

Do ALL to  
THE  
GLORY  
OF  
GOD

1 CORINTHIANS  
10:31, ESV

The Herald

## Thoughts from a Pastor...

I still have a few years in my home of great excitement and anticipation of Christmas morning, mainly thanks to my boys, as the girls would be happy to sleep in. Christmas morning was always a wonderful time for me and my family. I have wonderful memories of waking up early and running to the tree to see all the presents. My parents never laid any out until we were asleep on Christmas Eve. Then came the looong wait for my parents and others to wake up so we could begin.

My dad would always read Luke 2 before we could open presents. I do this now with my family. When our extended family gets together, my dad opens his Bible as all 20 grandkids wait eagerly for presents as they listen to the birth of Jesus. I see the same excitement in my dad as he gives gifts to the grandchildren as he did with my siblings and me. We didn't have a lot growing up. It wasn't like today, where kids are getting things all year long. My dad worked two jobs so my mom could stay home with us kids. My mom taught piano lessons, and all her money went to pay for instruments and private music lessons for us kids. My dad was so excited for Christmas because he loved to give gifts.

We have a God who is the same way. He loves to bless us and give us gifts. Matthew 7:7-11 says, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

We serve a loving, merciful, compassionate God who desires to give us a new life that can only come from Him. God gave us the best gift of all almost 2,000 years ago, His Son Jesus. It is a gift that never wears out. It never runs out of batteries. It never breaks. It is never lost and is always available to those who seek it.

I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas with friends and family. If you didn't happen to get that one gift you were hoping for, remember you already received the best gift of all. The gift of a Savior for all those who believe.

In Christ,  
Pastor Ben

## From the Pastor's Desk

The new calendars are hung, and you know what that means. You have resolutions to make. I don't know how you feel about this since we know most resolutions we don't keep for long. But, if we put some effort, and one part of our life or character is improved that is certainly worthwhile. I would like to add one suggestion to your potential resolution list. Get to know a few new people at LWC. You don't need to make them your new best friend, but could you get to know a few more people well enough so you can greet them by name each week?

This note of encouragement came about a few weeks ago as I was sitting in church as Pastor Ben was beginning his message. Now I was taking notes but I also realized I had jotted down several names of people I wanted to connect with during our fellowship time. That caught my attention for a few moments longer as I jotted down six to eight names of people I wanted to check in with about a need in their life, pass on some information, or just let them know I had been praying for them. I know a number of you do the same thing in planning to connect and care for others in the body during our fellowship time. But, it struck me we needed help. With nearly 400 people calling LWC their Church home, and new people be here nearly every week, we needed most of us to be looking to connect with someone in the body.

We probably all know that the phrase "one another" occurs frequently in the New Testament. Recently I discovered that it actually appears 100 times in nearly 40 different commands. I gather this is important to Jesus for His body to be everything he calls us to be.

So would you consider making a little more effort to introduce yourself to a few people you don't know here at LWC. We really are a friendly church. I would just like to join the apostle Paul in encouraging us to excel at this more and more.

*"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." Philippians 1:9-10*

Jesus is our Joy  
Pastor Dennis

## **Missions Moment—Black Hills Pregnancy Center**

The Black Hills Pregnancy Center is a Christian ministry to all in the Black Hills area that need support for their pregnancy, planned or unplanned. We meet women where they are, and we minister to them through our support and actions.

Our Mission Statement:

**“to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to men and women facing pregnancy decisions as we provide educational, as well as spiritual, physical, and emotional support in a loving confidential environment.”**

Our services are free of charge and include:

Pregnancy Testing, Limited Ultrasound, Earn While You Learn Parenting program, Baby boutique, Mentorship, Fatherhood Program, Medical Consultation Referrals, Adoption Referrals, and Abstinence Education.

We could not fulfill our mission without financial partnerships or without the many volunteers that donate time to serve in many areas. Some areas we need to fill now include: Earn While You Learn Educators, Fatherhood program mentors/leaders, also men to be in the center during business hours to have conversations with the men that come in with their girlfriend, administrative and receptionist help, and more advocates and nurse volunteers.

We also need business sponsorships for events like our Walk for Life event, Client party events, Ladies Tea and our annual Fundraising Dinner.

So far for this year we have had a 30% increase of new clients, with a 20% increase of boutique shopping, 21% increase for pregnancy tests. If you want to directly impact the lives of men, women, and children in the Black Hills area, this is a place where you can serve and see that impact.

For more information go to: [blackhillspregnancycenter.com](http://blackhillspregnancycenter.com)

***January is Sanctity of Human Life Month—we will have baby bottles available to fill with cash and checks to help support the Black Hills Pregnancy Center!  
Make sure to pick one up!***

***Executive Director, Travis Lasseter, will share with us on  
Sunday, January 26th during both morning worship services.***

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) has three groups who meet here at LWC once a week. Worldwide over 600,000 men and women are studying Revelation this year. We just finished Chapter 6. It can be a hard and sobering study.

*The following is taken from Greg Laurie's book - "Revelation - A Book of Promises" speaking of Chapter 6.*

"The successive horsemen look like this: the white horse comes, ridden by a so-called good guy who is really a bad guy. He is followed by a red horse bringing war, which is followed by a black horse representing famine and disease and all the terrible aftermath of a worldwide conflict. Inevitably, death on the pale horse, comes next.

It makes me think of what scientists call a nuclear winter, which follows a nuclear blast. The Los Angeles Times published an article that said such a winter would ultimately kill more people than the original atomic explosion.

This scenario, unimaginable to previous generations, could easily unfold in our time. Why would God permit this? Because He is a God of justice, and He has determined to let evil run its course before He establishes His kingdom of righteousness.

Nevertheless, remember this: even during this hellish Tribulation period, the Lord will extend opportunity after opportunity for people to turn from their sins, believe, and be saved.

These chapters in Revelation present a bleak scenario, don't they? It certainly demonstrates what the ultimate result of sin will be on our world and reminds us that sins - even so-called little sins - are nothing to play with or take lightly.

The Antichrist is close. He could be alive today. But the Bible doesn't tell us to watch for the Antichrist; it tells us to watch for Jesus Christ.

Right now the restraining force in the world is the Holy Spirit working through the church of Jesus Christ. But once the church is removed in the Rapture, the Antichrist will be revealed." (I realize there are different views on the timeline of future events - but I believe the warnings that follow from 1 Thess. 5 apply no matter the timeline. - Bonnie)

"So how should we live?"

## Between the BookENDS

*Article Submitted by: Bonnie McCaskell*

Wake up. Verse 6 - Let us not sleep, as others do. There are people in the church today who are lethargic, passive...and don't bother to watch the signs of the times. There seems to be a disconnect between their so-called spiritual lives and their real, walking-around-on-earth lives. So the Bible is saying that we need to wake up to the urgency of the time. We need to open our eyes to what is transpiring all around us and give some thought to the nearness of the Lord's return.

Sober up. Verse 8 - Let us who are of the day be sober. Luke 21:34 - Be careful, or your hearts will be weighted down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close you suddenly like a trap. (AMP) says "But be on guard, so that your hearts are not weighted down with the giddiness of debauchery and the nausea of self-indulgence."

As for me, I don't want to be under the influence of anyone or anything but Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit. Paul was saying, "Don't let yourself become overly preoccupied. Don't make your life about the pursuit of fame or money or material possessions. Stay alert..."

Suit up - Verse 8 - Putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. As Bible teacher Warren Wiersbe has said, "The Christian life is not a playground; it's a battleground." If you are a Christian, you're in a battle whether you like it or not.

Someone might say, "Well, I don't like war. I'm a spiritual pacifist."  
All right. Then prepare to be defeated - or devoured.

Every believer needs to learn how to strap on his or her armor and learn how to handle the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. As you wait for the Lord to come, Wake up, Sober up, and Suit up."

**January Librarians: Cindy Dusing & Georgie Neff**



# Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

## Reflect the Light

As 2024 was drawing to a close, I found my mind often reflecting on many things I've experienced, and lessons I've learned during this year. In mid-December, yet another train of thought captured my mind. Finally, it "won the toss" for which article I wanted to share as this New Year dawns . . .

(December 15, 2024) It was shortly before sunrise when I sat down to prayers this morning. Most of the sky is crystal clear, so there are no sunrise colors building in the sky to the east. But there **WAS** a show in the **western** sky!

My window looks out to the northwest. There, hanging in a gap between some **approaching** clouds, was the moon. Full and luminous last night, it is as bright as a light bulb this morning! As I watched, I thought about the moon's nature . . .

It is a **lifeless** form. A barren, rocky ball which exists in Earth's orbit. Unlike the sun, it doesn't burn brightly, or radiate the light of those flames. It has **no** light of its own. Instead, it hangs there, inactive -- until the sun's brilliant light hits its surface.

Then, it is nearly alive with light. It **reflects** that light back to Earth -- where mankind can see it. We romanticize its glow. We write songs and poems about it . . . about its radiant beauty. But we forget that the light does not **belong** to the moon. It did **not** originate there.

It came from the sun -- the bright, burning star which lives in the heart of our solar system. That same sun which provides just enough heat for our planet to sustain life. Through a Design I cannot begin to understand, it holds all of our planets in place . . . causing each to travel in a specific path around it.

As I sat here, pondering that science, I realized something. Our small, humble moon stands faithfully in the sky . . . and does **exactly** what it was Created to do. What **WE** are to do.

It **receives** the light that emanates from the star which helps provide our power. Then, it **reflects** that light to us here on Earth. Isn't **it** doing what God asks **US** to do?

## Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

At the heart of our Christian faith is God — our Power Source. His Son came, and shone His Light into our damaged, broken world. Those of us who are saved now orbit HIS world — His reality. And He asks us to reflect that Light into the world around us.

So that those who do not yet know the Source of that Light might become enchanted by it. Curious about it, like man is curious about the moon. That they might be drawn toward that Light . . . where they, too, might be saved.

Apart from the sun, the moon has *no light* of its own. It cannot shine without the sun. Like the moon, we *cannot* shine without the Light of Jesus to guide us (John 15:5).

On the night Jesus was born, angels appeared to the shepherds, and told them where to find Him; how to recognize Him. Later, the wise men found the Infant Being of our beloved Savior by following the light of a brilliant star. Now, it's our turn . . .

My friends, when we were Saved, we were given the Light of God's Love. We were given His Spirit, to live within us. As this New Year begins, let's all join the moon and continue to do the work begun by that star so many years ago.

Let's be sure that we are reflecting the brilliant Light of God's Love to each and every person we meet along our journey. Let's help them find the Source of that Light . . .

To His Glory . . .





# Echoes of God's Glory in Creation

Roseanne Hilton

Reflections from Psalm One

People who delight in pleasing the LORD are compared to “trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season without fail.”

When we follow His way, He will produce the fruit in us that is listed in the letter to the Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control.



The psalm says that those who delight in pleasing the LORD; “day and night [they] think about His law,” the expression of His nature. Another list in Philippians expresses aspects of His character that we can think about:

“Fix your thoughts on what is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely; things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

The apostle Paul writes in another letter that “whatever you do, do all for the glory of God.” (I Corinthians 10:31) So we can allow God to produce that fruit and we can control our own thoughts to think on Him. Glory to God!

# Newsletter Newsletter

## God's Constant New Work

From the beginning of time, God's pattern has been to continually do new things and make things new. Though we can celebrate this every day, the New Year's season is especially fitting to pause and recognize God's work of renewal. Consider the following scriptures (all NIV) and how God is making them real in your own life right now.

- [God] has granted us new life to rebuild ... and repair .... (Ezra 9:9)
- If [a tree] is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. (Job 14:7)
- He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. (Psalm 40:3)
- See, I am doing a new thing! ... I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43:19)
- You will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. (Isaiah 62:2)
- [God's] compassions ... are new every morning. (Lamentations 3:22-23)
- I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. (Ezekiel 36:26)
- [Jesus] took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:20)
- Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:4)
- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

## Three powerful prayers

Amy Carmichael (1867-1951), an Irish Protestant missionary, served in India for 55 years. Much of her work was with children, especially rescuing them from sexual slavery. Carmichael wrote 35 books and many articles about her mission work. The Church of England remembers her on January 18, the anniversary of her death.

The following brief but powerful prayers are attributed to Carmichael:

- May thy grace, O Lord, make that possible to me which seems impossible to me by nature.
- Holy Spirit, think through me, till your ideas are my ideas.
- God, hold us to that which drew us first, when the cross was the attraction, and we wanted nothing else.

# Announcements

**Sunday Night Adult Bible Study** is held at 6 pm in the library.

**Adult Study on Wednesdays from 6:00pm-7:30pm in the Library.**

We will have weekly sessions covering content to help grow our faith and understanding of God and the Bible. You can join at any time during the year and will find in the bulletin what session is being offered for the coming week.

This is open to all ages of adults.

**Travis Lasseter from Black Hills Pregnancy Center** will be here to speak on Wednesday, January 8th at 6:30 pm. He will share about the Biblical understanding of life in the womb and why it matters, what happens in an abortion and the ministries of the BH Pregnancy Center. All are welcome to attend!

**SHE-BREWS (Women's Conversational Coffee)** will be held Saturday, January 11th at 10 am. All women welcome!

**The D&D Board will be taking down Christmas decorations** on Sunday, January 12th after 2nd service. Help is appreciated!

**Holy Habits: How to Study the Bible**

**Interactive Video session—January 13, 2025 6:30-7:30pm**

Ladies, do you want to be intentional with your Bible study in 2025, but not sure where to start or what to do? Come participate in this interactive video session where we will consider a couple of methods you can implement to jump start your study resolutions for the new year!

**Women's Prayer Gathering** will be held Saturday, January 18th at 9 am.

All women welcome to come and pray!

**Women's Wednesday Bible Study** will start up again on January 22nd at 10 am in the library. Study will be Overcomer by Dr. David Jeremiah.

Please sign up by contacting the church office!

**We are in need of Fellowship time snacks!** Please sign up on the sheet by the kitchen and grab a "helps" sheet for more info.

**Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming February Events:**

Newcomer's Lunch: February 2nd at Noon

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: February 3rd at 5:30 pm

Connection Classes: February 9, 16, 23 during 10:15 am service

# HILL CITY LIFE INC WINTER 2025

FREE COMMUNITY CLASSES

HOSTED BY LITTLE WHITE CHURCH AND LOVE INC

## ONE TIME INTRODUCTORY CLASS TO REALIGN YOUR FINANCES

TUESDAY JAN 14, AT HC CENTER, DINNER AT 5:45, CLASS AT 6:15. CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED.

WANT TO TRY A CLASS BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR ALL 8 WEEKS? COME "TEST THE WATERS" WITH THIS ONE TIME INTRODUCTORY CLASS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM.

## CLASS SERIES:

### REALIGN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



TUESDAY NIGHTS  
JAN 21 - MARCH 11



FINANCIAL CHALLENGES CAN HINDER INDIVIDUALS FROM ENJOYING A LIFE OF ABUNDANCE. OBSTACLES INCLUDE OVERSPENDING, POOR CREDIT, LACK OF FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE, AND STRAINED RELATIONSHIPS. THIS CLASS IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU EMBARK ON YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD BETTER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ACHIEVING FINANCIAL FREEDOM.



### GRIEF SHARE



TUESDAY NIGHTS  
JAN 21 - APRIL 29



NEED HELP DEALING WITH GRIEF AFTER LOSS? AT GRIEF SHARE YOU'LL RECEIVE VALUABLE GUIDANCE AND TIPS, LEADING YOU TO RELIEF, COMFORT AND PEACE OF MIND. A GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP IS A SAFE, WELCOMING PLACE WHERE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULT EMOTIONS OF GRIEF.

5:45 DINNER  
6:15-7:30 CLASS

\*\*\*\*DINNER AND CHILDCARE PROVIDED\*\*\*\*  
AT LITTLE WHITE CHURCH



## SIGN UP BY TEXTING "HILL CITY CLASS" TO 605.547.1023

## OR SCAN THE QR CODE



# WE HAVE A CHURCH APP!

## Install the Church Center App

Church Center is where you can explore, engage, and get involved throughout the week.



**Up-to-the-minute Event Information**

**Give Online**

**Watch Live & Past Sunday Services**

**Manage Yours and Your Family's Profile**

# RECIPE



**WE**

**WANT**

**YOUR**

**RECIPES**

We are working on a church cookbook and need your recipes! For each recipe, you will be entered into a drawing to win 2 cookbooks. You can enter up to 3 recipes in each category.

All entries must be received no later than January 31, 2025

**SEND RECIPES TO  
HCS DJEFFI@GMAIL.COM**

## APPETIZERS

Let's share some recipes and some history behind them!



## VEGETABLES

Is it a blue-ribbon winning recipe? Let us know!



## SOUPS, SALADS & SAUCES

Tell us, what makes the recipe so special?!



## DESSERTS

Life is Short, Eat Dessert First!



## BREADS/ROLLS /PASTRIES

We want to know, did you nearly burn the house down trying to make it the first time?



## MEATS/MAIN DISHES

Let us know, is it the first recipe you made for your spouse?



## BEVERAGES/ MISC

Is it your most requested recipe? Tell us!





LOVE GOD • WALK TOGETHER • CHANGE LIVES

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Sunday Service Times at 8:30 am & 10:15 am—Fellowship In-Between

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