

Iotla Baptist Church
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Knowing God
Growing in
relationship to Him
Going into the world
in His name and with
his message
Showing others how
they can do the same.

PRAYER LIST

Church Members

Teresa Ammons
Hugh & Gaye Blaine
Barbara Duncan
Linda Evans
Kay Guy
Charlie Leatherman
Pauline Luke
Shirley Martin
Marcelle Shuler
Pat Smith
Crystal Stamey
Barbara Wilson
Janis Wilson

Family and Friends

Betty Halman
Margie Moss
June Sorrells
Cindy Stamey
Erin B.
Cade and Lanie

IOTLA

BAPTIST CHURCH

Here to Serve

JANUARY 1, 2022
VOLUME 5, ISSUE 7

CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE UPDATE

A special *Thank You* to each and every person who had a part in making our Christmas Committee celebration on Wednesday, December 15th, such a special event! Without the generous donations and time volunteered, we would not have been able to reach out and share the Love of Christ with so many! The Christmas Committee's compassionate hearts and love for our community shines through. The Christmas Committee and church were able to provide five families with food boxes, gift cards, clothing and toys for the children. Four of these families were provided a delicious Christmas dinner, a beautiful devotion by our Pastor Brandon, and the children were given the Christmas story and a time of crafts provided by Debbie Reeves and Michelle Dowdle. Merry Christmas and a Happy 2022 to ALL!

Tammy Dills

Christmas Committee Chairperson

JOY Group



Busy elves assembled Christmas stockings that were delivered to shut-ins. Each stocking contained a jar of beet pickles and other treats. We have a fondness for Evelyn's beet pickles. She will be restocking her shelves again soon. So, if you are one of her *regulars*, don't worry...more are coming your way!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School started on Sunday, January 2nd. The winter quarter is the study of Ezekiel and Daniel. You may pick up personal study guides in the office or your classroom.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

We prayed and our church goal of \$4,000 for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering has been reached. As of last Sunday, December 26th, we had collected \$4,310. Another job well done!

Youth

The youth have been meeting on Wednesdays and doing lots of fun things, including "wrapping up" the holidays by wrapping up Tony! We have a pretty consistent group of 6 youth that attend weekly. Each week we have been treating them to dinner which they have enjoyed. We would like to again thank Marcie Cochran at Ms. Lois' for providing us with one of our dinners.

As we begin 2022 we turn our thoughts to this prayer:



Happy New Year!

Iotla Baptist Youth

"I WORK OUT OF LOVE FOR
GOD AND I PUT ALL MY
HOPE IN HIM."

MICHELANGELO

Message from Pastor Brandon

As we come into this new year, there's a word that keeps coming to the forefront of my study in the Word of God. It's the word "remember". This is a command of the Lord for His people; that we should be a people who remember. Yesterday, as we worshiped corporately for the first time in the new year, this truth shined forth in our time together. Our choir sang a song entitled "We Will Remember." It's a beautiful prayer in song which voices our commitment to remember God's unfailing faithfulness to us. At the close of our service, we recognized the ordinance of the Lord's Supper together. This too, at its very core, is an act of obedience through remembrance. When Jesus observed the meal with His disciples for the final time before He gave His life on the cross, He told them, and us by extension, that each time they observed the Lord's Supper, they should do it "in remembrance" of Him (Lk. 22:14-20).

So, as we look back on a year gone by and forward to the year ahead, what are we called to remember? Let me suggest 3 things:

1. Remember His Faithfulness in the Past:

We see this call to remembrance all through the scriptures. Many times, after the Lord had delivered the Israelites out of bondage in Egypt, He instructed them to have times of remembrance as permanent statues for all their generations. God has been faithful in the past. It's one of the reasons we know He can be trusted with the present and the

future. Remember His faithfulness in the past.

2. Remember His Word in the Present:

We're not just called to read the Bible. We're called to remember what we've read in order to respond to what we've read. The Word of God is never just a point of information; it's a living and active word which brings forth transformative remembrance. How is God speaking to you through His Word each day? Can you recall that with clarity 5 minutes after you have read it? If not, make it a point to be intentional about remembering the Word of God in your daily life.

3. Remember His Promise for the Future:

When we remember the hope of heaven that is ours through Christ then we live in the light of eternity. When we forget that hope, even for a day, we will be living only in light of what is here and now. That can be dangerous because the situations and circumstances of the here and now will be ever-changing. On the flip side, the hope of heaven is never-changing. If we're not living with our feet firmly planted on earth and our hearts firmly sit on heaven, we'll never live now or later as God intends for us to live. That is why Jesus spent the time in John 14 to remind His disciples that He would return for them and take them to be with Himself so that they may forever be with Him where He is (in heaven). Remember His promise to all of those who are truly His children for the future.

As you learn from the past and look ahead to the future, don't forget to remember the Lord your God.

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

Begin 2022 by turning our thoughts to this prayer:

How can I use the New Year
To better serve my Lord?
I'll read my Bible every day.
And be more in accord.

I'll find new ways to serve others;
I'll love my neighbor, too.
I'll focus on "give" instead of "get"
In everything I do.

I'll forgive the people I'm mad at;
Angry feelings I'll discard;
I'll try to love my enemies,
Even though it's hard.

In the new year, I'll lift people up,
Instead of putting them down.
I'll fill my heart with love and joy,
And never wear a frown.

I'll let go of my worries;
I'll put it all in His hands;
I'll repent and try to sin less,
And obey all His commands.

These new year's resolutions
Are difficult at best,
But there's something I can do each day
That will put my soul at rest:

I'll love my Lord with all my heart,
With all my mind and soul,
And if I do that essential thing,
All the rest will be in control.

Inspirationalnewyearspoems.com

Let's Celebrate!

ANNIVERSARIES

◆ KENNY & ANNIE SEAY 1/06 ◆ DENISE TIPPETT 1/12

BIRTHDAYS

◆ CAYDEN ENGERT 1/01 ◆ EMMA LOVETT 1/15

◆ HEATHER STAMEY 1/03 ◆ WAYNE LYNCH 1/15

◆ BRIAN STAMEY 1.04 ◆ JOANIE JENKINS 1/19

◆ TINA CROMBERGER 1/06 ◆ KIM REITMEIER 1/19

◆ CHRISTOPHER DILLS 1/08 ◆ KELLI TIPPETT 1/20

◆ KIRSEY APEL HAYES 1/09 ◆ SUE SMITH 1/23

◆ LAUREN SHULER 1/10 ◆ GAVIN ROWLAND 1/31

◆ MARCELLE SHULER 1/10 ◆ SPENCER ROWLAND 1/31

◆ OLIVIA HEDDEN 1/12

December Activities

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

