



Pastor's Paragraph —————











Prayer Warriors Needed


The Spirit of God is moving. God is in the process of raising up prayer warriors. That is our new focus for 2019. God is actively working, but God seldom does anything big without the fervent prayer of His saints. That is the Biblical principle and the historic record. When I study the powerful prayers in the Bible, I am amazed at how brief they are! Do you remember the story of the prophet Elijah on top of Mount Carmel? After the priests of Baal embarrassed themselves all day long pleading with their impotent god, Elijah called out to the Almighty Jehovah. He prayed 63 words. I read it out loud in less than 20 seconds. After that mini-prayer, the fire of God fell from heaven consuming the sacrifice, the water, and the stone itself! The greatest miracle that Jesus did in the New Testament was the resurrection of Lazarus. Jesus stood by the grave where Lazarus's body had been decomposing for four days. He prayed a simple prayer of 37 words. It took me about 10 seconds to read it out loud. That 10-second prayer unleashed the power of God, breathing new life into a rotting corpse. Theologically speaking, Jesus didn't even have to pray at all. As the Son of God, He is omnipotent, able to raise the dead on His own. But He was giving us an example. The apostles followed His example! In Acts 4, Peter and John had been arrested and threatened not to preach about Jesus any more. When they were released, they had a prayer meeting. Their prayer was a little bit longer. It took me 45 seconds to read it out loud. At the end of their prayer meeting, "the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness." (Acts 4:31)

There is a reason that these prayers were brief. Elijah had been walking and talking with God for a long time! Elijah was a man of fervent prayer. No doubt, he had been praying all day while he watched the prophets of Baal make fools of themselves! Elijah's 20-second prayer was just the visible tip of the iceberg. Under the surface, He had a life-long foundation of prayer. Of course, the same is true of Jesus. The Son of God has eternally existed in perfect unity with the Father. So, His 10-second prayer by the graveside of His friend was just for the people standing by. In fact, that is exactly what He said in His prayer! "Because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent me." (John 11:42-43) The disciples in Acts 4 had walked and talked with Jesus for three years! At the time of their persecution, they did not need a lengthy prayer meeting. They needed God's power to preach!

The biggest miracle in the Old Testament was the exodus of Israel from Egypt. When they arrived at the Red Sea, there was no prayer. Rather, God said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward" (Exodus 14:15). Ever since he had seen the burning bush, Moses had been constantly talking to God as though they were face-to-face. When it came time to cross the Red Sea, they didn't need another prayer meeting. They just needed to follow God's power. Prayer meeting is where the prayer warriors prepare themselves to encounter God's power. So, when God moves, all we need is a brief prayer, "I'm ready, Lord. Let it happen, and let it happen now!" ~Pastor

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 HAPPY NEW YEAR		1	 2 No AWANA	3 Pastor Returns from Vacation	4	 5 Trustees' Meeting 8 AM/ Take down Décor— 9:30 AM
6 Communion AM	7	8 Deacons' Meeting 7PM	9 AWANA GIANT Night 6:30-8 PM	10 	11	12
13 	14	15	16 AWANA 6:30-8 PM	17	18	19
20 Business Meeting/ Soup Supper 6 PM 	21	22	23 AWANA 6:30-8 PM 	24	25 	26 Winter Games!
27	28	29	30 AWANA 6:30-8 PM 	31 		


Save the Date!!
Teen Winter Games is Saturday, January 26th!!

Annual Business Meeting Soup Supper

The Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 20th, beginning at 6:00 PM



AWANA GIANT Night

AWANA resumes this year with GIANT Night on Wednesday, January 9th! Let's go BIG!!



Changes/Updates for 2019

We will be putting together a new General Information Booklet for the new year. If you have any address changes, new numbers, corrections, etc . . Please write them down and place them in the offering plate or on Susan's desk. There are 'update' cards hanging in the plastic folder in the back of the church.

Church Decorations

We will be taking down the Christmas décor on Saturday, January 5th, at 9:30 a.m. Many hands will make light work!

November Finances

Balance Forward 11/1/2018

Deacon's Fund	\$351.04
Designated Fund*	\$1,990.71
General Fund*	\$27,473.10
Checking Account*	\$29,814.85

November Income	\$7,222.94
November Expenses	\$13,186.44
Net Decrease	(\$5,963.50)

Balance 11/30/2018

Deacon's Fund	\$351.04
Designated Fund	\$1,895.71
General Fund	\$21,604.60
Checking Account	\$23,851.35

**Corrected Amount*