

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. CIII

JANUARY, 2025

NO. 1

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GREAT GOD OF NATIONS

Great God of nations, now to Thee
Our hymn of gratitude we raise;
With humble heart, and bending knee,
We offer Thee our song of praise.

Thy name we bless, Almighty God,
For all the kindness Thou hast shown
To this fair land the pilgrims trod,
This land we fondly call our own.

Here freedom spreads her banner wide,
And casts her soft and hallowed ray;
Here Thou our fathers' steps didst guide
In safety through their dangerous way.

We pray thee let the gospel light
Through all our land its radiance shed;
Dispel the shades of error's night,
And heavenly blessings round us spread.

Great God, preserve us in thy fear;
In danger still our guardian be;
O spread thy truth's bright precepts here;
Let all the people worship thee.

Alfred A. Woodhull

SUBJECT TO HIGHER POWERS

Once again, it's time to ring in a new year. Some will mark the coming of the new year by ringing a bell, discharging fireworks, having a party or other form of celebration. Some will choose to sleep right through the coming of the new year, resting assured that it will come. Regardless of how we choose to celebrate or not celebrate, time marches on and changes come. Some tend to like change and the new things that come with it. Some are less welcoming to change.

On January 20, 2025, Lord willing, the newly elected president, Donald J. Trump will be sworn in as the 47th president of the United States and return to the White House. With this coming change in leadership, some are excited, maybe even

ecstatic, and hopeful while others are disappointed, upset or even fearful of what's to come.

For several years now, notably since the beginning of the COVID outbreak in the spring of 2020, it has seemed that our nation has become more polarized than perhaps ever in her history, at least maybe since the Civil War. Many of us have probably experienced, in this societal condition, that emotions of frustration or anger can be triggered with the slightest of ease. On occasion, you may have found yourself walking a proverbial tightrope in public, trying to avoid inadvertently antagonizing someone.

On the issue of politics, you may have heard the

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idea that if a nation is full of Christians, even throughout the government, that it doesn't matter what form of government has been established. That even with a communist, dictatorial or monarchical government, the country will be effectively led, and its citizens will be treated well and protected if the leadership is truly Christian. But where does such a country exist? Perhaps such will exist at some point in the future, such as during Christ's millennial reign, but neither today nor in history have we ever seen a nation and its government brimming with born-again believers.

So, for the present time, here in America, I believe we are blessed to live in what is often considered a democracy, even though our government was established as, and still is, a republic. While the authority of a republic and democracy is designed to reside in its citizens, a republic's primary focus is the protection of the citizen's rights, rather than simply the creation and enforcement of rules and laws by the majority.

As you may have observed or experienced as the recent election approached, the human

mind and heart can easily become occupied with political issues. As a caution to this potential trap, our brotherhood's position is to avoid participation in political matters. Yet God calls us to be watchful, have wisdom and be active in prayer for the world we live in. We are in the world but are not to be of the world. As with many issues in life, scripture often directs us away from the extremes and toward positions of moderation. When it comes to the two kingdoms that we are part of, how do we find a proper balance? Scripture gives us considerable guidance in developing and maintaining the right perspective.

First, remember that God is in control of all things. Eph. 1:17-22 and I Pet. 3:22 tell us that not only is the Lord at the right hand of the Father, but that all are subject to Him. As Daniel realized as God revealed truths of earthly kingdoms of the past, present and future, God is the one who sets up kings and removes them from power (Dan. 2:19-21; 4:17). Some might forget this at election time, especially if cheating is suspected. Is cheating possible? Certainly.

But the bigger question is, does cheating defeat God's plan of who to place in leadership? I'll let you answer that.

I think it's also important that we remember where our citizenship lies. Most of us know that it's quite easy to get comfortable living in the world and in America. While we may have citizenship in the country we reside, where is our spiritual citizenship? Eph. 2:18-22 tells us that believers are fellow citizens with the saints, in the household of God. So, for now, we have dual citizenship, in both a worldly nation and God's eternal Kingdom. Which of these two citizenships is more important to us? As believers, our citizenship of preeminence should be in God's Kingdom and secondarily in the nation. When we get this backwards, we can start developing an unhealthy level of involvement with politics.

So, while God is in control of all things and all in seats of power are subject to Him and believers' allegiance should be to God, we are not to shun those in authority. Far from it. We are in fact subjects of the ordered system which God has created as detailed in Rom. 13:1-7.

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." Rom. 13:1-7

In short, we are to be good citizens of this world. This is not conditional to our concurrence with how the government

spends tax dollars, who was elected or that we agree with the political platform of the current majority party. Rather, we are to be good citizens because first and foremost, we belong to and serve in the household of God

and our allegiance is to Him, the One who establishes the order of authority of those that rule over us and the One who sets up and removes kings.

K. Brock

THE INSPIRATION, PRESERVATION, AND SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

(Part 2 of 2)

Continued from the December 2024 issue of the Bible Monitor.

The New Testament is Authored by God in Christ through the Spirit by the Apostles. Paul's writings are Scripture (II Pet. 3:15-16) *"And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."*

This passage says many things, but the point I want to bring is that we have a witness (Peter) who followed after Jesus and was given the promise of inspiration. Peter testified to the legitimacy of Paul's writings, even calling them Scripture. So, the church has been correct in regarding the Gospels, Acts, and Epistles, including Paul's writings and Revelation, as all inspired Scripture. The Apostle Paul, to whom Peter testified, also bears witness to the inspiration and sufficiency of the Scriptures.

The Scriptures are Inspired and Sufficient According to Paul (II Tim. 3:15-17) *"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the holy*

scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Timothy had the privilege of being under Paul's tutelage. Timothy is considered by many to be Paul's protege to continue much of the ministry that Paul started. So, Paul encourages Timothy to continue in the things that he learned:

"But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." II Tim. 3:10-12

This gives us a glimpse of the impact that discipleship is aimed to provide. So, when we study and read Scripture, we are to continue in:

- doctrine
- manner of life
- purpose
- faith
- longsuffering (patience)
- charity (love)
- patience (perseverance)
- persecutions and afflictions

Paul knows that Timothy and those after him will not have Apostles with them, just like the Apostles did not continue to have Jesus with them after the ascension. So, what are we given? We still have the Holy Spirit (Romans 8), but we also have Scripture, and according to Paul, it is sufficient to provide Timothy with everything he needed for salvation and maturity through faith in Christ Jesus.

In II Tim. 3:16, Paul says that all Scripture is Inspired by God, meaning God-breathed. God is the Author of Scripture, breathing (Spirit) through His inspired writers to speak those things that will reveal His will and edify the church. In doing so, God gave the church an anchor by which they can continue to serve Jesus till He returns. All Scripture meant both the Old Testament that Paul includes here and the New Testament, which was inspired at the time of Paul. All Scripture was inspired by God and has God as its Author. Paul then returns to the Scriptural sufficiency in that the Scriptures provide:

- Teaching/Doctrine
 - This is a noun, not a verb, so Paul references the substance of what is taught in this word.
 - This means that the material that makes up our doctrine is delivered to the church in the Scriptures.
- Reproof/Rebuke
 - This is also a noun; the Scriptures are the substance that confronts error.
 - The Scriptures reveal and expose errors/broken beliefs or faulty belief systems.
 - The Scriptures lay bare, expose, dissect, and judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart (Heb. 4:12-13)
 - God uses them to reveal our condition and error.
- Correction/Repair
 - This is also a noun; the Scriptures are the substance to bring those who err back into alignment with the Truth.
 - This word means to bring back into alignment or to repair what has fallen into disrepair.
 - We could see this word as reformation.
 - God uses the Scriptures to remake us, our beliefs, and our lives in rightness (righteousness)
- Instruction in righteousness
 - Instruction is also a noun; Scripture provides the substance of discipline and training to reform the lives of disciples in line with the truth, rebuking their errors and correcting their beliefs and lives.

- It encapsulates this whole verse:
 - It includes punishment, rebuke, correction, and training.
 - It covers all aspects of reformation.
- And is used by God to mold us in the image of His Son in line with Righteousness.

Paul culminates in that the man of God is complete in the Scriptures. The KJV uses *perfect*, and perfect means perfectly mature. We have every tool at our disposal for our edification, discipleship, and maturity; let me say again that we have every tool to make complete disciples of Jesus in the bible. In the Scriptures, we are thoroughly equipped for every good work and to equip the members of our churches for every good work. Our doctrinal statements should be thoughtfully articulated and explained from the Scriptures, and our practice statements should be thoughtfully articulated and illustrated from the Scriptures.

So, when we hold the Bible in our hands, we hold a library of revelation, each book in part contributing to the whole. As God equips the church through His Word inspired by the Holy Spirit, that same Spirit empowers His people to live out what He reveals. In it, we are given every tool we need to live profitable Christian lives, and through it, we read the very words of God. Paul tells us that the Scripture is given for our learning, and we see the revelation of truth spoken in the Old Testament perfectly revealed in the person of Christ and completed in the New Testament.

Jonathan Kinner
Brookville, OH

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, Hide my sins and cover me
Claim of merit have I none, I am vile and all undone.
I to thee for succor fly, Give me refuge or I die
Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, All my hopes are hung on thee.

Daniel T. Taylor

The New Testament calls it a cross but it's called a tree in the Old Testament. Paul, in Galatians reminded us of the law "Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree". This song uses both words, cross and tree in the plea to 'hide my sins'.

Adam and Eve sinned by eating the forbidden fruit. When they heard the voice of God, they hid themselves among the trees in the garden. They were looking, hoping for a tree(s) to stand between them and the judgement of God. There were two trees in Eden that were named; the tree of knowledge

of good and evil and the tree of life. The tree Adam and Eve were seeking was conspicuous by it's absence.

It would be thousands of years after the events in the Garden of Eden that on a lonely hill a cross was placed and upon it our Savior, Jesus Christ died. We, by faith, can now hide behind the cross. The blood-stained, sacred cross of Jesus Christ stands between God's judgment and man.

Diane Beeman
Carlisle, PA

IN THY LIGHT

"For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light." Ps. 36:9

There is life in the Light of God. In the night, when electricity fails, people, especially children, get scared. The house once bright with light, is now black with darkness. The children ask. "How long will it last?" This is a good time to tell them about Jesus being the Light of the World. His Light cannot go out. It cannot be overcome with darkness. It is a powerful light. It is a steady, unfailing light.

We can take this light on any journey. If we trust in Jesus, He will lead us all the way to God.

When Mary and Joseph were raising up Jesus, they no doubt lit the light at evening and taught their Son about the light of God. He knew who His Father was, but He had to learn about the darkness of this world. We need to teach our children about darkness so they can also learn

about the Light of God. May God and point others to it.
help us to follow the Light of God

High in the heavens, eternal God,
your goodness in full glory shines:
your truth shall break through every cloud
that veils and darkens your designs.

Life, like a fountain, rich and free,
springs from the presence of the Lord,
and in your light our souls shall see
the glories promised in your word.

Issac Watts

Lynn H. Miller
Newmanstown, PA

THE OUTLOOK OF FAITH

It is quite easy to talk about faith, but do I personally have the faith needed to do what God wants me to do? That is the big question. I believe another more important question is, am I living the kind of life that absolutely requires faith in God? Or am I using my own strength and wisdom to get by?

Once I begin to step out in faith, I begin to see the dimensions of faith and how utterly important it is for my faith to be rooted and grounded in the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe that my faith in God opens up my vision to see myself and the world around me as God sees it.

There are several things I need to understand. I believe the first one would be an inward look. I need to look inside myself to make sure that my faith is in good operation and that nothing in my life compromises my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Nothing is more frustrating than believing that I have the faith I need and then a situation arises that reveals that my faith is not in full operation.

I have a daily responsibility to examine my heart, that inward part of me, to make sure there is nothing hindering God from working in my life. For example, am I growing in the grace and knowl-

edge of the Lord Jesus Christ? It is too easy just to be stalemated and believe because nothing is happening that everything is all right. Maybe the reason nothing is happening is because many things are wrong in my life that need to be adjusted. That adjusting is my responsibility and as I go to the word of God every day I am led and directed in ways that will correct the things that are wrong in my life. If I think that I am okay and there is nothing wrong, I am really putting myself in danger and compromising my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Scripture says, "*Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.*" Heb. 12:2. I cannot finish my faith in my own strength; I need to commit myself to the Lord Jesus Christ. I need to look unto him every day for that grace and strength to grow and develop in ways that will be pleasing unto him.

The other aspect would be the outward look. Once I am working towards walking in faith and my inner life is in complete harmony with the word of God, I begin this second stage, which is the outward look.

The outward look is simply seeing the world around me

as God sees it. The inward look is to see myself through God's eyes and the outward look is to see the world around me through God's eyes. When I begin to see through God's eyes, I begin to have the same burden God has for the world around me. I cannot have a burden for the world around me if I do not realize that the only solution is Jesus Christ.

This inward look that has developed an outward look is the motivation for my ministry. Ministry is not just doing good things. There is nothing wrong with doing good things, mind you. But ministry is working in ways motivated by seeing the world around me through God's eyes. Much of ministry is denominationally focused, trying to build up our denomination or our local church. But the important thing about ministry is building up the kingdom of God.

The fact that I can be used by God to build up the kingdom of God is an overwhelming thought for me. Because I am walking in faith and trusting God, he opens up my eyes to see the world as he sees it. That begins to develop a burden to reach out to those around me in faith.

I believe my prayer life is deeply affected by that. The inward look helps me to know how to pray for myself. The outward look helps me to know how to pray for the world around me.

That world around me involves my family, friends, community and my world. As I begin to see them through God's eyes, this burden that I have is translated into a ministry of prayer.

How do we pray for one another? Do we pray, "God bless so-and-so?" That probably is a good prayer, but is it focused enough? The people who pray that way may not be seeing the world around them as God sees them. My prayer life is a reflection of my faith. My faith is strengthened the more I see the world as God sees it. When I begin to see that, I understand that the only solution is God.

Many people come up with

all kinds of remedies for this and that problem. But the only remedy that has an eternal aspect is the Lord Jesus Christ. My faith in God will be reflected in the intensity of my prayer life focused on Christ. The expectation of my prayer reveals my true faith. Many people are expecting God to do mundane things that He may have little interest in. When I begin to expect God to do miraculous things in the spiritual realm, I begin to exercise true faith in God.

God has little interest in filling up my bank account with money; rather, God wants to fill up my life with faith of such a nature that I see the world around me as God sees it and I am now overwhelmed with a burden to pray for the world around us.

James L Snyder
Ocala, FL

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE?

Today I'm thankful for the Bible...the Word of God that has been preserved through the ages!

Men and nations have tried to:

- stamp it out
- burn it
- make laws against it

- forbid the use of the Gospels
- forbid testimony & witnesses
- use it to justify division of humanity
 - spread hate & justify war
 - suppress freedoms
 - pass judgment
- persecute those who believe

People have risked their lives to own it and to smuggle it into countries where it is forbidden.

The Holy Bible points the way:

- to eternal salvation
- gives us rules to live by
 - comforts the sad
 - gives us all hope
- provides encouragement to all

It offers:

- forgiveness for believers
 - healing words
 - unconditional love
 - knowledge
 - guidance

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Ps. 119:11

Let's read it and hide its words in our heart so that if the time comes that it is forbidden...we will have the ability to recall ~ recite ~ remember and spread His Holy Word to others.

Thank You GOD for giving us your WORD!
Don't let it ever become a "dust collector"!

Open it ~ read it and study it to be reminded that we will never be alone and there is eternal peace and happiness ~ the reward for your faith and dedication to spreading His Word.

Anonymous

Submitted by Ellen Strayer-Leach
Elkton, VA

CONNECTIONS

As members of the Bible Study Board our hope in writing monthly articles related to the Adult Sunday School Lessons is that we all see afresh different points of connection that reveal the Word made flesh.

As we open the book of second Samuel, we immediately step into Saul's death, and the beginning of David's kingship. Also, we see the transition of a king that is living for himself to a new king that is desperate to follow God's call in his life.

I am continually challenged by the respect that David had for Saul. No matter the selfish decisions that Saul continually made, or the lack of allowing God's leading in his life, David respected him. David never went against the Lord's anointed. Even when Saul tried to take David's life. We can see the love that David had for Saul by his lamentation after Saul's death.

A question that rolls over and over in my mind when I

read II Samuel, chapter 1 is this, "Who in my life is due my respect?" I believe it is a serious question to consider. Scripture tells us to respect those who have rule over us, to come under their authority.

David could've had legitimate reasons why not to respect Saul. Do I respond as David did? Or do I feel that I don't have to respect someone when they make a mistake?

So, I just want to lay this challenge at our doorstep. Who has God put in my life that he desires me to respect?

On behalf of the Bible Study Board
Brother Caleb Heckman

SEASONS

Eternal Source of every joy,
Well may thy praise our lips employ,
While in thy temple we appear,
Whose goodness crowns the circling year!
Wide as wheels of nature roll,
Thy hand supports and guides the whole.
The sun is taught by thee to rise,
And darkness when to veil the skies.

The flow'ry spring, at thy command,
Perfumes the air, adorns the land;
The summer rays with vigor shine,
To raise the corn, to cheer the vine,
Thy hand in autumn richly pours,
Thro' all our coasts redundant stores:
And winters, softened by thy care,
No more the face of horror wear.

Seasons, and months, and weeks, and days,
Demand successive songs of praise;
And be the grateful homage paid,
With morning light and evening shade,
Here in thy house let incense rise,
And circling Sabbaths bless our eyes.
Till to those lofty heights we soar,
Where days and years revolve no more.

Philip Doddridge

OBITUARY

Mattie St. John

Mattie (Miller) St. John, 90, of Goshen, Indiana, died at 1:43 a.m., on Monday, Dec. 16, at Majestic Care of Goshen. She was born on Sept. 21, 1934, in Reedsville, Pennsylvania, to John and Anna (Speicher) Yoder.

On Oct. 13, 1955, in Belleville, Pennsylvania, she married Joe W. Miller, he died March 21, 1993. On Aug. 16, 1997, she married Edwin St. John, he died July 4, 2021.

Surviving are daughter, Anna (Gary) Miller of Goshen; two sons, Joe Miller of Shipshewana, Jay Miller of Indianapolis; three stepdaughters, Beverly St. John of Hart, Michigan, Carol (Lloyd) Lorenz of Peru, Janet (Louis) Hunkapiller of Alvordton, Ohio; two stepsons, Tom (Susie) St. John of Alvordton, Ohio, David (Becky) St. John of Pioneer, Ohio; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; 13 stepgrandchildren; 18 stepgreat-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Naomi Yoder of Belleville, Pennsylvania. She was preceded in death by her husbands; parents; sister and brother-in-law, Sadie and Ellis Ressler; brother, Louis Yoder.

Mattie was a homemaker and was called to the mission field at a young age. She served as a missionary in Haiti with International Fellowship Haven for 28 years with both of her husbands. She was a member of Griner Church and had attended Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church in West Unity, Ohio.

Funeral services were conducted on Dec. 20 at Griner Church, Middlebury, by Mattie's grandson Pastor Joe Miller and Pastor Jason Miller. Burial followed at Griner Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to International Fellowship Haven. Online condolences may be offered at millerstewartfuneralhome.com.

Ministers by District

District 1		District 2	
Clint Alspaugh	Bethel	Clem Bowman*	CornerStone
Jeff Aungst*	Bethel	Ken Brock*	Pleasant Ridge
David Aungst*	Bethel	Marlin Carpenter	Berean
Judah Bauman	Lititz	Robert Carpenter*	Berean
Justin Beck*	Bethel	Kidron Crist*	CornerStone
Jim Eberly*	Lititz	Philip Gish*	CornerStone
John Eberly*	Chambersburg	Bart Hoblit*	CornerStone
Caleb Heckman	Chambersburg	Brant Jamison*	West Fulton
Dennis Kleindinst	Bethel	Fred Johnson	West Fulton
Robert Lehigh*	Shrewsbury	Rodney Kimmel	Berean
Marlin Marks*	Shrewsbury	Lloyd Lorenz*	Plevna
Vernon Martin	Pine Grove	Andrew Miller	West Fulton
Lynn Miller	Mohlers	Lyndell Noecker	West Fulton
Paul Noecker	Pine Grove	David Rice*	CornerStone
Gerry Priest*	Chambersburg	Dennis St. John*	Pleasant Ridge
Tom Priest*	Chambersburg	Jason St. John	Pleasant Ridge
Keith Snyder*	Lititz	Tom St. John*	Pleasant Ridge
Ray Stuber*	Shrewsbury	Gale Turner*	CornerStone
Merle Sweitzer*	Shrewsbury	Marc Wray	Berean
Verling Wolfe*	Bethel	Mike Wray	Berean
Loren Zook	Lititz		
District 3		District 4	
Mark Andrews*	Grandview	Kyle Chupp	Pleasant Home
Jason Carpenter*	Juniper Hills	Mark Cordrey Jr.	Pleasant Home
Jeff Davison	Garnett	Mark Cordrey Sr.*	Pleasant Home
Kevin Funk*	Dallas Center	Dallas Flory	New Life
Mark Hawbaker	Dallas Center	Micaiah Johnson	Pleasant Home
Tom Hawbaker	Grandview	Henry Walker*	Pleasant Home
Alan Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Chad Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Jim Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Nathan Meyers	Dallas Center		
Fred Pifer*	Dallas Center		
Jonathan Skiles	Juniper Hills		
Paul Skiles*	Juniper Hills		
Devin Sweitzer	Quinter		
Brad Wertz	Quinter		

* - Elder

Deacons by District

District 1		District 2	
Jesse Alspaugh	Bethel	Steve Beachler	Berean
Marcus Alspaugh	Bethel	Harliss Birt	Plevna
Michael Alspaugh Sr.	Lititz	Larry Blocher	Berean
Donald Burkholder	Bethel	Stephen Blocher	CornerStone
Vernon Champ	Chambersburg	Nelson Bontrager	Berean
Jeff Eberly	Bethel	Devin Carpenter	Berean
Roy Eberly	Lititz	Randy Coning	CornerStone
David Lee Johns	Lititz	Paul Heisey	West Fulton
Sam Keeney	Shrewsbury	Steve Heisey	West Fulton
Brian Kegerreis	Bethel	Don Hostetler	CornerStone
Leslie Kegerreis	Pine Grove	Ted Kreiner	West Fulton
Marlin Martin	Lititz	Carl Lorenz	Plevna
Kenton Miller	Shrewsbury	Doyle Lorenz	Plevna
Daniel Noecker	Pine Grove	Ryan Miller	CornerStone
Terry Stump	Shrewsbury	Josh Reed	West Fulton
Chad Sweitzer	Shrewsbury	Loren Reed	Hart
Scott Weaver	Bethel	Kurt Rolle	CornerStone
Galen Wingert	Chambersburg	Benjamin Short	Pleasant Ridge
Grant Wolfe	Bethel	Jacob Short	Pleasant Ridge
Bruce Zook	Chambersburg	Josh St. John	Pleasant Ridge
		Rick St. John	Pleasant Ridge
		Andrew Stoner	CornerStone
District 3		District 4	
Larry Andrews	Grandview	Philip Franklin	Pleasant Home
Britton Andrews	Grandview	Rudy Manuel	Pleasant Home
Marion Brooks	Quinter	Terry Walker	Pleasant Home
Jonathan Edgecomb	Garnett		
Marvin Flory	Dallas Center		
Zachary Funk	Dallas Center		
Nelson Hawbaker	Dallas Center		
Russell Jamison	Quinter		
Andrew Lichtenberger	Garnett		
Dale Meyers	Dallas Center		
Dennis Meyers	Dallas Center		
Lee Meyers	Grandview		
Scott Meyers	Dallas Center		
Jonathan Pifer	Dallas Center		
Oty Reed	Dallas Center		
John Rissler	Grandview		
Joel Royer	Dallas Center		
Seth Skiles	Juniper Hills		
Delbert Swihart	Quinter		
Ivon Wertz	McClave		
Daniel Winingier	Grandview		

NEWS ITEMS

Ukrainian Family Update

Since mid-July, the Pleasant Ridge congregation had been preparing to help the Berin family from war torn Ukraine, to come to America through the Uniting for Ukraine sponsorship program. The Berin family lived in a suburb of Kyiv, which is frequently the target of attacks. In early December, the family traveled to Poland to buy flight tickets to America. On December 13, the Berins flew from Warsaw, Poland to Chicago and in the wee hours of December 14, arrived at their new home in northwest Ohio.

Thank you for your prayers for the Berin family for their safe passage to Poland and then on to America. Please continue to pray for the Pleasant Ridge congregation to share God's love as they help the family get established here in America.

Sunday School Lesson Plans

The Adult Sunday School Lesson Plan for 2025 is available for viewing and download on the Dunkard Brethren Church website. There is also a topical lesson plan for youth classes for any who would like to use that lesson format instead. May God bless and direct our study of His Word in 2025.

The Bible Study Board

Men's Retreat

Attention men...young and old. Mark your calendars for Men's Retreat, February 21-22 at Michindoh Conference Center in Hillsdale, Michigan. The planned speaker is Peter Heck of Jerome Christian Church in Greentown, Indiana. More information will be on the way.

Notice

In preparation for the February issue of the Bible Monitor, please send the Editor any corrections, additions or deletions regarding the Ministerial List, the Deacon List or contact information for the congregations. This information should be supplied by the Presiding Elder or his designate by the first few days of January so that the February issue can be as accurate as possible.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR February 2025

Feb. 2 - II Samuel 3:1-11. - David's Six Sons in Hebron

1. Is there significance in David's six sons having six different mothers?

2. What contributed to the long war between Saul's house and David's house?

3. Why did Ishbosheth accuse Abner?

Feb. 9. - II Samuel 3:12-21. - Abner Joins David

1. Who is Michal, Saul's daughter?

2. Why did Abner choose to talk to the elders of Israel?

3. What did David want to signify when he made a feast for Abner and the men?

Feb. 16. - II Samuel 3:22-39 - David Mourns Abner's Death

1. How did Joab get Abner to come to him?

2. Why did David call Abner a fool?

3. What does the fact that David mourned for the illegal killing of Abner tell us about his heart?

Feb. 23 - II Samuel 4:1-12. - Ishbosheth Defeated

1. Who lost courage when he heard about Abner's death? Why?

2. How was Jonathan's son injured?

3. What was David's response to Ishbosheth's death?

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