### Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Joe Brown (ongoing medical), Linda James (ongoing medical), Louise Johnson (continues to recover from surgery), Sylvester Johnson (upcoming treatments & bone marrow transplant), Leon Miller, Neil Miller (recovering from eye surgery), Carla Moore and family (recent loss of Katrina & Darenika's aunt), Butch Morgan (ongoing medical), Dottie Reynolds.

Family and friends: Joy Blaine, Curt Boyette, Ned Hicks, Sarah Grant (member at Plant City, health), Larry Holland (Cindy Hicks' brother/cancer), Brian James; Jerry Jordan, Rowena Lawson (health struggles), Paul Lloyd (still at rehab facility in Ohio), John Marschall (Bob Marschall's father), Kirk Marschall, Abbegale Perez, Ricky Ross and Dorothy Trice (Carla Moore's mother).

Out of Town: Jimmy & Diane Fields, Bob & Stef Marschall, Carla Moore & family. **Group Meeting:** Group 1 will meet next week after the PM worship service. Ladies' Bible Class: January 13 (tomorrow) in Tabitha Sadler's home. Please study lesson number 5 on page 27, "Trouble Over Sickness" in the book "Troubled Over Many Things," by Connie Adams.

Elders and Deacons Meeting: January 14th (this Tuesday), at 6:30. Men's Bible Study: The 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (Jan. 26). **Remember and encourage** those who are struggling physically and spiritually.

## Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 1/15/20
Song Leader: Jeff Lanning
Opening Prayer: Earl Branham
Invitation: Keith Marschall
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Bucky Day
Recordings: Trent Stevens

Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 1/19/20

Usher: Leon Miller

Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson (B)

Steve Parker (C)

Mike Sadler Serving:

Jerry Williams

Song Leader: Logan Lanning

Sunday Evening: 1/19/20

Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson Song Leader: Clay Sadler Opening Prayer: Eric Stevens Announcements: Larry Hicks Closing Prayer: Terrell Boyette Recordings: Bob Marschall

Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot Announcements: Larry Hicks Closing Prayer: Charles Goodall Recordings: Bob Marschall Usher: Gus Johnson



# Lakeland Hills Leader

### LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

2510 Lakeland Hills Boulevard Lakeland Florida 33805 (863) 688-4336 www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

#### **ELDERS**

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

#### **EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

### **SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Morning Services 9:50 A.M. Evening Services 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

#### **DEACONS:**

Robert Marschall Michael Sadler Moses Stevens David Williams

## "Behold, Now is the Accepted Time"

There is great value in setting goals. Most successful people advocate setting long-term, mid-range and even short-term goals; to achieve success in a variety of fields (personal hobbies, financial freedom, career advancement, retirement age, etc.).

Goal setting has value regarding spiritual endeavors as well. Reaching heaven, pursuing eldership, meeting the spiritual growth needs of a maturing family, setting forth an evangelistic approach, etc.

Yet, at times, we may find ourselves looking to the future so much... That we miss out on what blessings are here, even today! You see, we set goals because they're good... And goal setting does enable one to set forth the criteria that will press us on to getting better within our respective fields. However, because of our desire to get better, and perhaps because of our own feelings of inadequacy (sometimes) we fail to appreciate what God can offer to us, in the present. In other words, just as there is some level of danger associated with "living in the past," there can be some level of danger associated with "dwelling on the future."

So, with this article we can be reminded that we'll always have room for growth... But we CAN be the person God wills for us to be TODAY; if we will seek Him with all our heart, soul and mind! Let us look at some things that we all want (or should want) to get better at; but sometimes feel as though... "Well, maybe I'll 'get there' ... ONE day."

Behold, Now is the Accepted Time! Now is the Day...

That you will be diligent in your work, school, secular responsibilities (Eccl. 9:10; Col. 3:23). Too often, we point to tomorrow.

One says, "I'm going to do better, tomorrow." With my favorite football team, the running joke for the South Carolina Gamecocks is that their motto has always been, "we'll get 'em next year." (That's because they've lost most years — a lot). Don't let that be your motto regarding LIFE! With God's formula, you are winning EVERY DAY... But you've got to put into action, His formula. Realize that every day, and every breath, is a blessing. And whatever you do, make sure that it is pure (i.e., without sin), and do it with your might... TODAY!

Behold, Now is the Accepted Time! Now is the Day...

You will be joyful in YOUR salvation (1 Pet 1:8; 1 Pet. 4:13; 1 Jo. 1:4) Peter, who walked with Jesus... Who knew the heartache of messing up, saying the wrong things at times, who knew what it was like to disappoint God, who knew what it was like to fall short and even disappoint his brethren, was also able to write to Christians about retaining

their joy in the midst of severe persecution. And, he reminded them of the exceeding joy that WE will have, when Christ's glory is ultimately revealed! John said that the type of joy Christians can possess BEFORE Christ's return, is what he hoped to instill within his readers' hearts! Let us therefore study, and await eagerly, the Lord's return with joy... TO-DAY! (And tomorrow, and the next day, and so on...)

# Behold, Now is the Accepted Time! Now is the Day...

That you will be a stronger Chris-

tian (Rom. 10:1-3; 2 1 Pet. 2:1-3). Right now, perhaps you feel as though you're not very strong, spiritually speaking. Perhaps you feel inadequate in your Bible knowledge, your resolve, etc. Well, maybe that IS a problem that you're going to have to overcome. Realize that it is going to take time to grow... yes, but determine that you will grow, TODAY. Do something about that, TODAY. Set some goals, TODAY. Study, and pray -TODAY. And feel good about your desire to grow, TODAY!

In conclusion, there is great value in setting goals. Goal setting has merit regarding spiritual endeavors, as well. Yet, at times, we may find ourselves looking to the future SO much... and dwell on the things we don't have yet... That we miss out on what blessings are here, even today! We CAN be the person God wills for us to be TODAY; if we will seek Him with all our heart, soul and mind!

# Behold, Now is the Accepted Time! Now is the Day...

That you will become a Christian (Mt. 28:18-20; Gal. 3:26-27; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Pet. 3:21) "We then, as workers together with

Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

(2 Corinthians 6:1-2)

~ Ian Rice