

REFLECTIONS

I have never had much success with New Year's resolutions about diet and exercise. I've tried but something always comes along, like breakfast, lunch, a coffee break, or the weather, so there is just not a good time to get around to my resolutions. Also, I do not like to be nagged by my inner resolution keeper. Finally, I may have found a more helpful way to have a happy New Year.

I thought about blaming God. He made me this way, right? Then I considered blaming other people, but they want to pressure me to go along with them. I tried being angry at myself and agitated with the world at large, but that was exhausting. I blamed the devil, but he just grinned. Changing the subject is only a temporary fix. Finally, I discovered the bliss of denial, but somehow even denial does not give me a happy new year.

I have discovered a simple way to fulfill a year's worth of resolutions with one word. Pick a word for the year and live it out every day. Choose one attribute from Galatians 5:22-23 and you will have nine years' worth of fruitful living. Everyone is different, so find your own word to express each day. Choose joy or peace or kindness. Choose love or gentleness or patience. Choose self-control or faith or goodness. Then show up each day with your word on your mind. It is a way to allow the Holy Spirit to fill your heart.

Based on Romans 12:1-2 and the blessing from Ephesians 3:20-21, I seek to follow this pattern for each day. (1) Confess by name my weakness and seek God's strength for the day. (2) Honor God with my body. (3) Honor people in my speech and actions. (4) Practice openness and generosity. And (5) pray, pray, pray. Life is a daily walk, not a list of things to do or not do. Life is built on loving, open relationships as we share our stories and dreams. If you need a resolution list, I suggest that you commit to a spiritual growth step in one word, and never stop saying "Thank you" and "I love you."

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Have a Happy New Year. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

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The Evangel

Braden Park Baptist Church
4739 East Fifth Street (5th & Yale)
Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Sunday School	11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening	
Sanctuary Choir	5:30 p.m.
Worship	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Evening	
Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

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Bill Ess, Music Minister

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The Evangel



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Our Church Family

LIVING CENTERS

Southern Hills Rehabilitation Center #301 Gina Reynolds
Zarrow Pointe Kaiser Health Center #214 Dorothy Lee

AT HOME

Alice and Bill Barrett	Bonnie Nutting
Elizabeth Burke	Waneta Reynolds
Berta Caldwell	Ben and PJ Shepard
Marion Corbett	Margaret VanHorn
Russell Ford	Leslie White
Paula McPherson	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

December

27 Margaret VanHorn
29 David Dryer
31 Waneta Reynolds (100 Years)

January

1 Sandra Gaona
3 Mickey Holdt
5 Georgia Metcalf
6 Casey Gilmore
7 PJ Shepard
9 Sunni Wager

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

January

1 Donelle and Bryan Enos 22 Years

Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

10:00 a.m. 'Twas the Day After Christmas
—Luke 2:19-20

11:15 a.m. Bible Study: The Case for Christmas
No Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

5:00 p.m. People's Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry

6:30 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

1:00 p.m. 100th Birthday Reception for
Waneta Reynolds in
Fellowship Hall



SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

10:00 a.m. The Ending Is the Beginning
—Hebrews 13:1-8

Behind the Scenes

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to *Waneta Reynolds* on the occasion of her 100th birthday, December 31. Everyone is invited to celebrate with her at the reception in Fellowship Hall on her birthday, Friday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Due to on-going concerns about the pandemic, masks are required and everyone's temperature will be taken. You can send her a birthday card or note at 5424 E. 7th St, Tulsa, OK. 74112-4346

NEW AWNING OVER NORTH CENTER ENTRANCE

Workmen have installed a new canopy awning over the north entryway, replacing the older deteriorating one. A new metal awning over the kitchen entrance will be installed soon.

END-OF-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

The following information is from IRS publication 526, Charitable Contributions: "You can deduct your contributions only in the year you actually make them in cash or other property. A check that you mail to a charity is considered delivered on the date you mail it." Therefore contributions should be received by the church post-marked by December 31, 2021, which is on a Friday.

There will not be an EVANGEL published next week.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 1,936.00
General Receipts December 19	\$ 1,441.00
Special Offerings December 19	\$ 00.00
Lottie Moon Global Missions to date	\$ 1,175.00

Thank You to all who are providing sustaining tithes and offerings.