

TIDINGS

JANUARY 2012

VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 1

From the Heart of the Superintendent



Glenn & Betty Beaver
Superintendent

New Year - New Opportunities!

A New Year gives each of us the opportunity to make a personal assessment of where we are in our spiritual journey and how we want to grow in the Lord in the coming year. Isaiah makes some encouraging statements in chapter 43 verse 19 when he pens the Words of the Lord, "Behold, I will do a *new thing*; now it shall *spring forth*; shall ye not know it? I will even *make a way in the wilderness*, and *rivers in the desert*."

The context of this passage is the promise of Christ's coming to bring salvation to the world. However, this verse can also be applied in regard to a New Year of opportunities for ministry and spiritual growth in the Lord.

In light of this application please consider first of all what *new thing* the Lord may have in store for us in this New Year. God said it will be something that He has not done before and that it would turn

out wonderful. Isaiah 42:9 states, "New things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you." God will direct us into new areas of ministry as we walk in obedience.

Isaiah states how the *new thing* will *spring forth*. It will be just as sudden as a plant which sprouts out of the ground. Jesus explained the work of the kingdom this way in Mark 4:28, "The earth produces the crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens." (NLT) This New Year will have new and wonderful opportunities to advance the kingdom of God. May God's people be sensitive to the Holy Spirit in order to seize each one of these opportunities.

Isaiah also speaks of how the Lord will *make a way in the wilderness*. He writes in Isaiah 41:17-20, "When the poor and needy search for water and there is none, and their tongues are parched from thirst, then I, the Lord, will answer them. I, the God of Israel, will never abandon them. I will open up rivers for them on the high plateaus. I will give them fountains of water in the valleys. I will fill the desert with pools of water. Rivers fed by springs will flow across the parched ground. I will plant trees in the barren desert-cedar, acacia, myrtle, olive, cypress, fir, and pine. I am doing this so all who see this miracle will understand what it means - that it is the Lord who has done this, the Holy One of Israel who created it." (NLT) Jesus declares Himself as *the way, the truth, and the life*. When you don't know what to do or where to turn, look to the Lord. He will make a way where there seems to

by Glenn R. Beaver

be no way.

Isaiah says the Lord will *make rivers in the desert*. We know from Jesus' words in John 7:37-39 that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit will be like a gushing river in an otherwise barren land. This New Year has the promise of an overwhelming outpouring of God's Spirit to all souls who are thirsting for His refreshing.

My prayer for all ministers and churches in this New Year is that they will renew their vision of serving at their highest level for the Lord. Now is the time to get our eyes off of the temporal things of this life and focus them on the eternal things. As Peter said in 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent." (NLT)

Let us make 2012 the most effective year we have ever experienced in our spiritual growth and in our work for the Lord!

Thank You!

The district leadership would like to thank you for your many expressions of love to us during the Christmas season. We sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness.

We pray God's richest blessings for you during 2012.

*Glenn & Betty Beaver
Tom & Melvina Lakey
Billy & Bettye Nickell
Tracy & Cara Lynn McWilliams
Chris & Carey Murdoch
Becky & Joe Nenstiel
Mark & Debbie Stripling*



District Administration



Billy & Bettye Nickell
Secretary/Treasurer

Changing Your Habits For Life

With the new year about to begin, "Happy New Year" wishes have been given in hopes that 2012 will be a year of unprecedented achievement. The dawn of each new year tends to revive hopes, at least temporarily, for a brighter future, in spite of the previous year's failures. Someone recently expressed to me their New Year's wish for a clean bill of health from the dentist, the cardiologist, optometrist, rheumatologist, oncologist, urologist, podiatrist, plumber, psychiatrist, and the I.R.S. What are the ingredients that will make 2012 distinct from previous years? I believe the answer can be found in our habits, a subject repeatedly addressed in Scripture. Luke's gospel speaks of a habit Jesus exercised during His earthly ministry: "However, he continued his habit of retiring to deserted places and praying." (Luke 5:16 ISV) The apostle Peter also writes about a habit Jesus incorporated into His life in 1 Peter 2:23: "When he was insulted, he did not retaliate. When he suffered, he did not threaten but made it his habit to commit the matter to the one who judges fairly." (ISV) James' letter behooves Christians to develop habits that are becoming to Christian character: "You must

make it your habit to speak and act like people who are going to be judged by the law of liberty." (James 2:12 ISV) "Therefore, make it your habit to confess your sins to one another and to pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16 ISV) Finally, we read the admonishment of Hebrews 10:25 regarding church attendance: "not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another even more as you see the day coming nearer." (Hebrews 10:25 ISV)

In order for the new year to eclipse previous years in productivity and fulfillment, my life and ministry must be characterized by positive habits. Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) is quoted to have said, "The strength of a man's virtue should not be measured by his special exertions, but by his habitual acts." I do not decide where I will go in life; I determine my habits and my habits predicate my destiny. It is commendable to aspire to be a great preacher, leader, pastor, husband, parent, etc... yet if my habits contradict my intentions, I will never achieve my goals. A productive life is never an accident. This truth is borne out in the statement spoken by Samuel Smiles (1812 - 1904): "Sow an act, reap a habit. Sow a habit, reap a character. Sow a character, reap a destiny." Someone has described habits as "cobwebs that eventually become cables." It is my prayer that as each of us endeavor to change the world for Christ, that we will give diligence to changing ourselves by positive habits through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Available for Ministry

Daniel Arnold	432.894.8061
Gene Benningfield	806.456.2029
Danny Bisbee	432.559.4742
Kelly Breckenridge	806.787.0355
Danny Brown	806.577.3580
Terry Callis	806.418.3861
Harry Coons	432.955.0697
Larry Elder	432.853.9591
Dale Griswold	806.566.9993
Jack Hargrave	806.747.6715
Byron Jones	432.258.3873
Tracy McWilliams	806.790.9377
Rick & Tori Mitchell	806.241.1259
Z.A. Myers	806.216.0252
J.C. Owen	432.550.5804
Forest Srader	575.628.8650
Todd & Angela Starnes	806.786.4750
Marcus Tanner	903.330.1560
Kevin Vander-Plas	806.797.5972

Church Updates

Parent Affiliated Church (status changed from District Affiliated)
Victory Family Worship Center, Hereford
Parent Church: Victory Family Worship Center, Friona

Parent Affiliated Church (New Church Opened)
The Worship Center, Idalou
Parent Church: The Worship Center, Lubbock

Minister Updates

Transferred In:
Mark Moreland (O) New Mexico
Stephen Arnold (CM) Peninsular Florida
Joseph Gregg (CM) Peninsular Florida

Transferred Out:
Steven Villines (L) New Mexico

Newly Credentialed:
Jeremy Nicholson - Certified Minister
Rhonda DiSalvo - Certified Minister

Bible Institute of West Texas
Courses for February 4, 2012
Certification Level
Synoptic Gospels
License Level
Introduction to Theology
Ordination Level
Prayer & Worship

WEST TEXAS DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD TIDINGS

5504 Wayne Avenue, P.O. Box 64778, Lubbock, TX, 79464, Phone: 806.792.5835
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Tracy & Cara Lynn McWilliams
Director of Church Ministries & Tidings Editor
tracy.mcwilliams@sbcglobal.net

DISTRICT OFFICARY

Glenn R. Beaver
Superintendent
grbeaver@sbcglobal.net

Tom Lakey
Assistant Superintendent
tlakey@lubbockag.org

Billy D. Nickell
Secretary/Treasurer
fantastic1316@gmail.com

SECTIONAL PRESBYTERS

Cliff Houghton, Danny Williams, Freddy Weaver, John Murdoch, Randall McDonald, Eddie Lee
Web site: wtaog.org

Speed the Light Tour

2012

Banquets/Rallies

West Texas Youth Ministries

www.wtcause.com

Chris Murdoch, DYD

Chet Caudill, National STL

Jonathan Delgaty, Missionary

West & South Plains

STL

Food will be provided after the service for Rally locations.

El Paso Harvest Christian

Calvary, Midland

Andrews First

Levelland First

Fritch First

Crosbyton First

Section:

Date/Time:

Location:

East Plains

Monday, January 9th

Tuesday, January 10th

Thursday, January 12th

Friday, January 13th

Monday, January 16th

Tuesday, January 17th

7:00pm - All Locations FREE

Pastors, Youth Leaders & Students Invited!

Peecos - El Paso - South Plains - West Plains - North Plains -

Women's Ministry



Becky & Joe Nenstiel
Women's Director

2012 is going to be a year with several changes in the District Women's Department. As I was contemplating some of the changes my thoughts took me to a year ago when I first had my braces put on. I remember the Orthodontist told me to be prepared for several things. First of all, he said that I was going to need patience. He said the straightening of my teeth would be a process which would require me planning on days of discouragement because I would want things to go much quicker. I remember him saying that he believed my greatest help would come through prayer.

In looking at facing this year's changes I have concluded that we have done the planning and preparation. Now comes the process of seeing the changes come into fruition. Something tells me there will be times when we need to practice patience as we walk through the process of change. Just as I was given the advice to pray about the adventure of wearing braces for the next couple of years, I am convinced our greatest success toward our changes will be found in the time we spend in prayer. I have adopted the following as my motto concerning change:

Express thankfulness for the past - **Embrace** the present - **Expect** great things for the future.

"Behold, I will do a new thing, and it shall spring forth..."
Isaiah 43:19 KJV

Men's Ministries

2012 NATIONAL MEN'S MINISTRIES LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
March 8-10, 2012 Dallas, Texas

The event's purpose is to equip the local church with the tools needed to custom design a ministry to men. Offering pastors, men's leaders and laymen the opportunity to network with other like-minded leaders and learn from some of the most prominent speakers to men, the conference is designed for attendees to experience thought-provoking sessions that will challenge the way the church looks at men's ministries. This would be a great opportunity for West Texas pastors and men to attend this event held so close to our area. The LFTL tour dates will be adjusted to allow our attendance.

Featured conference speakers include:

Michael Jr., David Murrow, Neil Kennedy, Choco De Jesus, Ron Maddux, Alton Garrison, Doug Clay & Tom Greene
Embassy Suites North DFW Airport at Outdoor World in Dallas, located next to the DFW airport special room rates, complimentary shuttle to/from the DFW airport, complimentary breakfast buffet, connected to the Bass Pro Shop
For more information on event speakers, schedule and registration, visit www.men.ag.org/events/national/conference, call 800.988.0292, or email men@ag.org



2012 Light for the Lost Banquet Tour

February 27 - March 6



High Altitude Men's Retreat
February 23 - 25, 2012

Announcements



Around West Texas

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
AG

Prayer & Bible conference

Cornerstone Church, Southaven, MS · Jan. 3-4, 2012

MINISTERING



Bryan Jarrett
Pastor, Northplace Church



Robert Wilburn
Superintendent, Mississippi



George O. Wood
General Superintendent
of the Assemblies of God



Doug Clay
General Treasurer



Kermit Bridges
President, SAGU

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 p.m.....Doug Clay, General Treasurer

Wednesday, January 4

9:00 a.m.....Kermit Bridges, President, SAGU

10:00 a.m.....Robert Wilburn, Superintendent, Mississippi

2:00 p.m.....Bryan Jarrett, Pastor, Northplace Church

7:00 p.m.....George O. Wood, General Superintendent

For more information, please visit www.sagu.edu/pbc

Minister's Breakaway

January 23-26, 2012
Ponderosa Lodge
Red River, NM

The *Minister's Breakaway* will be a wonderful 4 day/3 night getaway to the mountains of New Mexico for ministers and their spouses. You won't want to miss this refreshing time of fellowship and fun!

**Cost: \$400 per couple
\$350 per single**
(includes lodging, insurance, and meals, except the Tuesday evening meal on your own)

College Graduate: Congratulations to **Trish Morgan** (wife of **David Morgan**, First AG, Canyon) who graduated, Magna Cum Laude, from West Texas A&M University, Canyon. She earned a B.S. Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, Elementary English as a Second Language Generalist.

New Grandbaby: **Steve and Sheri Woodward** were presented their first grandbaby on November 25th. **Laynie Colette** weighed 9 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 20 inches in length. Her proud parents are Bryan and Brittany Woodward.



Sympathy: **Dollie Lakey**, mother of **Tom Lakey** (District Assistant Superintendent and lead pastor, First AG, Lubbock) went to be with the Lord on December 19th, at the age of 93. Sympathy cards can be mailed to the family at: Tom & Melvina Lakey, 4402 59th Street, Lubbock, Texas, 79414.

Upward in Worship • Inward in Discipleship • Outward in Evangelism



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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P.O. Box 64778
5504 Wayne Avenue

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