

THEREFORE if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Welcome to each one who has joined us today! Let us unite in praising the Lord who makes all things new.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The second offering this morning is our monthly Building Repair offering.
- **March 7** - Friday - 6:00 PM - Parsonage basement - Family/Fun night .
- **March 9** - Passion Sunday
Daylight Saving Time Begins
- **March 14** - Zone Rally at Northville. PVBI students will be speaking.
- **March 16** - Palm Sunday (Communion Sunday). A ministerial student from PVI will be speaking in our services.
- **March 16-22** - Holy Week
- **March 21** - Good Friday
- **March 22** - 10 AM - Easter pageant practice, if needed. We are doing some practicing with the children during Sunday School.
- **March 23** - EASTER. A special self-denial offering for home missions will be received. Pray and plan now how much to give

Suggested Daily Scripture Reading

	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
OT	Leviticus 25:47-27:13	Leviticus 27:14-Numbers 1:54	Numbers 2:1-3:51	Numbers 4:1-5:31
NT	Mark 10:32-52	Mark 11:1-26	Mark 11:27-12:17	Mark 12:18-37
PSA	Psalms 45:1-17	Psalms 46:1-11	Psalms 47:1-9	Psalms 48:1-14
PROV	Proverbs 2	Proverbs 3	Proverbs 4	Proverbs 5
	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	
	Numbers 6:1-7:89	Numbers 8:1-9:23	Numbers 10:1-11:23	
	Mark 12:38-13:13	Mark 13:14-37	Mark 14:1-21	
	Psalms 49:1-20	Psalms 50:1-23	Psalms 51:1-19	
	Proverbs 6	Proverbs 7	Proverbs 8	

*SERVICES — SUNDAY: Sunday School 10:00 AM, Morning Worship 11:00 AM, Evening 7:00 PM
— WEDNESDAY: Midweek Service 7:00 PM — FRIDAY: Women's Meeting 10:00 AM*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Our sister church to pray for this week is **Pittsfield, Massachusetts**. The acting pastor is Stephen Smith.
- Continue to pray for **Charles Kimbrough**'s recovery from the beatings and attempted indoctrination into Islamism while in a Kuwaiti prison. Pray that he will be not be prevented from returning to the US.
- Ongoing Physical Needs - let's be faithful to pray for **Brian Edwards** (recovery from eye surgery), **Ryan Arilson** (home from the hospital), **Althea Cookfair**, **Becky Staggs**, **Sharon Major**, **Rowan Fay**, **Darrel Swearingen**, **Glenn Hockmeyer**, **Wayne McCollough**, **Mark Vosburgh**, **Kathy Moltzen**, **Mary Jane Fuller**.
- Continue to pray for:
 - The village of **Middleburgh**, that we will reach people with hungry hearts and have fruitful results in our ministry.
 - Our young people in college, including **Lyndsay France**, **Seth & Isaac Owens**, and **Keith Posson**. Pray for our students as they study, and also that they can be strong in their faith in the life lessons that come their way.
 - Our service personnel, especially **Ryan Mills** and **Jacob Eggleston** (in Iraq), **Anthony & Joyce Willey** (Italy), **Wesley Lum** (Germany), and **Eric Wells**.
 - *Our missionaries, especially **Bev Fay**, the **Wellses**, the **Shermans**, and the **Hunters**.*
 - Our country, and our President and government leaders, that they may make Godly choices.
- Please let us know of anyone who is ill, facing a time of hospitalization, or would like a home visit.

The land of beginning again

Louisa Fletcher Tarkington in the first stanza of her poem "The Land of Beginning Again" wrote:

I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all of our selfish grief
Could be dropped like a shabby old coat by the door
And never be put on again.

God gives us that as a real possibility. We can begin again with His help. In Revelation 21:5 Christ says: "I make everything new!"

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was "impossible to carry water in a basket," and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" the old man said. "Look at the basket."

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.

"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

That is the work of God in our lives—to change us from the inside out and slowly to transform us into the image of His Son. Take time to read a portion of God's word each day, and remind a friend by sharing this story.

Author Unknown