

# HERITAGE NEWS

Monthly Newsletter



Reaching People in the Name of Christ - Discipling People in the Way of Christ - Empowering People in the Service of Christ



## Star Words

By: Michael Tuterow

### Lighting the way for the year ahead

Stars (heavenly ones, not the Hollywood type) might be trying to say something to us. After all, the Psalmist put it this way long ago: *"Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming his handiwork. One day gushes the news to the next, and one night informs another what needs to be known"* (Psalm 19:1-2, *Common English Bible*).

As in previous years, we kicked off the new year listening to the stars. We selected a "star word," a simple word to serve as a guiding light

for us in the coming year. That's a pretty good thought in and of itself -- starting a new year by reaching for the stars.

Even as some folks left worship on Jan. 1, they were surprised by the word they selected and the message they were already hearing. Have you been pondering the message behind your word?

My word? "Trust." A word packed with meaning. Believing in someone or something. To have confidence or hope. To be responsible for



HERITAGE  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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something, to “hold in trust.” To be a person of trust. The meanings are many. And as I ponder the changes ahead for me this year, they will require trust in big doses.

Trust will play a big role in our church life, too, as the search for a new pastor begins. We’ve “entrusted” that process to a group of people. We are trusting that God is guiding someone even now who will come to lead this fellowship into its next chapter.

I taped this year’s star of “trust” to the side of my computer screen beneath three star words from earlier years. Only as I wrote this article did it dawn on me -- trust was serving as a foundation for everything else.

That insight is fitting for this new season of the year: Epiphany. An epiphany is an “aha” moment. If you’ve ever had a sudden flash of insight, you’ve had an “epiphany” -- it means “to be revealed,” or “to make known.” The “light comes on” for us; what had been hidden is now revealed.

Perhaps that’s the first of many enlightening moments that our “star words” will provide.

They shine so we might become more aware of wonders around us. They serve as a lens that we look through, sharpening what we see.

For those of you who missed getting your word, give me a call, ask for one this coming Sunday, or stop by the office. It’s never too late to add a little light to your path. Take the word with you and post it somewhere where you will see it each day. Reflect on it throughout this year. What message might God have for you in this simple word?

Study it. Look it up in a dictionary and see what meanings it might have. Wonder over it. Explore it. Think about the ways that word might lead you if you followed it. Talk with one another about the words you received. Share with each other what you’re discovering through the light of that word. Imagine the light of this word shining over you this year. But also shining beneath you, guiding your steps and leading to you to discover Jesus in a fresh way for yourself.


May you discover this to be the first of many words from heaven itself that offer you light to guide your steps and lead you to see God is with you – and in you each day throughout this new year. See you Sunday.

Grace and peace,



P.S. The worship theme I’m working with in January and February is titled “*Quicken – Reinvigorating Our Faith.*” With the new year comes all kinds of desires to make changes and set new goals. The life of faith is no different. Faith needs to be “quicken” – renewed and strengthened. Who among us couldn’t benefit from reinvigorating our faith? We’ll look to some of the early stories of Jesus’ ministry to see how Jesus brought new life and hope to people whose faith had faltered. Which is exactly what Jesus desires to do for each of us.

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15


1/15/23

*“What Are You Looking For?”*

Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Cor. 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

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22


1/22/23

*“Changing Directions”*

Isaiah 9:1-4

Matthew 4:12-23

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29

1/29/23

*“Return to Basics”*

Micah 6:1-8; 1 Cor. 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

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5


2/5/23

*“Influential”*

Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]

Matthew 5:13-20

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12

2/12/23

*“Choosing a Better Way”*

Deut. 30:15-20; 1 Cor. 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-48

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# Remembering Our Baptisms & MLK, Jr. Candlelight Service

Photos By: Robyn Rhodes







# HERITAGE

monthly  
giving

Let's Get Together

## January 11 - February 15

### January

11 - Wednesday Night Activities Resume  
 13 - Fellowship Hall in Use (Garden Club meets)  
 16 - Church Office Closed / No School MLK Observance  
 17 - Reading Buddies  
 20 - Sheltering Tree delivers Homeless Shelter Meal  
 22 - Cotton Patch Rehearsals Begins  
**ALL PASSPORT MONEY DUE!!** (Youth & HBC Kids)  
 24 - Reading Buddies  
 27-29 - Rock Eagle CBF Kid's Retreat "Story"  
 28 - Run for Recovery  
 29 - One Room SS w/ Breakfast  
 31 - Reading Buddies

### February

7- Reading Buddies  
 9 - Act III Birthday Party, HBC Fellowship Hall



General Budget Receipts Jan. 1 & 8 = \$14,277.50

End of Year 2022 Receipts: \$ 472,805.85\*

End of Year 2022 Expenses: \$ 463,858.21\*

Debt Retirement Receipts Jan. 1 & 8 = \$835.30

End of Year 2022 Receipts: \$ 48,347.82\*

End of Year 2022 Expenses: \$ 60,036.28\*

Other Receipts Jan. 1 & 8 = \$100.00

\* Additional receipts pending.



*Let's Go!*

Winter Retreat  
for our  
HBC Kids & 6th Graders

January 27-29, 2023

Rock Eagle  
Eatonton, GA



**Cotton Patch Gospel**

**REHEARSALS BEGIN**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023**  
**at 1:00 pm**

PASSPORT	PASSPORTkids
Youth Camp Grades 6-12 \$468-\$493 Converse University Spartanburg, SC	Children's Camp Grades 3-5 \$375 Rock Eagle Eatonton, GA

**FINAL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY JANUARY 22!!**  
 I will send out camp balances by Friday, January 20.  
 This will include all fundraising.



**Run for Recovery 5K and 1M Run / "Winter Walk"**

Race is **SATURDAY, January 28, 2022**  
 at **Heritage Baptist Church/ Sam Smith Park**  
**Benefits Recovery Bartow**



**1 ROOM**  
**Sunday School**

Sunday - January 29 @ 9:00 am  
 "Thank You" Breakfast provided by  
 the Stewardship Work Group.  
 Discussions with Pastor Search.

**ACT III Birthday Celebration**

February 9, 2023  
 1-3 pm  
 HBC Fellowship Hall  
 Cake & Games  
 Join us as we celebrate all  
 Act III members with one  
 spectacular birthday party.

