

January Birthdays		January Anniversaries	
1	Staten Sikes	1	Robin & Joe Autry
4	Robin Autry		
25	Linda Reader		

Mission Work Areas
Quito, Ecuador
Mazatlán, Mexico
Reitoca & San Carlos, Honduras

New Prayer Requests	
Austin Petty (Zirkle's Grandson) – will be changing to a different oral chemo treatment. The first one was not helping. Keep him and his family in your prayers.	
Bill Phillips (Terry Reader's brother-in-law) – diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer. Not sure of treatment at this time.	
Dick McClain (friend of the Readers) – diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. He is in treatment and seems to be doing well.	
Dr. Richard "Dick" Burt (Margo Greene's brother) – Is starting to show some improvement. He has had some movement in his arms and is able to feed himself. He and all of his family continue to need our prayers.	
Glenda Cox' Mother – having sciatic back problems and is being admitted to a rehab nursing home until she can strengthen her back. Please pray for her.	

Long Term Prayer List	
Ron Hansen	Richard Pedrie
Ian Stewart	Greg Pyle
Gary Stewart	Beth Pedrie
Marilyn Bartlow	Norma Bartlow
Joan Lawrence	Melissa Wagle (cancer)
Kendra Tate (Stanten's niece) – recovering from accident at home	Cavasos Family – multiple health issues and moving to Iowa.
Austin Petty (Zirkle's Grandson - cancer)	Tom Hartman (friend of Jeff Richards) – Mt Bike accident and cancer
Betty & Danny Sidebottom –are living with their son	

January 8, 2023		
Greeters:	Terry Reader	Ken Davis
Announcements:	Terry Reader	
Song Leader:	Dan Greene	
Opening Prayer:	Stacey Moss	
Closing Prayer:	Terry Reader	
Lord's Table:	Kelly Beek	Len Gates
	Al Olguin	Ken Davis
Coordinator:	Len Gates	

Elders	
Stanten Sikes	(719) 207-0629
Ian Stewart	(720) 878-2919
Terry Reader	(719) 427-7141
Deacons	
Wayne Bartlow	(719) 395-2520
Stacey Moss	(719) 395-9294
Ken Davis	(719) 748-8654
Kelly Beek	(719) 342-5856
Larry Fulton	(719) 398-9987
Len Gates	(719) 207-0039

If you have bulletin information or updates, please send them to Terry or Linda Reader

- Terry's contact (719) 427-7141 tdr1960@yahoo.com
- Linda's contact (928) 965-5708 lnreader@q.com



When you visit us...

January 1, 2023

You can expect to find your friendly neighbor, assembled to worship God the Father, and proclaim the love and grace He has given to us; and remember Jesus, the Christ, our example—our Savior. We will strive always to provoke love and good deeds of one another.

As in the 1st Century New Testament Church, our worship to God is simple - without mankind's rituals. You will find a wholesome respect for the Word of God as inspired by the Holy Spirit. We study only the Holy Scriptures—no human creeds will be used by us.

In addition to the worship of our Creator, we strive to fulfill our Savior's stated plan for us by sharing His Gospel message with this community and throughout the world.

Sermons every Sunday will be based wholly upon the Word of God. They will be Christ - centered and Biblically based so we can develop a deepening relationship with God through our understanding and personal involvement with Him and His truth in our everyday life.

Pulpit Minister—Stanten Sikes
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 (719) 395-8753 * email: mvccbv@hotmail.com
www.mountainviewchurchofchrist.org

Sunday	Wednesday
10:00 amBible Class	7:00 pm.....Devotional
11:00 am.....Assembly	or Bible Class
Noon.....Fellowship Meal	
1:30 pm.....Devotional	

New Year Resolutions

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.

2006: I will get my weight down below 180.
2007: I will watch my calories until I get below 190.
2008: I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200.
2009: I will try to develop a realistic attitude about my weight.
2010: I will work out 5 days a week.
2011: I will work out 3 days a week.
2012: 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*).

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" (*2 Peter 3:18*).

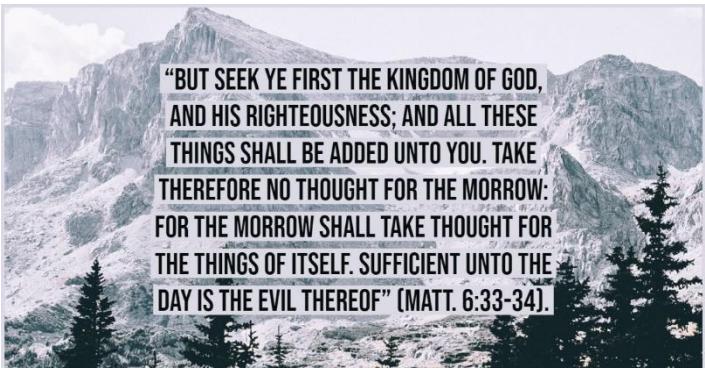
We are doubly blessed because we have Christ as an example and God's inspired word to guide us in our resolve. Just as Paul instructed Timothy, we also should resolve to be diligent in our study of the scriptures. Christians never stop learning and a frequent, consistent study of scripture is essential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

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!

*In service to our Lord,
—Rod Ellison*



PSALMS 118:24

*This is the day which the LORD has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it*

A few words...

As we move into this New Year, it is good for us to look back on the year that's just passed and review the year — both good and not so good. However, as we do that, we must look to what is yet to come, and in particular, God and His plan. We know that life is not always easy or simple or even "good", but if we are focused on God, we know that it is what it is supposed to be. Think about what Jesus tells us in His Sermon on the Mount. He told us to seek His Father's kingdom and not to worry about the things of tomorrow. In other words, if we seek God's will, God will take care of us and our needs (*Matthew 6:33-34*).

So, how does this affect our lives? Hopefully, it gives us the knowledge that God is there and cares for us and our needs...He gives us everything we need. It also gives us the courage to continue on in good times and bad because we know that we are headed to a much better place in His kingdom. And we can also be sure that our time here will be better as well, as a part of His family.

I'm not one to make New Year's resolutions, but I do start not only each year, but each day with a desire to be what God wants me to be. Again, if we consider the words of Jesus we can be assured that if we seek His kingdom first, then all of these other things will be taken care of by Him. Don't worry about what tomorrow might bring, but always seek Him first — today.

~ Terry



We invite you to stay for our Weekly Fellowship Lunch & Afternoon Devotional!

We hope you'll stay and eat, fellowship and worship with us immediately following morning services.

For your calendar.....

Weekly Fellowship Luncheon	Sunday – 12:00 Noon
1 st Wednesday Singing	January 4 – 7:00 PM