



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

January 2019

Dear Southwest Family,

Without a doubt, human beings are creatures of the clock. We are the only species on the planet concerned with time. Our days are guided by it, our plans are governed by it and, in the end- our lives are ruled by it. We wear watches to keep track of it and maintain calendars to comprehend it. We have sayings and quips about time in order to make it more tangible: time is money; time is fleeting; time flies; time to relax; it's party time; I need quality time; I ran out of time; let's take a time out; in the nick of time; all in God's time. Well, you get the point.

The very concept of time has frustrated philosophers, confounded scientists, and caused consternation among the wisest of biblical scholars. It is difficult to define and impossible to stop. It cannot be seen, but its effects are seen everywhere. Yet, apart from any philosophical pontificating and scientific postulating, one truth is abundantly clear: *we are only given so much time in life*. And it doesn't matter what age we are, to put it bluntly, our time is running out. And nothing reminds us that the clock is ticking like a new year.

So, what exactly are your plans for this new year? Do you have any goals? Is there something you want to change for the better? If so, allow me to remind you of a few things the Creator of Time teaches us about the subject. Ephesians 5:15-16 reads: "*Pay careful attention, then, to how you live—not as unwise people but as wise—¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil*" (CSB, emphasis added). Beloved, because your time here is limited, the Lord would remind you to use your time wisely. Take great care with how you are living your life, what path you are choosing to walk, what choices you are making, and who or what you are serving, because you only get one shot. The bold text above literally means that we are to "*redeem the time,*" that is, buying up the time for the Lord and saving it from being lost or wasted. How many of us would love to have time back that we have squandered? Unfortunately, that's a pipe dream. However, from this moment on, by God's grace, you and I can choose to redeem the time the Lord has given us. And he gives us a snapshot on how to do this: by knowing and obeying God's commands, by not squandering our time with drunkenness and revelry, by building up God's church, by living lives of gratitude, and by loving our mates and families well.

I agree with Harvey MacKay, who wrote: "Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it you can never get it back." What a humbling reminder! Beloved, because your time here is limited, the Lord would remind you to spend your time faithfully. The sands in your hour glass are running out, so choose to give each remaining grain to the Lord! The Apostle Paul gives us a precise formula for just how to do this. Romans 13:11-14:

"This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. ¹³ Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires" (NLT).

Truly, we are only given so much time in life. Nevertheless, that time is nothing less than God's gift to us. Use that time wisely, spend it faithfully, and be thankful for another year in which to do it! Happy New Year – one closer to the Lord's return and our salvation!

Peace and Goodwill,
Nathan A. Robinson

Monthly Figures

Date	General	Missions	Building	Benevolent	Attendance
11/25	2292	263	77	127	104
12/2	3499	945	65	90	98
12/9	2828	455	55	110	104
12/16	2408	775	175	235	114
12/23	2710	605	45	135	116
Average:	2747	609	83	139	107

Weekly Need: General: \$3,047

Monthly Need: Missions: \$1,915

Women's Retreat: The spring women's retreat at Round Lake will be held on March 30th, from 8:30am to 3:15pm. The theme this year is "Living in Truth and Grace". The speaker is Julie Gariss, appearing as Gladys Frump. There may be a group going down the night before (dinner and program on our own). More details to come.

"Senior Moment" Group Outing: On Tuesday 1/22 at 12 noon, meet at the church for lunch and then to watch the movie 'Unbroken: Path to Redemption'. The movie is the true story of Louis Zamperini and how he finds peace and forgiveness after surviving years of torture as a WWII prisoner of war. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

Women's Bible Study: Tuesday morning and WNL ladies classes began a 14-week bible study in November, which includes a DVD, "Having a Mary Spirit: Allowing God to Change Us from the Inside Out" by Joanna Weaver. Books are \$9 each. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

Soup Kitchen: Southwest members served at the soup kitchen on Nov. 29th. The next opportunity to join the group will be on January 10th. Thank you for your willingness to serve for Christ's kingdom!

Scrapbooking: There will be a meeting in January. Please check the Sunday bulletin for information on the date!

Wednesday Night Live: The WNL program begins at 5:30pm with dinner and fellowship; followed by study groups starting at 6:30pm. All ages are encouraged to attend, as there are classes for Pre-K, grades K to 6, grades 7 to 12, Women's Study, and Men's Study.

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item for October: pasta (spaghetti, elbow macaroni, rigatoni, etc.)

Rahab Ministries: There is a box under the coat rack by the fellowship hall for donations. The items most needed for this ministry are: Life Recovery Bibles, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash, deodorant, ground coffee, paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags, laundry detergent and liquid fabric softener.

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.



Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
(330) 825-7263
www.swccbarberton.com

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study 10am

Wednesday Night Live 5:30 to 7:30pm

Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>"The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out."</i> Proverbs 18:15		1 New Year's Day	2 WNL	3	4	5
6 Deacon's Meeting	7	8 Women's Bible Study	9 WNL	10 Soup Kitchen	11	12
13	14	15 Women's Bible Study	16 WNL	17	18	19
20	21	22 Women's Bible Study "Senior Moment"	23 WNL	24	25	26
27	28	29 Women's Bible Study	30 WNL	31	<i>"The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever."</i> 1 John 2:17	

BIRTHDAYS:

1/5	Carla Friedrichsen
1/9	Cathy Ross
1/16	Bob Klein
1/17	Barb Hughey
1/19	Linda Sechler
1/21	Alice Gerbig
1/22	Adelyn Kriston
1/24	Deb Martin
1/25	Joel Martin
1/30	Dick Smith

ANNIVERSARIES:

1/7	Dave & Chris Hodge
1/17	Phil & Carla Friedrichsen

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to kbusch1@neo.rr.com and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading **The HARVESTER**? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” Colossians 3:16

Spend time with the Lord each day this month by reading the following scriptures. To help commit them to memory, write in a journal or notepad and review daily.

- JAN 1: Proverbs 1:1-7
- JAN 2: Proverbs 2:1-8
- JAN 3: Proverbs 2:9-15
- JAN 4: Proverbs 2:16-22
- JAN 5: Proverbs 3:1-6
- JAN 6: Proverbs 3:7-12
- JAN 7: Proverbs 3:13-48
- JAN 8: Proverbs 4:4-9
- JAN 9: Proverbs 4:20-27
- JAN 10: Proverbs 6:16-19

- JAN 11: Proverbs 8:6-11
- JAN 12: Proverbs 9:7-12
- JAN 13: Proverbs 10:4-8
- JAN 14: Proverbs 10:9-12
- JAN 15: Proverbs 11:16-21
- JAN 16: Proverbs 12:1-3, 19-20
- JAN 17: Proverbs 14:10-14, 29-30
- JAN 18: Proverbs 15:1-4
- JAN 19: Proverbs 16:1-9
- JAN 20: Proverbs 16:17-20

- JAN 21: Proverbs 16:21-24
- JAN 22: Proverbs 17:17-22
- JAN 23: Proverbs 18:10, 15-16
- JAN 24: Proverbs 19:20-23
- JAN 25: Proverbs 22:1-5
- JAN 26: Proverbs 22:6-11
- JAN 27: Proverbs 27:17-19
- JAN 28: Proverbs 28:13-15
- JAN 29: Proverbs 29:15-18
- JAN 30: Proverbs 30:5-6
- JAN 31: Proverbs 31:8-9, 29-31



Scripture list courtesy of www.swtblessings.com

Kids Korner

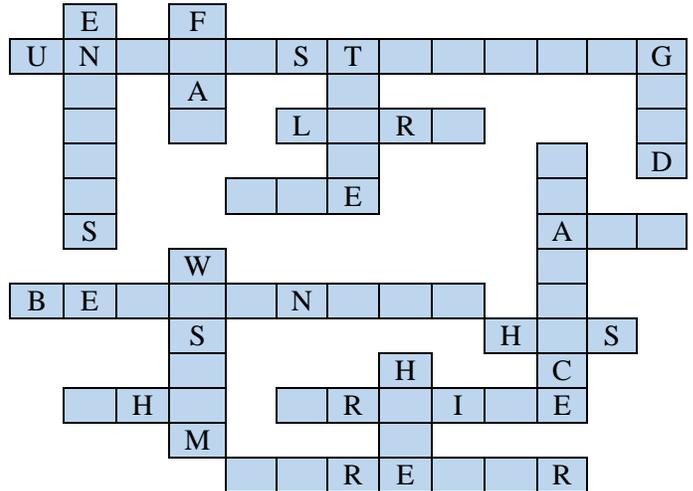


“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!” Psalm 111:10

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

T	A	W	I	S	D	O	M	C	D	E	K	B
F	H	H	G	J	L	N	P	B	R	P	T	V
Q	I	O	F	O	R	E	V	E	R	R	Y	Z
E	S	B	S	D	F	H	J	G	L	A	N	O
N	P	Q	S	E	U	W	Y	I	X	C	T	S
D	E	I	U	L	O	R	D	N	A	T	H	A
U	N	D	E	R	S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G
R	I	P	R	A	I	S	E	I	B	C	F	J
E	K	R	A	L	L	T	H	N	O	E	M	N
S	T	H	E	P	A	I	R	G	O	O	D	S
W	G	O	F	L	H	A	V	E	F	U	N	Z

Fill in the blanks with the underlined words from the verse above.



Studying the bible, and memorizing verses equips us to be strong in our belief that Jesus is the Messiah and our Savior. Write down your favorite bible verse.
