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NEW YEAR!



THE CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE WAS A GREAT experience to those attending. We prepared for 300 and 500 came! But it was a beautiful Families sat together at candle-lit tables Several members testify that this is the most mean-

Several members testify that this is the most meaningful service of the year for them. I think it made Christmas mean a lot more to all of us.

HOW TO HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR. Jesus said in John 13:17, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Read the context and see what Jesus was referring to as "these things." If you do them this year, God guarantees a HAPPPY NEW YEAR.

TEXAS BAPTIST EVANGELISM CONFERENCE January 15-17, Tarrant County Convention Center, Fort Worth. Music by Joe Ann Shelton. Speakers include Billy Graham, W. A. Criswell, Landrum Leavell, Kenneth Chafin and P. S. Wilkinson. Morning sessions begin at 8:30, afternoon sessions at 2:00, and evening sessions at 6:15.

A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

On Monday, January 15, I'll be preaching at the Conference of General Evangelists of Texas in Fort Worth, and I covet your intercession for this serv-

OUR TEXT FOR THE NEW YEAR: "Sanctify your-selves: for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among

Ronald Dunn

As I See It

EVER MAKE RESOLUTIONS FOR SOMEONE ELSE?

. I really don't recommend it . . , especially if you are making them for your spouse . . . or for your neighbor or fellow employee . . . and I suppose it wouldn't be good relations to do it for anyone . . .

... and besides RESOLUTIONS are personal, for yourself. And they usually aren't worth much. We don't really take them too seriously . . . and most of the time we had rather "IMPROVE" upon someone else rather than ourselves.

but the real reason for failure is that RESOLUTIONS are dependent upon ourselves. And we are always a failure. Maybe the best resolution if we really have to have one—is to resolve that "I CAN'T, but that HE CAN . . . and that's a perfect

. . . try being nothing, and letting Him be everything . . . quit trying and begin trusting and PRAISE THE LORD FOR A NEW YEAR.

VITAL STATISTICS

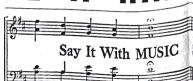
(week of December 24, 1972)

Sunday School Attendance-502 Budget \$4,755.89 White Christmas—\$2,035.28 Designed-\$180.92 TOTAL-\$6,982.09



Before and After

A life-sized photo of the Madonna in Michelangelo's Pleta showing the damage caused by a hammer-wielding man in May 1972 is compared with the restored work. After seven months of work by art experts, the famed master-piece was unveiled to photographers before being returned to its place in St. Peter's Basilica. To guard against further incidents, the Pieta will be placed behind a glass shield. (RNS Photo)



YOUNG MUSICIANS RETREAT AT MT. LEBANON

ENCAMPMENT . . . JANUARY 12-13, 1973.



Praise the Lord for White Christmas at MBBC Pledged-\$21,500 Given to Date-\$13,000

Number of needy families helped-14 Schools, hospitals and organizations helped—9
Total gifts given—587

As always the joy of White Christmas comes when the visit is made in the home of these families and the material gifts are given and the life of Jesus is shared with them Praise the Visit is faithful shared with them. Praise the Lord for the faithful who deliver both-Jesus and gifts.

Great Commission in Action

Let me take this opportunity to tell everyone Let me take this opportunity to tell everyone how much I love and appreciate you. I praise our Lord for calling me to MBBC. I am so excited about the new year and what our Lord wants to reveal to and through us. I believe that this will be the greatest year of our Activities Program. I ask that you would make this one of your top prayer requests that we would use this program to win more into the Kingdom of Cod.

In January the Single Adults are going to begin surveying every apartment in the La Dolche Vita complex. They will be using our survey along with the Four Spiritual Laws. Our Young People have been using this approach and God has really blessed this effort. Praise the Lord.

Attn: All who have a jersey or socks. Please return them to me. See you Sunday.

Ron Proctor

LOST AND FOUND

The following is a list of lost Bibles. You may pick them up in the Lost and Found located in the Library in the Worship Center.

Robby Cavanaugh, Julie Spence (3), Sherri Jaynes, Cindy Sanderson, Terri Lea Crowther, Cindi Sanders, Joe Sumrall, Dennis Doyle, Greg Johnson, Patricia Rawlings, Robert Looper, Charles Wood, Michal Brand, Ronald Dunn, Jr., Robert Wood, Janice Blalock, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Barnett, Genita Ann Campbell, Reagan Finch, Tonya Lenn Crow, Jason Murdock, Patrick Brady, Lynda Carol Tate, Kevin Barnes, Brantly Wright, Matt Johnson, Lance Bailey, Mark Sanderlin, Kelly Huitt, Vince Bingham, David Doyle, Connie Hayner, Sandy Brown, Suzanne Disson, Linda Campbell, Suzanne Johnson, Brad Vardeman, Toni Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Warner, Shaun Kilburn, Alan Wayne Stewart, Steven Fracey, Philip Allen, Monica Jill Bowdoin, Jimmie L. McGaha, M. Loyd Johnson, Debra Meadows, Jo Spence, ha, M. Loyd Johnson, Debra Meadows, Jo Spence, John Bauman, Rex Smith, David Suseuritt, Bob Johnson.

A WORD FROM WARD

Did you have the most wonderful Holiday Season ever? Well, why was that? I found that most events won't "turn out the best ever" without some thoughtful planning.

Between now and next week would you please think over your Christmas and New Year celebra-tions and begin planning for next year's holidays. Some guidelines to consider?

- 1. Was Christ or Santa Claus central at Christmas?
- 2. Was giving or receiving the more important?
- 3. What was your motive for giving?
- 4. What was your response in receiving?
- 5. Did you go into debt for gifts?
- 6. What was the relationship between your White Christmas giving and the total of your gifts?
- 7. Were your family celebrations and home decorations Christian or pagan?
- 8. Have you prayerfully considered the successes d failures of the past year?
- o. Have you made any resolution for the coming
- 10. Have you set spiritual goals for the coming year?

CHILDREN OF LIGHT

Congratulations to the new officers: President—Wayne Templin Vice-President-Pam McKinney Secretary—Tracey Spray Librarian—Paul Thompso



(Baptism) 32. Pam Buttery, College 506 N. Rogers No. 302, 254-8720



33. Joseph Johnson, Adult 2

4500 Lancaster, Dallas



34. Peggy Nighswonger, Single Adult

708 S. Story

Blessedness of Afflications

all things work together for good to them that love God." (Romans 8:28.)

The sufferings we go through either embitter us comfort her by showing her two stones alike in color. or bring a blessing to us. The question of impor-But there was a marked difference in them—one had tance is not, What does affliction do to us? but, What a dazzling brilliance, the other was rather dull. Why will we do with affliction? David could say, "It is the difference? One had received eighty cuts, the othegood for me that I have been afflicted." er eight. The stone that had suffered much shone good for me that I have been afflicted."

When things go wrong, it is easy to say, "I wish brilliantly; the other that suffered little was dim and I had never been born." Instead of this attitude, we lusterless. To make us more brilliant for God's kingshould be grateful for the privilege of witnessing for dom, He says through Paul, "Yea, and all that will Christ, regardless of afflictions, and to believe "that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Men of influence, men who have accomplished We should ever remember that sorrow, disappointment, and suffering are the common heritage of go through the furnace of affliction. Charles Spurus all. When we look at afflictions as we should, they bring blessings in their train. Beecher said it this of the highlands of affliction." When we keep our way: "God washes the eyes with tears until they can behold the invisible land where tears shall come no all the afflictions and trials that come to us make us re."

partakers of His holiness and prepare us for His kingA minister who visited an afflicted lady tried to dom.—Still Waters.

The Holy Book



"Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God."

-What Others Say-

THE SAME God who fixed the stars in their places sent His Son to guide our way of living.—David A. Denslow.

WHEN WE admit Christ into our hearts, we become new and renewed .- R. C. Schwieger.

A GOOD disciple keeps his eyes on the Christ road.—Neva Jay.

THE WHY of suffering we cannot understand, but in Christ we can have courage, compassion, hope —W. Thomas Smith

 $\mbox{\sc GOD}$ wills that we live for Him the life He has given us.—James S. Mather.

AT ALL times God gives support and strength to our need. — Dorothy Clare Kilburn.

CHRIST can make us new persons only if we yield ourselves to Him.—Dorothy O'Neill.

OUR OLDER friends are a divine gift to be cherished and encouraged.—Robert J. Maxwell

CHRIST'S way means putting belief into action .-Henry S. Schooley.

NO OTHER joy matches the joy of doing good. -J. A. Earl.

–A Little Bit of Wit–

The trouble with being a good sport is you have to lose to prove it.—The Link.

More Important Role for **Baptist Laity**

The laity of American Baptist Churches is assuming an increasingly important role in leadership now that a major restructuring of the denomination's policy and organization is nearing completion. Read this and other stories on the inside pages of your own church newspaper.