

#### I like New Year's

I like New Year's. For me, it has always been the metaphorical blank slate/new adventure.

For some of us 2015 has been an awesome year. I have celebrated many blessings with you all. I graduated and became a new daddy which makes me sound young adultish, but I also became a grandpa which is probably more appropriate to my age bracket.

For some of us 2015 has been an awful year. We can't wait to tear the page off the calendar and burn it. I have also sympathized and cried with many of you.

What will 2016 bring? No one knows, but with optimism and anticipation I lean into the new adventure it will bring.

What to do with the clean slate of 2016? How about amping up your spiritual disciplines and walking closer to Jesus?

Our teaching series in January will be a five-part "Spiritual Growth Plan".

- 1 Attend worship weekly
- 2 Read your Bible and pray daily
- 3 Commit to a small group
- 4 Commit to a God job and serve every week
- 5 Commit to tithing and a lifestyle of generosity

Invite your friends to come to Chapel with you. They may be making New Year's resolutions and spiritual growth and church attendance often make those lists. Your invitation might be just the thing that helps them on their spiritual journey.

It's been great serving Jesus with you in 2015. I appreciate all of you willing servants who make Liberty Chapel vital. I look forward to serving with you in the new year.

See you Sunday,

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Pastor Brad's Bible Study

Wednesday at 6:30, during Wednesday Night Ministries, Pastor Brad is leading a Bible Study on the book of Philippians. Please join us.

As I was thinking about what to write for this newsletter article, I was reflecting on this year. On January 1st, 2015, I



celebrated the New Year in Indianapolis at a conference with a ministry I was involved in during college. Some of my best friends and I worshipped in the New Year together and then headed over to Steak N Shake. I went to bed around 2 only to wake up at 6 so that I could drive with these same friends to Cincinnati to get dropped off at a random gas station off of I-75. I got out of the car, took all of my stuff, said goodbye to my friends and searched the parking lot for a white church van

filled with young adults I had never met before. While I was searching, a red van with a trailer caught my eye. I walked over to it and saw the words Liberty Chapel written on the side of it and knew I was in the right place. It totally threw me off because I had only seen white church vans before. So, like most sane people do, I loaded my stuff and climbed into a van full of total strangers and embarked on a journey down to the passion conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

It's crazy to think that I have only known you all for a year. It has been a great year filled with a lot of adventures and a lot of firsts. In my first year as a youth pastor, I ran my first lock in, lead my first mission trip, and had my first group of graduating seniors. There were so many things that happened this year that I can't list them all, so I'll just share some of my highlights from the year with you. I loved going on the mission trip to Louisiana, installing flooring, and playing five crowns every single night. I enjoyed throwing several parties for the kids down at the Rock including a back to school party with over 30 kids. I appreciated forming relationships with neighboring youth pastors and working together on several different events including 5<sup>th</sup> quarter dodgeball. I had an incredible time experiencing my first Tiger football game and seeing this community all rally around one cause. I loved coaching cross-country and getting to go to the State championships. And most of all, I've enjoyed building relationships with so many people in this wonderful place and having the opportunity to work here. It has been a great year and as January is here again, I look forward to an even better 2016.

Happy New Year! Tom

### Prayer Requests

Family and Friends of Billy Sharpe – Billy passed away Sunday, December 27, Jamie Tallman – Health concerns following hospital stay, Johnny Russell – (Grandson of Steve & Mary Segrave) passed away, Family and Friends of Jake Baldwin – Jake passed away Monday, December 21 due to a car accident. Jim Leatherman – recovering from heart surgery at home, Carla Gillen – Health Concerns, Norv Volkman – (Mary Lou Leatherman's brother) Health Concerns, Anthony & Robin Griffith – (Grandson of Collier's) Health Concerns, The Tahir Masood Family, April Mozingo – Surgery recovery, Branden Kramer – (Fetterman extended family) – 4yr old, diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Austin Foster – (Friend of Rebecca & Nathanael Stuhmer) – Deployed member of the Army, Long-term needs: Leo "Bud" Zenz, Patsy Leatherman, Cole Spangler, Ruth Gramling, Winnie Leatherman, Kent Spiess, Francis Brown, Joyce Schwyn (sister of Max Fetterman) Also, members of the military and their families, our missionary families and our Lay Witness Mission – March 4–6, 2016 at Chapel.

#### [Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks. For continued prayer listing, please resubmit.]

#### JANUARY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Jennifer Wong
- 2 Bonnie Mohler Mary Jane Murrey
- 4 Jessica Clapp Francis Brown
- 5 Peyton Leatherman
- 6 Juliette Smith Eliza Trapp
- 7 Cheryl Shadday
- 8 Jacob Clapp Kelly McIntosh

- 9 Lily Wong
- 10 David Hartford Eloise Griteman Blake Graber
- 11 Kyelar KernMax Fetterman
- 13 Brandi Ernsberger John Hartford Gretchen Tedrow
- 15 Hanson Saneholtz
- 16 Aaron Shafer Nathan Shafer

- 17 Amanda McLaughlin Laura Case Tom Atkinson Sherry Martin
- 18 Mark Jones
- 22 Cathy Griteman
- 23 Austin Smith
- 24 Kristen Spiess
- 25 Olivia Hartford
- 28 Leah Martin
- 29 Claire Atkinson Kelsey Bare

- 30 Louise Dalton Bob Griteman
- 31 Hope Oelkrug Joe Gillen

#### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 30 Carl & Chervl Carter
- 31 Courtney & Lavon Patton

## Liberty Chapel United Methodist Church

9474 County Road V, Liberty Center, OH 43532



# Lead Pastor Dr. Brad Martin Youth Pastor Tom Gerberich

Church Phone 419-533-2881 Church Office Hours M - F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

> E-mail: <u>libertychapel@metalink.net</u> Web site: Libertychapel.net

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS - 8:15 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:15 A.M.

"A body knowing and growing in Christ so deeply that He is overflowing to others."

Return Service Requested





Sunday Worship Times:

8:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Classic Worship Praise Celebration (Nursery Provided) (Nursery Provided) (Nursery Provided)

Sunday School:

9:15 a.m. Classes for All Ages

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Offices Closed	7:00 am Men's Prayer Time @ church
Join Us For Worship 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	6:00 pm Trustees	5 6:00 am Men's Study @ Liberty Café	6 S.H.O.P. 10:30 – 11:30 am 3-5 pm THE ROCK	7 3-5 pm THE ROCK	8	9 7:00 am Men's Prayer Time @ church
	7:15 pm Ad. Council ( @ THE ROCK)	3-5 pm THE ROCK	6:30-7:30 Wed. Night Ministries & Bible Study 7:15 Firestarters YF	7:00 pm Lay Witness Mission Chairpersons		
Join Us For Worship	11 6:00 pm UMM	6:00 am Men's Study @ Liberty Café	13 S.H.O.P. 10:30 – 11:30 am 3-5 pm THE ROCK 6:30-7:30 Wed. Night	14	15	16 7:00 am Men's Prayer Time @ church
	8:00 pm Worship Team	3-5 pm THE ROCK 7:00 pm SPRC	Ministries & Bible Study 7:15 Firestarters YF	3-5 pm THE ROCK		
Join Us For Worship	18 Newsletter Articles Due	19 6:00 am Men's Study @ Liberty Café	20 Noon- Senior Luncheon S.H.O.P. 10:30 – 11:30 am	21	22 9-11 am Bountiful Blessings & Clothing	23 7:00 am Men's Prayer Time @ church
Church Bowling Party 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	6 – 7:30 pm Bountiful Blessings & Clothing Closet 7:30 pm Evangelism	3-5 pm THE ROCK	3-5 pm THE ROCK 6:30-7:30 Wed. Night Ministries & Bible Study 7:15 Firestarters YF	3-5 pm THE ROCK 7:00 ROCK Team	Closet	
Join Us For Worship	25	26 6:00 am Men's Study @ Liberty Café	27 S.H.O.P. 10:30 – 11:30 am 3-5 pm THE ROCK	28  3-5 pm THE ROCK	29	30
30 Join Us For Worship Youth Sunday 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	7:00 Mission Team	3-5 pm THE ROCK	6:30-7:30 Wed. Night Ministries & Bible Study 7:15 Firestarters YF	7:00pm Christian Ed.		

January
Servant Schedule

	1/3	1/10	1/17	1/24	1/31
8:15 Nursery	Witte Family	T. Atkinson Family	N. Carter Family	Conner Family	
S. S. Nursery	Clapp Family	Oelkrug Family	Gutierrez Family		Cramer Family
:30 Nursery	Amstutz Family	A. Quigley	Jones Family	Cramer Family	
Greeters	Shadday Family	Ron Saneholtz Family	Nash Family	Masuwa Family	Whitman Family