

the Lamp

..as a light shining in a dark place.

2 Peter 1:19

January 2005

Volume XXXV

Number 1



The Call to Character

What's Inside

Daily Bible Reading

A daily Bible reading schedule is included for the month of January. A structured approach to Bible reading will yield the most results. The Lamp will include one for each month of the year, so if we can stick with it we'll get through the Bible in one year!

Ministry Highlights

Look forward to a monthly article from one of our deacons highlighting what is going on in his area of ministry. Be sure to read these and see how you can get involved!

Calendar of Events

A calendar highlights special dates along with listings of special events and birthdays for the month of January.

Communion Preparers

Jim & Nancy Smotherman

Greeters

Joe Don & Jane Gamble

Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment"
John 7:24

Jesus prohibits judging people by their skin color, nationality, or church affiliation. We are called to make judgments regarding matters of truth and error, right and wrong, behavior to be complimented and behavior to be criticized.

Christian judgment is meant to be a call to character growing out of commitment to our walk with the Lord. Wearing the name of Christ is a challenge to fully embrace His name and show us to be real-true believers.

"So here's what I want you do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out.

Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of

you, develops well-formed maturity in you."

Rom 12:1-2 the Message

Embracing the Christ-like lifestyle is a response of our salvation celebration. Our thankful response to God's grace gives shape to our character and direction. Our Christian character manifests practical lifestyle choices that honor Him.

To be reasonable and sensible will be most evidenced in how we give our heart to the Lord. This upright

living is our "spiritual act of worship." When we choose the lifestyle that submits to His will we are experiencing a transformation that is "a renewing of our mind."

The more we do what is right the more we want to do what is right—this is God's way of bringing on

our well-formed maturity.

Let us raise the bar in our choices and celebrate His higher calling of character.

"For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey Him and the power to do what pleases Him."

Philippians 2:13, LT

Our thankful response to God's grace gives shape to our character and direction ...





1 Genesis 1,2 Matthew 1	17 Genesis 41 Matt.13:1-32
2 Genesis 3-5 Matthew 2	18 Genesis 42,43 Matt. 13:33-58
3 Genesis 6-8 Matthew 3	19 Genesis 44,45 Matt. 14:1-21
4 Genesis 9-11 Matthew 4	20 Genesis 46-48 Matt. 14:22-36
5 Genesis 12-14 Matthew 5:1-26	21 Genesis 49,50 Matt.15:1-20
6 Genesis 15-17 Matthew 5:27-48	22 Exodus 1-3 Matt. 15:21-39
7 Genesis 18,19 Matthew 6	23 Exodus 4-6 Matthew 16
8 Genesis 20-22 Matthew 7	24 Exodus 7,8 Matthew 17
9 Genesis 23,24 Matthew 8	25 Exodus 9,10 Matt. 18:1-20
10 Genesis 25,26 Matt. 9:1-17	26 Exodus 11,12 Matt. 18:21-35
11 Genesis 27,28 Matt. 9:18-38	27 Exodus 13-15 Matt. 19:1-15
12 Genesis 29,30 Matt. 10:1-23	28 Exodus 16-18 Matt. 19:16-30
13 Genesis 31,32 Matt. 10:24-42	29 Exodus 19-21 Matt. 20:1-16
14 Genesis 33-35 Matthew 11	30 Exodus 22-24 Matt. 20:17-34
15 Genesis 36,37 Matt. 12:1-21	31 Exodus 25,26 Matt. 21:1-22
16 Genesis 38-40 Matt. 12:22-50	

This is the first in what will be a monthly series highlighting different areas of ministry here at the church of Christ in Friendswood. We hope that it will be informative and will keep you up to date and aware of what is going on here in our various ministries.

Ministry Highlights

Communications

Here it is, the first issue of The Lamp in it's new format. The Communications Group had some discussions about it and a new monthly format was agreed upon. It is the hope of the Communications Group that you will find the new Lamp a useful reference throughout the course of the month. Our goal is to make it informative, with thought provoking articles along with keeping you "in the know" concerning the events for the upcoming month. We really hope you like it, but it may take a little getting used to. There will be a time of transition for us who produce it and you who are going to read it, so we ask for your patience as we work out the kinks.

Kudos to Keesha McAlister for her work on the Lamp and to Terry Fowler for his past work on the church website.

We are also in the process of reworking the church website. The plan is to coordinate the information in The Lamp with the information on the website, so that in concert they can enhance our outreach efforts to the body and the community at large. Look for announcements for when the new website is up and running.

Our stated goal is to facilitate and improve communication to the body and to the community. Communication is a word that embodies an important and difficult idea. It is also vital for the health of the body. Let us all make it our goal to improve our communication to each other in the upcoming year.



Wayne Vowell

January 2005



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<i>1</i> <i>Office Closed</i> <i>New Year's Day</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Friendswood Christian School</i> <i>Christmas Break</i>						
<i>Steven Taliaferro</i> <i>9</i> <i>Preaching –</i> <i>Fellowship Lunch</i> <i>Fusion 316</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> <i>Fwd. Community</i> <i>Prayer Breakfast</i> <i>6:00 -7:00 A.M.</i> <i>FHS Cafeteria</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> <i>Fusion 316</i> <i>30</i>	<i>24</i> <i>Meals on Wheels</i> <i>31</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> <i>7:00 PM</i> <i>FUSION</i> <i>Halo Fest</i>	<i>29</i>

Birthdays

3 - Sandy Wells, Jeffrey Berger
 4 - Sandy Martin, Dalila Bailey
 5 - Lori Veatch, Davin Martin,
 Timothy Berger
 6 - Bruce Belk
 7 - Anna McDaniel, Melanie Savage
 9 - Heidi Meurer
 11 - Todd Smithgall

12 - Celeste Ross
 16 - K. Speck
 19 - Logan Van Pelt, Mike Bouley
 20 - Chad Adair
 21 - Amanda Duncan, Matthew Veatch
 22 - Betty Dillon, Jeannie Womack
 23 - Gary Harris, Joshua Kovitz,
 Steve Kirklin, Kyle Gordley
 25 - Joe Don Gamble, Lisa Sullivan,
 Robin Keenan

26 - Byron Simpson, Jerry Warren,
 Matthew Hicks
 28 - Jon Ross, Pam Smithgall
 29 - Seena Khonsari, Kim Van Pelt

One Flock – One Shepherd – On Sunday, January 9th at 6:00 PM, everyone is invited to experience the power of oneness with the LORD in Praise and Worship. New Beginnings Church is hosting a special Annual Area Wide Praise and Worship Celebration. Each of us is encouraged to join in with New Beginnings, Church of Abundant Love, Bay Area Christian, Clear Lake City Church of Christ, Alvin Church of Christ, Southeast Church of Christ and others. This gathering is a memorable time of praise and mutual encouragement. We will meet at 14325 Crescent Landing, south of Clear Lake City Blvd., east of Highway 3.

Wheels for Jeremiah's Hope – Steven Taliaferro is home from the Ukraine and will be in Friendswood January 7th - 17th, and the 24th - 31st. Steven needs transportation and a place to stay as he travels to make presentations for his Ukraine ministry – **Jeremiah's Hope**. A fellowship luncheon is planned for the 9th. Chili is being provided by the Smotherman Care Group, others are asked to bring dessert, cornbread or fixings. Steven would like the opportunity to visit with individual families. If you would like to invite him for a meal, or if you can assist with a place to stay or transportation, please contact mission servants Bryan Watson or Forrest Norman.

FWD Community Prayer Breakfast will be Tuesday, January 18th in the FHS Cafeteria from 6:00 - 7:40 A.M.

Program: Mustang Winter & Spring Sports. This month's speaker is Fleceia Comeaux. Special testimonies will be given by male and female athletes. Cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP by January 12th by contacting Ed Hoskins.

Growing in Christ

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN FRIENDSWOOD

OUR LIFE IS TO KNOW CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED
AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION
WE FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSES THROUGH THE JOY OF ...



- REACHING SPIRITUAL MATURITY IN CHRIST
- KEEPING THE UNITY OF CHRIST
- SERVING OTHERS FOR CHRIST AND
- DISCIPLING TO CHRIST



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MINISTERS

MIKE MCALISTER, PULPIT
MIKE ROSS, OUTREACH
JUSTIN BRUNER, YOUTH AND FAMILY

ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

BIBLE CLASSES 9:00 A.M.
WORSHIP 10:15 A.M.
CARE GROUPS 6:00 P.M.

TUESDAY

LADIES BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

BIBLE CLASSES 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY

LADIES CLASS 10:00 A.M.