

# LIFE LINES

The weekly bulletin of the Warm Springs Road Church of Christ

**January 1, 2012**

## **Looking Forward**

This year promises to bring great things! This congregation is experiencing growth and we must keep that pace going. Through deeper study and personal application we will grow in our knowledge of God and His will for us. When we commit to teaching others the Gospel we will experience growth like never before. I believe that statement with all my heart. God has promised us it is true. If we plant the seed and water it, God will give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6-7; Gal. 6:7-9). There is no reason to doubt that promise. In fact, it would be impossible for God not to keep that promise. But we must be committed to teaching. We need to be seeking opportunities to teach others on a personal level, every one of us, regardless of how little we claim to know about the Bible. We ALL know what we did to become Christians, and that is enough to teach someone else. If we are afraid of personal Bible studies, or if we think we are too busy, then our love for God is not great enough, our level of commitment needs some work. You will grow the most when you sit down and study the Bible with someone. Whether or not you are conducting the Bible study you will get as much from the effort as the other person. It matters not how much Biblical knowledge you have going into a Bible study, it will always increase when you sit down face to face with another person and search God's Word for the truths He has put therein. I challenge us all to hold one personal Bible study this year. I will gladly come with you and conduct it if you would like. Even if you choose to study the Bible with me instead of inviting someone else to study with you, I think that counts. But I think the way we will grow the most as a congregation is if every accountable person invites friends, family members, and strangers to sit down and study the Bible personally until every person receives a positive answer. After the invitation, the rest is fairly easy. Please make this one of your New Year's resolutions. "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" Joshua 1:9. It will take the efforts of all of us to make the Lord's body grow in this area. I am not here to do your personal work for you. I will gladly do it WITH you, but all of us have been commanded to go and teach, not just the preacher. I love you all, and I desire for us to be doing this because it is what is best for all of us.

2012 is a year that has been anticipated for a loooooong time (I mean, ever since the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, at least). If you are not yet familiar with the prophetic and eschatological lore that surrounds this year, I imagine that by December you will be. The ancient Mayan tribes of Central and South America used a calendar that was very accurate in the way it measured time. That calendar comes to an end on December 12, 2012. Men have taken this fact and exploited it saying that the world will end on that day. There are other "prophecies" involving this year and that date in particular. I tell you these things not to frighten you or warn you. Actually, humor is more of what I was going for. These prophecies and predictions of the end of the world are all contrived and man made. For that reason alone, none of us need worry what will happen on December 12, 2012. The Lord said no one knows the hour when the end will come (Mat. 24:36). The very act of men predicting it on that date ought to tell us it certainly **won't** happen then. A Christian has the duty to be prepared for that event every day of his life. There is no need to look past today for the coming of the Lord. If we aren't prepared today, it won't matter what happens on December 12! Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people (Mat. 25:34; Mark 10:40).

Check each day when complete:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 1** - Gen. 1-7; Mat. 1-3; Psa. 1-3
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 2** - Gen. 8-12; Mat. 4-5; Psa. 4-5
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 3** - Gen. 13-18; Mat. 6-7; Psa. 6-8
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 4** - Gen. 19-23; Mat. 8; Psa. 9-10
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 5** - Gen. 24-29; Mat. 9; Psa. 11-13
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 6** - Gen. 30-32; Mat. 10-11; Psa. 14-15
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 7** - Gen. 33-38; Mat. 12; Psa. 16-18

### Church Announcements

1. Remember our sick and shut-ins and those that are traveling.
2. Sis. Mary Merger is at home and doing better.
3. We will be hosting the monthly area wide singing today at 2:30.
4. Remember Pat Campbell, Margaret Hines, Russell Patrick, Geraldine Wilkins, and others in your prayers.
5. Mable Perry's brother passed away.
6. We are resuming our pantry in 2012. See below for the pantry item for January.
7. This Wednesday, Jan. 4, is the first Wednesday of the month so we will have our separate mens' and ladies' Bible classes.
8. There will be a Teacher Work/Organization Day on Saturday, January 14. If you are a teacher, helper, or desire to be either one, please come. It will begin at 10am.
9. Please use our website, [www.wsrcoc.com](http://www.wsrcoc.com) on a regular basis. There will be some changes and improvements coming soon!

### Sunday, January 1

Opening	C. Hergett
Singing	G. Kendrick
Table & Giving	M. Mendez
Assisting	M. Sizemore
	B. Patrick
	F. Youngblood
	B. Stewart
Sermon AM	D. Dixon
Sermon PM	D. Dixon
Closing Prayer	C. Brown
Alternate	D. Johnson

### Sunday, January 8

Opening	G. McMurray
Singing	B. Stewart
Table & Giving	R. Nealy
Assisting	M. Foley
	M. Mendez
	J. Lemon
	M. Sizemore
Sermon AM	D. Dixon
Sermon PM	D. Dixon
Closing Prayer	L. Stewart
Alternate	E. Wilkins

### Wednesday, January 4

Invitation	C. Brown
Invitation Song	B. Stewart
Prayer	G. McMurray