



# THE VISION

January 2023

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”*  
**Amen. Matthew 28:19-20**

## The Traveler and the Oasis

In days of old, there was a man whose business required him to travel through a challenging stretch of desert each day. The climate was arid and hot. As he journeyed, he often became wearied by the forces of nature beating upon him with blistering heat and a searing east wind. Though he carried enough water for his daily trek, it was lukewarm and not very palatable.

One day, an unsuspecting stranger met him along the way and had something to share with him. He told him of an unbelievable place where there was shade and refreshing cold water from a deep spring. The stranger took him there. It was off the beaten path — but oh, how refreshing was the cold water, and what abundant relief was found in the sheltering shade of the trees. It was almost too good to be true! Due to providence, the traveler now knew about this special place. It was available to him every day he journeyed. The best kept secret had been revealed to him. Even after receiving that knowledge, he pondered if he had the time to go out of his way and stop for a little while each day at that beautiful place. After all, he was a very busy man and there were just so many hours in a day.

In some ways, we are like the traveler in the story. As believers in Jesus, we

have learned of a special place of respite available to us. A wonderful, secret place, where we can day by day enjoy the treasure of time alone with God. During that time, we can be refreshed, revitalized, and inspired. Like the traveler, we may ponder — do we have the time? Spending time alone with God each day does cost us something, but the benefits, by far, outweigh the cost. Prayer draws us closer to God, and as the *potter* referenced in Jeremiah 18, He able to mold us and make us more like Him while we are at the oasis of prayer. During that cherished time, we close the door on everything else and begin to praise and thank Him. As we do, our precious Lord blesses us with indescribable peace and sweet relief from the sometimes scorching heat of tests and trials we may be experiencing. In the secret place, He also prepares us for what’s to come. Time alone with God is a much needed detour from the daily grind of life’s demands. And to go one further, God really loves the time we spend alone with Him. We were created for close fellowship with the Lover of our souls!

Let us enter 2023 with a renewed purpose of making the daily oasis of prayer priority number one in our pathway through life!

Happy New Year,

David Crummett

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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# 2023



**THANK YOU!**

The WMU would like to thank the congregation for the \$4,000.00 that has been collected for our Lottie Moon offering. The goal for our church this year was \$2,800.00 and we have surpassed that immensely.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated and these funds will be used to support missionaries internationally.

The leadership of WMU would like to thank all the WMU members for their participation in baking and distributing cookies in support of the Lottie Moon fund.

*Inspirational Thoughts*

Every Christian needs a half an hour of prayer each day, except when he is busy, then he needs an hour.

—Francis de Sales

Remember that everyone you meet is afraid of something, loves something, and has lost something.

—Unknown Author



“ Heavenly Father,  
At midnight,  
When the old year dies,  
And the new comes  
bounding in,  
I draw strength from knowing  
That in the next twelve months  
The snows will go  
The buds will burst  
The heat will rise  
The leaves will fly,  
That all these things  
will happen  
According to Your schedule  
And in Your time;  
That there is order in  
Your universe,  
And that I am part of it.”

**VAN VARNER**



*Happy New Year*



The New Year

Dear Lord, as this new year is born  
I give it to Thy hand,  
Content to walk by faith what paths  
I cannot understand.

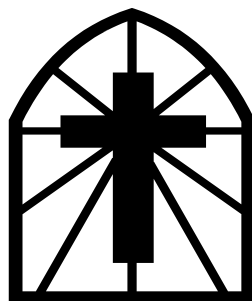
Whatever coming days may bring  
Of bitter loss, or gain,  
Or every crown of happiness;  
Should sorrow come, or pain,

Or, Lord, if all unknown to me  
Thine angel hovers near  
To bear me to that farther shore  
Before another year,

It matters not—my hand in Thine,  
Thy light upon my face,  
Thy boundless strength when I am weak,  
Thy love and saving grace!

I only ask, loose not my hand,  
Grip fast my soul, and be  
My guiding light upon the path  
Till, blind no more, I see!

—By: Martha Snell Nicholson—



Deacon of the Week

1/1—Sonya Anthony  
1/8—Bill Breeden  
1/15—Leslie Belvin  
1/22—David Crummett  
1/29—Barry Milligan

Nursery Workers

1/1—H. Warren/T. Owens  
1/8—L. Walton  
1/15—TBD  
1/22—TBD  
1/29—Beverly/Connie West

January Ushers

Jimmy Diggs  
Amy Jacobson  
Gus Saunders



CHURCH  
WORKERS

January Tellers

Lynn Walton  
Amy Jacobson

Sun. Sch. Nursery

H. Warren/T. Owens

Older Children's Church

1/1—TBD  
1/8—Jayme/Brody Sanford  
1/15—M. McNeil/D. Gandee  
1/22—Connie/Sami West  
1/29—Connie Stewart

Younger Children's Church

1/1—Nancy Dyson  
1/8—Sonya Anthony  
1/15—Joyce Marshall  
1/22—R. Wells/M. Wagner  
1/29—T. Greggs/Youth



## Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages)- 9:40am  
 Worship Service- 11:00am  
 C.A.R.E. Ministry—2:00pm



# January 2023

## Wednesday Schedule

5:30pm: CYM Supper  
 6:00pm: Youth Bible Study  
 6:00pm: Children's Choir & Bible Study  
 6:30pm: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
 7:30pm: Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Lord's Supper  NO CARE	2 AHG 6:30 pm	3 Transportation 6:30pm  Building & Grounds 6:30pm	4	5	6 Men's Bible Study 6:30pm	7
8 SS Breakfast 9:15am/Koinoia CARE/B. Milligan 2pm Deacon Mtg 3pm	9 WMU Council Meeting 10:00 am  AHG Ministry Team 6:15pm	10 Community Morning Out 9:30 am	11	12	13 Vision Articles Due  Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm	14 Children's Movie 3:30-5:30pm  Youth Movie 6:30—8:30pm
15 CARE/ Barbara Fryer 2pm	16 AHG (Troop) 6:30 pm	17 Armstrong Circle 6:30 pm	18	19 Acree Circle 10:00 am	20 Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm	21 Quilting Group 9am—4pm  Baptist Men's Dinner Time T BD
22 Baptist Men's Day  CARE/Joyce Marshall 2pm	23	24	25 Family Night Supper 6pm  Quarterly Business Meeting 6:30 pm	26	27 Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm	28
29 Church Council Meeting 12:00 pm  CARE/Stewart Wood	30 AHG (troop) 6:30 pm	31				

## January Birthdays:

Alice Smith	1/1
Chris Hutson	1/3
Betty Jane Duncan	1/5
Tim Owens	1/5
Lester Jenkins	1/6
Ronnie Lewis	1/6
Chase Mitchell	1/12
Janis West	1/17
Jac Worth	1/20
Kolin Jenkins	1/21
Mike Crawford	1/24
Alice Oldfield	1/25
Jeannie Fitzgerald	1/25
John Oldfield	1/26
Catherine Asbell	1/26
Charles West	1/29
Debra Wood	1/29
Howard Warren	1/30
David Worth	1/30



## Anniversaries:

Chris & Heidi Gibbons	1/6
Doug & Chris Blaylock	1/15
Ronnie & Judy Lewis	1/20
David & Jac Worth	1/25