

Pressing Onward

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" Philippians 3:14

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North Hixson Church of Christ

5484 Old Hixson Pike
Hixson, TN 37343

423-841-5526
www.northhixson.org

Services:

Sunday Bible Study: 9:00 am

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00pm

Our Elders:

Bill Holt - 423-875-8421

Tom LeQuire - 423-847-7032

Stan Ruffin - 423-847-0221

Our Evangelists:

Bill Walton - 423-842-0460

Jordan Shouse - 812-946-1520

The Upward call of God

There is a common goal we share as Christians. It is a goal so wondrous, so amazing, it truly is beyond our description. It is the living hope of eternal life in Heaven, to be with our Lord and King forever. What can compare? What treasure, what fame, what pleasure, what in this existence could come close to the riches to be received for the faithful in Christ? That's the point. There's none! The goal we share of reaching heaven one day becomes the motivation for how we live now. It is the upward call of God. Those who wish to receive the blessings and rewards of God must follow Him. They must obey Him, serve Him, love Him, give their lives to Him. This is why Paul stated to the brethren in Philippi that he was pressing on. He, an Apostle, a teacher, a faithful servant of God; through all these godly credentials, Paul recognized there's more work to be done, there's still a life to be lived. That's you and I. The waters of baptism are just the beginning. There's good fruit to bear. There's a Bible to read, study, and teach. There's a world to bring to Jesus. We have work to do. To reach the goal of heaven we can't quit early. We can't be distracted by the appealing sensations of the world. We can't become discouraged or disheartened by pains to the point that we give up. We press on. Through difficult times, we press on. Through temptations and trials, we press on. Though we may grow weary and tired, though we may have years to live, a long road ahead of us, we will always continue to press on towards our goal of eternal life with our Savior. How about you? Are you ready to keep moving forward? Are you daily committed to taking one step closer to our home? May we like Paul continue to press on!

Family Connection

- Make sure you grab the bulletin and note cards each week
- Jordan and Holly Shouse's Address:
1406 August Dr.
Hixson, TN 37343
- Check the website for articles, sermons, and other helpful things www.northhixson.org

For our *Prayers*

Those suffering with sicknesses:

Bill Miller, Fred Hanson, Louise and Les Stitt, Bill and Jody Walton, Leah Foy, David Croom, Peggy Hale, Melinda Lowery, Lauren Thompson, Arthur Moody, James Richardson,

Remember those away at college:

Jacob LeQuire, Sarah Richardson, Will Stoll, Jennifer and Julie Holt

A New Year, A New You!



As this new year rolls around, it brings about a whole assortment of changes. We'll have changes in leaders, in families, in jobs, in tastes; and on and on we could go. What often accompanies the new year is the resolutions. It wouldn't be New Year's without the resolutions. Some plan on getting on a diet plan. Others on an exercise routine. Some make promises to be wiser with finances and to save more money. At times we laugh and joke about these decisions we make, but the principle behind them holds great spiritual application for us.

As 2012 begins, why don't we resolve to renew ourselves? Paul would state for us as brethren to renew our minds (Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:23). He exhorted the brethren to lay aside the old self, and to put on the new (Eph 4:23-24; Colossians 3:9-11). This is a new year, and while most use this beginning to get a jump start on their goals, why don't we use this opportunity to get a fresh start with the Lord? Not happy with your prayer life? Make a resolution to deepen and strengthen your prayers? Not satisfied with your reading? Set a reachable reading schedule and keep to it. Feel like you're at odds with God, that you've drifted so far away for so long that the link between you and the Lord has been broken? Resolve to take the first steps in mending that relationship. John wrote that all who confess their sins to the Lord will be forgiven (1 John 1:9). What a wonderful thought that we have second chances to return to the Lord with a clean slate, ready to follow Him again.

Beginnings and starts are wonderful opportunities for change. As we plan on strengthening our muscles and losing our pounds, let's resolve to strengthen our relationship with the Lord, to create healthy spiritual habits, and to shed any temptation or sin that clings on. We have such a wonderful opportunity to begin this year right. Beginning with our minds set, our hearts aimed and our souls in tune, who knows what marvelous blessings and open doors the Lord may bring!



Upcoming Events:

January 8th - Elder, Deacon, Preacher meeting

April 13-15 - Spring Gospel Meeting with Bill Hall

June 24-29 - Summer Gospel Meeting with Jeff Smelser

Today's Schedule:

Reading/Prayer 1 - Stan Ruffin

Lord's Table - Earl Monroe

Sermon - Jordan Shouse

Reading/Prayer 2 - Jeremy Bailey