

Over my desk is a note posted that reads:

"Prayer opens our hearts to hear God's voice of direction. If we do not pray, we will pursue our own path ...use or own wisdom...walk in our own insight ...try to make things happen that may not be what God wants."

It is placed strategically where my eye will see it very often as a reminder to pray.

A great example of seeking God and walking in His path is found in 1Chronicles.28.

King David calls all the people together and says, "I had it in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord...and I made preparations for the building. But God said to me, 'You may not build a house for My name, for you are a man of war...' He said to me, 'It is Solomon your son who shall build My house and my courts, for I have chosen him...' (1Chronicles.28:2ff)

Having received God's instructions on the matter, David then told Solomon, "Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid or dismayed, for the Lord God, even My God is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work...of the house of the Lord is finished." (1Chron.28:20)

David prayed and sought the Lord...not pursuing his own path...not using his own wisdom...not walking in his own insight...not trying to make things happen that were not what God wanted.

What a tremendous example for us as we step forward into a new year! Be sure that you make prayer a priority in the days ahead -- nothing can take its place as your relationship with the Lord grows in 2025!

Pastor Wade



D-Now (Disciple Now) is THIS MONTH! As you know, we are participating with approximately 7 other churches from all over Johnson County. Chambers Creek Baptist Church in Grandview is hosting the event, but all participating churches will be contributing financially. Your support will help us provide the necessary resources to make this event a success.

Pastor TJ

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

• Jan 1	New Year's Day
• Jan 6	Epiphany
• Jan 17-19	Sanctity of Life Weeken
• Jan 26	Church Business Meeting
• Jan 31 - Feb 2	Disciple Now (Youth)

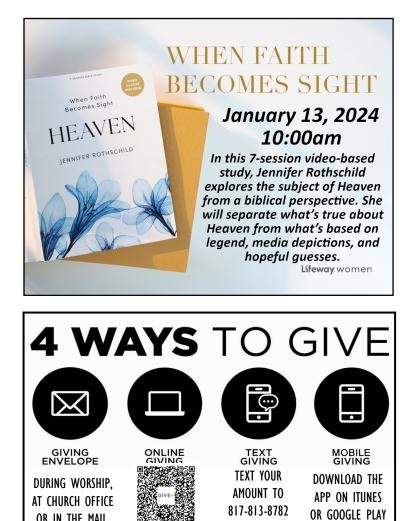
FINANCIAL UPDATE: (12/31/2024)

Current Checkbook Bal	\$22,525.08
Designated Funds Bal.	<u>\$24,955.65</u>
Total Available Funds	-\$2,430.57
2024Gining Received	\$271,002.01

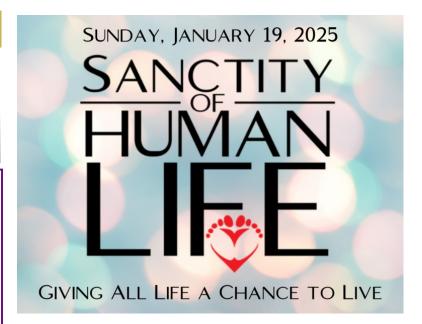
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What a wonderful time we had for our Christmas services over the last few weeks! Choir did an amazing job in leading us as well as a few of my friends who gave their time and talents to truly bless us during this time. I hope you take a few minutes over the next few days/ weeks to express to the Lord your gratitude for all that He has done for you this year, this season. I am overwhelmed to think of all the Lord has done for me and my family. He has challenged us and moved us and we are better for it. We inherited a new church family this year and separated from our old church we had attended and led in for over 10 years. I speak for all of my family when I say we are excited and blessed to be a part of this family. Thank you to all of you that have welcomed us and reached out with a helpful and loving hand as we got settled in! You are truly a blessing to us!

Pastor Travis



OR IN THE MAIL.



One of the many reasons I love Christmas break is because I get to spend time with God in the mornings without the pressure of needing to get ready for work. I have recently spent my mornings in Revelation working my way through a Jen Wilkins study. Early in the break, I was asking God for specific direction and Joshua popped into my head. Curious, I flipped back in my Bible and started reading.

I smiled as I read. I remembered all the different seasons in life that I have read about Joshua. I remembered thinking about the spies as a child and imagining huge food, and marching around my Sunday School room just like the Hebrews did in the battle of Jericho while waiting for my teacher's word to yell so I could play my pretend trumpet, then pondering as a class the walls of Jericho falling down. I taught these stories to my own children, too. We ate crackers (pretend manna), then sampled grapes and honey and drank milk as we considered how the Hebrews must have felt on the edge of the promised land. Another time, we marched around the living room 6 times and on the 7th, Tim pretended to be the priest blowing the trumpet and Patrick pretended to be Joshua and yelled, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city." Then, I knocked down the cardboard blocks we had set up as the walls of Jericho.

I love Joshua's story and have pondered what it says to us throughout Christmas break. In the new year, may we all remember God's words to, "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9) And may each of our responses be, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go."

Happy New Year! I'm looking forward to sharing 2025 with you!

> Darlene Director of Children's and Adult Education

