
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN 1 -	HAPPY NEW YEAR
JAN 3 -	PHIL WHITACRE'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 5 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	COMMUNION SUNDAY
JAN 10-	BRIAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 12 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
	FOLLOWING 11 AM SERVICE
	CAPON VALLEY RURITAN SENIOR HOLIDAY
	PARTY 1 PM (SEE ARTICLE)
	MOLLY MCVICKER'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 19 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
JAN 21 -	GALEN AND JEANNIE SPAID'S
	ANNIVERSARY
JAN 23-	JONATHAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
JAN 26 -	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 12, 2020. 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 12th at 1 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

The Bible Study Group continues to meet on Monday mornings at 10 am. Please feel free to join with the group as you are able.

BACKPACK MINISTRY

Up coming dates for preparing backpacks is January 8, 15 and 22.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.
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PASTOR'S PEN

It's Good that God Moves Slowly

As we close off 2019 and begin a new year, there may be a multitude of situations that you feel remain unfinished. Maybe there are projects around the house that you meant to accomplish but didn't. It could be that you wanted to travel and didn't have the opportunity. There never seems to be enough time. But with the Lord, that's not a problem. With Him, there is always enough time. In your own life, it may seem like things move slower than you would like, but not so with God. God moves slowly on purpose. And that's a good thing! It's a good thing when we find out God is capable of anger, and when we hear that He longs to save us.

We find out that God moves slowly in the very beginnings of the life of Israel. In Exodus 34:6-7, when Moses is allowed to see the back parts of God, he also gets to hear the Lord proclaim His name. As God declares His name to Moses, he is describing His character. *"The Lord, the Lord, God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."*

The Lord is slow to anger. If you've ever been around a person who gets angry at the slightest provocation, then you know how discouraging that can be. The announcement that God is slow to anger is then good news. It is a declaration of God's loving character. The Lord also reveals that the opposite is true. He is not only slow to anger, but He is gracious, faithful, and loving.

In the New Testament, we find two additional insights into the slowness of God. Peter defines God's slowness for us and tells us the reason for it. In 2 Peter 3:8-9, we read **"8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."** First, we find out that God is not slow, like we would define slow. When traffic is backed up on the highway, crawling through some construction, we say that traffic is slow. God's slowness is not like that. Instead, Peter defines God's slowness as patience. God's character is willing to put up with our sinfulness. His slowness is directed toward us on purpose because He knows how frail we are. Second, Peter writes that this slowness provides for our chance to repent. God's desire is for you to turn to the Lord, repent of your sin, and receive salvation.

You are about to enter into a new year that is sure to be full of possibilities. You will undoubtedly have a chance to continue your work on all those unfinished projects. Don't forget to schedule your life so that you will have time to recognize when being slow is helpful. There will be people around you that need you to patiently bear with them as they struggle through life's difficulties. The Lord may be working out salvation for them and you could have the opportunity to be part of that. Slowness, especially when it comes to salvation, is often precisely how God works.

May each of us learn to recognize the slowness of God this new year. And may you slow down too so that you allow God the time in your own life to use you to minister to His people! Happy New year!

~ Pastor Mike