

January/February 2025

Each new year usually brings a new commitment for us to study our Bibles more. To know God more. With that in mind, I present to you, "A Liturgy for beginning the Study of God" by Douglas McKelvey.

"O Holy Trinity, We stand before You in silence. We sit before You in reverence. We bow before You in humility. With the seraphim, we cover our faces: with Job, we place a hand over our mouths; with all the company of Heaven, we fall before You in wonder, love, and praise. Speak, for Your servants are listening.

O Father, You who made a wildly wonderful world, spark our curiosity and increase in us a childlike sense of wonder, so that we may never grow dull in our studies but always be joyfully keen in all things divine and human, known and unknown, earthly and heavenly.

Bless us as we begin this study of Your nature and character and of all that You have said and done, that we might begin it in a holy and humble manner, and that by your Spirit I shall become more fully conformed to Christ's image by its end.

Bless us to persist when our studies become arduous, discouraging, or confusing.

Bless us to the end of our study, that all of our reading and writing and thinking and talking will have been done in a care-filled and charitable manner, in a way that exhibits the neighbor-love of Jesus, and resulting in a deeper knowledge and love of You.

O Son of God, You who are the eternally begotten of the Father, the image of the invisible God, the Word made Flesh, the Risen Christ and the Lamb who sits upon the throne, reveal yourself to us in our studies.

Be our guide in our reading; Be our light in our thinking; Be our judge in our hearing; Be our witness in our speaking; Be our teacher in our writing; Be our Priest in our praying;

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Help us to become as little children in all of our studies, that we may always be open to the wisdom and exhortation of Your global Body, which might show us where we have turned our ideas into idols and confused the gospel with the broken aspects of our culture.

O Holy Spirit, You who are the Lord and Giver of Life, make, un-make, and re-make me in our studies, so that we might perceive the One who stands at the center of all of reality and encounter afresh the life that is truly life.

Enlighten our ignorant minds; enkindle our dull imaginations; protect our fearful hearts; strengthen our inconstant wills, energize our sluggish bodies; purify our mixed motives.

And when time is short, energy lacking, opportunity thwarted, life interrupting, love missing, and patience waning...help us to believe that You are lovingly at work in all things, so that we might trust that the One who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it at the day of Jesus Christ.

O Holy Trinity, May all that we learn in this season of study increase in us a love of wisdom, a hunger for justice, a thirst for righteousness, a habit of peace, an instinct for mercy, an appetite for truth, a taste for goodness, a longing for beauty, and a willingness to be gracious in all things.

May we love You in this study, not only with all of my mind, but also with all of my heart, soul, and strength.

May all that I study lead to a greater love for our neighbors, both near and far, both friendly and hostile, both like and unlike me.

And may we become by Your grace one who prays in and through all of our studies, so that doxology might become the natural outcome of our learning of the things of God, resulting in joyful praise and thanksgiving of the one who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen, Amen, and Amen."

From "Every Moment Holy: Volume III The Work of the People" by Douglas Kaine McKelvey. Rabbit Room Press.



Winn's Creek will be doing another Hee Haw. It will take place on Saturday, March 22nd from 6PM – 7:30PM. We will be practicing on Tuesdays in January and February, from 6PM – 7PM, in the sanctuary. The first practice will be Tuesday, January 7th.



Adult Choir Practice will resume in January. There will be no choir practice on Wednesday, January 1st due to New Years. The next week, choir practice will be on TUESDAY, January 7th (instead of the 8th), because Pastor Jim will be away to take his mom to chemo. The week after that, we will have our Liturgies study on Wed. January 15th at 7PM, with choir at 7:30PM. The following week after that, Jim also has to take his mom to chemo again, so the third choir practice in January will be Tuesday, January 21st at 7PM (following Hee Haw practice). Then, choir practice will return to Wed. January 29th at 7:30PM, following our Liturgies of the Moment study.

It will look like this:

Date	Event	Choir
Wed. Jan. 1st	No church	No Choir
Tues. Jan. 7th	Hee Haw 6-7PM	Choir 7PM-8PM
Wed. Jan. 15 th	Liturgies 7PM	Choir 730-830PM
Tues. Jan. 21st	Hee Haw 6-7PM	Choir 7PM-8PM
Wed. Jan. 29th	Liturgies 7PM	Choir 730-830PM



Winn's Creek will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on Sunday, January 5th, during the morning worship service. Please make plans to attend.

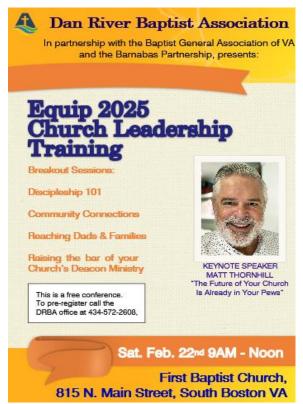


Our Sunday Evening Bible Study on Bible Characters will resume on January 5th at 6PM.



Our next quarterly business meeting will be Sunday, January 26th, at 6PM.

Our Next Deacon/Wives Meeting will Be Monday, February 3rd at 6PM.



The DRBA has put a lot of work into this conference, please make plans to attend. Call the assoc. office to register.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3rd James Clements – B

5th Jason Claiborne – B Mason Owen – B

6th Maddie Milam – B Dorothy Kinder – B Hannah Abbott – B

7th Stephanie Elliott – B

8th John Ambrose, Sr. – B

11th Carol Ann Fears – B Drake Clardy – B

13th Kathy Ambrose – B

14th Brittany Perkins - B

15th Mary Margaret Francisco - B

16th Amelia Clements - B

17th Dalyn Barksdale – B

18th Phil & Wanda Saunders - A

21st A. J. Dease – B

23rd Sabrina Conner - B

25th Miranda Gunn - B

26th Curtis Grove - B

28th Linda Conner - B

Alyssa Milam - B 2nd 4th Doris Hupp - B Mike & Pat Spencer - A 6th Nick Elliott - B 7th Garnett Hall - B 9th Adam Layman – B 10th Zachery Epps – B Alice Clayton - B 11th Kevin Barksdale – B 12th Kynlee Henderson - B 13th Robert Conard - B 14th Sandi Anderson – B

Casey Martin - B

31st Danny Owen - B

15th Tyler Hudson – B

23rd Gunnar Jones – B

25th Joan Layman – B

26th Cindy Cole – B
Elaina Gail – B

27th Joshua Martin – B

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR BIRTHDAY ADDED TO THE LIST, PLEASE LET PASTOR JIM KNOW!