



Light From The Hill

JANUARY, 2018...The Pastor's Corner...Rev. Norman L. Ramsey, III

Dear Laurel Hill:

The first step in exercising our spirit is to sharpen our focus. Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." (Matthew 6: 33) Sharpen your focus and make it your aim to determine how you will live by every word of God. (Matthew 4: 4) Sharpen your focus by approaching everything with a mentality of repentance.

This is how I begin my personal prayer time in the morning. I ask the question, "How can I stand with God today?" "How can I stand apart unto Him? How can I stand against the schemes of the devil? How can I stand alert to the opportunities God will have for me to reflect His glory, today?"

One way to sharpen your focus is think on the one thing you can do before you do anything else. Prioritize what you do. Gary Keller in the great book *The One Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results* gives us a focusing question.

"What's the ONE Thing you can do such that by doing it everything else will be easier or unnecessary?"

Practice applying that focusing question. Take a step to get one thing done before you move on to something else.

Know to sharpen your focus is also to exercise your will in saying, "No". *"Focus is a matter of deciding what things you're NOT going to do."* (Gary Keller, *The One Thing*) Your calendar does not need to be full for you to be fruitful. Learn the most productive fields are the ones which are not filled with weeds.

Our focus in January is centered on remembering. Jesus says there are some things we do in remembrance of Him. We will look at some of the reasons why God says, He wants us to remember.

As we get older it seems remembering gets harder to do. But, the challenge God gives us as we begin 2018 is to focus our remembering on what is essential for us to be faithful. Our goal? "To be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4: 23 – 24)

Love you very much,

Norman Ramsey

LAY MINISTERS FOR JANUARY, 2018

Praise & Worship: 8:45 A.M.-Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.-Worship: 11:00 A.M.

OUR USHERS

January 7 Kirby Miller, Joe Corley, Randy Welch

January 14 Stuart Walton, Raymond Stevenson, Buddy Whitlow

January 21 Bill Robinson, Gene Russell, George Kaloski

January 28 Craig Pollard, Phil Deane, Ray Alexander

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

January 7 Jeremy & Stephanie Rowan

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

TBA

OUR ACOLYTES

January 7- Eliana Horne

COMMUNION

January-Judy and Billy Walker

OUR GREETERS

January 7 Doug and Peggy Singlemann

SOUND TECHNICIANS

January 14 Bill and Linda Robinson

January 7 & 14 David Duke

January 21 John and Linda Turner

January 21 & 28 Doug Singlemann

January 28 Eugene and Shirley Hicks

TELLERS

January 7 Lois Miller and Pam Wilson

January 14 Susan Nowell and Jenny Nelson

January 21 Phil Deane and Randy Welch

January 28 Chris Ragland and Linda Kinsey

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY: Sandy Alexander, Charles Clay, Ivia Jennette, Henry Horne, Patrice Moore, Doug Singlemann, Pam Wilson, Raelynn Ragland, Chris Corley, Kathleen McKinsey, William Walker, Carl Moore, June Holmes and Jean Miller

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

FISH NEWS-We are collecting Beef Stew and Brunswick Stew for the month of January. Also, a trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania in April, 2018, to see "The Life of Jesus" is in the planning stages. Contact Kirby or Pam if you are interested.



THANK YOU TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY for your generous gifts during the Christmas season. The entire staff appreciates your thoughtfulness. It is our blessing to be the Laurel Hill staff and have you all for our church family. May you, and your loved ones, all be blessed and healthy in the New Year.

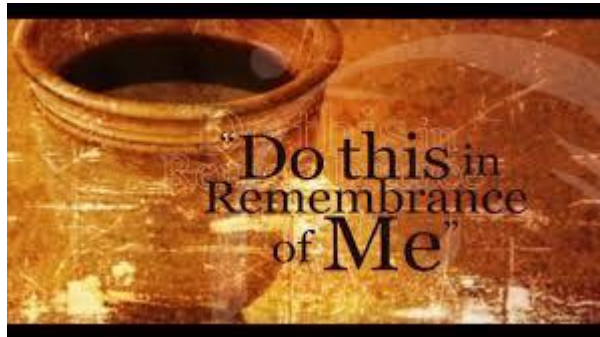
LADIES OF LAUREL HILL...will meet on Tuesday, January 9th at 11:00 at Elaine's home. Sally Belle's boxed lunches will be provided, therefore, Elaine will need to know if you are going to be there no later than Monday morning, January 8th (her # is 222-0844). If you have been to Elaine's in the past you know how special this time together is, and if you haven't been, you're in for a treat. Happy & Blessed New Year to everyone.

WE'RE INTRODUCING ONLINE GIVING TO LAUREL HILL



LOOK AND LISTEN FOR DETAILS EACH SUNDAY
DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Go to laurelhillumc.org, click on the Giving tab, then set up your account for ONLINE GIVING when you click the Give Now link in the middle of the page.



8:45am – Praise & Worship
9:45am – Sunday School
11:00am – Traditional Worship

January 7, 2018: In Remembrance of Me (1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 34)
(Men's Breakfast at 8:00 AM & Luncheon after 11:00 AM Service)

District Conference and Leadership Training Event
1:30 – 5:00 PM at Reveille UMC

January 14, 2018: Remember the Word I Said to You (John 15: 20)

January 16, 2018: Administrative Council, 7:00 PM

January 18, 2018: Evangelical Fellowship of Virginia, Executive Board, 10:00 AM

January 21, 2018: That All Might Know the Hand of the Lord (Joshua 4: 24)

January 28, 2018: Remember that Jesus... Was Raised (2 Timothy 2: 7 - 26)

January 30, 2018: Homeless Feeding, leave church at 10 AM