

# *The Beacon of New Bethel Baptist Church*

## *January 2026*

XLIV

Issue #5



Hello NBBC Church Family,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe 2025 has ended and 2026 is starting. The start of a new year is a great time to reflect on the past and prepare for the future. Let us look back at the last twelve months and take account of the happenings. I know it included challenges, difficulties, and sorrows; however, it was also full of triumphs, success, and blessings. Throughout all those memories, pause and ask God to help you discern what He has been teaching you through the valley lows and mountain highs. My hope is that we are learning to: (1) strengthen our faith and trust in God and (2) place our dependence upon His strength and timing and not our own.

As I write this, I'm reminded of how our faith influences our perspective. Numbers 13-14 provides an account of the twelve spies sent to scout out the Promised Land. After 40 days of travelling, all the spies confirmed the land flowed with milk, honey, and fruit. However, ten of the spies focused on the strong enemies, fortified cities, and the threats that came with the land. Joshua and Caleb saw the exceedingly good land, flowing with milk and honey, AND trusted God to bring them into the land and give it to them. They did not shy away from the challenges but professed a faith in God and trusted Him to lead and guide them. Unfortunately, we learn from Israel's consequences for failing to trust God at this pivotal moment. We see their punishment as they wander 40 years in the desert wilderness waiting for the next opportunity. Let's take this to heart as we look ahead to 2026. The future can feel uncertain and scary if we focus on what we bring to the equation. However, let us have a Joshua and Caleb outlook! Let's be excited for what's ahead and trust God to guide us.

Many people are looking ahead to 2026 by making resolutions for the new year. We're setting goals to eat better, work out more, live healthier, save better, learn new skills, etc. While those are good goals for individuals, my hope for us as a Church is to grow nearer to God, strengthen our church family connections, and to share the Gospel as we continue to emphasize our Great Commission initiative to pray for and reach those that need Jesus. Practically, this means that we need to spend time in God's Word. There are various Bible reading plans (chronological, through the Bible in a year, etc.). Even if you need to set a pace of a chapter a day or a section at a time, it's crucial for us to read and hear from God's truth. We also need to pray...whether you pray by your bedside, during your commute (just keep your eyes open), or in a journal, it's important to share our hearts with God as we pray about our situations and pray for others. And while we're praying, continue praying for discernment as we seek out our next pastor. Let's also seek out ways to serve God and each other. There are plenty of opportunities to use your interests and talents to faithfully serve God and each other at NBBC. Let's continue to worship collectively too. Let's praise God for what he's doing in our lives, in our community, and across the globe. I can't wait for this time next year to look back and recount all the ways God has used NBBC to further the Kingdom of God in 2026.

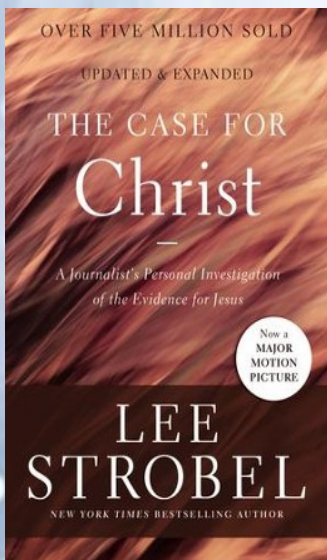
Finally, as we look ahead to 2026 let's take some encouragement from James 1:2-5 ESV, <sup>2</sup>"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup>for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup>And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. <sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

In His Service,  
Bro. Brad Napier



## Sunday Night Study

We will begin a Sunday night series based on the book "The Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus" by Lee Strobel on Sunday, January 11th. In this revised and updated bestseller, "The Case for Christ," Lee Strobel cross-examines a dozen experts with doctorates from schools such as Cambridge, Princeton, and Brandeis, asking hard-hitting questions--and building a captivating case for Christ's divinity. You can download the book on Kindle or order a copy on Amazon.



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Kindle or order a copy on Amazon.

# Winter!

## BIBLE STUDY

HEAVEN -  
WHEN FAITH BECOMES SIGHT  
BY JENNIFER ROTHCHILD

RSVP TO LISA STRUNK 859-250-2861

**29 JAN 2026**  
6:30-8:30

**7 SESSIONS**  
NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

## Women's Workshop

Second Tuesday of every month

January 13th at 6pm  
Fellowship Hall

Class: Hand and Foot card game  
Teacher: June Tyler

RSVP by January 11th  
to Dana Alford  
513-365-4273

provided: cards, table snacks, coffee and water



2<sup>nd</sup> Kristen Spillman  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Bill Wethington  
 7<sup>th</sup> Reed Tyler  
 8<sup>th</sup> Pat Thomas  
 9<sup>th</sup> Alex Black  
 11<sup>th</sup> Mary Robinson  
 12<sup>th</sup> Aaron Rich  
 16<sup>th</sup> Viola Weidner  
 18<sup>th</sup> Dawson Moffett  
 21<sup>st</sup> Mandy Parker  
     Molly Jewell Shelton  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Eliza Alford  
     Judy Alford  
 24<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Hill  
 25<sup>th</sup> Robert E. Porter  
 26<sup>th</sup> Hunter Michael  
 27<sup>th</sup> Adam Lucas  
     Jeremiah True  
 28<sup>th</sup> Ron Kirk  
     Jared Dwyer  
 29<sup>th</sup> Melinda Danner  
     Jeremy Webster

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Visit us on the web at [www.nbbcky.com](http://www.nbbcky.com)



## Calendar of Events

### January

1st New Year's Day-office Closed  
 2nd-Office Closed  
 3rd-Trustees Work Day 9:00 am  
 4th Lord Supper Sunday  
     Kids Bible Club 5:30-7:30 pm  
     Youth Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm  
     Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm  
 5th Classical Conversations 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
 7th Budget & Finance Committee 6:00 pm  
     Mid-Week Bible Study 7:00 pm  
 11th Church Council Meeting 4:00 pm  
     Kids Bible Club 5:30-7:30 pm  
     Youth Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm  
     Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm  
 12th Classical Conversations 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
 13th WMU Meeting 9:30 am  
     Women's Ministry Workshop 6:00 pm  
 14th Mid-Week Bible Study 7:00 pm  
 18th Kids Bible Club 5:30-7:30 pm  
     Youth Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm  
     Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm  
 19th Classical Conversations 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
     Martin Luther King Day-Office Closed  
 21st Mid-Week Bible Study 7:00 pm  
 25th Kids Bible Club 5:30-7:30 pm  
     Youth Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm  
     Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm  
 26th Classical Conversations 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
 28th Business Meeting/Bible Study 7:00 pm  
 29th Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:30 pm

### February

1st Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 pm  
     Kids Bible Club 5:30-7:30 pm  
     Youth Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm  
     Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm  
 2nd Classical Conversations 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
 4th Mid-week Bible Study 7:00 pm  
 7th Trustees Work Day 9:00 am