

THE PRINTS of PEACE

Emmanuel Baptist Church of Gambrills

Changing Lives with Christ

January, 2014

PRAYING YOUR WAY THROUGH YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

We enjoy receiving the greetings from friends and family far and near. The cards are lovely and the messages inspiring or funny. I enjoy hearing the news from friends and family who live far away and enjoy seeing pictures of many friends and families

Now the new year has arrived and what do I do with those cards? You may want to try this great idea that someone shared with me. (Thanks, Cheryl, for sharing this idea with me.)

Save all of the cards in a basket and keep them nearby.

Choose a time of day when the family is together – maybe supper time.

Have each family member choose one card and read the greeting and names of the senders to the family.

After each person has shared a card pray for the people who sent the cards.

Pray for each person by name and remember to thank God for each friend or family member. Pray also for the businesses who sent cards. Listen and look for opportunities to reach out to the “card senders”.

Enjoy praying your way through your Christmas cards in 2014.

HAPPY NEW YEAR,
Margaret Shifflett

Soup & Stew Lunch

Sunday, January 12, after the morning worship service, we will be sharing lunch together. This has become a January tradition as we savor the soups and stews you bring to share.

See the sign up sheet on the bulletin board to let us know if you are bringing one of the following:

- a soup/stew
- crackers and cheese
- veggie sticks
- fruit
- dessert



Also, please, let us know how many people you are bringing. This is a great day to invite a friend. (No the pastor won't be preaching about money.) So plan to stay for lunch on January 12.

Thanks to all of you...

... who helped in the special Choir Christmas Program and the Christmas Eve service. Both services contributed to making this year's celebration of our Savior's birth very special.

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Levels of Faith

How trusting of God are you to meet your needs? Under the old covenant, the Israelites were commanded to obey the Sabbath and Tithe. These were not just commands to obey. They were exercises of faith. To obey these commands as God intended was to adopt this attitude: "I will trust God to help me get all my work done in 6 days a week. I will trust God to prosper me so that I can live on 76.66% of my income."

God commanded the Israelites to give two tithes each year, with an additional tithe every third year, or 23.33% of their crops and animals per year. This called for a huge faith in God.

While Christians are no longer under these first covenant commands, God is still looking for a big faith of us in Him. I recommend you do the following:

1) Give a good portion of at least one day a week to personal and group worship of God. Christians have made meeting together for worship and Bible study a habit for most of the last 2000 years. Most do so on Sunday mornings, though many meet at other times of the day or week.

2) Give generously to the work of God's kingdom. Give to your church, to other Christian organizations, and to missions efforts. Do it habitually, off the top, and you will never miss it. The following is a good goal.

- Give 10% to Jesus.
- Save 15%.
- Live on 75%.

As you face a new year, can you live by the level of faith the above two practices would require? Do it to honor Jesus. Do it to grow in your faith.

Usher Training

Ushers need to attend only one of the meetings, either Jan 11 or 18, at 10 AM



Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will be meeting on Saturday, January 25. We'll be working on the annual calendar, mission offering goals, and more, for the new year. The meeting starts at 10:00 AM and will last no longer than 60-90 minutes.

Children's Choir

The children's Choir will be rehearsing on January 3, 10, 17, 31. Practice is from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.



The CAP Food Pantry

January - Pasta and pasta sauces

February - Canned Soup

God loves us,
not because of what we do,
but because of who He is.