

READY OR NOT – 2017

David Bragg

Can you believe another year is in the books?

Time marches relentlessly onward without asking for either our consent or approval. Nothing you and I can do will ever get that time back. With each passing day we creep closer toward time's end. But, as always, with Jesus there is good news.

2017 will bring with it days of defeat and success.

2017 will bring with it both sadness and great joy.

2017 will bring days of suffering balanced with days of healing.

2017 will bring with it days of loss and others of enrichment.

For some, 2017 will bring with it a day of finality.

But there will not be a single day in 2017 that you will have to encounter alone! We have One who can lift us up from defeat, comfort us in sadness, and sustain us through suffering. There is One who can truly place momentary loss into eternal perspective. And, not to be forgotten, we have each other, charged with the duty of sharing in life's highs and lows (Romans 12:12-15) and with bearing "one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2).

While we are powerless to keep time from sifting through our lives like sand through our fingers, we can do something about how we spend it. While much time will fall wasted at the feet of humanity, as a follower of Christ you can use your time to God's glory, and time will ultimately deposit you in His timeless glory.

- David Bragg serves as one of the ministers at the Northwest Church of Christ in Greensboro, NC.



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

January 1, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

Happy New Year!



*Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,
making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.*

Today's Sermon: *What's Next?*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

aicoc.org (Antioch Initiative)

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Scripture: Colossians 3:1-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: January 15th. Theme: Healthy Food!**
- **Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, January 3rd at the building. We will be starting our new book, Struggle, Seek, Grow by Cynthia Dianne Guy. How 12 women in Scripture sought spiritual maturity. Pick up a copy any time and take it home.**
- **Midweek Bible study @ McElhaneys Thursday nights at 7pm. Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!**



- There are several **plastic baby bottles** for anyone who would like one to take home and fill with money to help the Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center. **First Look Pregnancy Center** is located at 209 Lockhart St. in Sayre. Their mission is to change the hearts of women who seek abortion and provide a caring alternative.



- Justin Morrison from the church in Lewistown, PA, is being interviewed for the preaching position at the new church in Tunkhannock.
- Happy New Year wishes have been sent to us from the church in Kittanning, PA, and from Don and Judy Myers, preacher and wife, at the Elmore, AL church. Also, Scott Waugh, from the Berkeley Springs, WV church, who has been praying for us, wishes us all an encouraging and Happy New Year.



to **Kiley Dolan**, 1/2, Monday, and **Thomas Dolan**, 1/6, Friday.

PRAYERS...

- Ben Wright, an elder at the Kittanning church, has recently discovered he has diabetes. It has already affected his vision and he is trying to control it with diet. Pray that he can.
- Patty and Ruthie's sister in law, Deborah, who has stage 4 breast cancer is currently on chemo and will be having radiation treatments as well. The doctor thinks it's possible the tumor has reduced in size since starting chemo, but he has projected that she has from 3-5 years to live.
- Endless Mountains Pregnancy Center requests prayers for their clients, that abortion-minded women will have a change of heart, and that all will accept the abundant life in Christ.
- Darlene has asked for prayers that her father, Richard Beiber, will accept the truth sometime before he dies and will come out of the Catholic faith. Pray for Richard as he is in hospice care because of his esophageal cancer and not expected to live much longer.
- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Remember to pray for Lori Kashorek, from the Plattsburgh, NY church, who has lung cancer.
- Darlene will be having a biopsy on Monday to investigate an irregular mammogram that she had last week. Following that she will try to get a flight to FL to be with her father.
- Keep praying for the Endless Mountains church in Tunkhannock and their search for a preacher.
- Pray for comfort for those from war-torn countries who have no homes, are starving (Northeastern Nigeria) and without water and are not safe and have lost friends and relatives in the violence that surrounds them (Aleppo).
- Remember to pray for Matthew Lowe in Ohio, Ken Wilkins, of Gray, TN, and Edna Jarrett, of the Bronx. Also Rocky Perry of Sayre.