



Pastor..... Tommy Larson
 Minister of Ed. & Admin Raleigh Baggett
 Minister of Family Life Phillip Reinke
 Minister of Music..... Tim Mulkey

Financial Secretary & Office Manager Mary Pennington
 Church Secretary & Receptionist Brenda Ashe
 Pianist Faye Baggett
 Keyboardist..... Pat Tripp
 Custodian..... Don Canterbury

A NOTE OF



I would like to thank my church family for the prayers and calls after my hip surgery, and a special "thank you" to the Raleigh Baggett Life Group for the daily meals you provided for me. They were such a great help. You all have been a true blessing to me.

Joy Wyatt

We would like to thank Rachel Emberton and Girl Scout Troop #332 for the food drive they had on behalf of the Jackson Memorial Food Pantry and Christmas baskets. With what you collected, we were able to serve 23 families with a total of 111 people.

To God Be The Glory!

Thank you to the Personnel Committee and the Church for remembering us this year with Christmas bonuses. Thanks also for the cards sent and gifts brought to the office. We appreciate the love and support of our church family throughout the year.

Tommy, Raleigh, Phillip, Tim
 Mary, Brenda & Don

'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, and a good time was had by all! What a joyous celebration with so many from our church family! Thanks to our children for sharing in music, to our youth for their creative drama and to Renie Gump, Rodney Ashe, Ray Hollowell, Dawn Mulkey and Andrea Cofield, who represented their life groups in "A Moment of Fun!" A big bow to Dee Elliott, Dani Park and Lynn Young for their "crafty ideas" and to our resident Mother Goose, Sandra Barkley, for the reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas (A Visit from Christ). Thanks again for your generous and loving support.

The Family Ministry Team

JACKSON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
 4316 Bruce Road, Chesapeake, VA 23321

Non-Profit Organization
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Sunday Services

9:00 a.m. Life Groups
 (Bible Study)
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 11:00 a.m. Kids Worship

2018: ABIDE (CONTINUED)

In my mind, 2018 should be the year of "Abide" for JMBC, a year when we refocus on our love for the Lord Jesus. If we do so, we will be a fruitful and effective church, a church that is marked by love for each other and a zeal to reach others. I am looking forward to a year of spiritual fruit in our fellowship, fruit that grows through our love for the Lord Jesus.

Abide with Jesus in 2018.

Pastor Tommy

2018: Abide

Wow! I often have heard it said, "Time flies," and the older I get the more I agree with the statement. It seems like a few short weeks ago we were welcoming 2017 to our calendar. With the new year comes an opportunity to evaluate the past and prepare for the future. An honest appraisal of our habits, actions and prior responses to situations can reveal areas where we have fallen short and need improvement, and it can help us strive to reach our potential.

Philosopher and writer George Santayana is credited with the famous phrase, "those who cannot remember the past are destined to repeat it." In reality, this idea is biblical; many times in Scripture God told his people to remember or commemorate various events, commands, or others who had gone before them. He wanted them to recall His faithfulness in order to bolster their faith. Paul does something similar in 1 Corinthians 10 where he uses the unfaithfulness and disobedience of the Israelites as both a warning and instruction for the church. Evaluating and remembering the past is not a bad thing, and it has biblical warrant.

Alan Lakein is credited with the pithy statement, "Failing to plan is planning to fail." Again, this statement has merit too, as long as it is filtered through Scripture. Consider the following: Noah's Ark, the Exodus from Egypt, Nehemiah's wall, the battle at Jericho, and the building of the tabernacle and temple all were preceded by planning. The evangelistic efforts of Jesus' disciples as they were sent out by the Lord, and the missionary efforts of the Apostles were met with planning. Planning is important and helps ensure that the Lord's resources and "talents" are put to most effective use. That stated, the Bible reminds us that God has authority over our plans (see Proverbs 19:21), but make no mistake, planning is important. "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." (Proverbs 16:3)

What's the point? Remembering and planning have biblical merit and can be healthy and important for our faith, and I have used the past few weeks to do some evaluating of my own. So, with that in mind, I have a challenge for each of us as individuals and corporately as a local assembly of believers.

Here is the challenge for us as individuals and as a church: "Consider how far you have fallen!...Do the works you did at first." This command comes from the Lord Jesus and is found in Revelation 2:5. The context of the verse is a letter written by the Lord to the church in Ephesus. It was a church that had endured and had served and worked for the faith. It was a church that was doctrinally sound. But they had abandoned their first love. As their love waned, their focus in ministry was lost as well. The Lord commanded them to "do the works you did at first." Perhaps they had begun to serve Jesus out of mere habit; perhaps they had grown impatient with one another. After all, the first mark of Jesus' followers is their love for one another (John 13:35). Had they lost a zeal for evangelism and leading others to Jesus? Most likely, all of these were part of the issue.

Here is my challenge for you and for our church: embrace and rekindle that first love for the Lord Jesus, which will lead to a renewed love for each other and for the lost. This means that a passion for the Lord Jesus is the impetus behind everything we do; our serving and ministry in the church is a function of love. Meeting the needs of others is a function of love. As a church that is preoccupied at times with processes, rules and by-laws, and possessive about resources, we continually need to be overwhelmed by and overflowing with love for the Lord Jesus. Then, and only then, will we have a proper love for each other and concern for the lost.

How do we rekindle and stoke the fires of love for the Lord? We do this by abiding with Him (John 15:5). My challenge for you is to begin to abide more intimately and faithfully with Christ. Spend time with the Lord. Take time to talk to Him and listen to His Spirit's leading. Take time to read His Word, His story. Get to know Him.

(CONTINUED TO THE LEFT)

Did You Know? Occasionally, Jackson Christian Preschool has a situation where a child's parent/guardian needs assistance paying their tuition. Jackson Christian Preschool has begun a scholarship program that would sponsor a three/four year old child. The number of students sponsored will be based on donations received and the needs of the individual child/family. Donations may be made by indicating on your check "Jackson Christian Preschool Scholarship" or online at the church's website page for giving. This anonymous gift will be given to a three/four year old child who qualifies after giving much prayer, individual consideration and review for enrollment. For any questions, please see Raleigh Baggett, Linda Canterbury, or any member of the JMBC Preschool Committee: Linda Massengill (Chairman), Paula Lufsey, Reta Byrum, Frances Edwards, Jan Watson

Thank you. Be a blessing to someone today!



JMBC Goal is \$14,000 Received to Date: \$11,018.02

FAMILY, FRIENDS & FAITH



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: Fellowship Hall, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm, led by Pastor Tommy
The Armor of God - "Be Strong in the Lord," from Ephesians 6:10-20

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS - Sign up with Betsy Gardner on Sunday mornings or call the church office (484-5568) **no later than noon** on Tuesdays. Cost is \$6.00 for adults, free for children 8 and younger. Menu is subject to change. Please check weekly bulletins.



Menu: Jan 10: BBQ Chicken, Green Beans, Smashed Potatoes, Roll, Dessert
Jan 17: Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert
Jan 24: Baked Cod Fish, Rice Pilaf, Broccoli, Roll, Dessert
Jan 31: Bean Soup, Cole Slaw, Apple Sauce, Cornbread, Dessert

JANUARY OPEN and LOCK-UP TEAM: Steve Rosso and Bill Yarbrough

NEW MEMBERS: Freeman and Bonnie Ward



PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR – Mary Terwilliger has been hired as our new Preschool Director. She will be working closely with our Minister of Family Life, Phillip Reinke. Mary has worked with our children for many years, and it is the desire of her heart to share Jesus with them. Be sure to give her your support as you welcome her back!



A WORD FROM MARY TERWILLIGER – With the Lord leading Phillip and Lauren to seminary to follow his call to the pastoral ministry, I have been hired as Preschool Director as of December 20, 2017. I look forward to serving in this capacity, and I will be working to set up a team to come along side me to answer His command to teach the most precious little ones in our care so the next generation will know His ways and place their trust in Him.

NEW LIFE GROUP CLASS – A new Life Group class for college students has been formed and will meet each week at **9:00 am** in **Room 203**, taught by Lee and Andrea Cofield.

WALK FOR LIFE – for the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater is **Saturday, Jan 20** from **8:30 am – 10:00 am** at Chesapeake Square Mall. Come and walk those extra steps to support a local ministry that shares the gospel with young women in crisis. Ask your family, friends, neighbors, church members and businesses to pledge for you or someone else to walk at the mall.



SOUPER SUPPER – All women are invited to join the Women's Ministry's "Souper Supper" on **Saturday, Jan 20** at **5:00 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Please bring soup, salad or dessert. Our speaker will be Dolly Mink.



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE - Led by Pastor David Bounds, *First Comes Love* is a marriage conference designed to help any couple desiring a more intimate relationship and improved communication within their marriage. Learn to identify the goal of your marriage, and be challenged with practical ways to reach this goal, while deepening your relationship with your spouse and with Christ. The dates are **Friday, Feb 9** from **6:00 pm – 8:30 pm** and **Saturday, Feb 10** from **8:00 am – 2:00 pm**. Dinner on Friday night, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday are provided. **Registration deadline is February 1, 2018. Cost is \$25.00 per couple** (books included). Childcare will be provided. Contact the church office at 484-5568 or by email at office@jacksonmemorial.org to register, or for more information.



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE – Make plans now to attend the Women's Conference on **March 16 – 17** at **River Oak Church**, Chesapeake. The speaker will be Kelly Minter. Friday night from **7:00 pm – 9:00 pm** will be a worship and teaching session. Saturday morning from **8:30 am – 12:30 pm** will be worship and two teaching sessions. A light breakfast will be provided. Ticket price is **\$35 per person**.



2018 Ignite Men's Impact Weekend – March 16 – 17, 2018

Presented at Liberty University, this will be a great time for our men. Speakers include Dr. David Jeremiah and Kirk Cousins. Workshops on Saturday include Hunting, Fishing, MMA and more. The cost is \$120 per person plus the cost of meals. Contact Wayne Johnson or Pete Peterson to sign up or for more information.



Calendar for January REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAYS	9:30 am Nifty Knitters (Room 110) 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall/Overflow Rm)
TUESDAYS	10:00 am Staff Meeting (Conference Room B)
WEDNESDAYS	10:00 am Ladies Bible Study (Room A14) 5:15 pm Church Dinner (Fellowship Hall) 5:45 pm Handbells (Music Hall) 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) Mission Friends (Preschool Hall) Children in Action (Room 222) Youth Bible Study (Youth Wing) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
THURSDAYS	7:30 pm Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall/Overflow Rm)
SUNDAYS	9:00 am Life Groups (Bible Study) 10:30 am Worship 11:00 am Kids Worship 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

MEETINGS / SPECIAL EVENTS

1 MON	NEW YEAR'S DAY Church Office Closed
4 THURS	6:00 am Feeding the homeless (OASIS) 10:30 am Carol Knight Group Mtg (Overflow Rm)
7 SUN	2:30 pm Senior Ministry at Emily Green Shores
8 MON	6:30 pm Personnel Committee Meeting (Conf Rm A)
9 TUES	7:00 pm Deacons Meeting (Rm 102)
11 THURS	9:00 am Backpack Delivery to Southwestern Elem 10:00 am Ministry Leaders Meeting (Conf Rm B)
15 MON	7:00 pm Barbara Deal Group Meeting
20 SAT	5:00 pm Women's Ministry Souper Supper (FH)
22 MON	6:30 pm Budget Committee Meeting (Conf Rm B)
23 TUES	6:30 pm Church Council Meeting (Choir Room) Backpack Ministry Packing (FH)
25 THURS	9:00 am Backpack Delivery to Southwestern Elem
28 SUN	6:00 pm Quarterly Business Meeting (Sanctuary)

WEEKS IN REVIEW

	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31
LIFE GROUPS (Sunday Bible Study)					
Enrollment	344	344	343	343	343
Attendance	184	178	154	145	139
Visitor	4	7	9	5	16
New Enrollment	0	0	0	0	0
Total Attendance	188	185	163	150	155
WORSHIP					
Morning Service	222	217	225	252	190

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

BUDGET					
Required Per Week	11,630.75	11,630.75	11,630.75	11,630.75	11,630.75
Received	12,881.12	9,407.00	6,555.00	8,142.41	6,246.06
Mid-Week Received	250.00	1,810.01	615.00		4,935.00
Online Received	564.00	2,462.00	424.00	1,018.00	1,184.00
Required to Date	569,906.75	581,537.50	593,168.25	604,799.00	604,799.00
Received to Date	521,212.60	534,891.61	542,860.61	552,021.02	563,721.08
BUILDING FUND					
Phase 2 (New Sanctuary)	100.00			100.00	
MISSIONS					
East Asia	25.00	50.00			
Lottie Moon	330.00	2382.52	3,020.00	2,060.50	1,075.00
OTHER					
Backpack			10.00		200.00
Benevolent	15.00	15.00	20.00		\$190.00
Deacon Fund	30.00	40.00			

DECEMBER BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS: \$55,389.60

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES – Have been postponed until **Feb 7** (tentatively) due to Dr. Caplan's upcoming surgery.

First series:

Women in the line of the Messiah
Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Mary
The grace of God even in sordid and tragic circumstances

Second series:

Understanding End Times
Interpreting Bible Prophecy: The Abrahamic,
The Palestinian, The Davidic and New Covenants