
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN 1 -	HAPPY NEW YEAR
JAN 3 -	PHIL WHITACRE'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 7 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	COMMUNION SUNDAY
JAN 10-	BRIAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 12 -	MOLLY MCVICKER'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 13 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
	FOLLOWING 11 AM SERVICE
	CAPON VALLEY RURITAN SENIOR HOLIDAY
	PARTY 2 PM (SEE ARTICLE)
JAN 14 -	ROBERT TRIPLETT'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 20 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
JAN 21 -	GALEN AND JEANNIE SPAID'S
	ANNIVERSARY
JAN 23-	JONATHAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 27 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	HOME MISSION OFFERING
JAN 29 -	ANGELA WALKER'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 31 -	MILLIE TRIPLETT'S BIRTHDAY

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual congregational meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2019. At this meeting, we will be receiving reports from the various entities within the church, electing officers and any other business that may come before the meeting.

RURITAN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The Capon Valley Ruritans will be holding their annual Holiday Party for Senior Citizens on Sunday, January 13th at 2 pm at the Ruritan Park in Yellow Spring. There will be refreshments, entertainment and door prizes. This is something you do not want to miss!

BIBLE STUDY SUSPENDED

Monday morning Bible Study has been suspended for the months of January and February as Pastor Mike prepares for his ordination exams.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.
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PASTOR'S PEN

My Dull Heart – A Corporate Problem

It's fun to have special knowledge isn't it? Especially when it's knowledge that offers you an advantage. But there are times when you might find your knowledge to be a source of sorrow. For example: Do you remember the show "\$ 100,000 Pyramid?" The contestant is on the last square, the top one. You, as a member of the audience can see the answer. It's so simple, why do they not get the answer! The clues all seem so perfect! Time is running out... Oh too bad you lose!

I recently had the opportunity to see several people standing next to a sign with a very graphic picture on it. This picture was an enlarged photograph of an aborted baby girl. But these people, the ones standing next to the picture, were not Pro-Life. They were actually carrying signs touting their belief that American women should have the right to murder their unborn babies if they so desired. I couldn't believe they could stand next to the picture of that aborted child and actually remain steadfast in their belief! I kept asking myself how could they be so blind? How can their hearts be so dull to the horror depicted on the sign being held less than 20 feet from them?

But there was another thought I also couldn't get rid of. I kept wondering: If my sin were depicted on a sign right next to me would I be willing to carry my own sign touting the idea that I think this particular sin is OK? Experience tells me I often do.

That's because my heart tends to be dull to my own sin. I go limping between two positions. I want to serve God, the one whom I say I love, while at the same time I want to serve my own self-interests. But my personal sin has corporate effects. If my heart is dull, then as far as I affect the church, the heart of the Church is dull! In 1 Kings 18 Elijah challenges the people by saying: *"If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him."* Silence was their response! It says *"And the people did not answer him a word."*

What the people needed was a personal change in their own hearts! The question is: How can we affect a change of the heart? This was Elijah's prayer: *"O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back."*

God is the initiator of repentance. He is the initiator of change. It is true both personally and corporately. The first thing Elijah asks for is that the people would know God. He then asks for the people to know God's servant. Finally, he asks for God to give them the knowledge that He has turned their hearts from idolatry to worship! What a great example, which the Church would be wise to follow. We should start with prayer. Praying for God to be known in the hearts of people. Praying that people would know the servants of God (those who faithfully preach the word). Praying that those servants would preach with eyes that have been opened to the invasiveness of sin and the need for repentance. Then praying for God to turn the hearts of people, both in and outside of the church, back from serving sin to true worship.

Where I am blind to my own sin my prayer is that God would open my eyes. Where my heart is dull I pray that God would enliven me. May God also do the same for those of you who are blind or dull of heart.

~ Mike