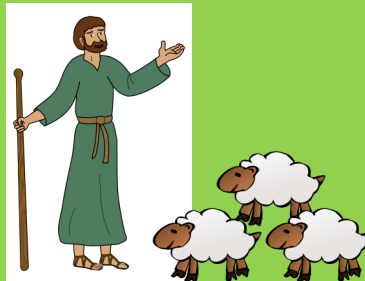


January  
2018



**First Baptist Church**  
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# FLOCK TALK



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## A Fresh Start

What was your 2017 like? Did things go well? Were there some struggles? What joys and successes did you have? What trials did you face? The close of each year brings a natural time to do some evaluating on where we are in life: where we've been, and where we're going. We may reflect on what went well, but also on some things that did not go as well. We may sense that we can do better, be better, than we did the last year. Each New Year is like a fresh start; it brings with it the excitement and possibility of something new and different to come. We have thoughts of improving ourselves, our health and our efficiency, perhaps. Some of us make specific goals or plans to improve. Some of the most popular ones center around getting in shape and losing weight. Exercise equipment sales and gym memberships shoot up at the first of the year. As we think of the many important ways that we can strive ahead, I want us to consider adding something to the top of the list, knowing Christ more deeply.

## *Pastor's Ponderings*



The Apostle Paul talks about this in the letter to the Philippian church. In chapter 3 he says that he wants "to know Christ – yes, to know the power of His resurrection." He then says that he hasn't made it yet, but what he does is "press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me...Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead...the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

We look back to learn and remember, but we don't stay there. It's like we forget the things that held us back from fully following God and press forward with fresh strength and energy from God. I don't know what all that 2018 will hold for us, but I challenge each of us to hold onto Christ, press on towards Him, and seek to know Him more deeply than we ever have. I'm looking forward to this fresh start that we have together.

Blessings in the New Year!

## Annual Church Business Meeting

**Sunday January 14, 2018**

following the worship service



## Carry-In

**Sunday January 14th**

following Annual Business Meeting





### January Birthdays

1st John Long  
 2nd Jim Dowden Jr.  
 3rd Marge Patterson  
 5th Randy Price  
 6th Kiera Bick  
 7th Loretta Snively  
 12th Karl Bick  
 13th Imogene Moore  
 15th Judy Buschman  
 16th Calebb Pickett  
 30th Morghan Pickett  
 31st Brittany McMillan  
 31st Meghan Ostheimer



### January Anniversaries

7th Gayvin & Mary Strantz



If you have not given your birthdate and anniversary date to the church office, please do so. We would like for everyone's special day to be recognized in the church newsletter.

574-583-8247

## Sunday School Offering for January

### Children's Ministry Events



### "Quotable Quotes"

*My imperfections will never override God's promises. God's promises are not dependent on my ability to always choose well, but rather on His ability to use well.*  
 ~Lysa Terkeurst

### New Testament Books

P	M	S	N	A	I	T	A	L	A	G	K	L	I
C	J	N	S	N	A	I	S	E	H	P	E	S	N
A	S	M	N	S	G	S	A	L	W	S	W	U	T
E	C	A	U	W	S	N	O	M	E	L	I	H	P
S	E	T	S	N	A	I	S	S	O	L	O	C	E
M	I	T	S	T	T	S	N	A	M	O	R	U	S
T	M	R	N	E	O	T	I	M	O	T	H	Y	O
H	M	J	A	M	E	S	H	E	B	R	E	W	S
L	T	E	M	A	R	K	M	P	A	S	A	S	P
A	W	N	K	H	N	O	A	E	T	O	I	N	A
S	E	W	P	U	N	H	L	T	L	C	P	S	M
T	D	I	U	S	L	C	I	E	I	S	I	A	E
O	U	U	R	A	A	E	G	R	A	N	O	G	E
W	J	N	H	O	J	O	M	A	T	T	H	E	W

JOHN  
 JUDE  
 TIMOTHY  
 ACTS  
 JAMES  
 LUKE  
 PHILEMON  
 EPHESIANS  
 TITUS  
 PETER  
 GALATIANS  
 HEBREWS  
 COLOSSIANS  
 ROMANS  
 MARK  
 MATTHEW

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2859/>

### You're Invited To Attend

Wednesdays @ 6:30 Bible Study

Jan 4th @ 6:30 ABC (A Book Conversation) Book Club

Jan 10th @ 2:30 BINGO at Monticello Health Care

Jan 14th @ 10:45 Annual Business Mtg. & Carry-in

Jan 17th @ 1:00 ABW (American Baptist Women) Mtg.