

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

As we begin again...

Allow me to wish you a Happy New Year! Today is the first Sunday of 2016. It is my prayer that we face this New Year with anticipation, excitement and courage. Today's world is changing rapidly. From technological advancements to social and political changes, we rarely take time to seek solace and comfort which only comes from God. Some may even be tempted to believe the bible is outdated and unable to address today's issues, but there are numerous places in scripture to remind us of God's promises and what they mean to those of us who place their trust in Him.

Take, for example, the book of Daniel. For those who are fearful of terrorism and its seeming consequential results, look no further than the life of Daniel. Daniel was truly an example of how one needs to see the power of God working through any and every situation. Daniel was caught in a world system and a culture that had forgotten completely about God. God had repeatedly sent prophets to warn Israel of their impending doom because of their blatant disregard for the things of God. In 605 BC, God allowed the superpower of Daniel's day to overthrow Israel. Nebuchadnezzar took members of the royal family back to Babylon as captives. Daniel was one of the youngest hostages selected. Place yourself in Daniel's sandals for a second. At 17 years of age he was uprooted from everything he had known to become a prisoner in a strange land. This was NOT the plan he had for his life! While it's obvious Daniel couldn't understand the plans God had for him as he lived his life 800 miles away from where he considered home, he never stopped praying to God, believing that God had his best interest at heart.

In a day and age that we fear future threats against our freedoms, remind yourself of God's ever-present power, presence and protection. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Even if our life is snuffed out by a person practicing extreme methods, we shouldn't fear man, but should rather fear the One who is able to destroy both body and soul in hell.

Have a blessed day and a GREAT New Year and remember the One who gives us both!
Kevin

Good Morning!

Make Me A Servant...

This morning we will be putting in a new Elder, Cliff Titchenell, along with three new Deacons who are: Phil Dotson, Justin Kirk. And Brad Klug.

These men will be working along side of our current Elders: Darrell Conaway, Gary Clayton and Tim Jackson and our current Deacons: Ed Carpenter, Rick Earle, Steven Lough, Ray Robe, Paul Sparks and Jamen Summers.

We are so very appreciative of their dedication and willingness to serve the Lord in these positions for this congregation. May God bless you and your families as you labor here at the Whitehall Church of Christ.

Prayer Requests

- ♥Keep Marsha & Reegan Kisner, Peggy Glaspell, Edwina, the Shaffer family, Kim Dumire, Buck Osborne, Margret Brand, and Harold Phillips in your prayers this week.
- ♥Joel has asked that we keep his sister-in-law's (Mindy & Marge Boggess) in our prayers as they battle breast cancer.
- ♥Pray for Debbie Conaway (Darrell's 2nd cousin). She's dealing with breast cancer.
- ♥Please keep the family of Debbie Pyle in your prayers.
- ♥Delores Rager is in Fitzwater Nursing Facility on Locust Avenue.
- ♥Karen Thompson is suffering with bone marrow cancer. Karen is a relative of Bud and MaryAnn Lipscomb.
- ♥2 year old Simon (a young boy at the day care center child where Carla Lough teaches) has a tumor behind his heart.
- ♥Brenda's mother in law (involved in a clinical trial) is doing much better.
- ♥Adrian Marsh (36 years old) is in stage 4 colon cancer. Adrian is the mother of twin children.
- ♥Noah Miller, son-in-law of Robert Tonkery, has been in the hospital.

News and Notes

♦Whitehall Nursery School is currently accepting registrations for the 2016-2017 school year. Children must be three years old by September 1st and potty trained. Openings available in the three year and four year old programs. See Edwina Summers for more information or call her at 304-368-0300 between 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM or 304-265-2085.

♦All those who would be interested in going through a Financial Peace University Class in 2016, please see Kevin. We did this class a couple of years ago and it was very successful. We'd simply like to see who would be interested in either repeating the class or taking it for the first time. Questions: see Kevin.

♦The Whitehall church will be purchasing the "War Room" DVD to show here at the church building sometime in the near future. Because prayer is what we're currently discussing, we would like to have auditorium class studies on Wednesday evening once everyone has had the chance to view the movie. More info to come soon.