

**Weekly activities in the church building:**

**Each Sunday:**

Morning services at 8:30 & 10:15 am  
 "The Refinery for Jr. High & High School  
 6:00-8:00 pm

**Each Wednesday, 6:00—7:30 pm**

Brushfire for K-5th grade  
 Jr. High Small group (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
 H.S. Girls small group  
 Parent Talk for all parents of birth-18 yr olds  
 Spanish Bible Study led by the Paynes

**Each Thursday:**

Women's Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

**JANUARY:**

**6 JOY Bunch monthly gathering**

Join us for soup & sandwiches. Bring a dessert to share. Ron will be interviewing Alex Foltz, our new Discipleship Intern. **11:30 am**

**Elder's monthly prayer meeting**

**7 Women's Ministry monthly "Gathering"**

All ladies are welcome to join us at 6:00 pm

**9 Women's Bible Study starts**

All ladies are welcome to join us each Thursday at 10:00 am

**15 Wednesday Night Activities Start Back Up!**

Parent Talk will start a study on *Grace Based Discipline*. Don't miss this one! Brushfire (K—5<sup>th</sup> grade); JH & HS groups; Spanish Ministry; Wednesdays are full & great!

**17 Tea & Tots 9:30—10:30 a.m.**

Ladies! Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month for this fun time of activities & playtime for toddlers & fellowship for you! All moms welcome!

**Looking Ahead:**

**Feb 1** Building in use for private event

**Feb 3** JOY Bunch monthly potluck

# Brushstrokes!

January 2020

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January 2, 2020

The Theme for 2020 at Red Brush is  
**"Surrendering to Advance"**

When you think about it—surrender is probably not on your list of New Year's resolutions. I am sure you'd much rather shoot for successes. And if you're like most people—you may define success as a big house, a prosperous career, a happy, problem-free and fulfilling life. Yet God defines success a little different. He's not so much concerned with the amount of money you make, the house you reside in, the position you hold in your company or business or your accomplishments. **He is more concerned with who's in the Driver's seat of your life— and your level of surrender will determine that.**



Listen to the Psalmist "Blessed is the one...whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night... whatever they do prospers." **Psalm 1**  
 The writer of Chronicles also reminds us, "the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." **II Chronicles 16:9** Here we learn that a heart surrendered to God sets us up for advancement or success. A surrendered heart seeks to do things God's way all the time. Striving for what He desires on a day-to-day basis. Here are a few examples of what that looks like:

1. **"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."** **James 4:10** The world tells us to "go for the gold", "develop your platform", "increase your following", whereas God says, Humble yourself and acknowledge your life is in my hands, live like it and trust that I will lift you up. In other words—"If you surrender, you will advance."
2. **"Quit fighting and win the battle"** In our world we are taught to work harder; strive more to get ahead. There is a time for that—yet there is a time to cease striving and trust in God. When the Israelites found themselves facing a sea of uncertainty (the Red Sea), hemmed in by water with the Egyptian army behind them, listen to what Moses told them, "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." **Exodus 14:14** In other words, "if you surrender, you will advance."
3. **"Give it away and you'll actually have more"** Paul introduces us to this principle in his second letter to the Corinthians. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work... You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion..." **II Corinthians 9:6-11** Giving to God is a matter of trust. It takes surrender to truly trust God, who owns it all anyway. The more you give, the more you'll have to give—that's God's math. In other words—"if you surrender, you'll advance."

These are just a few of the many examples of "surrendering to advance" God provides in His Word. May 2020 be a year of surrendering to GOD personally--in order to advance in our walk with Him. May we surrender as a Church to advance the Kingdom of God in our community!

**Who's in the Driver's seat of your life? Remember that will determine your level of surrender. Let's do it in 2020!**

*Brian*

## A NEW YOU

(January sermon series)

Back in 2011, I came face to face with the realization I was not living the best life I could live. Yes, I loved God, was serving God; I was engaged in building God's Kingdom and preaching His Word, but I was letting my health fall by the way side. I lost sight of important scriptures and lifestyle disciplines that would severely hamper my future. God wanted something better for me. God wants something better for you. He created our bodies as the dwelling place for His Spirit. Listen to the Apostle Paul:

"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." **I Corinthians 6:19**

This reality has strong implications: It draws attention to how we care for ourselves physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally. Apparently God wants us to realize that our bodies are a stewardship. We must care for them. We just can't neglect them, or trash them. We can't harbor bitterness without side effects. We cannot ignore the warning signs of a poor diet or too much stress. We can't be good with workaholism and an "out of balance" life rhythm.

Life is too short and too precious and God has invested too much to allow us to squander our potential on poor lifestyle choices. Listen to what else the Apostle Paul mentions: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" **II Corinthians 5:17**



Although in Christ, our new life began—many of us are not living up to our potential. Instead, we find ourselves a frustrated, overweight, short on energy and time, mentally overwhelmed bunch of people who are and unable to live the life GOD has for each of us. So, in January 2020 we are going to talk about the NEW YOU that God has in mind for YOU. Come discover what it looks like!

**Stewardship:**

**Sunday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**

7:30 am	38
8:45 am	288
11:00 am	97
<b>Total</b>	<b>423</b>
Offering	\$12,093.00
Online giving	4,080.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,173.00</b>

**Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 am	38
8:45 am	309
11:00 am	129
<b>Total</b>	<b>476</b>
Offering	\$15,704.00
Online giving	1,682.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,386.35</b>

**Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 am	38
8:45 am	259
11:00 am	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>
Offering	\$12,891.00
Online giving	3,006.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,897.00</b>

**Sunday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

7:30 am	31
8:45 am	282
11:00 am	156
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>
Offering	\$15,269.44
Online giving	1,732.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,001.44</b>
Special gifts	\$13,121.00

**Sunday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 am	46
8:45 am	246
11:00 am	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>377</b>
Offering	\$8,447.46
Online giving	2,001.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,448.46</b>

**Weekly Offering Goal:**  
**\$14,500.00**

**Ron's Column:**

Rising early in the morning to watch the sun come up on a clear day can be exciting. There are such beautiful colors and there is a peacefulness. But there is also hopefulness and anticipation. A new day is ahead of us. There is such potential in the coming hours. We probably have plans for the day with certain goals and hopes of accomplishments. There may even be some excitement concerning what is ahead and a strong positiveness about what is coming. Beginning each day with this attitude can make the day a blessing, even if all things don't work out the way we plan.

It is so important to talk to the Lord first thing. It is important to give the day to Him, and to ask Him to use us to His glory that day in each circumstance. Walking with the Lord throughout the day is so encouraging and calming.

January 1, New Year's Day is upon us. The beginning of a new year, a new calendar, new laws, new goals, new hopes and new dreams. May we see the beauty in it. May we view it with excitement, hopefulness, and anticipation. May we see the potential in it. I'm not into new year's resolutions, but I've always been into goals and plans for accomplishments. I'm always open to excitement and exciting things. I've always tried to be positive.

Will the New Year be all we hope for and desire? Probably not. It rarely is. But our attitude going into it is so important, remembering the Bible says in Romans 8:28 that "we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

Like a new day, it is important to begin the new year talking with God. We need to turn the whole year over to Him in full surrender, asking Him to use us day after day after day to His glory. There is no fear ahead if we will just make sure we walk as closely to the Lord each day as we can. He is there. He is willing. He wants to walk with us, guide us, guard us, protect us, strengthen us, teach us, use us, bless us, fill us, and love us every step of the way.

It is up to us how we start each day and how we start each new year. We can make the day (year) or break it. Attitude is everything. . . and remember, Philippians 2:5 says that we are to have the attitude of Christ.

May this day and year fill you with great joy and gladness as you fill them with an ever-growing close relationship with Jesus.

Still In His Service,  
*Ron Payne*

*Ladies: There are great opportunities for you to grow in your faith with other women.*



The first Tuesday of each month is our monthly Women's night called "The Gathering." Join us Tuesday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. as we worship, pray & reflect on how God is moving in our lives!

A weekly Women's Bible Study starts on Thursday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. All ladies are welcome to join us each Thursday as we journey thru the Old Testament, led by Shirley Payne.



Join us for either  
Morning Worship  
or our two Sunday  
Services at  
8:30 & 10:15 a.m.  
Adult Elective Classes  
at 8:30 & 10:15 a.m.  
Children's classes are offered too!

Return service requested

Lead Minister Brian Hamilton	PT Pastoral Minister Ron Payne
Family Minister Gary Barbee	Operations Manager Lori Hosselton
Children's Minister Penny Arnold	Facilities Manager Kris Goodman
Worship Minister Jonathan Goodman	Custodian Bernita Porter
Discipleship Intern Alex Foltz	Admin. Assistant Courtney Davis

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