

**WORSHIP TIMES**

Sunday School 8:45AM

Sunday Morning Worship 10AM

Sunday Evening 6PM

Wednesday Prayer Meeting and DU Classes 6PM

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**LRBC JANUARY NEWSLETTER**

**Issue 1 Volume 2018**

**Living Urgently**

“Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” Mark 2:14-15

Do you live with a sense of urgency? This is not a question that many of us probably ask ourselves on a regular basis, but the truth is Jesus encourages us to live our lives with a sense of urgency – not the kind of urgency that fills our schedules and causes us to be too busy for even Him. The urgency that Christ wants us to live with is the kind that glorifies Him – sharing the Gospel and bringing others to Him. The book of Mark is all about living urgently. Open to the first chapter of Mark, and you will see the words “immediately” or “straightway” close to ten times in the first chapter alone. When most of these urgent words are mentioned in chapter 1, Jesus is either calling someone to follow Him as He did the disciples (verses 16-20), ministering to someone in need as He did the man with the unclean spirit (verses 23-26), or teaching the words of God to the people as He did in the synagogue (verses 21-22). According to Mark, everything Jesus did, He did with urgency to see people follow and trust in Him. That was his main objective and agenda, and it should be our main purpose for living. I get it: life is crazy, and busy, and can sometimes seem a little out of control, but we should have the same outlook and attitude that Jesus did. We are starting a new year, and there is no better time to readjust our priorities and make living urgently more of an emphasis in our lives. Jesus did things with a sense of urgency, and we would be wise to do the same. People are dying and going to hell every. single. day. We have the answer to their problems; we know where the key to eternal life is; we possess the knowledge of a good, good Father and an everlasting love. When we think about it this way, how can we not want to live urgently? How can we not share Jesus with people who need Him? Let’s take advantage of the time we have now, the life we have left, to live urgently for Christ. We never know when our life, when others’ lives, will end, and living urgently to reach others for Him is what Jesus would have us do. Let’s start 2018 with a urgent attitude and a heart that breaks for lost people. Living life to the fullest for a Christian means living life with urgency to tell people about the best thing that has ever happened to the world: Jesus Christ.

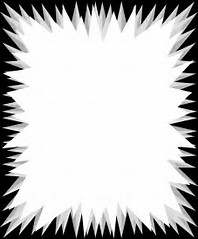
--Kalyn Lewis



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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  | **1**  **Happy New Year**  **OFFICE CLOSED**  Prison Ministry | **2**  9AM Prayer Group | **3**  6PM Prayer Mtg. & DU Classes  7PM  Deacon Meeting | **4**  Prison Ministry | **5** | **6** |
| **7**  Dr. Petite-Piedmont University  AM Service | **8**  Prison Ministry | **9** 9AM Prayer Group | **10** 6PM Prayer Mtg. & DU Classes  7PM  Council Meeting | **11** 11:30AM  SAM’s Luncheon  7PM  Bread of Life  Prison Ministry | **12**  6PM-9PM  Teacher Training Seminar | **13** 8AM-12PM |
| **14**    2PMNursing Home Ministry | **15**  Prison Ministry | **16** 9AM Prayer Group | **17**  6PM Prayer Mtg. & DU Classes | **18**  Prison Ministry | **19**  6PM  SAM's Fellowship | **20** 8AM  Men’s Breakfast |
| **21**  **Sanctity of Life**  **Sunday** | **22**  Prison Ministry | **23**  9AM Prayer Group | **24**  6PM Prayer Mtg. & DU Classes  7PM  Stewardship Mtg. | **25**  Prison Ministry | **26**  Prison Ministry | **27** |
| **28**  Business Meeting  Communion | **29**  Prison Ministry | **30** 9AM Prayer Group | **31**  6PM Prayer Mtg. & DU Classes |  |  |  |

**SPOTLIGHT**

Sing unto him a new song; Play skillfully with a loud noise. Psalms 33:3 instructs the people of God to sing a new song to Him. As we, the people of God at Lantana Road Baptist Church, enter a new year, I for one intend to give ALL my songs to the Lord. He alone is worthy of any and every song I sing.  
This one little verse offers much in the way of instruction for our cooperate worship. First the audience is identified, we sing to Him alone. When we gather for worship everything and everyone must be about Him and for Him. The sole desire of the worshippers should be to exalt Him and please Him alone. Secondly, the way of worship is prescribed. We are to sing a new song. Now, this does not mean that we only sing the latest, greatest tunes. On the contrary, the new song is the song given to every child of God when new life is born in them. The new song is the outward expression of the inward joy found in Christ alone. Regardless of the style or age of the songs we sing, the newness comes from within, not from satisfying our listening pleasure, but satisfying Him with hearts expressing awe and gratitude to the God of the ages. Thirdly, the method for worship is given, we are to play skillfully. This requires preparation and preparation means work. We must never offer God less than our best. This charge is given to the musicians, we must strive to do the hard work of preparation and never perform. We are worship leaders and must take this responsibility seriously. Lastly the volume for the worship is indicated. The worship is to be loud. Now, let us be careful here. When the Bible instructs us to worship loudly it is referring to what I believe to be whole hearted worship. We need to give worship our best energy, and not be worried about pleasing anyone but the audience of One. We must always operate in a responsible manner, and we have and will continue to utilize the sound equipment God has blessed us with in this manner, but each worshiper needs to give full, free, and whole hearted worship to their King.  
I am so looking forward to worshipping with my church family in the coming year as God allows.  
In His Service,   
Bro. Michael Shinn

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**SAM's GROUP**

**FELLOWSHIP-CHILI COOK-OFF**

January 19th at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone 50 and over are invited to partake in the chili cook-off.

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**TEACHING TRAINING SEMINAR**

All current, future or former teachers are encouraged to participate on Friday,

January 12th from 6PM-9PM and

Saturday, January 13th from 8AM-12PM

for a teaching seminar in the

fellowship hall.

Please sign up in the foyer

**#CREW Corner**

**“But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray.” – Luke 5:16**

As I sit at camp Ozone, with a group of 10 students playing The Animal Game (I just heard someone shout, “I’m the mosquito!”) I am reminded of a passage of scripture that seems relevant to the moment. Our Lord, while on earth *needed* to get alone to pray. Watching these students fellowship and praise together each year during our Winter Retreat helps me to remember the value of just getting away for a moment. Being removed from the normal hustle of life and getting to spend time with The Lord and with other believers for a few days of focused fellowship does a restorative work in many of their hearts (and mine too).

Not only can we learn the value of slipping away from this passage, we can also learn something about the frequency of Jesus’ habit. The Scripture says that he “would often slip away.” Life is incredibly busy for these students. Between school, sports, and relationships; their time is monopolized by the many good things that they are committed to. Slipping away seems to be one of those things that we can always put on the back burner or see as less valuable. Jesus told His disciples, “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master” (Mat 10.24-25). If our Lord needed to slip away often, we would be arrogant to deny the reality that often getaways for time of focused study, prayer, and fellowship among believers is good medicine for the soul. I am thankful for the laughter I’m hearing as I type these closing words! And now, I must go be an Elephant.

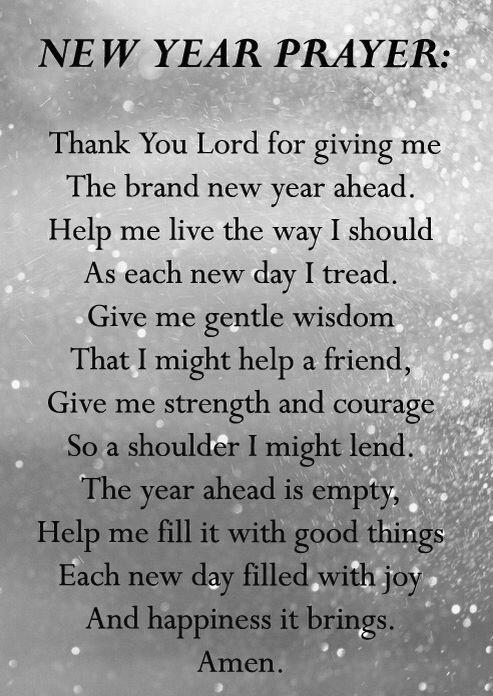
Blessings

Bro. Adam

**HAPPENINGS EACH MONTH**

**MEN’S BREAKFAST**Saturday, January 20th all men and youth boys are invited to have breakfast together in the fellowship hall at 8AM. If you would like to help cook be here at 5:30AM.

**SAM’S GROUP LUNCHEON**  
Everyone 50+ is invited to SAM’s luncheon Thursday, January 11th at 11:30 A.M.   
Bring a dish to share.

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