



(Above) Students gathered together at our annual Christmas party!

ALIVE

YOUTH MINISTRIES
SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2019

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING THIS MONTH



In **Sunday School**, our **High School class** is going over the *Gospel Project* series. *Gospel Project* is a Bible study that invites students to dive deeply into God's story of redemption through Jesus Christ. Our Winter 2018 study, *Out of Egypt*, continues with the book of Exodus. In January, students will learn about how God freed and delivered his people, as well as the tests Moses experienced as the leader of God's people.

Our Sunday morning **Middle School class** teaches *LIVE*, a teaching curriculum specifically designed for junior high students; each week they'll study about God, people from the Bible, and what scripture says about the issues they face today. In January, students will begin a new 3-week series called **Family Matters**. Each week we'll look at the unique relationships we have with our siblings and parents, as well as how to deal with the pain of divorce. Each lesson will show students that the Bible is filled with stories of family relationships, good and bad, with much to teach us how to find peace in our homes.



On **Sunday nights** this month, we will be meeting in the lower youth room from 6:00-7:00pm for drawing lessons from one of our senior adults, Charles Mort. Mr. Mort is a very talented pencil artist, and will teach us how to create beautiful artwork! Please encourage your student to take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn a skill from one of our senior adult members.

On **Wednesday nights** we'll be continuing a series called **Change**, a 4-week series on prayer. If you were granted three wishes, it would probably be pretty easy to come up with three things you wish you could change about your life or the world around you. Maybe that's because we know the world isn't always the way it should be – and neither are we. In this 4-week series, we'll challenge students to seek change in the world and in their own hearts by turning to God in prayer. Because prayer equals change when we **begin and end with God, pray with God's own words, pray like Jesus prayed, and pray for what matters most.**



WHAT WE'RE DOING THIS MONTH



SNOWTUBING TRIP

On **Sunday, January 20**, we'll be going to Mt. Scaly in North Carolina for a day of snowtubing! We'll be leaving right after church, go get lunch in town, then head up to Mt. Scaly. Students will need to bring \$25 for snowtubing, and an additional \$10 for a fast-food lunch in town. Dinner will be provided when they get back. Parents will pick students up

from Sardis at 8PM. **All students wishing to go MUST have parents fill out a 2019 release form from Sardis and a waiver from Mt. Scaly. Visit www.sardisbaptistchurch.info/ministries for both forms. Please remember to dress warmly (coat, gloves, etc.)**

VALENTINE'S BANQUET

Our church's annual Valentine's Banquet returns on **Saturday, February 9** at 6:00pm! This event acts a fundraiser for our youth ministry, and will cut down on the cost of March Mission Madness. Students are expected to participate in selling tickets, decorating, serving food, and providing entertainment. The event will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets will be made available soon. Each year we have a theme and this year's is "Under the Big Top!"



march mission MADNESS

MARCH MISSION MADNESS

This year, we will be going back to **March Mission Madness**, this time in Alpharetta, GA! March Mission Madness (MMM) will take place March 15-17; at MMM students will spend each day serving the community and

each night joining other students in worship. **The deadline to sign up is Sunday, February 24!** The final cost of this event will largely depend upon proceeds taken up from the Valentine's Banquet, but will likely be somewhere between \$50-\$100 per person, which will cover conference costs, lodging, and food.

LARGER THAN LIFE GAME NIGHT

On Sunday, April 28, Sardis Baptist Church will be hosting its first-ever Larger Than Life Game Night! This event is a great chance to invite your friends to an awesome night of games, prizes, and free food!



SENIOR SUNDAY

Save the date! Our church's Senior Sunday will be on May 5! Senior Sunday is a special day to recognize and honor our graduating seniors and their families.



TIPS FOR PARENTS OF TEENAGERS

Five New Year's Resolutions Your Family Can Live With

Jim Liebelt – *Senior Writer, Editor and Researcher for the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University*

It's reported that most Americans either never or only infrequently set New Year's resolutions and of those that do only a few are always successful in keeping them.

So, what if we take a more modest approach this year, setting the "resolutions" bar at a reasonable height? It just might make a difference. With the right attitude going in, the following five "just for today" resolutions can help to get your family's New Year off to a positive start. These are resolutions that most everyone has a good shot of accomplishing -- something that your family can live with. As you succeed, you might even end up incorporating some of them into your family life and identity.

Five Resolutions for the New Year

#1: *Just for today, I resolve to create some warmth in my home.* Everyone at home wins when we do our part to create a warm and loving atmosphere at home. Today, try some kind words, engage, pay attention (be a good listener), show appropriate physical contact (a kiss, a hug, a touch), encourage, and lighten up.

#2: *Just for today, I resolve not to compare myself to anyone else.* The temptation always exists, doesn't it? Yet, playing the comparison game is never good for us. We can always find someone who appears to have more, better, or easier. Remember, we always lose when we compare what we know to be true about ourselves with what we don't know for sure about others.

#3: *Just for today, I resolve to give someone a choice.* Life can begin to weigh us down when we feel we have no choices. Today, lighten someone else's load by finding a way to offer them a choice. Perhaps it's offering your child a choice between several chores around the house. Maybe, it's simply asking your spouse what he or she would like to watch on television this evening.

#4: *Just for today, I resolve to prepare.* We all have something on the horizon that will benefit from some advance preparation. The time invested in preparation usually pays off when the time to act on that something arrives. Today, look ahead to that future event, deadline, or project and take some time to prepare.

#5: *Just for today, I resolve to laugh.* It has been said that laughter is the best medicine. But many of us are too busy, live too complicated lives, or are in the midst of painful life situations, which makes laughter a rare occurrence. Just for today, add laughter to your to-do list. Take a few moments to remember a good joke, watch a comedy, or look up a funny video clip online.

JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM	HAPPY BIRTHDAY GARRETT ANKERICH!		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10:00am Youth Group @ 6:00pm	STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL	HAPPY BIRTHDAY STEFANIE ADAIR!	YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10:00am Youth Group @ 6:00pm			FISH @ HCMS 7:30AM YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM		FCA @ HCMS 7:15AM FCA @ HCMS 2:30PM	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am SNOWTUBING 12-8PM 	HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANDREW BROWN!		FISH @ HCMS 7:30AM YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM		FCA @ HCMS 7:15AM FCA @ HCMS 2:30PM	
27	28	29	30	31		
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am Youth Council Mtg. @ 12:00pm MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am			FISH @ HCMS 7:30AM YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM			

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