## January 2024




## AWANA in JANUARY

***Please make note of some changes in the AWANA calendar that are different from your handbook! January 3rd January 10th January 17th

January 14th January 28th $\quad * * *$ AWANA GRAND PRIX: 5 pm Weigh in and 6 pm Race begins... Walking Tacos and Walking Banana Pudding at 5:45 pm. All the church is invited for fellowship and good clean racing! January 31st AWANA

## VBS

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

RUTH: Jesus our Redeemer VBS 2024
Planning and Vision meeting in the Treehouse at 12 pm January 14th. We hope to share the vision and ask for ideas and input from those interested in helping us develop the curriculum, decorating and theme for this years VBS June 23rd - 27th

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's Choir will take a break this Spring and return on Wednesday Nights in June! We will offer childcare for those adults who are in choir, please RSVP with

Mrs. Christy to make arrangements.

## Children's Church

Children's Church returns January 7th in the 8 \& 10:30 am service for kids K-4th grades


## KIDS PRECEPT!

Begins February 11th - April 28th
( 9 meetings of study)
We will meet on Sundays 5:30-7:30 pm (during adult choir) Kids 3rd grade up to adult. Each evening will begin with a meal and 60 minutes of Bible Study and 30 minutes of review games.

## READY! For K

Ready! for K: Sign up coming this Spring... This is an incredible reading foundation program taught by our church members to our preschool families and will give training and tools to help bridge the gap seen in children entering school following the covid pandemic. Our families will receive expert guidance and high quality resources to use at home for play with their children! This is the church providing resources to families to prepare children for church and a life long love of learning at home, church and school.
"But our CITIZENship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." (Philippians 3:20-21)

Our theme this year is that of "Citizen." We are going to draw our attention on the fact that our place of residency is with God in heaven. We do not belong to this world! The goal will be to explore the expectations of being a citizen of heaven who represents Christ on this earth. While a good bit of our focus will look at what makes us set apart from the world we live in, the other challenge will be in how we are ambassadors of reconciliation by proclaiming the good news of the gospel. Please pray that we look more and more like our Savior, and that we would be effective ambassadors of the good news of the gospel.

In the month of January, we are going to take time to look at the church. It will be a doctrinal study that will spend time understanding the establishment of the church, the characteristics of a church, and how to interact with fellow citizens in the church. Please pray that these students would be well equipped to look for healthy churches wherever God takes them, and that they would be a part of the health within the church.

Humbly Desiring to Serve, Jonathan Kyle


WORD2LIFE 2024

## Jan 3-5-Cross Conference for College Students

## Sunday, January 14th @6pm-Connect Night at the Delmotte's

## Sunday, January 21st @6pm-Disciple U (College) at the Vest's

- Sunday, January 28th @6pm-Connect Night

"If a child comes to us for help with relationships, workload, or anything else, how do we respond in a way that will make their character
strong rather than
fragile?


## Upcoming Dates

## Jan 3 - Faculty/Staff In-

Service
Jan 4 - First Day of Classes
Jan 5 - Fall Semester Report
Cards Issued
Jan 15 - MLK Day (No
School)
Feb 19 - Parent Teacher Conferences (No School)


## Built To Last

${ }^{6}$ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ${ }^{7}$ so that the tested genuineness of your faith-more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by firemay be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. -1 Peter 1:6-7

## Preparing Our Kids for Life in the Classroom and Beyond

According to Keith McCurdy, a licensed counselor who has worked with thousands of families, our culture's embrace of what he calls "therapeutic" parenting is having a devastating effect on our kids. The main goal of parents in the past, on a practical level, was sturdy kids who could be productive citizens. We know times have changed-just look back 100 years to what was expected of kids, and it is clear why "fragile" is an oft-used descriptor of youth today.

How might we see this in our schools? David Goodwin, ACCS president, was the head of school or a board member at a classical Christian school for over 30 years. He says two of the most common reasons students want to leave their school are variations of "I don't have enough friends," or "It's too hard." These concerns are common and can be legitimate. The problem is that, increasingly, parents lack the confidence to approach an upset child with alternatives to leaving.

If a child comes to us for help with relationships, workload, or anything else, how do we respond in a way that will make their character strong rather than fragile? It all depends on getting to the main root of our goals as a parent. In classical circles, we often refer to "ordering affections" many goals and principles have value, the question is which has the highest value. Our decisions will flow from our highest affection, and it is imperative that we get our goals as a parent right.

Is there a substantial benefit to standing firm in requiring our kids to deal with difficult situations? McCurdy, it seems, would say yes. In this article, he cuts to the chase on the issues of struggling and frustration.

## A Little Frustration Never Hurt Anybody by Keith McCurdy

 Shouldn't I do what I can to make my child happy? It seems like a simple question, yet it is one I often hear from parents. ... It is easy to confuse the notion of meeting needs and keeping our child happy. Meeting needs is one thing-seeking to eliminate frustration in our child's life is quite another. ... When we take on the responsibility of making and keepingour children happy, several negative messages begin to grow in our child's mind.

- The first is that there is something wrong with being upset or having negative emotions. This mindset can cause great confusion and frustration in a child. Children will have negative emotions; this will never stop.
- When a child believes that these experiences are bad, yet continues to have them, they may begin to question themselves, even asking, "What is wrong with me?"
- Another, even more problematic, thought is that emotions are more important than they really are and that being happy is necessary in life. When a person believes this, yet has a period of prolonged negative emotion, it can be devastating.

Children who are never allowed to struggle have difficulty understanding that a person's life can be just fine although they are not happy or satisfied in the moment. It is interesting that with the thousands of teenagers I have known over the years who struggled with suicidal thoughts, I can count on one hand the number that truly wanted to harm themselves. The majority wanted to end how they were feeling. They did not know how to function in a state of emotional discord and they misinterpreted their negative emotions to mean that their lives were no good or not worth living. They had given too much importance to their emotions and had not learned how to effectively solve problems.

In response to these children, our work is to help them understand that their emotions are not always accurate indicators of either who they are or the quality of their life. This is then followed with
helping to equip them to handle difficult emotions, a lesson that needs to be taught earlier in life.

To teach this, it is vital that we allow our children to struggle, not always get what they want, hear "no," be upset, cry, etc. Our goal is not to keep them happy, but to equip them to handle all of their emotions. A big part of that is realizing that the target is a sturdy child more than a happy child. Peace and contentment are more important than feeling happy.

It is not surprising that the book of James relates that we should be joyful when we struggle because this builds perseverance, which leads to maturity and wisdom. It is the act of learning to struggle well that is truly the engine of growth and maturity in the lives of our children. The challenge is to ask ourselves, are we truly equipping our children to deal with their emotions or are we just trying to keep them happy? In my experience, an equipped child will find more happiness.

It is a tough struggle to be counter-culture, but it is our job. Remember, we are not "of the world." We don't like being the "bad guys" as many put it when we have to step up and teach these lessons, but we will reap the rewards in the successful lives of our children.

Keith McCurdy is a family and parenting educator and consultant. He is the president and founder of Live Sturdy, LLC, and president and CEO of Total Life Counseling, Inc.

NOTE: This article is from the Classical Difference magazine Fall 2023 and is not intended to replace psychological counseling.

Building Students, Pastor Dave
CCA Headmaster

## Dear Candies Creek Baptist Church Family,

Glory to God in the highest! And, King Jesus is doing great things among us. I pray that we will continue to die to sin and selfishness so that we can live in His love for His glory and purposes. I am thankful for you as brothers and sisters in Christ who make up the Candies Creek family.

I anticipate that we will have to lean into God more as we move toward God's preferred future of Candies Creek. We have established that God has called us to "equip kingdom citizens one person at a time until all have heard." I want to cast vision for 2024...

## The Bible Is Our Basis

Jude 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God...

## Prayer Is Our Power

In 2024, pray that by grace we will rehearse and apply the gospel.
Pray that:

- God will stretch us.
- God will provide for us.
- God will be the source of our strength.


## God's Glory Is Our Goal

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace \& knowledge of our Lord \& Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now \& to the day of eternity. Amen.

This year can be a year where you experience exponential growth in your confidence and competency to impact the kingdom as you depend on God.

Living in the love of God,
Pastor Stan

## Drawing Near

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. Psalm 145:18

God's Word is full of reminders that He is not a distant, unapproachable deity, but rather that He is the Father who hears, receives, embraces His children's calls. Some of us, in the family of God that gathers at Candies Creek Baptist Church, are old enough to remember the days long before hand-held pocket-sized phones when we might have called home "collect," meaning that we were probably using a pay phone (now obsolete) without the dime or quarter required to make the call, and we would ask the operator (again, obsolete) to make the call for us and reverse the charges. There was always that anticipation when the operator would tell the parent who answered the phone that their child was calling and then ask if they would accept the call, knowing the charge would show up on the parents' next telephone bill. Depending on the circumstances surrounding the call, some of us may have-at times-been a bit nervous about the possibility that the parent might reject the call. What a relief it was, when the parent said, "Yes, I'll take the call."

To know, to trust, to unwaveringly believe that God receives our calls should flood our spirits with calm courage and hopeful peace that the world-with all of its turmoil, sorrow, and grief-cannot take away. As we walk into the immediate moment and all the countless moments to come in 2024, may we embrace the gift of prayer; may we hear God's call on our lives and respond to the holy, righteous, trustworthy love of our heavenly Father by communicating regularly with Him in prayer every day. Isaiah states that God keeps "in perfect peace" all who trust in Him (26:3). James reminds us to "draw near to God, and He will draw near to you" (4:8). Paul gives us this admonition:

> Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

And about 120 years ago, a man named Cleland B. McAfee wrote the hymn "Near to the Heart of God." Its stanzas assure us that when we draw near to the heart of God, we find "a place of quiet rest...a place where sin cannot molest...a place of comfort sweet...a place where we our Saviour meet...a place of full release...a place where all is joy and peace."

Dear Candies Creek Family, may this song's refrain be our continuing prayer:
"Oh Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God, Hold us, who wait before Thee, near to the heart of God."

Given in Dec.^<br>Dec. Expenses ${ }^{\star}$

## Lottie Moon* \$12,273.58

## Shoebox Ministry

Hope everyone enjoyed their Shoebox break!!!! Come join us as we'll start the 2024 Shoebox Year by gathering at 9:30 on Friday, January, 12th.


Joan and Patty have offered to bring soups for a celebratory luncheon. Rest of us should bring finger foods, crackers, chilli toppings, or desserts. Ice tea will be provided.

## Monday Night Community Group

Come and join us for a verse-by-verse look at the First
Missionary Movements as they are traced through the book of Acts. The group starts fellowshipping at 6:30 and begins the study at 7pm...in the church library. For more information, contact the Dunns at 423.614.0273.

## Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

## Linda Braden \& Family for the loss of her Grother David Clay Williams



## Do It Again, Lord!

Glimpses of revival and spiritual awakening are coupled with renewed hope. Revivals on college campuses continue to pop up. Churches are growing with the spiritually hungry - and some are experiencing record baptisms as people give their lives to Jesus.

Yet, we are dismayed by growing darkness that seems to target the vulnerable in society. Parents are engaged in battles over control of values taught to their children. People of different ethnicities are pitted against each other with assumptions and suspicions. The economy threatens to overwhelm families that cannot keep up with financial demands. Ideologies, lies, and bad theology lead the undiscerning astray.

Will we see God pour out His Spirit once again throughout our nation, as He has done at critical times in our history? Will we see Him refresh His people with Holy Spirit empowerment to impact lost people? Throughout Scripture and the history of God's people, a unified cry rises again and again: "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" (Psalm 85:6).

This month, we pray with renewed hope that the Lord will do another great move of awakening in our day.

1 Pray that revival and spiritual awakening will touch and transform churches and society. We've seen it before in our nation, and we long for the Lord to do it again! Pray that the hope of past breakthroughs will fuel our prayers for today (Habakkuk 3:2).

2 When God moves to restore His people, two patterns immerge: idols need to be destroyed and worship of the living God is revived. Pray for God to reveal the idols of the heart, for His people to repent, and for renewed exaltation of our God (James 4:8).

3 God's Spirit is stirring His people to pray once again for a fresh awakening. Evidence is all around us-on campuses and in churches-that God desires to renew His work. He's done it before, and He will do it again if we fervently seek Him. Pray for a renewed passion in prayer in your own life and among His people (Hosea 6:2).

4 The pattern for revival is simple: God's people willingly humble themselves and pray. But the calling is dramatic: it rests on those who will desperately pray while keeping their eyes fixed on Jesus. Pray for God to stir His
people to cry out to Him with hope for a fresh awakening (2 Chronicles 7:14).

5 If we long for God to favor us with revival, we must be faithful to His truth. Instead of only seeking God's blessing, we must be honest about our sin. Cry out to God with a humble heart and plead for His mercy upon our nation (Isaiah 6:5).

6 Rather than expressing anger at the way our society is defying God's truth, we must pray in ways that release God's grace: prayers that result in peace, prayers that reflect God's sovereignty, and prayers filled with praise. Pray that we will replace our anger with prayers of hope in God alone (Psalm 67:3-6).

7 Although we witness the overwhelming cloud of evil enveloping our nation, God's transforming presence can invade any community or nation. And when God comes to town, there is a new reverence and fear of Him, which pushes back the darkness. Pray for God's presence to invade your community and nation (Revelation 14:7).

8 When God's people choose to repent, He unleashes the power of His Spirit in extraordinary ways. Repentance is the key to a revived Church. Pray for humility among God's people that leads to waves of repentance and returning to God and His purposes (Acts 3:19-20)

9 We long for God to "fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea." But is it possible our lack of repentance is holding back that moment in our day? Pray that the Lord leads you into deeper levels of repentance that invite His glory (Habakkuk 2:14).

10 God delights to hear and answer our prayers, but our prayer lives can also be a hindrance in advancing His Kingdom. Invite God to shed His light on the effectiveness of your prayers based on the alignment of your heart. Ask God to show you anything that might hinder your prayers for revival (Psalm 66:18-20).

11 Signs of awakening are all around us. Yes, darkness is increasing, but growing fervency in prayer makes us ripe for revival. Pray for a unified vision to pray with a common hope for spiritual awakening. Ask God to bring your church into alignment with other churches in seeking Him for awakening of your city to Jesus (Proverbs 29:18).

12 It is appropriate to pause and lament over the condition of our nation and our desperate need for a sovereign move of God. When we see the sin and depravity, despair is the reality of our souls. Yet, God's compassion never fails and His faithfulness is great. Today, renew your hope in God that He will move again in our day (Lamentations 3:21-23).

13 The secret of keeping hope alive in the Lord is to understand His character in the waiting. As we long to see God send waves of spiritual awakening to our land, we are confronted with seasons of waiting on His timing. Embrace God's purposes and let Him change despair to hope as we wait on Him to respond (Romans 5:1-5).

14 When we pray for revival and don't see evidence that God is answering, we can lose hope. But hope that is deferred-that is still in the waiting-can also serve to create even greater longing and desire for God's spectacular display of grace. Invite God to stir even more fervency in your prayers. Let your season of waiting be filled with joy and peace (Proverbs 13:12).

15 Our nation has been blessed with seasons of revival and awakening-when God moves on His people to restore godly worship and stand strong as bearers of righteousness and truth. Pray that God will do it again, that He will pour out a spirit of repentance, mercy, and grace upon our nation (Psalm 33:12).

16 Revival awakens things that are dead. When God pours out His Spirit on dry and thirsty ground, the Spirit saturates a church with God's Word about God's Son so that people come alive to the glory of Christ. Pray that you and your church will experience the refreshing outpouring of the Spirit (Isaiah 44:3-4).

17 A Christ-dominated revival is filled with fresh vision for the future. What does God have in store for you, your church, and our nation? Pray for a renewed hope in Christ that will infuse you with passionate prayer and Kingdom-focused mission (Ephesians 3:16-19).

18 We are called to shape history with our prayers and partnership with God. Through our persistent cries for God to move on behalf of our nation, we invite the presence and glory of Christ to invade our land. Pray with hope for transformation in our culture and nation (Jeremiah 18:7-8).

19 Many of God's people have labored and toiled in prayer for revival for years. The renewed stirrings of revival in the next generation come on the shoulders of those who have long prayed for a move of God. Remember God's faithfulness and invite Him to stir a fresh vision for revival in our day that will impact all those who come behind us (Psalm 80:19).

20 Revival is a Christ-awakening to the fullness of Jesus Christ as sovereign and supreme over all things. We pray for those moments of increased glory of Christ in our midst-until that final day when He returns in ALL His glory! Pray for everincreasing expressions of Christ's presence in our day (Psalm 85:6).

21 We may sense an overwhelming darkness covering our land, but the hope of revival is that God's glory will rise upon us once again and break through the heaviness upon people's souls. Pray that the Church will arise and shine to reflect the glory of Christ (Isaiah 60:1-2).

22 The longing for revival comes with awareness that all the wonderful things the Church is doing is not enough. Pray for humbles hearts-and ask Jesus to make His presence known so that the world will see Him through His Church (Psalm 80:18).

23 "Revival praying" is focused on the Kingdom of God as we cry out of the reviving presence of Jesus. Pray for an outpouring of the Spirit on our dry and thirsty land-a revival that is heaven-sent (Acts 2:17).

24 God holds nations accountable for not obeying His commands. Our own nation is guilty of rebellion toward God's holy and perfect ways. Pray for God's mercy on this land, that He will forgive our corporate sins and revive us with His presence (Micah 5:15).

25 Is God about to judge us as a nation-or pour out revival on this land? Our heart's cry is for the Lord to "do it again" with another earth-shaking, life-transforming revival! Ask God for an "alert and sober mind" to pray His purposes in our day ( 1 Peter 4:7).

26 We are called to watch and pray as days of turmoil surround us. Seek the Lord first above all things, meditate on His Word, listen to His voice, and pray with confidence for God's Spirit to infuse us with the hope of a refreshing revival (Habakkuk 2:1).

27 Discerning intercessors will pray effective prayers because their hearts are listening for the prayers that God Himself initiates and intends to answer! Pray that you will discern the times and the heart of the Father-and then pray accordingly for a lost world (1 Chronicles 12:32).

28 We are told to watch for the signs of the return of the Son of Man. Revival is just a glimpse of what it will be like when Jesus returns in all His glory. Pray that your spirit is alert to the signs of the times and that revival in our day will prepare us for Jesus' return (Matthew 24:30-31).

29 Waves of darkness threaten to overwhelm us in our cities and nation. But the Lord instructs us to be watchmen who pray with hope that "morning is coming." Yes, it will be dark. But pray for the glory of Christ to reign and the gospel to go forth like the break of dawn (Isaiah 21:11-12).

30 The power of unity in prayer is key to ushering in in revival and the hope of a great spiritual awakening. The "prayers of all the saints" are orchestrated by God to bring about the fulfilment of the purposes of Christ. Pray for a growing crescendo of unified prayer throughout the Church in our day.
(Revelation 8:1-5).
31 The Lord has done it in the past-both biblically and in our nation's history. He has poured out His Spirit in revival in response to the cries of His people. Pray that the Lord will do it again-for His glory and for the sake of lost people who desperately need to be awakened to Christ alone (Psalm 126:1-3).


CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
294 OLD EUREKA RD.
CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor
Jonathan Kyle, Co-Pastor \& Student Pastor
Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool \& Children's Director


