

JANUARY 2022, ISSUE #3

# L.I.F.E. CHRONICLES

News & updates from our church for our community



## NLCC SCHEDULE

### WORSHIP

SUNDAYS - 8AM

### LIFE PRAYER

WEDNESDAYS - 7PM

### YOUTH PRAYER

WEDNESDAYS - 8PM

### LIFE STUDY

2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS- 7PM

ZOOM MEETING ID: 804-928-1376  
CONFERENCE NUMBER: 804-256-2515

# L.I.F.E. CHRONICLES

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### Change Your Life with ONE WORD

To change your life with one word is a fun practice and much more effective than New Year's resolutions. Just one word that gives you meaning, mission, passion and purpose. Allow the word to choose you after reflection, prayer and listening to your heart. If you believe it, you will receive it.

Day 1: Ask God - What is God saying to you this past year? What area does God want to take hold of in your life and use for His glory? How does God want to position you for the upcoming year? Find a related scripture to meditate on, and pray.

Day 2: Ask Yourself - Why is it so hard to simplify life? Why do you think we try to impress people? What is God saying to me now about my One Word theme for the year? Find a related scripture to meditate on, and pray.

Day 3: The One Word Process - What is God saying to you now about your One Word theme? Commit some serious time to praying and asking God to speak to you.

1st – Prepare Your Heart (Look In): Let God examine your heart.

2nd – Discover Your Word (Look Up): Listen to God.

3rd – Live Your Word (Look Out): Live it out; Live in Faith Everday

Day 4: Live Your Word - When your One Word comes to you, it may come in the form of a character trait, a discipline, a spiritual focus, an attribute or a value. Living out your word keeps you focused. We see the impact of Nehemiah being focused when he was building the wall in Nehemiah 6:3. Remember, when you live your word, you too are doing a great work. Post your word, share it, and let God use your One Word to change your everyday life.

Gordon, Jon, et al. *One Word That Will Change Your Life, Expanded Edition*. John Wiley & Sons, 2013.

#### **Other Stories In This Issue:**

Change Your Life with One Word- 2

LIFE Study - 3

LIFE Calendar - 4

Birthdays - 5

Youth LIFE - 6

Recipe For Life - 7

We Need More Jesus - 8

# L.I.F.E. STUDY

"TOOLS TO HELP YOU LIVE IN FAITH EVERYDAY"

*Here are a few daily habits to help strengthen your relationship with God:*

## **Prayer**

Dedicate certain time out of your day in order to pray, but also pray small little prayers through out the day. Always make sure you turn to God first with any problems by praying and talking to him.

## **Read the Bible**

Reading the Bible is reading the word of God which will help you get closer to him. Also, saying a prayer that he will let you understand the word and help it get through to you is another great idea.

## **Meditate**

Meditation is a great way to calm your mind and invite God into your thoughts. Take a couple of minutes out of your day to just meditate on a verse or idea in the Bible or just enjoy the moment of peace where God can just speak with you.

## **Worship Music**

If you are a busy person, listen to worship music while you drive, clean, answer emails, etc. There are some really great and inspiring songs out there that will help you realize certain things about your faith and God.

## **Bible Study**

Studying the word of God is super important. The Bible can be pretty confusing at times, so taking the time to study and understand it is vital.

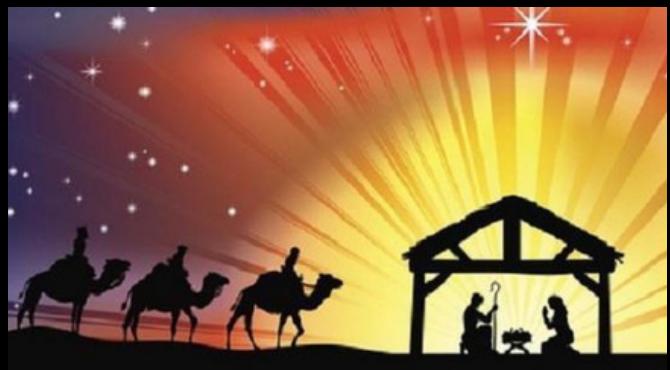
*1st  
Fruit  
Offering*

*"Honor the Lord with  
your possession, and  
with the first fruits of  
all your increase; so  
that your barns will be  
filled with plenty and  
your vats will overflow  
with new wine."*

Proverbs 3:9-10

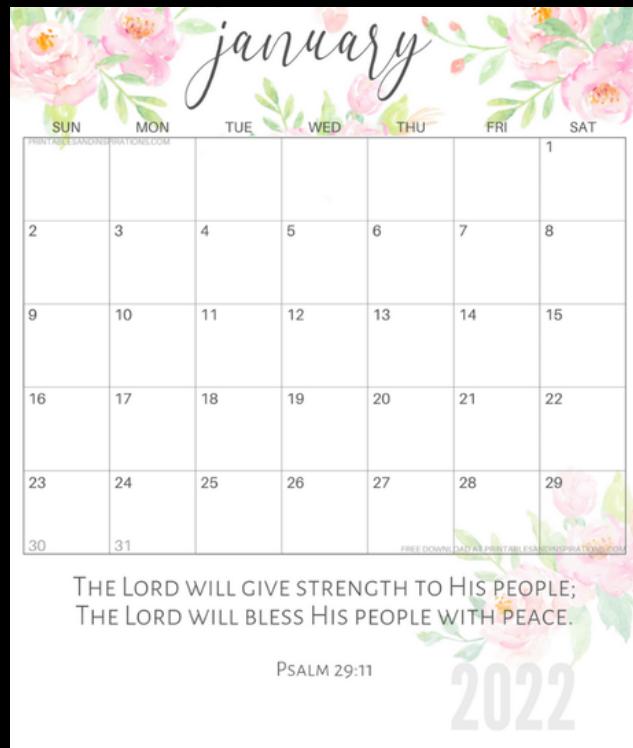
# *Season of Epiphany*

"Epiphany" comes from the Greek word, meaning "to show" or "to reveal". The remembrance of the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child. Through this visit the wise men revealed Jesus to the world as Lord and King. Epiphany is a Christian feast day celebrated on January 6th, twelve days after Christmas.



## L.I.F.E. CALENDAR

- 1/1 - New Year's Day**
- 1/1 - Diaconate Meeting**
- 1/2 - Holy Communion**
- 1/2 - First Fruits Sacrificial Offering Begins**
- 1/6 - NLCC Church Meeting**
- 1/17 - MLK Jr. Day**
- 1/22 - NLCC Praise Dance Rehearsal**
- 1/30 - Family and Friends Day**



# January Birthdays

1/3 - JaLiyah Douglas  
1/9 - Deacon Herbert Washington  
1/13 - Elaine Roane  
1/24 - Catherine Ransome  
1/24 - Tonya Clay  
1/31 - Sydney Nash



## January is National Mentoring Month!

National Mentoring Month is a campaign dedicated to recognizing mentoring and the positive impact that mentoring can have on people's lives. Mentoring enables mentees the ability to unlock their full potential by learning from the experiences of those who have walked in their shoes. National Mentoring Month is a time to utilize the power of mentoring and an awareness to encourage others to consider the impact that mentoring programs have on youth and those in need. Will you consider becoming a mentor? If so, please contact your local school system, social services, or local nonprofit organization to begin mentoring, today!

# **YOUTH L.I.F.E.**

## ***Our Youth Spotlight for the month of January is Jeremiah Russ***

Jeremiah is currently a junior at KWHS. He made principal's list on his last report card, which means that he earned all A's in every subject. Jeremiah's favorite subject is Math but his favorite class is theater. He joined the drama club and they recently had a lip sync battle stage performance that he really enjoyed.

Jeremiah scored an 870 on his PSAT and is scheduled to take the SAT in March of 2022. He is currently interested in a major in forensic science and plans to attend a community college before transferring to a University.

In October, Jeremiah got his driver's learning permit. Jeremiah enjoys singing and listening to music of all kinds, and reading graphic novels and comics.



Jeremiah Russ

***NLCC is proud of you, Jeremiah. Keep up the great work!***

**Attention Youth, Parents, & Grandparents.... We would like to highlight our youth. Please keep us informed on the spectacular things going on in their life!**

# Vegan (Dairy Free) Holiday Chocolate Cake

## CAKE Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups original unsweetened almond milk
- 2 tsp apple cider vinegar
- 2/3 cup coconut oil, melted
- 1/2 cup strong brewed coffee
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1 ¼ cups unsweetened applesauce
- 2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1 ⅓ cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder

## FROSTING Ingredients

- 1 cup vegan butter (softened)
- 2 ½ cups powdered sugar
- 2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/4 cup dairy-free semisweet chocolate
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup unsweetened original almond milk



## Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and lightly spray two 8-inch round cake pans or one large rectangular pan with nonstick spray (see notes for cooking times for different size pans // adjust number or size of pans if altering batch size). Dust with cocoa powder, shake out the excess and set aside.
2. Mix the almond milk and vinegar in a large mixing bowl, and let set for a few minutes to activate. Add the oil, coffee, vanilla extract, and applesauce and beat until foamy. If coconut oil hardens, microwave the mixture in 10-15 second increments until melted.
3. Add the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, and baking powder to a sifter and slowly sift over the wet ingredients while mixing with a hand-held or standing mixer. If you don't have a sifter, simply mix dry ingredients in another bowl and add to the wet mixture while beating. Beat until no large lumps remain. It should be creamy and pourable. Taste and adjust sweetness as needed, adding more sugar if desired.
4. Divide batter evenly between your cake pans or rectangular pan.
5. Bake 25-40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Let cool completely before frosting.
6. While cooling, prepare frosting by beating together all ingredients until light and fluffy, adding the powdered sugar in small amounts until you reach your desired consistency and sweetness. If it becomes too thick, add more almond milk. If it's too thin, add more cocoa powder or powdered sugar.
7. Once the cake is cooled, frost generously with buttercream frosting, adding a thick layer between the top and bottom layers (if doing a 2-layer cake). Alternatively, omit the frosting and dust with cocoa powder.

# We Need More Jesus

**"Jesus is the reason for the season."**

*We need to emulate Jesus Christ's character traits.*

**Compassionate  
Servant  
Loving  
Forgiving  
Committed  
Prayerful  
Gentleness  
Patience  
Self Control  
Humble**

*Let's make the decision to follow Jesus.*

## I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS

I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me,  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
No turning back, no turning back.

**I HAVE  
DECIDED  
TO  
FOLLOW  
JESUS**

**John 8:12 NIV**

***When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."***