



WHITESTONE LIFE

January 2019

A Note from Pastor Kurt

At the beginning of a new year it is almost automatic, even if we don't want to, to think about goals and resolutions. What will be our focus, our theme, our emphasis for the coming year?

As I was starting to think about what I would write for the first month of the New Year, a small plane flew over the church at a surprisingly low altitude. It was a grey morning with a very low cloud ceiling. I wondered if the plane was flying high enough to clear the water tower. I thought about two incidents in my past. One, when a plane flew very low over our house in Pennsylvania on a night with low clouds and freezing drizzle. Later we found out it had been searching for the airport and ended up missing the runway. I also remembered the summer during college when a change in weather contributed to a small plane crash that killed three college students. I paused to pray for the safety of whoever was flying that plane. As I did I realized how many pilots we have attending Whitestone.

Prayer can be a daily pattern with a set time and place for prayer, and prayer can be a moment's reflection when something out of the ordinary catches our attention.

As those two items passed in my brain: New Year themes and praying for a small plane (along with the awareness that it was time to write an article for Whitestone Life), I thought about my appreciation for a growing focus on prayer at Whitestone. Not just individual prayer but groups meeting to pray together. For the past number of months there has been a Wednesday evening group praying together as part of CONNECT. In the coming weeks, after our Sunday morning worship, the OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM will have persons prepared to pray with anyone wanting to be prayed for or wanting someone to pray with them. And one of the things that stood out as we remembered Jan Stutzman, following her death last month, was learning about her pattern of prayer each morning.

We haven't picked a congregational theme for 2019 but with the beginning of a new year it seems a good time to challenge myself and our church to consider how we might make prayer a growing focus of our lives, individually and corporately.



- 1 Randall Loucks
- 3 Doug Peters
- 4 Phyllis Weaver
Caleb Unruh
- 5 Hannah Unruh
- 6 Boomer Cherry
- 7 Matt Royston
Chris Unruh
- 11 Amber Koehn
Joyce Zuercher
- 12 Joe Fenton
Emily Weaver
Paul Unruh
Adiel Pickerill
- 13 Marlin Kym
Becky Schrag
Luanna Voth
- 15 Aaron Isaacs
- 16 Nancy Krehbiel
Emily Koehn
- 18 Dean Leatherman
Wendell Sauder
Gustovo Kelber
- 19 Paul Schrag
Marilyn Hartman
- 21 Brenna Peters
- 24 Lorraine Miller
- 25 Dorothy Neff
Jeff Roth
- 26 Connor Bartell
Janelle Bontrager
- 27 Emily Nichols
- 28 Nicole Dillner
- 29 Drew Bartell
- 30 Gary Franz



Events at Whitestone Mennonite Church

9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship
 Tuesdays: 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 Wednesday's 5:45 PM Connect

- 3 9:00 AM Mennonite Women
- 6 **Arise and shine, for your light has come** Ron Moyo
 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Noon Young Adult Meal
- 7 7:00 PM Elders
- 13 **Provoke (encouraging) One Another toward Love and Good Deeds**
 Hebrews 10:24-25; Philippians 1:8-11
- 20 **World Fellowship Sunday: Strangers Among Us**
 Leviticus 19:33-34; Luke 4:18-21; 1 Peter 2:11-12
- 22 5:00 PM Worship Meeting
- 24 10:00 AM Villa Coffee
- 27 **Encouraging One Another**
 Hebrews 3:13; 2 Chronicles 30:1 & 13-27

January 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



10 Alan & Karla Simpson
 14 Allen & Mary Schrag

New Testament Reading Plan

- Jan. 1 Matthew 1-2
- Jan. 2 Matthew 3-4
- Jan. 3 Matthew 5-6
- Jan. 4 Matthew 7-8
- Jan. 5 Matthew 9-10
- Jan. 6 Matthew 11-12
- Jan. 7 Matthew 13
- Jan. 8 Matthew 14-15
- Jan. 9 Matthew 16-17
- Jan. 10 Matthew 18-19
- Jan. 11 Matthew 20
- Jan. 12 Matthew 21
- Jan. 13 Matthew 22-23
- Jan. 14 Matthew 24-25
- Jan. 15 Matthew 26
- Jan. 16 Matthew 27-28
- Jan. 17 Mark 1-2
- Jan. 18 Mark 3-4
- Jan. 19 Mark 5-6
- Jan. 20 Mark 7-8
- Jan. 21 Mark 9-10
- Jan. 22 Mark 11-12
- Jan. 23 Mark 13-14
- Jan. 24 Mark 15-16
- Jan. 25 Luke 1
- Jan. 26 Luke 2-3
- Jan. 27 Luke 4-5
- Jan. 28 Luke 6-7
- Jan. 29 Luke 8
- Jan. 30 Luke 9
- Jan. 31 Catch-up Day!

Important dates this year!

January 27, 2019
 Congregational meeting

February 3
 Souper Bowl

Youth Auction
 March 24

Convention
 July 2-6

