

January
Jan 30-Feb 01 Men's Backpacking Trip

MEN'S BACKPAKING TRIP
Men, we are headed to Arkansas to the Buffalo National River wilderness. We will leave Thursday, January 30 and return Saturday, February 1. Please see Wes for trip details and to RSVP.

A NEW BEGINNING
As we begin a new year, we typically make resolutions and set goals to accomplish during the coming 12 months. They tell us that goal setting is important for us and help us maintain forward mobility in our lives. No one ever improves while sitting still. Christians should set spiritual goals for themselves in order to continue the journey of spiritual maturity which is, by the way, a journey of a lifetime.

Here are a few suggestions for our spiritual goals:

- 1. Daily Prayer and Bible Reading**
Pray without ceasing... (I Thessalonians 5:17)
Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. (I Timothy 4:13)
- 2. Continue to Develop the Fruits of the Spirit**
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- 3. Increase My Love, Benevolence and Care for Others**
But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. (Hebrews 13:16)
- 4. Improve My Attendance & Time Spent with the Church**
And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)
- 5. Increase My Involvement in Evangelism**
How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? (Romans 10:14)

Jay Launius – 2023
Maud church of Christ
Maud, Texas

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

January
Jan 05—Audra Hudspeth Jan 12—Linda Wartick
Jan 19—**Need Volunteer!** Jan 26—Darlene Cooney

February
Feb 02—Audra Hudspeth Feb 09—Linda Wartick
Feb 16—**Need Volunteer!** Feb 23—Darlene Cooney

FROM THE PREACHERS DESK
Imitation

It has been said that imitation is the highest form of flattery. It could also be said that the imitation of Jesus is the highest form of honoring Him.

In 1 Corinthians 11:1, the Apostle Paul writes to the church at Corinth, *Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.*

The author of Hebrews also says in Hebrews 13:7, *Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.*

Finally, the Apostle John writes in 3 John 1:11, *Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good.*

There's a lot of positive that can be said about being unique in terms of your personality, but there's also a lot of good to be said about being a good imitator.

In our first text, the Apostle Paul encourages us to be like him, not in the ways he struggles, but in the ways that he demonstrates Christ's love to the world. And as we continue to study through the Book of Acts, we'll continue to see more and more ways that Paul lived selflessly and heartily as a demonstration of his love for Jesus and His church.

Again, the author of Hebrews admonishes us to remember Christian leaders – how they led, how they spoke, and how they conducted their lives in general. We're told to remember those things and then imitate the WHY behind them, the faith by which they lived.

The Apostle John begins with the negative by telling us what NOT to imitate, the evil we see in the world around us, but to instead imitate what is good.

It has been my experience and observance that we imitate those whom we most admire. So, if I or you were observed, to whom would be compared? Who do you admire and who do you imitate?

May God help us to be called imitators or Christ.

Much love to you all!

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com

FAMILY NEWS
Dianne Jeans—friend of Lana Coffin, is ill and is in need of our prayers. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Prayer List: Dianne Jeans, Jim DeJarnett, Wynetta Weston, Joshua Lewis, Larry Helton, Mary Ellen Garver, Marilyn Bartlow, Patsy Pierce, Gary Bodine, Bob & Beth Brownlee, Richard Wartick, Kylie Lock

CHILDREN'S CORNER
Our Theme for Children's & Teens Bible Classes for January is "God Instructs His People." Here is a peek at this month's lessons, the Big Picture Question and Bible Verse.

- Jan 05—The Ten Commandments (Exodus 19-20; 31)
- Jan 12—The Golden Calf (Exodus 32; 34)
- Jan 19—Building the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-40)
- Jan 26—Worship at the Tabernacle (Leviticus 16; 19; 26)

Big Picture Question:
Q: Why do we need to be saved?
A: People are sinful and cannot save themselves.
"There is none holy like the Lord."—I Samuel 2:2

BLESSING BOX MINISTRY
Church family, thank you for your continued support of our Blessing Box Ministry! Our storage shelves are running very low—especially in this colder weather we want to keep our box filled. Please help us refill our storage shelves as we continue to serve our community in Jesus' name! Thanks in advance!

Priority Needs!!!
Non-Perishable Food Items:
Canned goods w/flip top lids/can openers
Boxed Meal/food that only needs water to cook it
Granola Bars/Fruit Cups or other on-the-go snack items that can be divided up easily
Wrapped Plasticware/Sandwich Baggies

Hygiene Items:	Seasonal Warm Items:
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste	Gloves
Shampoo/Conditioner	Stocking Caps
Body Wash/Body Lotion	Gloves
Deodorant	Scarves
Lip Balm/Facial Tissue	Handwarmers

*You can also put together individual "kits" in quart or gallon sized baggies with "travel size" basic toiletries or snack bags that are ready for visitors to grab-and-go.

*Our storage shelves are housed in the nursery/study in the west hallway. If you ever see the box empty when you come to church, you're welcome to stop in and grab a few items to restock it!

