Determine what you will set your mind on in 2021………

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Colossians 3:2

Romans 12:2- "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God."

1 Peter 1:13- "Therefore, with your minds ready for action, be serious and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 4:8- "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable-- if there is any moral excellence and if there is any praise-- dwell on these things."

You are being renewed in the spirit of your mind.

Eph 4:23

Check out the Bible app devotional plan “Renewed- 14 Days Renewing Your Mind”. What a great way to start the new year!
I have heard many people say, “I can’t wait to put 2020 behind us.” 2020 was indeed an unbelievably tough year. Yet, during the most difficult times, God seems to be glorified the most. In the midst of all the Covid and chaos from this past year the Lord has still been faithful to us through it all. He has never left us or forsaken us and without Him we could not have made it. So, I give Him thanks because He has still been good to us and has continued to be faithful to us through it all.

Traditionally, as we come to the beginning of a new year, we think of resolutions such as losing weight, etc., but instead we should be thinking of another “R” word— repent. Both John the Baptist and Jesus preached the message “Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near.” Repent in the New Testament comes from the Greek word “metanoia” which literally means to change your mind. As this New Year of 2021 begins, I want to challenge you to change your mind and choose to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. The change of mind that Jesus taught was instead of being self-seeking, change your mind and seek the King and His Kingdom. Jesus is coming to set up His eternal Kingdom and He is Christ or King. But, have you changed your mind and surrendered your heart and soul to serve Jesus as your King? Satan, according to the Bible, is right now trying to set up his own global kingdom without God and in opposition to Christ. Where do you stand as we begin 2021? Will you repent and surrender to Jesus as King and Lord of your heart and life?

As this New Year of 2021 begins, I am ready more than ever to repent and serve the King! I pray you will join me. As always, and more than ever, I love you and I love being your Pastor!

**From My Heart to Yours**

This past year has been one for the record books. Things went on that I could never even dream up. The virus, schools closing, businesses not allowed to open, people not allowed to go to work, traveling limited, stay at home orders, churches initially forbidden to open, face masks, social distancing, no touching/hugging, and on and on! CRAZY!

But there are some things that we must really work on— our relationship with the Lord, worship, Bible study, and prayer. It is so easy to allow things into our lives that might change us inside and out, but may we never allow stuff to alter our walk with the Lord. It’s really easy to let negativity slide into our lives and cause a change, which can happen without us even noticing a big change. It can happen one small step at a time, and BAM! there is a bad influence taking over and causing bad changes in our life. “In times like these we need a Savior. In times like these we need and anchor.” as the song so truthfully states. When Jesus left this world, He promised He would return and take us home. Also, that He would not leave us alone, but His Spirit would lead, guide and direct us. We need to keep our heart, mind, mouth and path in alignment with Him and not let things change our direction. We need to focus on our relationship on Him. Churches partially closed? Ok, then worship wherever you are. Sing to Him in your heart and you’ll never miss a note. Study the Word. Be strong in the Lord, and grip the solid Rock, that is Jesus. Pray like never before.

It’s hard telling what this new year will come to, but we have the Creator and Sustainer with us. Let’s stay in tune with Him and He will never leave nor forsake us. Stay strong in the Lord! Luv ya’ll!

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**Meadowbrook helped**

Thank you to everyone who helped provide Christmas gifts for the two teenagers our church adopted. Your gifts were greatly appreciated. It’s always a joy to see their faces light up when they receive their gifts.
School is scheduled to begin in-person on January 6th. Junior High and High School students have been remote since March. During these last nine months it has been difficult to meet together as a youth group. Know that you have been prayed for daily during this time. I want to encourage you to be reading your Bible and praying for each other. It is important that we stay connected in God’s Word even if we can’t meet together in person.

Parents, if you have a student who is struggling or just needs some encouragement, please let us know.

Parents, are you reading the Bible with your children? Are you praying with your children? Now, more than ever, children need to see their parents setting the example and teaching them about God’s love for them. What better way to begin the new year than to make a commitment to read the Bible and pray with your children!

Weekly sermons are available on the church website - www.meadowbrookbaptistchurch.org and the Meadowbrook Facebook page.

Building/AC Fund... to be used for some much needed repairs and updates to the building. Mark your check & envelope “Building Fund”. Thank you for giving above and beyond!

Thank you for being faithful to the Lord! He has continued to bless Meadowbrook through your faithful giving during this difficult year.
Meadowbrook Baptist Church
111 North Iris Drive
Auburn, Illinois  62615
Phone: (217) 438-3428
E-mail: Meadowbrook@royell.org

Mark your calendars -- if you cannot serve on the date indicated, please trade with someone else. If you would like to serve as an extended session helper, please let Pastor know.

Faithful Servants in January

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<th>Nursery: Babies - Two's</th>
<th>Three's - Five's</th>
<th>Safety</th>
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<tr>
<td>3rd No nursery until further notice</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Zack Rector</td>
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<td>10th --</td>
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<td>Terry Silveus</td>
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<td>Brian Rector</td>
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<td>24th --</td>
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<td>Mike Crocker</td>
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<td>31st --</td>
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<td>Todd Brummet</td>
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Ushers

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| 24th -- |
| 31st -- |

Tellers

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PASTOR:
David L. Van Bebber
Church: (217) 438-3428
Cell Phone: (217) 836-9117

Sunday Schedule
9:30a.m. - Bible Study
   suspended due to COVID-19
10:40a.m. - Morning Worship

Wednesday Schedule
6:30p.m. - Praise Team
7:00p.m. – TeamKID
   suspended due to COVID-19