

Pastor's Paragraph

Fallen Heroes-

We definitely remember and admire fallen heroes. We have nothing but profound gratitude for soldiers who go off to battle and pay the ultimate price in defense of our nation. We honor police officers who are killed in the line of duty. We extol the brave firefighters who rush into a burning building and do not return. These are truly fallen heroes. But, that is not the kind of hero that I am writing about today. The Bible has a lot of stories about a different kind of fallen hero. The Bible gives us many accounts of brave and godly men of faith who obeyed God in spite of overwhelming circumstances. Yet, the Bible gives us the entire truth. It does not hide reality. The same men of integrity and faith also turn out to be fallen sinners. Yes, they are heroes of the faith, but they are fallen heroes, stained by sinful choices.

Noah is one example. He is described as a "just man, perfect in his generations" who "walked with God." (Genesis 6:9) The Bible informs us that Noah "found grace in the eyes of the Lord." (Genesis 6:8) Noah believed God and faithfully obeyed God for over 100 years against all odds. His obedience saved his family, and really saved all of humanity from extinction! Yet, after all of His faithful obedience, Noah sinned against God and failed his family. The Biblical narrative informs us that Noah became a farmer, planted a vineyard, drank the wine, became drunk, and then became uncovered in his tent. (Genesis 9:20-21) It starts out pretty innocently. Being a farmer is a wonderful God-given profession. Planting a vineyard is honorable work. But, what starts off innocently, quickly descends into drunkenness and nakedness. Reading between the lines, it appears that Noah neglected his family when they needed him the most. Instead of rising to the occasion and being a father and grandfather to his family, he retreated into his work and drowned out his conscience with wine. This hero of the faith fell hard!

I wish all of the heroes in the Bible had perfect records of obedience to God. I wish our leaders today were men and women of unquestioned honesty and integrity. Alas, it has never been so. Even the greatest examples had moments of failure. It is a constant reminder to all of us. Do not put your faith and trust in any man or woman. Keep your focus upon our Savior. Jesus is the only Hero who will not disappoint you. He is a fallen hero because He died for your sin. He is an unfallen hero because He remains forever sinless, our pure and holy Savior! ~Pastor

February 2020

Mod

Sun	Mon	Tue	wea	1	nu	FFI	Sat
loved JOHN 3.16							1 Trustees' Meeting 8 AM
2 Communion SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Prayer 6 PM Teens 6 PM	3 Prayer 7 PM Pastor's Day-off	4 Deacons' Meeting 7 PM	5 AWANA 6:30-8 PM	6		7 HSSH 4:30-7 PM [Ambassador]	8
9 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Prayer 6 PM Teens 6 PM	10 Prayer 7 PM Pastor's Day-off	11	AWANA 6:30-8 PM [Prestige]	13		14 HSSH 4:30-7 PM ODay [Ambassador]	15
16 (Junior Taylor) SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Prayer 6 PM Teens 6 PM	17 Prayer 7 PM	18	AWANA 6:30-8 PM	20		21 HSSH 4:30-7 PM [Ambassador]	22
23 SS 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Prayer 6 PM Teens 6 PM	24 Prayer 7 PM Pastor's Day-off	25	26 AWANA 6:30-8 PM Store Night! [Prestige]	27		28 HSSH [Ambassador] December Fir	



Wednesday, February 19th

AWANA Store Night- Wednesday, February 26th!

Hungry Soul Soup House- serves soup every Friday night in the Fellowship Center from 4:30-7 PM!

Prayer on Mondays- from 7-7:30 pm in the side foyer.

Missionary Junior Taylor and his wife will be presenting their ministry on Sunday, February 16th.

Valentine Care **Packages**

We have 4 college students (3 girls/1 guy) this year! We would like to encourage them with some fun treats and goodies! Please place your items on the table provided in the side foyer by Sunday, February 9th. Thank You! {Vicki Kraeger and Lauren Meyer will be putting the packages together.}



Fri

Balance Forward 12/1/2019						
Deacon's Fund	\$709.04					
Designated Fund	\$4,101.42					
General Fund	\$32,895.48					
Checking Account	\$37,705.94					
December Income	\$11,227.87					
December Expenses	\$10,546.96					
Net Increase	\$680.91					
Year-to-date Income	\$182,911.68					
Year-to-date Expense	\$169,925.17					
Net Increase	\$12,986.51					
Balance 12/31/2019						
Deacon's Fund	\$476.46					
Designated Fund	\$4,764.74					
General Fund	\$33,145.65					
Checking Account	\$38,386.85					