

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain, But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes; Not by making your path easy, But by making you sturdy to travel any path; Not by taking hardships from you, But by taking fear from your heart; Not by granting you unbroken sunshine, But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows; Not by making your life always pleasant, But by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help. God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

~Anonymous



DECEMBER: THE TRUTH MATTERS... ABOUT [AST THINGS!

6th—Secret Sister Revealing

17th- Jan 2- Christmas Break

25th- Christmas Day

30th- 5th Sunday Sing

AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE. JOHN 8: 32



As I stepped into the music-filled sanctuary, I looked around at the crowd that had gathered for a New Year's Eve party. Joy lifted my heart with hope, as I recalled the prayers of the previous year. Our congregation had collectively grieved over wayward children, deaths of loved ones, job losses, and broken relationships. But we'd also experienced God's grace as we recalled changed hearts and healed personal connections. We'd celebrated victories, weddings, graduations, and baptisms into God's family. We'd welcomed children born, adopted, or dedicated to the Lord, and more—so much more. Reflecting over the history of trials our church family faced, much like Jeremiah remembered his "affliction" and his "misery" (Lam. 3:19), I be-

lieved that "*It is of* the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." (v. 22). As the prophet reassured himself of God's past faithfulness, his words comforted me: "The LORD *is* good unto them that wait for him, to the soul *that* seeketh him." (v. 25).

That night, each person in our congregation represented a tangible expression of God's life-transforming love. Whatever we'd face in the years to come, as members of the interdependent body of Christ, we could rely on the Lord. And as we continue to seek Him and support one another, we can, as did Jeremiah, find our hope being ratified by faith-building memories of God's unchanging character and dependability.

ORD, THANK YOU FOR USING OUR PAST TO ASSURE US OUR HOPE REMAINS SECURE IN YOUR EVERLASTING FAITHFULNESS.

As we look ahead to the new year, let's remember that God has always been and always will be faithful.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

DAN & RACHAEL BROWN MISSIONARIES TO MADAGASCAR



We are the Browns. God has called us to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the needy people on the island of Madagascar. n 2013, God began burdening our hearts for Madagascar, an island with a population of nearly 23 million people and few Baptist missionaries. In May of 2014, we took a survey trip where we saw the many needs of the people. Our heart's desire is to return to Madagascar and to establish local New Testament churches.

http://browns2madagascar.com/





"...*the end of your search for a friendly church.*" <u>Pastor</u>: Terry D. Sellars <u>Assistant Pastor</u>: Earl T. Kicklighter

Contact Information:

12 S. McDonald Street PO Box 100 Ludowici, GA 31316 (912) 545-9136 Sunday School– 10:00am Sunday Morning Service– 11:00am Sunday Evening– 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening-7:00pm

Service Times:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2018



Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the [ord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Matthew 1: 22-23