

new life news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NEW LIFE CHURCH OF CHRIST
JANUARY 2019

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” -Philippians 4:4

Another year is upon us and it is time for us to resolve to do something! Some of us will resolve to lose weight. Some will resolve to eat healthier or to exercise more. Some of us will resolve to be more organized or to learn something new. All these are good. We should make resolutions like this and do our best to be committed to them and to have fun doing them! As we prepare for the dawn of another year I think it is good to also resolve to adopt certain attitudes that will help us to show Christ's love to a world that desperately needs it.

Joy is a rare commodity these days. It is much easier to focus on what we don't have or what we don't like and to feel upset that the world isn't the way we would like it to be. There are always people to hold grudges against, politicians to complain about, aches and pains to grumble about and bad days to keep all our focus on what is wrong with the world. Our cars won't always run right. Our houses will eventually need repairs or upkeep done on them. We will get sick, lose money and fail at things we want with all our hearts to succeed at.

People will hurt us and we will do our fair share of being inconsiderate of others. Relationships will be tested. Teams we cheer for will be losers and we probably won't win the lottery. We probably will not enjoy a lot of the shows we watch on TV and will likely be disappointed by some of the newer music we hear on the radio. Our kids might not make honor roll this year. The next Star Wars movie will probably be a disappointment and the Buckeyes might not make the playoffs (which affects you all much more than me). We will have bills to pay with money we might not have and will have nights where we don't get enough sleep and days where we don't get any work done.

Life contains all the essential elements for one big heaping bowl of disappointment. If we focus on all that is wrong and the fact that we can do very little about most of these things we may tend toward despair. BUT... We don't need to despair because we have joy in Christ. "The joy of the Lord is our strength" (Neh 8:10). Because of Him we know that we are loved by God, have been redeemed by Him and have a confident hope of heaven.

January Birthdays

2 – Reta Hamilton

4 – Kilian Litt

6 – Adalyn & Kayden Litt

9 – Bob Jones

10 – Mary Swihart

14 – Brooklyn Williams

15 – Lisa Bushong, Leeah Ziegler,

Marilyn Ward, Tommie Roseberry

16 – Keith Brokaw

17 Pat Noe

19 – Steve Beal, Marlin Hamilton

21 – Beverly Shaffer, Gabi & Mia Twedt

24 – Veronica Basye, Chris Fox, Troy

Hamilton

28 – Charley Frontz, Dave McGugin

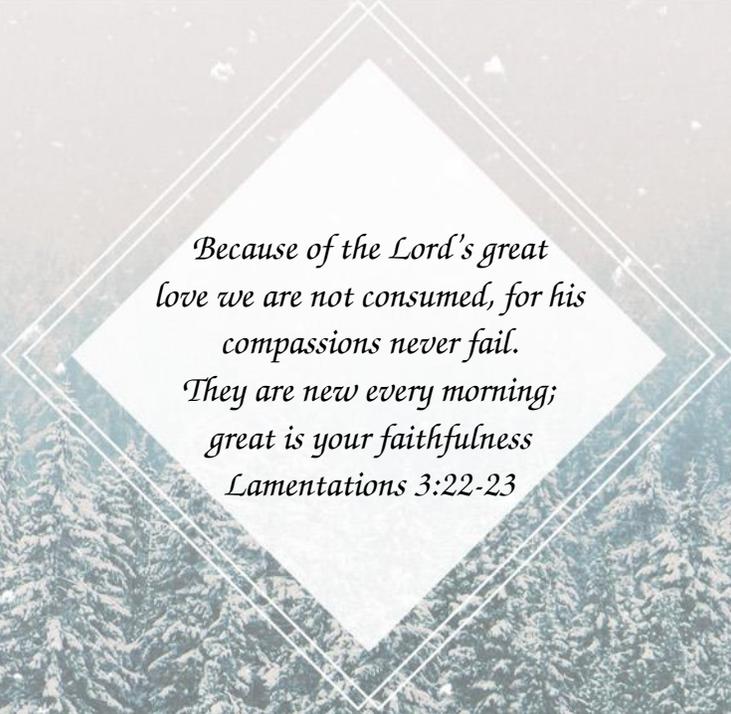
30 – Rob Armstrong

31 - Phil Johnson, Logan Slone

We rest in the promise that He has called us into His marvelous light into His Kingdom and that we will one day live with Him in a place that will never disappoint. In Him we have love. There is no greater thing than love. We may be disappointed by others at times, but if we are committed to love them in the Lord then we will find a deep sense of joy in our relationships. When we all love in the Lord we find joy because we see the great value and blessedness of life enjoyed with people who consider others as more important than themselves. We have joy because our promises and hope cannot be taken away. We know that in the end, in spite of troubles and hardships, everything will be okay. We win. We will laugh. We will celebrate. Whatever we feel we don't have, we know that we have all that really matters in Christ. Because this is true we can rejoice always.

Joy is contagious, as is negativity. If we commit to joy it will be surprising what the Lord brings about in our lives. Negativity bogs us down, frustrates us and kills our joy. But a life focused on joy celebrates often, is rooted in pleasantness and hopefulness. Joy is easy so long as we focus on the One that gives us joy. Let's commit to focus on Him and the joy He gives!

~Kyle



*Because of the Lord's great
love we are not consumed, for his
compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness
Lamentations 3:22-23*



I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season. I know my family and I did and we are greatly appreciative to all who helped make that happen. We also welcomed our little girl, Faith Christine Sharp on December 4th. Our house is full of Joy!

Now as the calendar turns to 2019 we look at ways we are going to make this year even better than the last. Maybe we need to spend more time in the Word, worship more, be accountable or whatever the Holy Spirit is challenging you to grow in. Maybe it's to have a more devoted prayer life. I think in this day and age the world thinks there is no power in prayer and that it is a useless thing to do. We as the Church have to show the world the power of prayer. For instance, 10 years ago our Sunday school class started praying for a co-worker of my brother Brad. She was pregnant and her baby had trisomy 18 she was going to be a stillborn. Well this past Sunday the little girl, Carly, celebrated her 9th birthday!

The power of prayer is quite amazing! So take time, and make prayer a priority, if it isn't all ready. It will be worth it.

~Jason

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16th

Comfort & Joy Sewing Ministry @ 5:30p