



The Connection

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

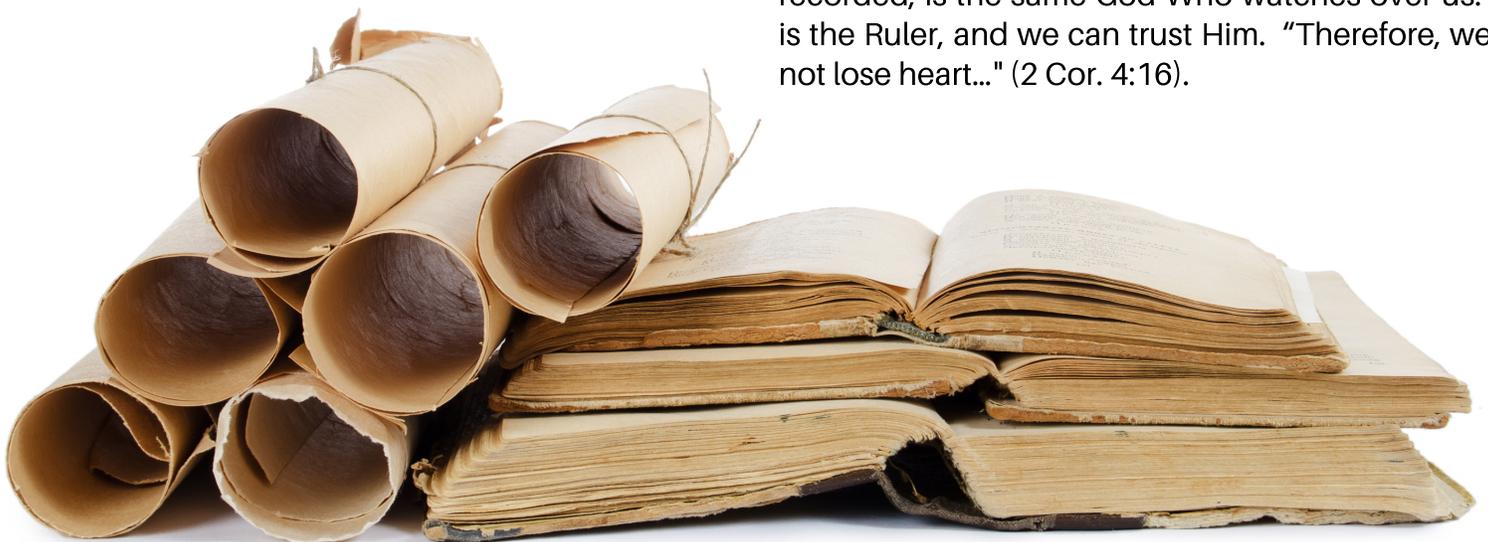
22 JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

TRUSTING A POWERFUL GOD

BY JERRY ASCHER

"This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet." And how thankful we are that God is in control even when everything seems to point in a different direction. It certainly seemed to be pointing in a different direction in the book of Esther. The details of this true story are beyond anything most of us have endured. The Jews were in grave danger. The king had decreed they were to be put to death. It seemed that nothing was going to keep this from happening. But the night before Queen Esther was going to plead for her people before King Xerxes, the king was unable to sleep. Whether he thought they would help him get to sleep or whether there was some more official reason, the king called for the official government records to be brought and read.

The book that was chosen, it seems at random, was from five years before, and it contained the account of the queen's uncle, Mordecai, unveiling a plot to assassinate the king. "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?" the king asked. His attendants answered, "Nothing has been done for him." These events were the beginning of the end for Haman, the mastermind behind the plot to kill the Jews. God was gracious to spare His people, an event that is still celebrated in Israel at the festival of Purim or Feast of Lots. This example is one of many in Scripture which reminds us that our confidence is in a God Who gives "grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). We are thankful when God allows times of ease into our lives. But it is the same good God that brings the times of need, as well. We know that the same God Who brought insomnia upon a powerful king and caused a servant to pick the exact book in which Mordecai's actions were recorded, is the same God Who watches over us. He is the Ruler, and we can trust Him. "Therefore, we do not lose heart..." (2 Cor. 4:16).



SUNDAY, 24 JANUARY
WORSHIP SERVICES:
9:30 OR 11 AM

In-person services (with singing) take place in the gym. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the auditorium (no singing) or available to you at home.

- "COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING"
- PRAYER
- "BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS"
- "JESUS LOVES ME"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- SCRIPTURE READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5
- "HE WILL HOLD ME FAST"
- MESSAGE: "MISSION ACCOMPLISHED" JOHN 17:1-5
PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS"
- PRAYER



VOTING HAS BEGUN!

If you are a member of Meadowlands, you have the opportunity to vote for several important decisions:

- Budget for 2021
- Missions Budget Proposal
- New Missionaries (Roys in Dominican Republic and the ministry, Freedom That Lasts)

If you need details on any of these items, please refer to last week's newsletter (Jan 15)

WAYS TO VOTE:

1. Online voting is available until 10 pm on Saturday. [Click here or the link below to access the ballot.](#) One form for each member should be completed. Only members' votes will be counted and names will be redacted before processing for confidentiality.
2. Vote in person anytime this Sunday (9:15-12:30, 5:30-6:00) at a designated table in the church foyer.

SUNDAY EVENING
CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE
& YEAR-END FINANCIAL
REPORT
6 PM

The service will take place in the auditorium. Livestream is available.



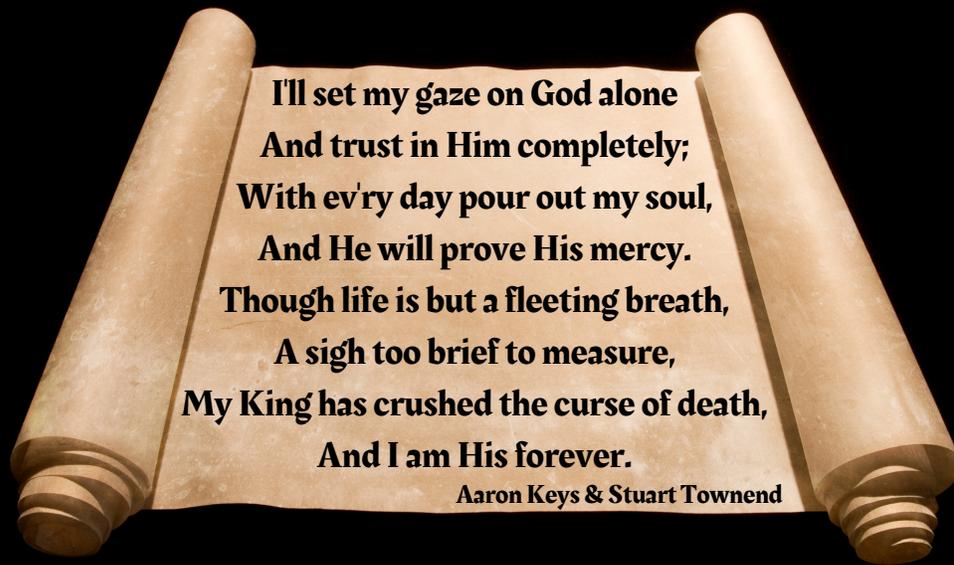
WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY
& KIDS 4 TRUTH 7 PM

This mid-week service takes place in-person in the auditorium. If you would like a Zoom link to participate, please email the church office.



Discussion Questions from John 17:1-5

1. Which three words in this passage do you think are most significant?
2. What is being said about those three important words?
3. What does this passage say about Jesus?
4. How do people in this passage respond to Jesus?
5. How does this passage challenge or encourage you?
6. What from this passage can you share to encourage a fellow Christian?
7. What from this passage can you share with an unbeliever?



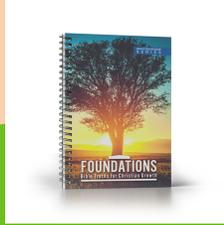
I'll set my gaze on God alone
 And trust in Him completely;
 With ev'ry day pour out my soul,
 And He will prove His mercy.
 Though life is but a fleeting breath,
 A sigh too brief to measure,
 My King has crushed the curse of death,
 And I am His forever.

Aaron Keys & Stuart Townend

COMING UP:

Sunday, January 31, 6 pm:
 Baptism & New Members'
 Joining Service

Names posted on
 bulletin board.



Sunday Evenings in February:
 Lessons on Stewardship &
 Evangelism from *Foundations:*
Bible Truths for Christian
Growth

GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

Need to contact us?

Church Office

780-440-1195

Pastor Kevin Williams

587-635-2758

Pastor Jerry Ascher

587-635-2751

Pastor Mark Richmond

587-635-2752

David Treau

587-635-2753

Email:

info@meadowlandsbaptist.com

God's faithfulness has been evident in our ministry here in South Africa over the past two months. What follows is a record of that faithfulness!

First, we would like to speak of God's faithfulness to us and to the Ellman family. As I told you in our last letter, the Ellman's lost their 10-year-old son in a motor vehicle accident. We held his funeral on Nov.23. Herb brought a brief sermon from Hebrews 12:1-2 on how it is better to run a short race well than run a long race poorly. The gospel was clearly presented and we continue to interact with people who were part of that service. Pray for fruit that would result from the ministry of the Word at the funeral. Pray that God would continue to flood their lives with his grace and comfort.

Praise the Lord for his faithfulness in preserving us through our COVID-19 infection. We are grateful.

We passed out a set of "founding documents" that we wrote up for our church, but then COVID came and we haven't been able to discuss/vote on officially forming our church. However, we continue to see new faces at our gatherings.

Many of you know about Brandon, who is almost like an adopted son to us. We have certainly seen fruit in his life. Brandon is responsible for most of the boys who attend our boy's Bible study! He has a passion for telling others about Christ. Pray for him. He faces an uncertain future...maybe God would burden his heart for Bible training after high school?!

I have also mentioned Luciano several times. He told me he understands he's a sinner, and he knows what Christ has done for him, but he's scared of what a life of following Christ would mean. Please pray that Luciano would see that what he gains will far outweigh what he might lose, and turn to Christ!

Our van continues to work, although I am hesitant to take it too far. Between our savings and your gifts, God has provided about \$12,000. We need about \$50,000 for an 11 seater van to use in our ministry here. (If you would like to give toward this need, please add in the memo line: "Hunter Van.")

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ THE HUNTER'S ENTIRE NEWSLETTER, [PLEASE CLICK HERE OR THE LINK BELOW.](#)



HERB & JAN HUNTER, SOUTH AFRICA **MISSIONARY**

CORNER