

Grace Tidings



A Newsletter of Avalon Grace Church

January 2023

An Old Resolution for a New Year

(Portions of this article have been borrowed from Grace Ambassadors.com)

Another New Year has begun and now that the 2022 Christmas Season is behind us and decorations are in the process of being stored until December 2023, many people are reflecting and reevaluating some of their life choices – which bad habits need to go, and which new good habits need to be incorporated; and of course New Year's is the traditional start of making resolutions that most people fail to stick to by the second week of January.

While everyone is making resolutions to lose weight and exercise more, let's take a moment by reflecting on the most significant resolution that is the same every New Year until the Lord returns: **"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ . . ."** Titus 2:13

Let's look a little deeper – What saith the Scriptures?

The preaching of the glorious cross is the sole means through which people are saved and come to knowledge of the truth in this dispensation of God's glorious grace, although so many are blind to it or simply see it as foolish: **"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."** 1 Corinthians 1:18

I don't think the Lord is concerned about last year's failures (how much weight we gained; how many times we may have procrastinated from accomplishing a task, how we didn't read our bible like we should have, and so on). While physical exercise and eating healthy is good,

I do believe that our Lord desires and lovingly encourages us to study His Word for our own spiritual health and maturity: **"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."** 2 Timothy 2:15

(Continued on Page 2)



AVALON GRACE CHURCH

3801 GUILFORD ROAD

NAPLES, FLORIDA 34112

(239) 774-4214

avalongracechurchofnaples@gmail.com

www.avalongracechurch.com

Pastor Phillip McClellan, Jr.

Pastor Emeritus Arthur Sims

Kathleen Smith, Editor

All Are Welcome!

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday Messages available on website:

(www.avalongracechurch.com)

Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM

"And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: . . ."

- Ephesians 3:9

An Old Resolution for a New Year (Continued from Page 1)

The Lord desires that we realize that we have been saved for a reason: to glorify God in our body, and in our spirit, by presenting our bodies as living sacrifices, by not conforming ourselves to this world, and by being transformed by the renewing of our minds by reading and studying His Word.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” Romans 12:1-2

The revelation of the mystery that was hidden with God from the foundation of the world and given to the apostle Paul by the Risen Lord is largely still hidden to a majority of Bible believing Christians:

“For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel . . .” Ephesians 3:1-6

Let us greet 2023 with gladness and strive to do what we can, as God leads each of us to help others see what is the fellowship of the mystery of Jesus Christ which has been hid, but now is revealed, fulfilling the intended purpose of God in Christ for his church in the dispensation of the grace of God.

“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the

beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ in the dispensation of the grace of God. To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.” Amen. – Ephesians 3: 9-21

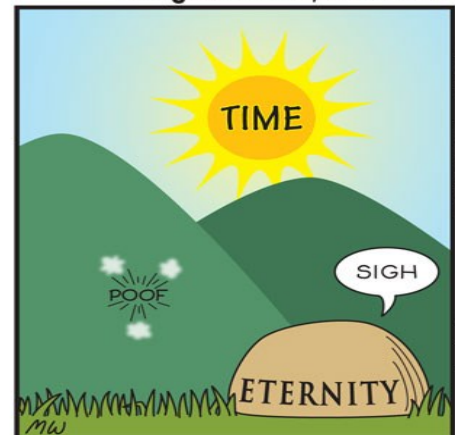
Janet and the entire McClellan family wish you all a blessed New Year full of joy, good health and peace!

Pastor Phil

MISTY



A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

– JAMES 4:14 KJV

December 11, 2021 Christmas Program . . .



Avalon Grace Church commemorated Our Lord's birth with our annual Christmas Program on Sunday, December 11th.

Several people participated by reading portions of Scripture from Matthew and Luke, followed by singing Christmas hymns ending with "Joy to the World." A luncheon provided by the church followed in Fellowship Hall with refreshments, fellowship, and fun! Thank you to Janet McClellan for all your hard work in planning and coordinating this a special day for us!



Tick Tock, Tick Tock

This new year, 2023 comes like a shock
Wasn't it yesterday we adjusted our clocks?
To spring ahead or . . . to fall back,
And now 2022 is gone . . . tick tock, tick tock.

A brand new year . . .
We know 2023 will fly too
Faster than 2022,
I wonder why, don't you?

Our day-timers say the same thing too
Time races on . . . What are we to do?
No wait . . .
Embrace each moment come what may
And thank the Lord for each new day.

Who knows what the new year will bring?
Give praise and thanks to God in everything!

God does not lead me year by year,
Nor even day by DAY;
But step-by-step my path unfolds
My Lord directs my WAY.

Tomorrow's plans I do not know;
I only know this MINUTE
But He will say, This is the way,
By faith now walk ye IN IT.

And I am glad that it is so
Today's enough to BEAR;
And when tomorrow comes,
His grace shall far exceed its CARE.

What need to worry then, or fret?
The God who gave His SON
Holds all my moments in His hand
And gives them one-by-ONE.

(Author unknown)

Coloring for Jesus

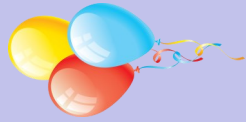


"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

II Corinthians 5:17 KJV

Happy New Year !!

Avalon Grace Church
of Naples, Florida



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!



NO BIRTHDAYS FOR JANUARY

COMING IN FEBRUARY 2023

5th 9:45 AM Sunday Breakfast



January 2023

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	9:45 Sunday Breakfast 10:30 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School	2	3	4	5	6	6
8	10:30 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	10:30 AM Sunday Worship The LORD'S Supper Observed 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School	16	17	18	19	20	21
							Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
22	10:30 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	10:30 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School	30	31				