

PASTOR'S CORNER



Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

GOD'S PLANS FOR YOU

This glorious promise from God has delighted and then disappointed many people. Both the delight and disappointment are rooted in one major misunderstanding of the promise. Too often this marvelous assurance is interpreted to mean God is committing to fulfill our plans and goals. We miss the critical reality that God is committing Himself to fulfill His plans for us. As a result, when God doesn't fulfill our plans, we accuse Him of being unfaithful and turn away in disappointment or disgust. But God is never unfaithful.

In fact, when we understand and embrace this promise, it far exceeds our faulty understanding. God's plan is always better than ours. It might be different from what we want and think is best for us, but we can rest as-

ured that anything we desire, pales in comparison to what God's has for us (But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" – 1 Corinthians 2:9, and Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen – Ephesians 3:20-21).

Also, our definition of "good" is often corrupted by earthly, short-sighted values. Our sin-stained value system generally elevates material chattel over spiritual blessings, and temporal highs over eternal rewards. God's idea of good is

our transformation into the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:28-29) which is the ultimate goal of a Christian's life. That is what brings true fulfillment in this life and in eternity.

We need to take God's amazing promise to heart by seeking and surrendering to His plan for our lives. Then we will discover that no matter our particular circumstance in life, God is pursuing and providing for our welfare, prosperity, and secured future.

May God help us to pursue His plans for us in this New Year.

God bless you!

Pastor James

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

JAN 7

Join us via Zoom video

Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP

FRI @ 6:45 PM

JAN 10

In-person at church.

For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd SUN @ 6 PM

JAN 19

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

JAN 12

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service

Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

JAN 12

In-person service and Livestreaming on Facebook, Youtube and our webpage.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The church's Annual General Meeting is Saturday, January 11 @ 4pm. Members, please attend this important meeting.
- No Men's Breakfast this Saturday because of the church's Annual General Meeting.
- We receive a Building Fund Offering every 4th Sunday. Be sure to put your contribution in the specially marked envelopes.
- Check out our Spiritual Growth Resource Library to find resources to help you in your Christian development. We add new resources from time to time.
- If you checked out any of the following titles from our Spiritual Resource Library, could you please return them to church or inform Jaime as soon as possible at jaime.dritt@yahoo.com: Habits of Grace, Killing Sin Habits, Resilient Faith, Resolving Everyday Conflicts, You Can Change.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:15pm at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Check out The Exchange on our webpage where you can list items you'd like to give away, and/or claim items which are listed.

WAYS TO GIVE

Traditionally during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website.

Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes.

Thank you!