
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JAN 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR
NO BIBLE STUDY
- JAN 3 - PHIL WHITACRE'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 7 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
COMMUNION SERVICE
LADIES FELLOWSHIP MEETING
LINDA OATES' BIRTHDAY
- JAN 8 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- JAN 10 - BRIAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 11 - PRAYER MEETING (CHURCH) 6:30-7:30 PM
- JAN 12 - MOLLY MCVICKER'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 13 - MEN'S BREAKFAST- HAYFIELD 7:30 AM
- JAN 14 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FOLLOWS WORSHIP SERVICE
- JAN 15 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
PHIL & MONIKA CASH'S ANNIVERSARY
- JAN 16 - PAT & GLENDA DOUSA 58TH ANNIVERSARY
& PAT'S 91ST BIRTHDAY
- JAN 21 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
GALEN AND JEANIE SPAID'S ANNIVERSARY
- JAN 22 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- JAN 23 - ROLAND LAFOLLETTE'S BIRTHDAY
JONATHAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 25 - SERVING CAPON BRIDGE BASKETBALL MEAL
2 PM
- JAN 28 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
GERALDINE LOY'S 102ND BIRTHDAY
ALFRED BILLING'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 29 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
ANGELA JENNINGS'S BIRTHDAY
- JAN 31 - MILLIE TRIPLETT'S BIRTHDAY

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual congregational meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024. At this meeting, we will be receiving reports from the various entities within the church, electing officers, voting to amend the church constitution and any other business that may come before the meeting.

THANK YOU!

The VanDerLinden's would like to say thank you to everyone who sent cards and gave gifts this Christmas season. We continue to be blessed by the thoughtfulness of the church and each individual. We appreciate all of you and look forward to ministering together in the New Year! Thank you for encouraging us and caring for us so well.

102nd BIRTHDAY

We extend a Very Special 102nd Birthday wish to Geraldine Loy on January 28th. If you wish to honor her with a card, her address is 516 Erving View Lane, High View WV 26808.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.
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PASTOR'S PEN

Sanctified by Grace

As the New Year comes around again, many of us will begin it with some resolution. It may be to "Get in shape," "Eat more healthy foods," "Lose weight," or "Be more outgoing." Your resolution doesn't have to involve just your physical life. It may center on your spiritual life. Your resolution may be "To read the Bible in a year" or "Pray every day." Your resolution may include "Doing daily devotions" or "Seeking out an accountability partner." The problem is, no matter what your resolution might be, like all resolutions, there will most likely come a time when you fail to keep your new "promise." What happens then?

When you fail to fulfill your resolution, the sense of defeat is overwhelming. Instead of just starting again, people tend to quit altogether. And not only when it's about exercising the body! It's just as true when it comes to exercising the spiritual disciplines. Failure can push you away from God. This happens because you fail to understand the full effects of grace in your life. You may be convinced that God saved you by grace, but then think you must perform 'better' for God to continue loving you. This is NOT true. You are not only saved by grace but also sanctified by grace!

This past Advent, we saw that Jesus came to save us from the wrath of God. This may not seem like the happiest of Christmas themes, but it is! Even better, God sent you Jesus while you were a sinner. If you remember, the rest of that passage in Romans 5:8-11 says that since God saved us while we were sinners, we can be sure He will save us by Christ's life! That's what sanctification is all about. And sanctification is just as much about grace as salvation.

This brings me to something we haven't discussed recently – Rooted Deeper Growing Stronger! Our new slogan is the perfect catalyst to remind us that sanctification is a process Rooted in grace meant to strengthen our resolve to follow Jesus. Remember, Rooted Deeper is intended to remind us that we must continually bury our roots in the foundation of grace. Grace is the idea of God's unmerited favor in salvation and sanctification. So that when we fail to live up to our own expectations (or God's, for that matter), a proper understanding of grace pushes us back toward God, not away from Him. It enlivens our desire to continue to strive for obedience.

Being Rooted deeper means understanding the fullness of forgiveness offered in God's grace. Forgiveness that doesn't slack off when you fail to keep your New Year's resolution. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Your failure didn't keep you from being a recipient of God's grace, and your failure to remain obedient won't either. Don't let your inability to stay faithful push you away from the goodness of God. Root your faith in the unfailing promise that God's grace will sanctify you. Grow stronger in accepting God's forgiveness when you fail and move even closer to Him.

If you're excited because it's a New Year with new possibilities, how much more excited should you be that God's mercies are new every morning? You are saved and sanctified by grace, which is a great reason to celebrate – all year!

~ Pastor Mike