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December 2020 / January 2021

Volume 24, Number 6

## FROM THE PASTOR

CHOOSE HOLINESS

by Pastor Tom Miles

Preaching through 1 Peter has shown me how relevant God's Word is for us in our time. It is timeless. Not only do we know that "the Word of God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8), we also experience this truth.

In the introductory section of 1 Peter, Peter prepares his readers for the challenges they are facing, reminding them of who they are – God's chosen people, whose only allegiance is to Jesus. He makes this clear in verses 1:15-16: "But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'"

Peter reminds us that we have been called to a privileged position in this world. Holiness is much more than moral purity or righteousness. It means that we have one Lord and King. It means that we have one purpose – to be fully devoted to Jesus in heart, mind and body.

Our biggest challenge today is the same challenge that has faced Christians from the beginning: Will we set aside the distractions and influences of our world and live as true followers of Jesus?

As a pastor, I have the privilege of hearing from many of you. I also have the privilege of praying for you. I am praying fervently that with all of the challenges, temptations and choices each of us have to face, that you, and I, will choose holiness.

With love,

*Pastor Tom*

P.S. You will notice that our newsletter is a bit more concise this month. As we open up to more ministry opportunities in 2021, look for it to grow and improve.

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# Wood Village

## BAPTIST CHURCH

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| Tom Miles . . . . . Associate Pastor     | Patrick Vestal . . . . . Youth Pastor             |
| Karen Jones . . . . . Office Manager     | Connie Crandall . . . . . Graphics & Publications |
| Lisa Cervantes . . . . . Awana Commander | Don West . . . . . Financial Officer              |

**Wood Village Voice Deadline**

Articles submitted for the next edition (Feb/March) of the Newsletter are due Jan. 16.  
 Articles must include the name of the person submitting them in order to be considered for publication.

*If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please call or e-mail the office.  
 Newsletter is also available on the website listed above.*

# SILENT AUCTION

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! DEC. 4 @ 1-5PM AND DEC. 5 @ 10AM-2PM**

Women's Ministries is excited to present our annual Silent Auction despite the pandemic. The procedure will be quite different, however. We will offer two 4-hour blocks of time when you can come and survey the items and place a maximum bid on any of them. No items are to be touched and each person will have their own single sheet of paper to turn in. Masks and 6 feet of distance will be required. E-mail the church office if you would like to reserve a 30-minute

block of time to shop. Otherwise, we will allow 10 people at a time, with priority given to reservations.

We have 7 GIANT raffle baskets worth over \$200 each! Raffle tickets will be sold at the auction, in the church office prior to the auction, or contact Connie Crandall to purchase virtually. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Raffle photos are posted on our website, Facebook and Instagram. Raffle and auction item winners will be notified. Contact Jane Merhar with questions.

# CHRISTMAS EVE

Our creative worship team is planning a special pre-recorded Christmas Eve service for you to enjoy at home. The service will feature some drama, readings, choir songs and other fun surprises! If you would like to be part of the choir (COVID-safe), please come to the rehearsals listed below. We had hoped to record the congregation singing a couple of carols, but with the new restrictions, we are re-evaluating its feasibility.

### CHOIR REHEARSALS

- Dec 6:** Rehearsal #1, 3-4pm in Aud.
- Dec 13:** Rehearsal #2 AND Record, 3-5pm in Aud.

# BABY SHOWER

Ladies and girls, you are invited to an online baby shower! Our new youth pastor's wife, Katelyn Vestal, is expecting a baby boy in January. Please help us celebrate this new life and support our new staff members!

*Baby Shower*  
**KATELYN VESTAL**  
*Sunday, January 10, 2021*  
*3:00-4:45pm*

*Zoom Meeting ID: 862 7987 4771*

Katelyn is registered on the Amazon baby registry. She also has a link there listing other items needed.

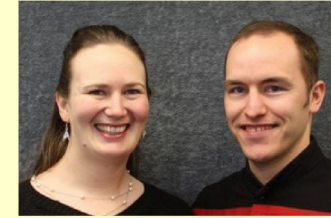
## HOME TO



**Fleming Newcomb**

November 15, 2020

## NEW MEMBERS



**Rick & Kristal Bossen**



**Patrick & Katelyn Vestal**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

**BLOCKED FOR  
PRIVACY**