



**Office Hours:** Monday 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. (Closed for lunch) Friday: 9 am– 1  
 402-721-1265

THANK YOU, GOD,  
 FOR YOUR MANY  
 BLESSINGS OVER  
 THE LAST YEAR.  
 AMEN!

**Therefore, if anyone  
 is in Christ,  
 he is a new creation.  
 The old has passed  
 away; behold, the  
 new has come.**  
**2 Corinthians 5:17**

**JANUARY 2021**

***I can do all things through him who strengthens me. –Philippians 4:13 (ESV)***



I've been reading a number of World War II history books, from a variety of perspectives. Most of them relate to the invasions of Sicily, Italy and Southern France, in which my dad participated. These all occurred prior to the invasion of Normandy, and they also set records for the largest amphibious invasion in history, only to be superseded by the next landing, ultimately leading to Normandy. One of the books is by newsman Tim Russert, describing his dad's experiences during that war, and I resonated with a passage in which Tim muses about how history would have been different had our fathers' generation not risen to the challenges required to win that war. Great and inspiring words from FDR include *"We have nothing to fear but fear itself,"* and Churchill's *"Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say: 'This was their finest hour.'"*

Humanity has faced many incredible challenges through the centuries, and had to choose how to handle them. In the midst of them, often great phrases such as those are born. From Martin Luther's "Here I stand" to Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty, or give me death," to Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream," to the phrase developed from the crippled Apollo 13 craft, "Failure is not an option,"....great deeds and great words are great companions.

Challenging times also sometimes create more dismal responses as well. Perhaps, like me, you recall the mayor of New Orleans on the news after Hurricane Katrina, with his most remembered words being: "Somebody's gotta HELP us!" For me, that was in stark contrast to what I observed in Joplin, Missouri after the devastating tornado. The phrase that popped up all over the city as I drove through it was, "We will rebuild." Two ways to respond to the challenges of life.

The Apostle Paul faced incredible challenges, too. He lived during a very violent and immoral time, with the worship of pagan gods all around him, and suffered rejection by his own people. He experienced personal hardship, discouragement, imprisonment, beatings, poverty as well as prosperity, even shipwreck and more. But there are so many incredible words that inspire us today which came from his pen as he faced these challenges. In addition to the claim of



strength quoted above, in other passages he says such things as “we are more than conquerors,” “I have learned the secret of being content,” “when I am weak, I am strong,” “thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph,” “nothing can separate us from the love of God,”...the list just goes on and on.

We face many challenges in our time as well. Challenges in international relations, national discord, one moral crisis after another, poverty, social and religious tensions, and, of course, the COVID-19 Pandemic. I’ve said several times of late that “the pandemic of 2020 will go down in history...and the sooner the better!” Picking up on Churchill’s notion, what do you suppose people might say about how we handled these challenges, especially as followers of Christ? What are the great phrases that will arise out of our time, even out of your mouth? Will people hear you echo that YOU can face everything through Christ who strengthens YOU in this time? What will be the remembrance of First Baptist from this time in our history? God is working. Always. How can we better allow him to work through us?

Looking forward to 2021!



*Richard*

**Happy  
New  
Year  
2021**



December Bible Puzzle:

In the spirit of Epiphany, the Bible mentions the wise men coming to Jesus with their gifts. What famous explorer later claimed to have visited the tombs of these wise men?

December Peoples Puzzle:

This church member, though suffering a concussion in a car accident with his/her spouse, proceeded to care for that spouse for over a year while the spouse was in a body cast, while also keeping the household running and caring for the children, leaning on God for the needed strength.

(Answers provided next month)

November Answers  
Bible Puzzle

Gabriel spoke to: Daniel is the other person Gabriel is recorded speaking with, found in Daniel 8 and 9.

Peoples Puzzle

The AARP Lobbyist was  
Mary Ann Paulger

Senior Residential/ Homebound



<u>NYE POINTE</u> 2700 Laverna St. 402-727-4900 Sharlene Wilkinson # 203	<u>NYE COURT</u> 652 W 21st St 402-721-9224 Genny Peterson #213
<u>NYE LEGACY</u> 3210 N Clarkson St. 402-721-9300 Margie Poole #113	<u>SHALIMAR GARDENS</u> 749 E. 29th St. 402-721-1616 Harlan Waugh (402-753-8046) #207
<u>NYE SQUARE APTS</u> 650 W 21st St. 402-721-9224 Vivian Meyer 402-753-4229 #150 Dalton Benson 402-721-7717 #126 Charlie Wild 402-721-2158 #130 Wes Howe 402-721-4163 #133 Dick & Bev Holmen 721-9123 #176	<u>PROVIDENCE PLACE</u> 749 E 32nd DONA LATEN #11
<u>NYE SQUARE</u> 650 W 23rd st JOAN SORENSON 402-830-6519 #178	<u>AT HOME</u> LEOLA ARMSTRONG 402-719-3278 19900 STATE HWY C CASSVILLE, MO 65625



May the Coming Year  
Be One of Increased Riches of Grace-

Hearing His voice more clearly  
Knowing His heart more deeply  
Resting in His love more fully  
Trusting His care more completely  
Walking His path more peacefully  
Knowing His presence more intimately  
Blessed by His goodness more abundantly.

-Roy Lessin



If you know of someone in our church family whose name should be on this birthday and/or anniversary list and it is not, please call the office at 402-721-1265 to let us know.

Birthdays	Phone	Date	Anniversary	Phone
Walt Hickman	402-330-7554	3		
Mary Ann Ritthaler	402-721-1623	4		
Marilyn Hillrichs	402-721-0949	14		
Wes Howe	402-721-4163	20		
Deb Peterson	402-727-4034	21	Jim and Dottie Strenger	402-721-9648
Joyce Jokumsen	402-719-4857	27		



Dear Church Family,  
 Lee and I want to thank you so much for contributing to the RMMO offering. The extra money at this time of year means so much. God Bless each of you for your faithfulness especially during this time of pandemic. We love each of you and pray for the Fremont Church daily,  
 In Christ's service,  
 Lee and Mary McDonald



Thank you for bringing the delicious meal to me. I appreciated it. Thank you for the advent journey, I nearly wore out a pen underlining thing I want to go back to.  
 In Christian love,  
 Vivian Meyer

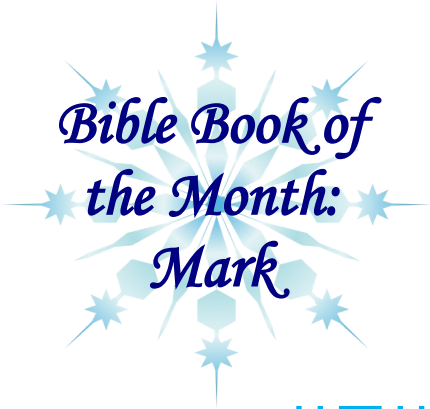
Greetings!  
 I have truly missed church and also my friends. Hopefully things will change and I will be able to return to church soon.  
 God's love,  
 Mary Ann Paulger



Just a note of thanks for the meal, which was great. I thank everyone!  
 Paul Denny



*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
 wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*  
 PSALM 51:7



*January 7, 2021  
 ABWM @ 1:30  
 FBC Parlor  
 Hostess: Esther*



*NO CIRCLE MEETINGS IN JANUARY*

*Perhaps you were  
 born for such a  
 time as this*

Esther 4:14



## Vision Team Meeting:

December 12, 2020

Members present:

Pastor Richard, Joel Foreman,  
Mary Weldon, June Cardwell, Randy Cash,  
Eileen Cash, Don Charleston,  
and Dorothy Charleston.

Pastor Richard opened the meeting with Scripture from Luke 2:14 suggesting peace as a way of life rather than a season as his theme.

A discussion was held about open worship. It was decided to have worship and encourage people to keep isolating if exposed to COVID-19 and to just use the red rating as a warning.

Christmas Eve service will be held. The time is to be determined.

Vision Team members will continue into next year unless someone wants to retire. There will be a review of committee structures and adjustments made as necessary.

The Property Committee needs a new chairman, as Don is finishing Clarence's term. He will continue as a member.

Funds for the MMCCC cabin from the \$2,000 Memorial for Bonnie Ranslem may be used. Other donations and pledges continue to be received.

Don reported the last security camera will be installed after the first of the year.

The furniture will be removed from the Parlor so Gary Walkenhorst is able to begin work on ceiling tiles and the tile painting project. Railing up to the chancel in the front of the sanctuary has been approved to be ordered.

Larry Hill will have the signage for the new van completed.

New water and temperature sensors provided by our insurance company were put in place by Don and Dave Manzer.

The drain under the sidewalk was completed. Two spray



KNOW | LOVE | GROW | SERVE

# What Does the Bible say about PRAYER

31 Day Scripture  
*Writing*  
Challenge

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
2. Philippians 4:6-7
3. 1 John 5:14
4. Colossians 4:2
5. Mark 11:24
6. Jeremiah 29:12
7. Romans 12:12
8. Matthew 6:7
9. Psalm 145:18
10. Jeremiah 33:3
11. Hebrews 4:16
12. Psalm 18:6
13. Matthew 6:6
14. James 1:6
15. James 5:16
16. 1 John 5:15
17. Luke 6:27-28
18. Psalm 5:3
19. John 15:16
20. 1 Peter 4:7
21. John 14:13
22. James 4:2
23. Psalm 66:17
24. Romans 8:26
25. Psalm 118:5
26. Philippians 1:19
27. Matthew 21:22
28. Psalm 42:8
29. Luke 11:13
30. Psalm 19:14
31. Matthew 5:44

God Bless



# FBY



### FBY Update:

**Merry Christmas! I want to wish each of you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

**While we are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation, all of this is subject to change. At this time, we will be continuing remote youth group twice weekly. Wednesday's & Sunday's Contact Kristy for the link. We have found some creative ways to have a great time together using zoom. Be sure to check it out in January!**

**Bible trivia has been my favorite games! I am blown away by the answers our youth get correct! They are soaking up the info they are taught, and it is so exciting to see!**

**One thing this style of meeting has provided is deeper conversation, we are thankful for that, for a safe place student can come for encouragement and coping skills for the challenges they face daily. Being a teen is hard and being a teen in a pandemic is harder, think about how difficult this time is for you and now imagine having teenage hormones and anxieties added in. Remember to keep them in prayer.**

**Thank you for your continued support of the youth. Even when we are not visible during this crazy time, we can feel your prayers.**

**Merry Christmas!  
Kristy**



heads were installed in the Fellowship Hall kitchen sinks.

Randy reviewed the Balance Sheet for November. We ended the month with \$4,794 in cash. December expenses are expected to be around \$17,000, and January 1, 2021 will be a payroll week. He made a motion to withdraw \$3,313 from the Youth Endowment. It was seconded by Mary, voted upon and carried unanimously. He made another motion to withdraw \$4,000 from the General Endowment. The second was by Joel and the vote was also unanimous. Appropriate forms were filled out and signed. Randy said it was great that we haven't had to do this in 2020 until now.

Pastor Richard will be gone the last Sunday of December. Laura Reavis will fill the pulpit.

Joel closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Charleston Clerk



## How Many Snowflakes Can You Find?



Merry Christmas from Nixa Missouri!  
-Yvonne Jessen



Thank you Bob Marsh and Jim Peterson for buying and assembling a stable for our nativity scene. It looks great!!

# January 2021

It's always a good idea to verify times and places,  
Thanks!

## Van Driver

**Alan Holzerland**  
**402-721-7605**

## Video Ministry

**Shelly Bowen**

## Prayer Emphasis

**Health Care  
Workers**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 OFFICE CLOSED 	2
3 COMMUNION 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Casual Service	4	5 7:00 Young Peoples AA	6 5:30 Zoom Fellowship 6:30 Kids Club 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 Sober & Crazy AA	7 1:30 ABWM	8 10:00 Nye Bible Study	9 8:00 Property Team
10 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Casual Service	11	12 7:00 Young Peoples AA	13 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 Sober & Crazy AA	14	15 10:00 Nye Bible Study	16 9:10 Personnel Team 9:30 Vision Team
17 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Casual Service	18	19 7:00 Young Peoples AA	20 5:30 Zoom Fellowship 6:30 Kids Club 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 Sober & Crazy AA	21	22 10:00 Nye Bible Study	23
24 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Casual Service	25	26 7:00 Young Peoples AA	27 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 Sober & Crazy AA	28	29 10:00 Nye Bible Study	30
31						