



Covenant Partner News

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Volume 4

Issue 52

Message From Evangelistic Outreach

(Excerpt EVANTELL "Pause and Ponder" by R. Larry Moyer,
December 5, 2024)

"Don't hesitate to ask..."

If this holiday season allows you the opportunity to present the gospel, do not hesitate to ask the question – "Is there anything keeping you from trusting Christ right now?" Some have never come to Christ because they have not been invited to. Often, we hesitate to ask that because we are afraid they might give a list of reasons why they are not ready that we will not know how to answer. Sometimes though you will be surprised – they are open, ready, and willing. They just need your invitation.

BETHESDA ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 2024		
Sunday School	No Prayer Meeting	No Bible Study
Men (9)	Tuesday (0)	Tuesday (0)
Women (20)		Wednesday (0)
Phone (9)		Thursday (0)
Children (0)		

On Prayer by James Banks

(A Pastor and Writer for the Daily Bread)

Now sometimes we might mistakenly think that prayer has something to do with skill. Sometimes you hear someone who is very well meaning say “I don’t have the Spiritual gift of prayer.” But did you know that of all the spiritual gifts listed in Scripture, prayer is not among them? And there’s an excellent reason for that. Prayer is meant for all of us. “Why Pray?” “Because you prayed!” “Bend down, O LORD, and listen!” Isaiah 36 and 37. That doesn’t mean things will go our way every time we pray, but if we learn to pray proactively---making prayer our “first resort” and not “a last resort” ---we will or may see God do breathtaking things. He wants us to help us lift our eyes above our circumstances so that we can catch a glimpse of His goodness and love. He wants us to pray so that we will get to know Him---and that really is the best part about prayer. True prayer is about so much more than just request or answers---it’s about a relationship with the One who will love and sustain us even when the answers don’t seem to c

ODBU.org/SF120 is worth reading on prayer. Listen to his lecture on “Why Pray” by James Banks.

- Why Pray
- Why Not Ask?
- When You Don’t know What to Say
- Obstacles to Prayer
- Praying for Others
- Prayer and Fasting
- What about “Unanswered” Prayer
- Persevering in Prayer
- Living a Prayer-Filled Life
(Course Completion)

RECURRING EVENTS

Hour of Power & Bible Study *Prayer meeting will resume Jan. 7, and Bible Study on Jan. 14*

Each Tuesday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via *ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, *please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

We encourage all members to submit prayer requests as the Holy Spirit leads by 12:00 Noon on Monday.

Open Praise Forum & Bible Study

Every Tuesday leading up to Communion Sunday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via ZOOM and on conference line referenced above. *

Bible Study Young Adult Edition

Each Wednesday at 7:30pm EST and 6:30pm CST via Zoom.

Register by text at 202-262-4476 or email kgoady07@gmail.com.

Men's Prayer Hour

Each Wednesday at 9:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access 875378#

Women's Prayer Hour *Prayer hours will resume January 2025*

Each 4th Saturday at 9:00am via conference call: 1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

Questions and Answers

Held each 4th Sunday at 6:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

Please submit your questions *today* by email to: SoulCare@Bethesdaweb.org or in Q&A box located on the table outside of the church office.

Bible Study *Thursday Bible Study will resume January 16.*

Each Thursday at 12:00 Noon via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

THIS WEEK EVENTS

Sunday, December 29

11:15am Church-wide Tract Blitz Distribution

Tuesday, December 31

10:00pm New Year's Eve Watch Night Service via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

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Saturday, January 4

10:00am Budget Meeting (in person)

12:30pm Free Movie Showing "The Forge"

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER 29 TRACT BLITZ:

There will be no Sunday School today. We will be doing a tract blitz to evangelize the community immediately following the morning service. If there is inclement weather, we will watch a film during the Sunday school hour. Don't forget to bring comfortable shoes. Those who are not able to participate in the tract blitz are encouraged to pray. Thank you.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, December 23 in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day Holiday. Office hours will resume on Monday, January 6.

ATTENTION MEMBERS - RECEIVE CREDIT FOR 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS

Attention Members - To receive credit for 2024 Contributions, contributions must be received by Tuesday, December 31, 2024.

If sent by mail, it must be postmarked December 31, 2024

If contributing online, the last day is December 31, 2024

If brought to the church, Monday, December 30 before 4:00pm.

Should you have questions or concerns, please contact the finance office via email at trustee1@bethesdaweb.org, Attention Financial Secretary or telephone 202-635-2883, extension 104. Thank you.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

Watch Night Service is on Tuesday, December 31 at 10:00 PM via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

BETHESDA'S HOUR OF POWER

No prayer meeting on Christmas Eve. Bethesda's Hour of Power will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

CHURCH BUDGET MEETING

Our budget meeting will take place on Saturday, January 4 at 10:00am. The purpose of this meeting is to present the 2025 proposed budget, answer questions submitted to the budget committee, and seek the church's approval.

A quorum of 45 people is required for this to be an official meeting. Your attendance is vitally important. Thank you for your cooperation.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

FREE MOVIE SHOWING

A free movie "The Forge" showing at Bethesda Saturday, January 4, 2025, at 12:30 pm, afterwards a discussion on the issue of fatherlessness and mentorship.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY HOSTS A NEW YEAR'S FELLOWSHIP

Join the Christian Education ministry for a New Year's fellowship entitled, "United in Faith, Growing together" on Saturday, January 25, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Please sign the sign up sheet by January 9th located on the table outside the office so the proper amount of food can be ordered. Thank you for your support

CHURCH YEARBOOK

As we create our church yearbook, we want to dedicate a heartfelt section to honor the lives of members who have passed away Between 2020 and 2024. To ensure this tribute is both respectful and beautiful, we kindly ask for your assistance:

1. Submission Guidelines: Only members who were part of our congregation at the time of their passing will be included.
2. Photo Quality Matters: Please provide high-quality photos that reflect the warmth and light of their spirit. Clear, well-lit images with minimal shadows or distractions are greatly appreciated. If you need help selecting or improving a photo, don't hesitate to contact Sister Tigist Ashaka.

Your participation in this section helps us celebrate their legacy and preserve their memory for years to come. Thank you for helping us create a meaningful tribute.

For questions or photo submissions, please contact Tigista792@gmail.com

WORSHIPING NURSERY

Praise the Lord Bethesda! On Sundays, during the 9:30 am Worship Service, the Worshiping Nursery is open to receive children ages 1 year (must be walking) to 5 years old, where children can learn about the Lord on their own level. Parents should feel free to take their children to the Nursey and return to worship service. We are still in need of volunteers and your prayers to ensure that we can sustain service in the Nursery. We have been blessed to have several children under the age of five come to church. The Worshiping Nursery rooms have been cleaned and are ready for them. Now we need volunteers to bring the love, energy, and share the word of God with them. Pray that the Lord will use you and volunteer as a worker. Please contact Sister Denise McPayten-Nedab at 202-306-2420.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

The Transportation Ministry is in need of Drivers and Chaperones for the church van, as well as volunteers to carpool members to church. If you are in need of a ride, please contact the church office at 202-635-2883. You may also contact Sis. Jessica Reid (202-706-2211) up until 6pm on Saturday's if a ride is needed for the upcoming Sunday.

TO BETHESDA MEMBERS

1. The Church office is closed on Sundays.
2. If your ministry has a need for Armed Guard Services, please contact the Chair of the Trustee Board.
3. Funeral Repasts will not be held at the church, until further notice.
4. A meeting of the church body will be held at a future date so that our Armed Guard personnel can provide an overview of safety protocols.

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER

TO ALL MINISTRY HEADS OR FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Please check your ministry mailbox that's located in the lounge for any mail or reports you may be expecting from the Finance Office.

COPIER IN THE LOUNGE

When using the copier in the lounge please be sure to log in your name or ministry name and the number of copies you are producing. Thank you for your cooperation.

IT SUPPORT MINISTRY

Dear Ministry Leaders,

As we continue to promote our church events, we want to make sure that we are doing so in the most effective and efficient way possible. To help us achieve this, we are introducing a new form that will allow you to upload flyers for your events and have them posted on our social media platforms. Please use the following form to submit your promotional materials:

<https://form.jotform.com/bbcitsupport/ministry-submit-form>

Please ensure that you submit any promotional flyers at least one week in advance of your event to allow enough time for us to post them.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us spread the word about our events. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

BBC IT Support Ministry

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

Ministry Leaders, this is a reminder to complete the Ministry Action Plan Special Event Form for any major events six (6) months in advance of the planned activity for approval. The objective of this process is to help ministries of our church plan activities prior to committing resources to them. Please see the church office if you are in need of a form. The pastor will meet with each leader to review the proposed activity. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER CONTINUED:

MINISTRY LEADERS

If you would like to hold your ministry meetings or events on Zoom, please contact Sister Bobbie Taylor at 202.635.2883 or submit your request by email: btaylor@bethesdaweb.org.

MINISTRY MAILBOX

All ministry heads or secretaries, please remember to check your mailbox.

RECRUITMENT

1 Thessalonians 5:11: "Therefore encourage one another and build up one another,"

We are seeking volunteers to join our comfort ministry. The cause and effect of comfort is biblical when we comfort others with the comfort that we have received from God and others. Please contact the church office to express your interest.

ROOF REPLACEMENT FUND

We have established a goal of raising \$62,000 over the next 12-months for replacement of the church's roof Section M. We are asking each member to give an extra \$62 per month or \$15.50 per week to the church's Building Maintenance Fund. If 100 members do this on a regular monthly basis over the course of 1-year, we will raise the \$62,000 necessary to finance the first phase of roof repairs. Please use the special "Roof Replacement" envelopes found outside of the church office and Sanctuary vestibule. Thank you in advance for your faithful giving, Bethesda!

"With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." Mark 10:27