

JANUARY Birthdays

Dequareon Tukes, 3rd
 Lindsey Brooks, 4th
 Otis Farrar, Jr., 6th
 Cynthia Simmons, 6th
 Zalika Sullivan, 9th
 Katherine Jones, 10th
 Sandy Montford, III, 11th
 Samantha Moreland, 11th
 Dorothy Fuller, 13th
 Willie Jackson, 13th
 Cleveland Merriweather, 13th
 Ronshad Berry, 16th
 Abigail Jones, 17th
 Jacqueline Taylor, 18th
 Bobbie Farrar, 21st
 Stevie McNeil, 24th
 Dae'Keria Stewart, 26th
 Mykia McQuinn, 28th
 Kaliyah Collier, 29th
 Darius Bentley, 30th

NOON DAY PRAYER



All Special Prayer Requests should be given to Ann Wilcoxson; they will be addressed at Thursday's Intercessory Prayer & Supplication.

Those who can are asked to fast on Wednesdays. January's fast is for God to send laborers to the vineyard. *"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few."*

Matthew 9:37

As you fast, remember to pray;
 as we receive great power
 and watch God move in our church.

Patricia Gilbert	Brenda Clark
Darryl Bentley	Shamaya Austin
Yvonne Parsons	Barbara Brown
Kenneth Mosley	Mary Hammonds
Melton Hall	

WINTER QUARTER Bible School Curriculum

Discipleship

Unit II **Beginnings of Discipleship**

DEC 29 Luke 5:1-11

Forsaking All to Follow Him

JAN 5 Luke 5:27-39

Turning Sinners into Disciples

JAN 12 Luke 6:12-19

Commissioning the Twelve

JAN 19 Luke 8:4-15

Parable of the Soils

JAN 26 Luke 9:1-10

First Mission of the Twelve

Unit II **Beginnings of Discipleship**

(Weekly introductory online; hard copy see office)

GENDER STUDY Men: TBA
Women: Meet Me At the Well



*Communion is available
 for homebound members.
 The member must
 contact your assigned deacon or call
 the church.*

27th

*P*astor

APPRECIATION Banquet

Sharing Good Things

"Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches..." Galatians 6:6

Saturday

January 25th, 6:00 PM

NPG Fellowship Hall

Semi-Formal or Dressy Church

Attire

The NEW Piney Press

Volume 28- Issue 1

The Family

JANUARY 2020

God's Purpose For The Family: Family is God's Idea



For those of you who were unable to come to our New Year Eve's Service, here are some of the take-aways:

Over the 27 years I have been pastor of the New Piney Grove Baptist Church, I have preached over a thousand messages and taught over fifth-teen hundred Bible lessons. Like the Apostle Paul I tried to become all things to all people that I might save some.

But now I can see the sunset of my ministry in the distance skies. And as I was reflecting on these 27 years as pastor, I have come to the realization that I owe the church an apology. But I would also like to offer the church an apologetic.

I apologize for expecting you to be and trying to make you something that only God can do.

When I was interviewed for the position of pastor at NPGBC, one of major concerns was that of the people not being informed of the affairs of the church. I made a promise that I would do my best to insure that the saints of New Piney would be kept informed.

Last month, for those who read the Newsletter, you noticed my article had "THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK ON PURPOSE." It was done to get your attention. My point was if members are not using the information available, what good is it?

These 27 years have been a blessing. But in three years I will be 80 and this church does not need an 80-year-old pastor. My health issues let me know that. I love the church too much to become a burden.

During the next 3 years I will be praying that the church will be willing to embrace the idea of a new pastor. I have learned that growth does not depend upon the quality of the seed, but the condition of the soil. So, during my final years as pastor, I will continue to sow seeds, but I will place more effort in conditioning the soil.

Pastor Deme

The Chairman, Joseph McElroy, Jr.

We Are Family



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ... 1 Corinthians 12:12

Welcome to 2020! I give our Savior Praise and Honor for allowing us to experience another moment, minute, hour, day, month and YEAR together. The NPG Church Family will kick off this new year by celebrating our Pastor with a banquet. On **Saturday, January 25th, we will gather at 6:00 PM in the Church Fellowship Hall** to give him accolades for the amazing work that he has allowed God to do through him here. This affair will be a **Church or Semi-Formal Dress**.

The entire NPG Family is involved. You may be on the celebration program or you may be an attendee; either way your presence is desired and needed. This will be a great opportunity to show our Pastor and his wife just how much you appreciate their time and service to our family. Allow them to be blessed by your presence.

Because **We Are Family**, every **BODY** is needed. We will continue to be united **In Perfect Harmony** as we **Stand Together On His Word**.

CFO, Alvin Cearnal

Releasing Seed



During this holiday season of giving, let us remember that when we release a seed, we can expect a harvest. A harvest doesn't come to us just because we come to church.

A harvest may not necessarily come from singing, preaching, or teaching. A harvest comes from planting, sowing a seed and cultivating it.

Keep sowing and expect a harvest to come.



Outreach Ministry, Ronald Morgan, Hi Church Family

When you became a child of GOD (saved) you automatically became a part of the body of CHRIST and HIS army. There are only two armies in the spiritual world, satan's army and CHRIST's army. We should be grateful and glad to fight for the CHRIST that created us, gave us the ability to make our own choices, who died for us, who redeemed us, and gave us eternal life with HIM in Heaven. We all want to go to Heaven but we don't want to fight or die for HIM and still want to hear well done my good and faithful servant. There is too much going on at NPG for anyone to be sitting down doing nothing to reach the lost. The Piney Press (the one you don't read) asked us to fast and pray for people to come to the vineyard. It's still not too late to fast and pray for young or old people to come. All Saved individuals were drawn/called to the battle field for a reason. GOD knew you could do what HE sent you here to do. Matthew 20:1-16 reads *"For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard...he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too ... Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?'"* When will you go? Until next time, GO.

GOD's foot soldier, **Morgan**

Neighborhood Witness Ministry: January 18th, 9:30 AM -1:30 PM

Food Bank 2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesdays—8:30 AM (Counselors needed)

Faith Development & Discipleship Ministry, Jeff Brothers

GRACE



Grace is a word that is frequently used in Christian settings. It's more rarely used, much less shown, in everyday life. We are, however, saved by grace. If grace is one of, if not THE, defining characteristic of the Christian life, then it should be evident in the lives, words and actions of Christ followers. I heard a preacher say that basically, the extent to which we have experienced God's grace is the extent to which we will show it to others. Grace is doing and being and saying good to, for and about people whether they "deserve" it or not.

Let's resolve in 2020 to show more grace and be more gracious. It's the hallmark of God's attitude toward sinners (like us) who don't deserve salvation. If we are His children, it should be our goal in dealing with others. Matthew 5:44-45 (ESV) *But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. Luke 6:35 (NET) But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to ungrateful and evil people.*

Youth Ministry, Brandon Lee, Sr.

Keep Going



Paul tells us in Philippians 3:13-14, *"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."* I am reminded of a story of a father who told his daughter the importance to keep going. The story says the daughter was caught driving in a terrible storm. She called her dad and told him she was going to pull over and wait the storm out. He told his daughter no keep driving, keep moving. The daughter thought it would be safer to stay in the storm; she thought standing still would work out better for her. But the dad knew it would be safer on the other side of the storm. She made it out the storm.

Some of you may feel that storms keep on raging in your life, and have you paralyzed with fear. You may feel like you don't know what to do! But you have to keep going. Just like the dad in the story cared for his daughter, our Heavenly Father cares for us even more. GOD knows the outcome of your situation, but you can't get there without moving!!!!

Women's Enrichment, Bonita Tharpe



Reflection

A New Year is a time when people take a moment to take stock of where they are in their lives. Psalm 90 is for the end of the year. For one thing, this Psalm includes the word "year." The Psalm underscores the fact that fulfillment in life isn't a matter of how much we have or how much we accomplish. Rather, what gives life purpose and meaning is a living relationship with the living God.

"Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives" (90:14) I can't think of a better thought with which to end the year and begin a new one. If we live each day in the satisfaction of God's love, we will be empowered to live for Him, to love Him through serving our neighbors. We won't fret about the passing of the years, but will accept the gift of each day as a new opportunity for love and service.

Next session, **Saturday, January 11th, 2020, 9:00 AM (at NPG)**