



THE ROCK



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Epworth UM Church

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Message from Pastor

Whew, we made it. I don't know about you, but the end of the year is always a frenzy for me. The Church is busy celebrating Advent and Christmas. Our families are often busy preparing for and going to parties/gatherings. Don't get me wrong, I love every second of December. However, it can be overwhelming as it flies by.

As the new year begins, I find myself reminiscing about last year, and I can't help but wonder where the year went. There is an unfortunate dichotomy; the busier you are the faster time flies. That is why December usually flies by. So as I look back I can't help but smile at the good times, but I also get sad that it went by so fast.

I remember when I was a kid, my brother and I would get the same dessert at the local ice-cream parlor. As soon as the desserts were delivered to our table I would devour mine. It wasn't that I wanted to finish quickly; I just enjoyed it so much I kept shoveling it into my mouth. Suddenly I would be done and not have any more dessert to enjoy. However, my brother always took his time eating dessert and was able to savor his longer than I did mine. Every time I would finish before my brother, I would wish I had eaten more slowly so I would still have some left to savor.

Life is like a dessert. We can rush through it, filling our time with business, and then when it is all over realize we never slowed down to savor the opportunities. Or we can try to live in the moment every day. Spend time each day in scripture and prayer, thanking God for another day. Be present with friends and family. Love the people who love us. Serve the Kingdom of God and make this a better place. Take a Sabbath and just breathe, rest, and know God loves you.

This life will bring you trouble and it will be over long before you're ready. So I pray we will all tarry in the moment of each day, drinking in all the good that surrounds us, and make the most of this life.

Change 4 Change: Every Sunday drop your leftover coins into one of our buckets. We will pool all of the coins and ask God to help us meet a tangible need here in our community. This small gesture is just one way for us to love our neighbors. God is great and we can't wait to see how He uses us in this mission!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 6 & 20th

Family Game Night

Jan. 14th

Epworth's Leadership Summit

Jan. 26th

Volunteers at James Island Outreach

Jan. 31

Small Group Leadership Training

Walking in the Faith
Join Pastor Ben
Thursdays 9:30 am

James Island County Park



Bagels with Ben
Tuesdays

7:30 am

January Birthdays

01/01 Riese Butler
01/03 Grace Griffin
01/04 Audrey Healy
01/06 Allen Benson
Elizabeth Rumble
01/11 Christopher Benson
01/12 Pat Griffin
01/14 Joanie Clute
01/17 Sherry Ortiz
01/22 Barbara Smith
01/25 Shelly Pullen
01/28 Bennett Majors
01/30 Andy Lewis
01/31 Margaret Romano



A Prayer for the New Year

Lord,
Whether I leave behind
a year of joy or of trials and difficulties,

I pause to *give thanks*.
Thank you for being with me
every day of every year.

Thank you for making all things **new**
and for giving me the grace of
fresh starts

and *new beginnings*.

Remind me of your presence in the days to
come,
even when I feel pushed and rushed by
busyness.

Be glorified in my life this year.

Amen

heathercking.org

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:30 PM Youth Ministry	2 8:00 PM Serenity AA Meeting	3 7:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	4 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA meeting	5 9:30 AM Walking In The Faith 6:30 PM Contemporary Band Practice 7:45 PM NA Meeting	6 6:00 PM Family Game Night	7
8 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:30 PM Youth Ministry	9 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting 8:00 PM Serenity AA Meeting	10 10:30 AM Charlotte Herbert Circle 6:30 PM Family Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	11 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA meeting	12 6:30 PM Contemporary Band Practice 7:45 PM NA Meeting	13	14 9:00 AM Epworth's Leadership Summit
15 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:30 PM Youth Ministry	16 7:30 PM Carrie Bull Circle 8:00 PM Serenity AA Meeting	17 6:00 PM Finance Meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting 7:30 PM Admin Council Meetin	18 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA meeting	19 9:30 AM Walking In The Faith 6:30 PM Contemporary Band Practice 7:45 PM NA Meeting	20 6:00 PM Family Game Night	21
22 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:30 PM Youth Ministry	23 8:00 PM Serenity AA Meeting	24 7:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	25 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA meeting	26 9:30 AM Volunteers @ James Island Outreach 9:30 AM Walking In The Faith 6:30 PM Contemporary Band Practice 7:45 PM NA Meeting	27	28
29 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:30 PM Youth Ministry	30 8:00 PM Serenity AA Meeting	31 7:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting 7:00 PM Small Group Leadership Training at Karen Nappo's house	1 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA meeting	2 9:30 AM Walking In The Faith 6:30 PM Contemporary Band Practice 7:45 PM NA Meeting	3 6:00 PM Family Game Night	4 6:00 PM SUPER SUPPER

