

# The Witness

Volume XIX, Issue I

Newsletter

January 2022

## Transformation Time

The Old Guy turns into the Baby Boy. The scythe is exchanged for a diaper. Wiry and wrinkled is transformed into chubby and smooth. A setting sun becomes bubbles and confetti. Happy New Year!

Even though I can't really get into the baby boy in a diaper metaphor all that much, I understand the point. Each year can take a toll on us. We are more aware of death, sadness, and turmoil as it touches us personally. Optimistic feelings often take a turn into cynicism. The excitement of the new, is replaced with a sense of drudgery and sameness (a rut). A desire to change settles into defeat and a feeling of impotency. Life pulls us down and wears us out. How easy it is to be discouraged and worn down! We as Christians are not immune.

But the New Year is at hand. It is a natural time to allow hope to arise. In the world around us, a smile emerges from the gloom of weariness. A fresh start springs forth. The clock strikes 12:00 and the celebration begins. The second chance of a New Year transforms the attitude and energizes the day. New dreams emerge. And new life bursts forth. As Christians, how much more is this a second chance for us.

Our source of real transformation begins not with a New Year, but with new life. The life that comes from a relationship with Christ. "Therefore, if anyone is in

Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Cor 5:17) He brings a radical transformation in the inner man the moment we trust Christ as Savior. The sin infused life is put to death as the Spirit of God moves in. We are truly a new creation at that moment. We need to remember this. New life is what we already have. We must never be deceived. Let us rejoice in it. And live with this in mind.

And another transformation has already begun also. The practical day-to-day transformation into the image of Christ that occurs as we seek Him. Each day the mind can be renewed. Each moment we are slowly transformed as we meditate on His Word and yield to Him. He becomes more real to us as we allow Him to take control of our lives. We find Him faithful as we trust Him by faith. Daily we find in Him all that is sufficient for our needs. We are changed within.

The world's reveling in a New Year is often short lived. Life returns to sameness at a rapid rate. Promises of change fall through. Resolutions fail to be resolute. The problem is that the inner man never really changed. Everything is really still the same down inside. But it is not so with us. Transformation within us is real.

May our desire for this New Year be to be continually transformed. To enhance our relationship with Him. To give us a fresh sense of ministry for Him. For Him to re-

place our feeble efforts with His empowerment. To allow Him to do in us and through us a radically new work.

Danny Parker Pastor



## From the Heart

As we begin a new year, we are excited to see what the Lord wants to do here at FBC Yantis. With surrendered and yielded hearts, God can do the impossible. Let's join together seeking God in all we do and in all our plans. Sometimes it can seem easy to just do what seems best without checking in with God and seeing His direction. I want to encourage us to come together and seek Him with all our hearts.

Thank you all for praying, serving and loving the FBC Yantis Youth and children. In the Fall of 2021, God blessed our Jesus Kids and Wednesday Youth immensely. We were so blessed to be able to minister each Wednesday to 70-80 children/youth total. We want to thank all the volunteers that give their time and gifts selflessly each week to minister to the future of FBC Yantis. Thank you all.

Happy New Year 2022!  
Bro. Chad

## January Youth Happenings

12-Wednesday Night Youth Resumes

19-Wednesday Night Youth

26-Wednesday Night Youth

## Worship Matters

Worship is more than a song. Worship is living a surrendered life to Christ in all we do. My prayer this year is that I will live a surrendered life. I want to trust the Lord so much that when He directs me to do something I will obey quickly.

What about you? Are you fully surrendered? What an awesome way to begin a new year. As a church family there is no better way to live but being fully surrendered to Christ together. Of course, I am reminded of the old hymn we have sung for many years, "Trust and Obey".

### Trust and Obey

by John Sammis

When we walk with the Lord  
 In the light of His Word,  
 What a glory He sheds on our way;  
 While we do His good will,  
 He abides with us still,  
 And with all who will trust and obey.

Trust and obey,  
 For there's no other way  
 To be happy in Jesus,  
 But to trust and obey

Praying you have a peaceful and joyful 2022.

In Christ,  
 Melaina



### Thank you...

From the Hospitality Team to everyone who helped with, brought food to, and attended the Church Christmas Fellowship on December 12th, we appreciate you! We had a great turn out!

## Properties Report December

**Chair: Jerry Nickerson**

A leak was fixed on the roof under the steeple. While the steeple was removed from the building, the bell was removed and is now on display in front of the Church.

The A/C unit above the Youth Room in the FLC was also serviced in December.



## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

As of the print date of this newsletter, FBC Yantis has collected **\$2,568.<sup>25</sup>** for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Gifts for the offering will continue to be collected into the first few weeks of January, so it's not too late to get your gift in if you have forgotten!

### Why is it called "Lottie Moon"?

Well over 100 years ago, a single missionary named Lottie Moon, while serving in China, began writing letters challenging the American church to send and support more workers to go there. After her death on the field, her challenge was heeded in the formalization of an offering in her name. Even if you're not a Southern Baptist who has given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, her life is a reminder of why we must give to send and support missionaries serving among unreached peoples in unreached places.



## At A Glance

November's Gifts: \$17,879.<sup>50</sup>  
 2021 Gifts thru November: \$194,831.<sup>56</sup>

### Your Church Staff...

Pastor: **Bro. Danny Parker**  
 Cell: 620-397-1753  
 Email: fbcyantispastor@peoplescom.net

Youth Minister: **Bro. Chad Ferrell**  
 Cell: 903-243-7103  
 Email: brochadferrell@gmail.com

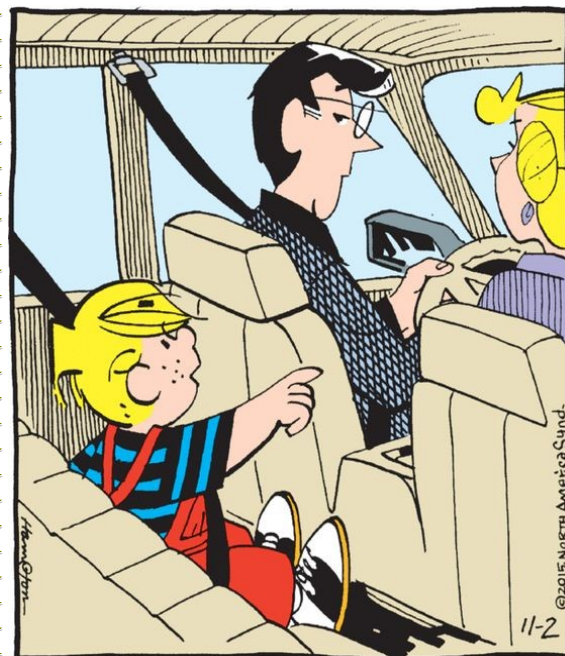
Music Minister: **Bro. Chad Ferrell**  
 Cell: 903-243-7103  
 Email: brochadferrell@gmail.com

Secretary: **Mrs. Elizabeth Smith**  
 In the office Mon. - Thurs., 8:30am - 2:30pm

**Church Phone:** 903-383-2393  
**Church Fax:** 903-383-2384  
**Church Website:** www.fbcyantist.com

### Give online!

Go to:  
<https://onrealm.org/fbcyantist/give/now>



**"HOW COME THERE ARE NO IDIOTS OR JERKS DRIVIN' BY WHEN MOM DRIVES?"**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.  
*Psalm 98:1*