



Women of Emmanuel

January 2016

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Eph. 2:8-9

Welcome 2016!

Happy New Year! I am filling out my 2016 calendar with birthdays and anniversaries and thinking in general about how to “do” 2016 better than 2015. Thankfully, Everett and Kenny have given us some great advice from the pulpit the last two weeks. Here are a few thoughts on the subject.

Last Sunday Everett McKibben filled in while Pastor Kenny was away. Everett began by asking us if we were ready for the New Year. Did we have our resolutions made? He suggested *not* seeking God’s will for *our* lives, but encouraged us to simply seek God’s will. Titus 2 was the scripture he shared, where every person, regardless of his station in life, can find



direction in the way God wants us to live. I have read back over this passage a few times in the last week and find myself fitting in several categories: an older woman, a younger woman, a slave to a master (not in a negative sense, but in a positive employer/employee situation), and as a person saved by grace in verses 11-15. The key to knowing God’s will is to be in his Word as much as possible. Pastor Kenny gave us some great Bible memory tools this past Sunday to employ in the New Year.

There is a book called The Busy Woman’s Guide to a Balanced Life by Ramona Cramer Tucker that I have found to be an amazing tool when trying to organize or rein in my crazy life. I would recommend it to any Christian woman. (I checked Amazon; unfortunately it is no longer available new, but there are quite a few used purchase options for just a few dollars.) It offers practical advice and tips from a Biblical perspective, for multiple

areas of a woman’s life - family, finances, friendship, health, spiritual life, and more. I admit I am one of those annoying organized, orderly, list making people, but I truly believe even if you are a “fly by the seat of your pants” kind of girl you would enjoy and benefit from this book. This time of year I love to get it out and review it, mentally perusing the various areas of my life, taking stock of where I am and where God wants me to be.

As you begin 2016 I encourage you to think in the manner this book begins, with the reminder that Jesus told us that the greatest commandments are “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” and “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:37, 39). If you have a plan for following these two precepts you are off to a good start for 2016! Happy New Year sweet Emmanuel sisters!

-- *Laure Bell*

Start 2016 right Plus into a Bible study!

Meeting with a group to study God’s word provides a sharing of insight, wisdom and accountability. Check out some of the opportunities for Bible study at Emmanuel below:

Women’s Bible Study – meets at Emmanuel on Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Betty McPhail leads this study and a nursery is provided.

Adult Sunday School is taught at the church each Sunday in the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m. by Everett McKibben. This is for all adults.

Online Women’s Bible Study - This is a unique Bible study in that we do not meet in person regularly throughout the study. We read and study the assigned Bible passages and post to a private online page so that other members of our group can share thoughts and insights. The next study begins January 11th with Lovegodgreatly.com’s “Growing through Prayer” study. It will lead us through God’s word seeking answers to questions like: “What is prayer?” “How should we pray?” “What should we pray for?” and “Does God hear our prayers?” If you have questions email Bridget Willeford (bridgetwilleford@yahoo.com).

End Times/Prophecy Bible Study – This is a study of the book of Daniel taught by Chuck Missler via DVD. It has two time options: Tuesday or Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m., at the home of Mary Cole; or Wednesday evenings at 6:30. (Check with Mary for more details on which day to attend.)

New Small Groups: There are often new small group Bible studies forming, or groups meeting that are not widely advertised. Contact Pastor Kenny if you are interested in starting or learning more about these groups.

Service

1 Corinthians 12:27 *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

It takes all of us to make up the body of Christ – and for Emmanuel to be all that it can for Christ we are all needed to serve. I know we are all busy with commitments – but please take a minute to think about where you might plug in and serve Christ in your church in 2016. Here are just a few of the areas that we need you:

Our visitors need you!

Sunday morning greeters - Stand at the door and welcome those who arrive at Emmanuel. Contact Stewart or Karen Teague.

Our Children need you! Children's Joy Explosion & Kids for Christ – Teach two or three times a semester - contact Tasha Sanders.

AWANA workers – Sunday nights during the school year -contact Garry or Rhonda Jones

Our babies need you! Nursery workers – sit with the babies or preschoolers during worship services every six weeks or so. - contact Kelly Banik

Our worship team needs you!

Have a talent for music or willing to train to assist in the sound booth? Contact Katie Wallace.

Blessing Team - help make and assemble items for baby and graduation recognitions. Contact Bridget Willeford.

Meal Ministry - sign up to bring a meal to the college or youth group. Other opportunities occur frequently. Watch your email for these announcements.

Movie Review

The movie War Room is now available on DVD. This movie is wonderful! It drives home the importance of prayer!

Recipe

Lasagna

(From Laure Bell's mother)

1 lb. ground beef
32 oz. jar thick spaghetti sauce
1 ½ cups water
15 oz. ricotta cheese
12 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese
½ cup grated parmesan cheese
2 eggs
¼ cup chopped parsley (optional)
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp pepper
8 oz. uncooked lasagna noodles

Preheat oven to 350

Brown beef, drain; in 3 quart sauce pan add meat, sauce and water; simmer 10 minutes. Combine remaining ingredients, except lasagna, for filling.

Pour about 1 cup sauce in bottom of 9x13 pan. Layer 3 uncooked lasagna noodles on top of sauce; top with about 1 ½ cups sauce, and ½ of cheese filling.

Repeat layers of noodles, sauce, and filling. Top with a layer of noodles and remaining sauce. Cover with foil and bake for 50 minutes. Remove foil; sprinkle lightly with a bit of mozzarella cheese and bake uncovered for 10 minutes.

Allow to stand for 10 minutes before cutting.



**Welcome
Brooks
Coleman West!**
Congratulations
to Tyler and
Rosann, and to
the four big
sisters, on this
sweet blessing!