or life-style for the better. You will most likely recognize the scenario below because it has been around for some time. Nevertheless it still makes the point of how resolutions evolve to fit our current lifestyle, rather than transforming our lives for the better.

- 2014: I will get my weight down below 180.
- 2015: I will watch my calories until I get below 190.
- 2016: I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200.
- 2017: I will try to develop a realistic attitude about my weight.
- 2018: I will work out 5 days a week.
- 2019: I will work out 3 days a week.
- 2020: I will try to drive past a gym at least once a week.

While the scenario is humorous, it also serves to illustrate the futility of nebulous objectives; Christians need to stay away from such vague goals. Without fidelity of purpose, our lives become ships without rudders and are carried away by the currents in a sea of sin. That is why Paul reminds us that we are pursuing the greatest goal of all: *"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 3:14 NKJV)

I know many people who never make plans; they are content to leave everything to chance. However, as followers of Christ, we are doubly blessed because we know both our purpose and our goal. However, we must dedicate ourselves because our goal cannot be achieved by accident or coincidence.

That is why it is crucial for us to be specific in setting goals that will bring us into a right relationship with God:

- A. Be more God-like (Live a life of love).
- B. Recognize the value of time (Do more for God).
- C. Do not become a slave to the past (Let go and let God).
- D. Establish Godly priorities (Big things first).
- E. Shun the evil of this world (Let your light shine).

To be a Christian is to be part of an intentional and committed community. It is not enough for us to make resolutions at the beginning of the year. Christianity requires us to — *"Resolve to grow in the grace and knowledge of the lord."* (II Peter 3:18 NKJV)

We are doubly blessed because we have Christ as an example and God's inspired word to guide us in our resolve. Just as Paul instructed Timothy, we also should resolve to be diligent in our study of the scriptures. Christians never stop learning and a frequent, consistent study of scripture is essential to our growth. (II Timothy 2:15)

Finally, Peter instructs us to resolve to grow in our faith:

"But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. . . . Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:5-11 NKJV)

Pray that all of us will grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord and receive God's blessings of a happy and prosperous New Year!

NEWSLETTER

Dec. 29, 2019

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

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Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
No Sunday PM Service	
Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study	10:00 AM
Wednesday PM Bible Study	7:00 PM
(Canceled for Wed. Jan. 01, 2020)	

La Salle
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A place of worship and healing.

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Niagara Falls, NY 14304
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lasallechurchofchrist.org



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are not expected to give money but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during Bible study and worship.



Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries
2350 Nashville Rd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101
270 843-3038
potterministries.org

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course



Speaker: Phil Sanders www.searchtv.org
Spectrum Cable Dish Network Direct TV
Check local listing.



Condolences to family, friends, and loved ones.

Dennis Phillips Sr., Louella Hopkins' ex-husband, passed away Saturday morning Dec. 21st.

Prayers *In our prayers, let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Maria Swindlehurst is asking for prayers as she deals with ongoing health issues.

Pat Hazlett has been dealing with bronchitis.

Ruth Knepp Let's keep her in our prayers. It was good to see her here with us this past Sunday.

Cyndi Paden Lewis, a former member here, had her usual checkup Dec. 17th with her oncologist. After an X-Ray review the Dr. said there is a small change in the upper left lung but not enough to freak out about yet but she is asking for prayers at this time that the chemo meds will continue to work and that this finding doesn't mean the cancer is getting worse. The Dr. will revisit things again in February. She appreciates our prayers.

Georgia Smith, a neighbor of Maria Swindlehurst, is dealing with breast cancer.

Nick, Bruce Brink's cousin is having a problem dealing with the loss of his father in Sept. Let's pray for God to help him and his family and loved ones. Let's also pray for Bruce to be able to say the right things to help them.

Laura, a friend of Nancy Schul, has undergone a new treatment at Roswell with much improved results and was able to have lung surgery Dec. 11th. The surgery went well.

Louise, Anna Brink's sister, is dealing with some health issues.

Chad Szymanski, Louella Hopkins' 12 year old nephew, has been diagnosed with a brain disfunction where part of the brain is detached. He will be under-going tests.

Let's pray for children, families, and the staff at **Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries**.

Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

Let's pray for the congregation in Fenwick, ONT as they do the same.

Weekly Budget Amt.	\$1,843
Contribution Last Sunday	\$1,632
Attendance Last Sunday	54

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Dec. 31	New Year's Eve
Jan. 01, 2020	No PM Bible Class →
Jan. 19	Men's Business Meeting
Jan. 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Ladies Bible Class

The Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Class will not be meeting over the holidays. Classes will resume on January 7th at 10 AM. Edie Sumner will facilitate our study on being at peace with our families (Lesson 4).



SMILE PRETTY!



Lisa Hansen and Erin Orton will be continuing to take photographs over the next several weeks to update the board in the back of the auditorium. Your help is appreciated.

Classes and Sermon

Sun. AM Adult Bible Class Matthew

Sermon Topic Today: Part 3 Getting Ready For 2020

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:21-23

No Sun. PM Service

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Class will resume Jan 07, 2020

Wed. PM Bible Class 2nd Kings



Serving Today

Announcements Ray McArthur

Song Leader Rodney Jones

Direct Communion Michael Rice

Serve Ray McArthur

Serve Richard Wheeler

Serve Doug Flanagan

Clean Trays Cora Parson

Notice

Starting next Sunday, January 5, the entrance doors will be locked right after Bible Class begins.

ATTENTION

New Year's Day – New Year's Challenge

“20 Minutes in 2020”

Starting January 1st we will begin working towards our goal of spending 20 minutes each day in Bible reading and prayer. Here's how we start:

Before your feet hit the floor – spend 2 minutes in prayer

Read the Bible 10 minutes during the day (suggested schedules are on the table, or follow your own)

When you go to bed – spend 2 minutes in prayer

At selected intervals we will increase our daily reading/prayer time until we reach our goal

To kick off our “20 in 2020 Challenge” we will be having a Pancake Breakfast starting at 10 AM on January 1, 2020. Following our breakfast and fellowship time we will have a devotional period (we will not have Wednesday night services that day – we will continue with our regular schedule starting Wednesday, January 8th).

Please sign up if you are coming to the breakfast so that we can make meal preparations.



We are very thankful for our teachers, song leaders, the work that Mark & Audrey do, and for the work that others do.

January Birthdays

06 Fran Feees	17 Pat Hazlett
11 Phyllis Blakelock	20 Cora Parson
12 Richard Wheeler	23 Jean Cameron
14 Wayne Carter	24 Rodney Jones
14 Angela Kyle	27 Bruce Brink
15 Seth Alcorn	

January Anniversaries

24 Rodney & Carol Jones