

THE HERALD

New Holland Baptist Church
7 Quarry St.
Gainesville, GA 30501
January 2024 - Issue 1 Vol. XIX

Website: newhollandbc.org ♦ **Phone:** 770-534-9991 ♦ **Email:** newhollandbaptist@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM BRIAN *Brian Stephens, Lead Pastor*

It's time again to turn the page on another year and look ahead to the new chapter the Lord has for our lives personally and as a church. I know we always start the new year with great hope and desire for a meaningful breakthrough in our lives. We always set our goals and start strong only to hit a roadblock.

Why don't we try something a little different. I just finished a sermon series about "Dreams". My suggestion is to follow these 4 steps:

First, dream again. Go to the Lord and ask Him to open your eyes and heart to the possibilities. Ask the Spirit to speak to you with a fresh word and challenge your faith and walk in a meaningful way. Let the Lord paint the picture. What is it the Lord wants to do in your life this year?

Secondly, start building habits to help advance the journey. Small steps lead to great advances.

Thirdly, track your progress. Goals go by the wayside if we don't keep up with the real progress we make along the way. Don't get discouraged. Ask the Lord's help every day. Keep making positive steps. Grow your prayer life. Devote yourself to listening and believing the Lord.

Lastly, celebrate the victories. Gain motivation. Lean on God's grace and enjoy the life the Lord has for you. Every new path seems long as we travel it the first time. This is normal. Keep going. Honor God and be blessed as you travel toward the Big Dream. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be your companion on this journey but He wants you to take others with you as you travel. We need support. We need brothers and sisters in Christ to help us as we go forward.

Life groups make all the difference. We all need to be in a small group where we can grow closer to God and receive encouragement from our friends. We can study God's word together and discuss how to apply His words to our life. We can pray for each other and encourage and support each other with accountability. Life groups are filled with grace and new found love.

Bless you New Holland. May we love and appreciate each other for all the blessings each of us bring. My prayer for you is we grow in the grace of our Lord Jesus and enjoy Him. God Bless, **Pastor Brian**



Ethan Cordero
Jennifer Cordero

A MESSAGE FROM MARK *R. Mark Russell, Associate Pastor*

A BRAND NEW HALLELUJAH was well received and 2023's Christmas musical is in the books! I'm always asked by more than a few folks, "What did you think?" I felt a strong sense of satisfaction that we'd provided a good and solid message from the bottom of our hearts and to the best of our abilities. And, we did. The orchestra was solid and enthusiastic in their playing. I had wanted a few "color" instruments in addition to the faithful group we have. Maybe next year. "Color instruments" are those that enhance the overall sound of the ensemble. Examples are bass clarinet, oboe, bassoon, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, piccolo, etc. If you know any of these players, let us know!

BY THE WAY...we know you're out there. Yes, you are. There are potential singers for choir and praise team and we're wanting to connect with you that you may use those great gifts in the service of the Master! Please consider this an invitation to join the choir!

As I sit here typing away at the keyboard, I'm looking forward to an event that most youth groups have done away with. You guessed it, the YOUTH LOCK-IN. We have had many successful events including lock-ins and even a HALF LOCK-IN. We've been fortunate to have good behavior among our participants, and our kids are more prone to invite their friends. The next big event will be United WKND on March 1-3, 2024 at Lakewood.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for praying for me – I feel your effort. Your prayers bring peace and encouragement to me and my family. Considering everything, I'm doing well other than occasional bouts with tremors, stutters, and a raspy voice. I start therapy on January 6 to deal with and overcome these issues. At the end of the day, GOD IS GOOD...and He's been very, very good to me! Blessings upon you and yours for 2024!

In Christ, **Mark**



New Church Office Email
newhollandbaptist@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM RICK Rick Taylor, Ministry Pastor

Today is the day after Christmas, so by the time you receive this, Christmas will have come and gone. If you have not been able to attend the church services or watch us online -- on behalf of Pastor Brian, Pastor Mark, Laura White and myself we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. New Year's Day is right around the corner -- next Monday to be exact. It will not only be a brand new day but also a brand new year. What will change on the inside for each of us this coming year? We each have the power to change because we have the power of the Holy Spirit inside of us and because we have the power to choose.

It's a new day. The choice is yours.

Just imagine -- it's early morning. It's quiet. The coffee is hot. The sky is still black. The world is still asleep. The day is coming. The stillness of the dawn will be exchanged for the noise of the day. Because of Calvary I have the freedom to choose. So I choose love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. If I succeed, I will give thanks. If I fail, I will seek His grace. And when the day is done, I will place my head on my pillow and rest. -Max Lucado

Our small group studies will start back again on January 11th. We will begin 2024 with a study dealing with the rapture. It is called "The Great Disappearance" by David Jeremiah. This should be a very popular study as it addresses many questions concerning the rapture. We are always looking to begin new study groups that bring people together. It is my prayer that you will consider joining us for this amazing study.

On January 16th, our Senior Adults will be having lunch at the M&J Home Cooking restaurant in Toccoa. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet of good ole home country cooking. Price is \$15.00 per adult. Hope you will make plans to join us on Tuesday, January 16th.

Be Blessed, *Rick*

**We received \$2,463.40
for Lottie Moon!
Thanks to all who gave!**



If you are interested in being trained on the automated external defibrillator, please contact the office. We will have training on January 16th at 3:30 at the church.

JANUARY SHOEBOX ITEMS

New Holland is going to take up donations throughout the year for Operation Christmas Child. For January, please bring **toys for both girls and boys** - cars, dolls, ponies, harmonicas, plush animals, etc. There should be some great after Christmas deals on these items. There are boxes around the church that say "Christmas Shoebox Donations" where you can place these items. Thank you!



CRAFT DAY

Jan. 20th - 11 to 5

Bring a craft to work on or just come to fellowship. For more info see Laura Willson. Meet in Big Brothers Room.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1/03 Cheryl Hendricks
- 1/04 Melissa Reed, Joe Waldrep
- 1/07 Melba Cain
- 1/08 Sara Cothran
- 1/11 Donna Johnson, Krista Peterman, Ben Waldrep
- 1/13 Amanda Henson
- 1/15 Almeda Allison
- 1/16 Jason Russell
- 1/18 Beverly Defevers
- 1/20 Davina Braselton
- 1/21 Jordan Dorsey, Yvonne Ledford
- 1/22 Katie Ballard, Jim Mills
- 1/23 Charlotte Ash
- 1/26 Sue Sikes
- 1/28 John Keyse
- 1/29 Ken Wallace
- 1/30 Ethan Elder, Kyleigh Elder, Kay Thomas

**Heroes of New Holland
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**

A MESSAGE FROM LANCE Children's Ministry

A Biblical Approach to Year's End and Beginning

As we approach the close of this year, let's draw inspiration from Philippians 3:13-14, urging us to forget the past and press toward God's calling. Psalm 90:12 prompts reflection, teaching us to glean wisdom from our days. Looking to the future, Proverbs 16:9 reminds us of God's sovereignty in planning our course, while Jeremiah 29:11 assures His plans bring hope.

Entering a new year, 2 Corinthians 5:17 beckons us to embrace the transformative power of Christ, becoming new creations. Isaiah 43:19 echoes this sentiment, assuring that God orchestrates new beginnings and paths in our lives.

As we bid farewell to the old and welcome the new, let our hearts find solace in Christ. May His promises guide us, His wisdom direct us, and His love renew us. With faith, hope, and the assurance of His presence, let us step into the coming year, anchored in the transformative grace of our Lord.

Lance

Happy Anniversary

Harrison & Margaret Elrod Jan. 7
Sue Sikes..... Jan. 7

December Offerings & Info.

Dec. 3\$7,109.38
Dec. 10\$5,783.84
Dec. 17\$5,740.55
Dec. 24\$3,598.80
Dream Fund.....\$398,875.61
Generosity Fund.....\$5,982.20
Average Attendance in Dec. 112



DEACONS MEETING
JAN. 7 AT 3:00 PM



Laundry Items Needed!

Deborah will be taking laundry items (detergent, softener, etc.) to the Children's Home in February. Please leave your donations in the Welcome Center or give to Deborah Palmer. Thank you!