

# The Encourager

*"Making Jesus First in Our Lives"*

*January, 2018*

*FBC, Plattsburg*

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## **PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:** by Robert Shelton

New beginnings are what most of us think about as 2017 ends and 2018 begins. While it is impossible to truly "forget the past" and "move on to the future," the Bible teaches the great value of LETTING go of the past so we can live productively in the present. Paul wrote, "But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13b-14). God's forgiveness through Jesus is the ONLY way we can deal with a past that is painful, disappointing or discouraging. Letting God forgive us for past failures clears the way for God to help us make appropriate changes and go in a NEW direction. Don't let the past with all of its hurts keep you from doing today and tomorrow what God wants you to do.

## **MUSIC:** by Sandy Shelton, worship leader

Happy New Year!! I hope you had a wonderful time at Christmas celebrating Christ's birth! I don't know about you, but I look forward to singing the familiar songs we only sing at Christmas about Christ's birth! And it's good to hear the new songs too! And It is always great to get together with family and friends!

I am so thankful for my Savior and I have hope in this new year. I know I need His help for doing His will. Romans 5:1-5 "1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; 5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Aren't you thankful!! God Bless!! Keep singing for Him!!

## **WMU:** by Margaret Stevens

Thank you for giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. All of this money goes directly to fund our International missionaries who take the message of Christ to the "ends of the earth." So far the offering received is \$5342.78. Our goal is \$8800 for 2017.

Be sure to pick up your Christmas cards from the new mailbox. We hope you donated the amount of postage saved to the Lottie Moon offering. Our thanks to the Wade family for building a new mailbox for the Church.

**ONLINE CHURCH CALENDAR:** Our church's online calendar is a Google calendar. Go our [www.fbcplattsburg.com](http://www.fbcplattsburg.com) and click on calendar to see events.



## **PRESCHOOL NEWS:** by Debbie Smith, director

The holidays are over but not the learning and fun at Preschool. We come back to Preschool with a new month, New Year, and a new season. Classes resume on January 4 for TTH and January 5 for MWF preschoolers.

*Hibernations* is a word we will be learning about in this season called "Winter." The month of January brings snowflakes, snowmen, snow ice cream, and books about snow and winter.

The color purple will be added to our color booklet.

## **YOUTH:** by Aaron Gudde, youth minister

With all of the activities around Christmas, December flew by. Students were involved in Christmas Concerts at the school and singing in the Cantata as well as all of their other regular activities. We were able to have our annual Christmas party. I want to thank Marnie and Darin Mitchell for hosting the Youth Christmas Party at their house and all of the youth steering committee that helped make it a success. Students did not meet on Wednesday nights during their Christmas break but we will host our annual New Year's Eve lock-in. Looking ahead to this month, January for the youth will be a little less eventful as there are currently no events scheduled. As we start the New Year following the celebration of Christ's birth, I am reminded that I should approach the New Year just as the shepherds were told, not afraid but with Great joy. Luke 2:10-11 says "But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

## **AWANA:** by Terry Liles

Hope you have/had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! AWANA resumes January 10, 2018. If you are interested in helping with AWANA, please contact one of us. Come join the fun each week!

Jon Taylor, (816) 803-3890 & Terry Liles, AWANA Co-Commander (816) 808-157

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 <i>NO WED ACTIVITIES</i>	4 <i>2:00 PM WMU</i>	5	6 7:30 AM Christian Men's Breakfast— Second Baptist
7 Lord's Supper Observance in both services	8	9	10 <i>WED ACTIVITIES RESUME</i>	11 7:00 PM Night WMU	12	13
14 1:30 Oakridge nursing home	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 8:45-9:15 AM—SS Fellowship Brkfst- Reinbold Class Host	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	<p><b>Happy Birthday to Members and their families:</b> 2-Pat Shepard 7-Kris Tudorowski 9-John Smith 10-Eric Carter &amp; Jacob Davis 12-Tori Hartzell, Will Hunter &amp; Sam DeFord 13-Jeff Bradford 15-Lois Carter &amp; Shelby Lager 19-Donna Leatherman 20-Jessica Burnett &amp; Judy Davidson 22-Don Moore &amp; Karrie Richerson 25-Brianna Mitchell &amp; Nathan Bowman 26-Blayne Jones 27- Aaron Wright &amp; Tia Wade 29-Kay Wells 30-Gertrude Barnett, Sabrina Kobbe &amp; Bowen Wade 31-Robyn Neuerburg &amp; Nick Wade</p>		
<p><b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8:00-9:00 AM Worship 9:15-10:15 AM Bible Study 10:30-11:35 AM Worship 6:30 PM Youth</p>		<p><b>Wednesday Schedule</b> 4:00 PM Prayer &amp; Bible Study 6:30-8:15 PM Youth 6:30-8:15 PM A WANA 8:15 PM Ensemble</p>				