



Reaching Wide & Growing Deeper

JANUARY, 2025
NEWSLETTER

January Theme: All Things New

January Fighter Verse: Isaiah 43:18-19

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

OUR WORSHIP IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM
www.centralbaptistnyc.org

Nursery available at 10:45a — Infant to 5 years old

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School 9:45AM In Person and via Zoom
Youth Sunday School 11:15AM
Kindergarten to 12th Grade
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
7:00PM
In person & Zoom

Mark Marchak Memorial Service
January 11—2PM



Mark Marchak
September 29, 1950 - December 21, 2024

Memorial: Jan 11
Service: 2 PM

Please keep Karen, Alena, Aron
and so many other family and friends
in prayer as they mourn.

In Retrospect— December Activities

The holiday season at Central is always busy, but this year seemed particularly busy with church wide events along with any ministry specific activities or celebrations that might not have been on the official calendar.

I assume you, like me, did not attend every event. So rather than reading about each event, take some time to reflect on those you did attend. How did the event

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JANUARY DEVOTIONAL

Star of Wonder

By Debby Holland Diaz MA ThM

And when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, Wise men came from the east to Jerusalem, saying Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east, and are come to worship him. And when Herod the king heard it, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written through the prophet, (Micah 5:2) And thou Bethlehem, land of Judea, art in no wise least among the princes of Judah: For out of thee shall come forth a governor, Who shall be shepherd of my people Israel (Matthew 2:1-6, RSV Revised Standard Version)

God has led me to begin the New Year with us meditating on the faith and courage of those Wise Men who boldly traveled to a foreign land because they wanted to worship the King whose Star they followed faithfully. May we be so bold in our faith as we follow our Lord! Let's reread Micah 5:2 as it appears fulfilled in Matthew 2:6. Isn't it exciting to see how a 300 year old prophecy from one of the minor prophets, Micah—who advocated pure worship of the Lord—comes true!

Throughout the Old and New Testament, God speaks to us through prophets, foreigners, women, men, even through a donkey! In this beloved Christmas Story, God speaks through a thing—a Star! Ask God to help you meditate on that special Star, the Divine Light, Jesus!

Come to the light,'Tis shining for thee.The Light of The World is Jesus!—Chas.W. Fry

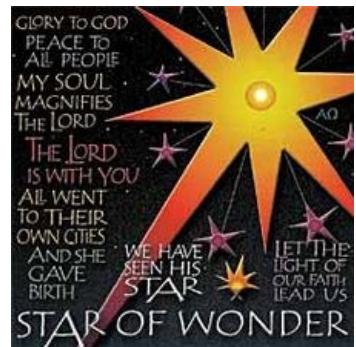
God protected and guided the Wise Men, whether or not they believed in The God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Micah, because they were faithful to God's call. They unquestioningly followed God's Star until "it came and stood over where the young child was." (Matthew 2: 9b) and then, in verses 10 and 11, they rejoiced and worshipped Jesus! Let us continue to rejoice and worship Jesus every day of this New Year!

Let us praise God for the inspiration of the Star and the Wise Men. Let us thank God for the fulfillment of an

ancient prophecy. Let us rejoice that God sent forth Jesus to be our shepherd, not an elected leader, not a military ruler, but a shepherd. Thank you God for sending your son Jesus into the world to shepherd real people long ago and to shepherd all people ever since. Let us daily follow Jesus our Shepherd!!

Savior, like a shepherd lead us. Much we need thy tender care!

—Dorothy H. Trupp



In Retrospect—December Activities—continued from page 1

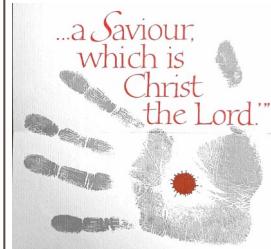
make you feel? Did the event meet your expectations or were they surpassed? If they were surpassed, why? If you were disappointed, do you know why?



It's well known that the holidays can be a difficult especially if this the first Thanksgiving, Christmas and/or New Year's without a loved one. The season can be a bag of mixed emotions from the constant veil of loss to the light of joy bursting around you. Experience it all, and most importantly don't stop breathing. Rest in our Savior's arms, bask in God's presence and let God love you. Remember God's promise to never leave or forsake you. Jesus promised, "I am with you..." in Matthew 28:20. One of my favorite Christmas cards is based on Luke 2:11 "unto us is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord." That's a praise moment!

The holidays are fixed and confined on the calendar i.e. November 28, December 25, January 1, but fluid in our hearts. Be thankful and joyful each day knowing that God loves you, cares for you and knows what you need even as He makes all things new.

Sharrata Hunt



Dayspring Cards
Concept by Christopher Patcher
Handlettering and Art by Connie Smiley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunities to come together to learn, pray and fellowship.

BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult

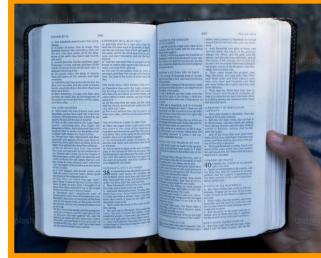
9:45AM— In person and via Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.
Phone: 646-558-8656

Sunday Youth Group

11:15AM—2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays
In-Person OR

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>
Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.
Phone: 646-558-8656



Senior Bible Study
Wednesdays
12 Noon to
1:00pm
Miss Ann's Room

WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD

7:00—8:00PM

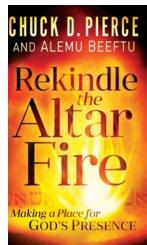
Wednesday Night Bible study is a great way to keep your heart and mind on God! Join us for an interactive, in-depth reflection on the scriptures and how they can be applied to your life.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

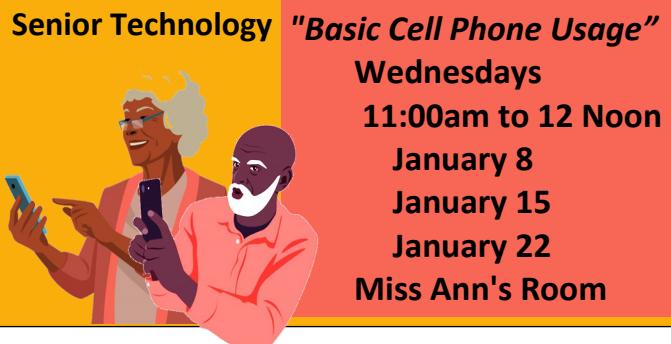
Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Join Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656

Senior Ministry Events



SENIOR BOOK CLUB
Saturday, February 1st
2-4pm, Miss Ann's Room
Rekindle the Altar Fire—Making a place for God's presence
by Chuck D. Pierce & Alumu Beeftue



Senior Ministry Exercise Program

No Class January 1, 2025
Saturday, January 4—Chapel
Saturday, January 11—Chapel
Saturday, January 25—Chapel



Senior Ministry Monthly Meeting
"Christmas In January"
Saturday, January 18, 2025
2pm to 4pm - Chapel
"Secret Santa Gift \$15.00 Max

Praying Together

With so many opportunities to pray corporately with one another. Below are the leaders and ministries who need your prayers. Create a prayer journal and keep track of the requests and praise reports.

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Fils-Aime
Pastor Robert Casteline
Willana Mack Hudson
Deacons & Elders
Ministries
Missionaries
Members and Friends of Central
Sick and Shut-in

CITY, STATE & COUNTRY
New York City
Leadership of NYC, State and Country
The World and personal circumstances
<i>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16</i>

DAILY PRAYER MEETING BY CONFERENCE PHONE
Led by Elder Deryck and Sonya Tonge
(609) 746-1164
Access Code: 667293#
Monday — Friday
6-6:30 AM

Praying for our Leadership

Below are the names of our Elders, Trustees and Deacons. Please pray for them and their families. As members of our congregation, we each have a Deacon who will reach out to you periodically to see how you're doing and if you have any needs or prayer requests.

If you don't know who your Deacon is, email deaconsasmarch2024@groups.outlook.com or call the church office and leave a message requesting a call from your Deacon.



ELDERS

Rev. John Fils-Aime
Rev. Robert Casteline*
Vincent Clark*

*Interim for 1 year



TRUSTEES

Yulando McMullen, Trustee
Myrna Phillips Gibson, Trustee
Taji Phillips, Trustee



DEACONS

Deacon AnnDenise Brown
Deacon Kimberly Casteline
Deacon Otis Coleman
Deacon Sharrata Hunt
Deacon/Trustee Yulando McMullen
Deacon Michelle Newkirk
Deacon Joyce Powell
Deacon Sherry Reid
Deacon Esther Romero
Deacon Jean Thelusme



Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

January 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 30A Prayer on Conference call	2 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	3 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	4 10:00-11:30A-Pickleball 11:00-11:45A-Senior Exercise—Chapel
5 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:15-Sunday Youth Group 1P-FINANCIAL HEALTH SEMINAR	6 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	7 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 7PM-Tuesday Talk Back	8 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; 11A-12P—Senior Technology Class 12P Senior Bible Study-Chapel 7:00P-CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—In Person & ZOOM	9 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	10 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	11 10A-RIVERSIDE REHAB 10:00-11:30A-Pickleball 11:00-11:45A-Senior Exercise—Chapel 2P-Mark Marchak Memorial Service
12 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:15-Sunday Youth Group 1P-FINANCIAL HEALTH SEMINAR	13 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	14 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 7PM-Tuesday Talk Back	15 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; 11A-12P—Senior Technology Class 12P Senior Bible Study-Chapel 7P-Wed Nite Bible Study—ZOOM	16 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	17 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	18 10:00-11:30A-Pickleball 2P-Senior Ministry Meeting—Christmas in January, Secret Santa—Chapel
19 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:15-Sunday Youth Group	20 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	21 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	22 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; 11A-12P—Senior Technology Class 12P Senior Bible Study-Chapel	23 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	24 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	25 10:00-11:30A-Pickleball 11:00-11:45A-Senior Exercise—Ms. Ann's
26 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:15-Sunday Youth Group	27 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	28 6:30A Prayer on Conference call	29 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	30 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	31 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call 7pm-Evening Prayer Zoom	

MISSIONS AT CENTRAL

Listed below are all the missionaries that Central supports listed by their Mission Boards. 10% of Central's tithes and offerings go to support our missionaries.

Global One 80

Joaquin and Oneida Vargas, Arizona & Mexico

Missions Door

Francklin and Nerlie Alexis, Haiti
 Felix and Amnerys Abreu, Dominican Republic
 Edwin and Liz Colon, Brooklyn, NY
 Herode and Edline Guillomettre, Haiti
 Duane and Miriam Mansveld, Montreal, Canada
 Ray and Valerie Ramos, Brooklyn, NY
 Marvin and Denise Robinson, Rochester, NY

United World Mission

Matt and Nicole Paschall, Hungary

Urban Life Source Connection

Dale Belli, New York City

World Outreach Ministries

Luis and Azucena Matute, Panama & Costa Rica
 Dr. Azucena E. Matute, Panama

World Venture

Barry and Peggy Owen, Asia

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

May the love of the Lord overflow in your life. You can do all things through Him who gives you strength. Happy birthday!

Eloise Edwards	Jan 01
Paul Jones	Jan 02
Jordan Campbell	Jan 07
Myani Mayo	Jan 07
Christopher Phillips	Jan 08
Myrna Phillips Gibson	Jan 09
Georgia Ana Coates	Jan 09
Jarren Bolden	Jan 11
Christine Lewis	Jan 11
Omari Pusey	Jan 12
Taji Phillips	Jan 13
Lenworth Bennett	Jan 13
Madelyn Woodard	Jan 13
Coralita Simon	Jan 16
Henry Stone	Jan 16
Michelle Newkirk	Jan 18
Camille Sanneh	Jan 19
Ruth Browne	Jan 20
Judy Sabater	Jan 21
Elaine Parker	Jan 22
Noah Foster	Jan 22
Grant Jefferson	Jan 23
Martha Clark	Jan 26
Gracie Dickerson	Jan 26
Edith Phillips	Jan 26
Jackson Luding	Jan 27
Kaylee Castillo	Jan 29
Charece Williams Gee	Jan 29


COURTESY: NOMADS LTD. HONG KONG (PAR RIGHT)

Keep Central's finances in prayer!



Remember this: *Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

About Lois Ewald



All my springs are in Thee...
 Ps. 87:7, 36:7-9



Lois Ewald, Director
 Global Springs Ministry, Inc.

- Prayer Ministries
- Discipleship
- Bible Classes
- Nursing Home Ministries
- Prison Ministry
- Children's Prayer Gatherings
- Outreach to Internationals
- Conferences, Breakfasts

Lois Ewald, has been involved in Christian ministry for many years with various groups of people. Her ministry in New York included work with international students and with her husband John, served as directors of Hephzibah House on the upper west side of Manhattan a ministry providing affordable accommodations to missionaries, pastors, anyone serving in ministry. Her involvement with prison people has been a calling from God for her. For about forty years, she has been privileged to be with both women and men in prisons in New York City, New York State, and Indiana. Even though she is in her early 90's, she continues to serve.

Wonder of His Blessings is taken from her latest publication *Wonder of Wonders*. It is a major blessing that Mrs. Ewald has given us permission to use excerpts from her publications.

Newsletter Staff: Pastor Robert Casteline, Oversight; Paulette Forbes-Igharo and Sharrata Hunt. Special thanks to Debby Diaz, Nadja Hicks, and Tanya Glenn.

The Last Word

by Nadja Hicks

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

Psalm 46:4-5 (KJV)

There are plenty of ways to start a day. But the word *start* has surprising implications. It comes from an Old English word meaning *leap up*. Further digging reveal meanings of *to rush, to fall, tumble*. The word *begin* may seem like a synonym for *start* but inspect its etymology closely and find a shade in a very different color. *Begin* comes from an Old English term meaning *to open, to undertake, and also take the first step in, and come into existence*. Another characteristic of the original word is that it is only found in compound forms. *Begin*, in my naïve study of it, implies receptivity, yet a state of active engagement, and requires connecting to something more than itself in order to become anything at all.

Usually I begin my day with prayer. Usually. Sometimes there's an uptick in pressures trying to sneak through the cracks. Before getting out of bed, competing "voices" shout worries, hopes, distractions, responsibilities, rudely demanding attention, trying to storm the gates at the first sign of waking.

Yet Psalm 46, like a still small voice, whispers directly over circumstances both personal and shared—wars and rumors of wars, natural disasters, politics, and our own troubled hearts...

With every vividly described extreme, the psalmist emphasizes how they cannot wrestle away God's power.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her; she will not fall; God will help her at the break of day.

Sometimes mornings threaten to *start* rather than *begin*. They demand we *leap up, rush, fall, tumble* into the day. But in that immediate demanding noisy *now*, we can be still and know He is God. Then we can *open up* to what will *come into existence*. When we seek Him first and connect, our first step can be into the Lord's river of calm protection, the essential first step for the day to become anything at all.