



AT FIRST BAPTIST

DAN MCDOWELL
Senior Pastor

SUE NEELY VANBRUNT
Minister of Music

ROBERT FAULDS
Organist

PENNY SOROKES
Church Secretary

MICKI ELLIS
Audio Visual Specialist

MILLARD COOK
Asst. Pastor Senior/Adult Ministries

BRUCE LAVERTY
Director of Family Ministries

CAROLE LAVERTY
Family Ministries Associate

BONNIE KETTLE
Financial Secretary

GERALD NUTT
Custodian

An Abundance of Thanks



GIVING THANKS DINNER

Plan to join with your church family on Saturday, November 22, at 6:00 pm as we celebrate our many

blessings. The Fellowship Committee will provide the turkey, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce and beverages. Please sign up to bring potatoes, vegetables, or desserts according to your last name using the following schedule: A- H - vegetables; I-P - desserts; Q-Z – potatoes. The "price of admission" is a canned or dry good to be donated to the Olean Food Pantry. Sign up on the bulletin insert or call the church office by Nov. 17.



HANGING OF THE GREENS ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23

Advent begins on Sunday, November 30!! Join us for lunch after Sunday School on November 23 (the Sunday after Thanksgiving) and help us put up the Christmas decorations! Together we can make our church appropriately festive and set the mood for a wonderful holiday season. Sign up on the bulletin insert or call the church office so we can plan for the food.



NOVEMBER IS "THANK GOD FOR RECOVERY" MONTH AT FIRST BAPTIST!

Did you know our church hosts more than 8 recovery groups every week? Narcotics Anonymous groups meet in our church on Monday night at 7:30, Tuesday morning at 10:00, Wednesday afternoon at 1:00, Wednesday night at 7:30, Friday night at 7:30 and Saturday evening at 6:45. An Alcoholic Anonymous group meets here on Saturday night at 8:00 and an Al-Anon (support group for the families of alcoholics) meets here on Friday nights at 7:00.

Every Sunday School class, music group, Bible study and board has been challenged to adopt one of these groups this month and to "bless" them somehow through your prayers, notes, cards or by leaving some food for them to enjoy. Please do so without infringing on the anonymity of the participants.



THANKSGIVING OFFERING

This year's Thanksgiving offering has been designated to the Olean General Hospital Chaplaincy Program by the Board of Trustees. The Thanksgiving envelope in your giving envelopes may be used for this purpose.

CONGRATULATIONS!



To Grace Thurston on the birth of her grandson, Dallas Benjamin, on October 13. Dallas is the son of Benjamin and Hope McDonnell;

grandson of Patrick and Janice Collins. Dallas weighed 7 lbs. 13 oz. and was 20" long at birth.

To Ken Boser II and Samantha Wolters who recently became engaged to be married. They have set a date of June 13, 2015 for their wedding ceremony.



To Heather Schultz and Benjamin Piche who also recently became engaged to be married. They have not set a wedding date at this time.



Bud Fortner will be celebrating his 95th birthday on November 11. His family is inviting you to a birthday party for Bud on Saturday, November 15 from 3-5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Please join us!!

*RSVP to Sue Keim by November 3
716-372-7313*

ATTENTION "SNOWBIRDS"

Have you told us when you are planning to fly South? If not, you'll miss all the church information in our newsletter and we will be paying the postage (\$.45) for each piece of returned mail! Please leave a note, send an email to oleanfbc@verizon.net, or call Penny at 372-5151



**ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING –
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7:00 PM
PLEASE PLAN TO HAVE A MEMBER
PRESENT FROM EACH
BOARD OR COMMITTEE.**

CORRECTION!!

Rev. Malcolm Shotwell; 2521 Lindbergh Blvd.;
Springfield, IL 62704; 217-546-3422

ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 30

The Diaconate has chosen Max Lucado's book "Celebrating Christmas with Jesus" as our study guide for this season. "Cottage Groups" will be forming soon to offer multiple opportunities for you to join in this study. Books cost just \$3 ea. and will be ordered by November 15. Please indicate your interest on the bulletin insert call the church office (372-5151).



ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Please note that all annual reports from staff members, boards and committees are due in the church office by **December 30**. Electronic submissions are appreciated! Reports received after this date will not appear in the full report.



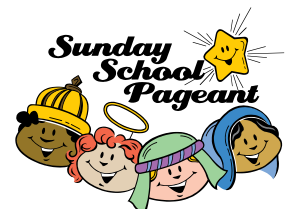
CONGREGATIONAL/CORPORATE MEETINGS NOTICE

The Annual Meetings of our church will take place on **December 7, 2014, and January 18, 2015**. The December Congregational/Corporate meeting will be held in the sanctuary immediately following the 9:30 worship service. The purpose of this meeting is the election of officers, boards and committees for 2015. Fellowship Time will be held after the meeting. The January Corporate meeting will review the annual reports from 2014 and enact a budget for 2015. Church members are encouraged to attend both meetings.



ATTENTION PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS!

Our children are currently learning the Christmas story during Children's Church (9:45 am) and the Sunday School hour (11 am) and are making preparations for the Christmas Pageant to be presented on December 14. Please join us.....We would love to have all of our young people involved!



Stewardship Update

Too Much Talk about Stewardship???

As you know, we are in the midst of our 2014 Stewardship Campaign. There have been numerous presentations during Sunday worship about the potential benefits the church could see if folks would increase their pledges for 2015. The senior choir, bell choir, praise team, and organist have all performed the theme song, "Find Us Faithful." There have been reminders from the pulpit to return pledge cards, etc. As a result, some in the congregation might be thinking that enough is enough... there is simply too much talk about stewardship! But is that true?

On Tuesday, October 21, Family Life Network hosted a special pastor's conference. The conference was led by Chip Ingram, a very popular radio minister and the founder of Living on the Edge Ministries. Many of Chip's books and lecture series have been used for small group and Sunday school classes at Olean First Baptist Church.

During the conference, Pastor Ingram stated that churches don't spend **enough** time talking about fellowship. He noted that good stewardship is a Biblical principle and failure to talk about it is ignoring a key part of God's message to His people! Chip cited Acts 20:35 which quotes Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than receive" and Proverbs 11:25 "The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself." Pastor Ingram also spoke extensively about Matthew 6:19-24 and Matthew 13:22 and emphasized the need to promote good stewardship throughout the year rather than only during an annual stewardship program. In Pastor Ingram's mind, there cannot be too much talk about stewardship!

In closing, to give everyone an update, the initial returns on our 2014 campaign are somewhat encouraging. Forty-one giving cards had been returned prior to Commitment Sunday (October 26), putting us at 45% of our goal for the general fund and 57% of the Mission Fund goal. This is a great start! We are about halfway to reaching our goals and there are still many who have yet to respond.

Here's hoping you all respond soon so that God will find us all faithful!

The Trustees



On **Sunday, November 9**, we'll pay tribute to our veterans during the morning service. A

special fellowship time will be held in their honor following worship.

On **Tuesday, November 11**, our church (in coordination with the Greater Olean Association of Churches) will host a free breakfast featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, ham, hash browns and beverages from 7-9 am in our Fellowship Hall. This meal is offered in honor of military veterans and active service members and is free of charge for them and their families. Everyone is welcome to attend. Donations are welcome but not required. Let Pastor Dan or Penny know if you are willing to volunteer to cook, serve or clean up for this breakfast.



The FBC Youth will be having its annual Christmas Card fundraiser on November 2, 9 and 16. Donations to have your name included on the All Church Family Christmas Card will be taken each Sunday by members of the youth group at the receptionist's desk following worship **until November 17**. The card will be included with the mailing of the December issue of At First Baptist.



SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY!

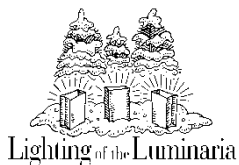
Come join the group meeting to glean insights from Chip Ingram's messages on "Culture Shock". The group meets every 2-4 weeks depending on the schedules of its participants on Friday, Saturday or Sunday evenings in the homes of those who attend. They gather for a meal together at 6 pm followed by the study and discussion. The food is almost as good as the fellowship! See Pastor Dan or Jim or Penny Sorokes for more details.

CHRISTIAN WRITERS GROUP FORMING

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at writing a devotional? Do you write poetry (even for yourself) or fictional stories based on faith? Would you like to try writing but are unsure of how to begin? A meeting was held at FBC on October 20 to consider starting a Christian writers group. This group would provide a safe place for peer critique and fellowship and offer an instructional component on how to write devotionals, how to approach spiritual memoirs and other topics of interest. If you are interested in writing (regardless of whether you have been published or not), please contact Deb Wuetrich



LIGHTING THE LONGEST NIGHT FOR GENESIS HOUSE



December 21st is the longest night of the year. To the homeless person, it can be lonely and scary.

Please help brighten our area by joining our Fourth Annual Luminaria Sale to benefit the work of Genesis House. Kits are \$10 and include 10 bags, 10 votive candles, sand, and directions. Please contact Sue Keim at 372-7313 or the Church office. Orders are due by Dec. 1st.



POINSETTIA DONATIONS

Donations for the flowers and decorations for the sanctuary will be received in the church office until December 14. Please indicate,

along with your check, who you would like to have honored or remembered. Also let us know if you will be taking a plant with you following worship on Sunday, December 21. The Diaconate has decided to deliver the poinsettias to our shut-ins at the beginning of the Advent season rather than waiting until the week of Christmas. Your donations will still be used to make those gifts possible. A donation of \$10 per plant is suggested.



LAST CALL FOR CANTATA SINGERS!

Can you believe it is nearly *December*?

For some, that is great news and for others – a dread of coming winter begins to crawl into their thoughts. Regardless of your feelings about the weather...most everyone enjoys the music that accompanies the Christmas season that is about to begin.

This year's Senior Choir cantata, *Christmas Rhapsody*, is filled with songs of joy about the message of the Christ Child's coming to earth. This work is a compilation of some of the best loved carol with meaningful narration woven throughout.

Rehearsals have begun for this year's cantata to be presented during worship on Sunday Dec. 21st. If you would like to be a part of this musical ministry this year, it's not too late! Please talk to Sue or simply come on Thursday, Oct 30th or Nov 6th at 7 p.m.

Won't YOU come and join us?



November Board Meetings

Monday, November 3 @ 6 PM

The Board of Christian Education

Tuesday, November 11:

Board of Christian Missions @ 5:00

Diaconate @ 6:30

Trustees @ 7:00



RETIREES LUNCHEON WITH PASTOR DAN

Our Pastor is inviting any and all retirees of our church to a Christmas Party/Luncheon on Monday, **December 16** at noon. He will offer some devotional thoughts as well as an opportunity for food and good fellowship. We will have a white elephant (or dollar store) gift exchange as well! Transportation to this event is available for any who need it. There is no charge but donations will be gratefully accepted. Please sign up on the bulletin insert or call the church office by Thursday, December 8, if you would like to attend.



CONSIDER GOD'S GOODNESS

Every good gift and
every perfect gift is from

above, and cometh down from the Father of lights,
with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of
turning. (James 1:17)

In context James is dealing with overcoming
temptation and or trials that we face in life. One of
first things the devil wants to bring to your mind when
you are facing a trial is that God's does not care. If
God loved you He would not let this happen, the devil
plants in your mind. However, James wants us to see
that the goodness of God should be a great barrier
against yielding to temptation. The fact that God is
good reminds me that I do not need anyone else or
anything else to meet my needs. The loving Father
through His goodness and love has and will provide
exactly what in right for me for this day.

God gives only good gifts. Whatever it may be if it
came from God it is good. Paul was given a thorn in
the flesh by God. (2 Cor. 12:1-10) For Paul it was
good. For by it he found the sufficiency of God's
grace. So look around at all the goodness God has
bestowed upon you. That in turn will lead you to
thanksgiving and obedience.

The way God gives is good. We can translate the
second clause "and every act of giving". It is possible
to receive a gift in a bad manner, or in an unloving
way. The value of the gift is lessened if is not given
in love. Yet, we stand assured that all that we receive
from hand of God is given in love. Even in times of
chastisement it comes from a loving hand with a
loving purpose.

He gives constantly. "Cometh down" is a present
participle, meaning "it keeps coming down". [Ezekiel](#)
[34:26](#) "And I will make them and the places round
about my hill a **blessing**; and I will cause the shower
to come down in his season; there shall be **showers** of
blessing." As we look at each new day with the
anticipation of a rain shower, a rain show of blessing
from the Lord what a difference that will make for
your day. How wet did you today? How thankful are
you today?

God does not change. There are no shadows with the
Fathers of Lights. It is impossible for God to change.
He cannot change for the worse for He is Holy; He
cannot change for the better for He is already perfect.
At those times when His light may seem dim in your
life, it is not God that has changed; rather it is you
which has moved away from the light. Therefore,
when we are in the shadow time we must examine our
lives, be willing to confess and repent then we will see
the light flooding in again.

So as we meditate upon the goodness of God we are
able to place the trails of life in a proper perspective.
I will be able say "And we know that all things work
together for good to them that love God, to them who
are the called according to his purpose". (Rom. 8:28)

~Pastor Millard



*Homebound
Christmas
Outreach*

During the upcoming Christmas season, the Diaconate
will be sponsoring several projects to reach out to our
shut-in/homebound family members.

- 🎄 Poinsettia plants will be delivered during the
first week of Advent (beginning November 30)
so that they can be enjoyed during the
Christmas season
- 🎄 Advent Calendars will be posted on the café
windows for each of our shut-in/homebound
members. We are asking the members of the
congregation to sign up for one day (or more!)
to be in touch with one or more shut-ins. You
can send a card, visit, call, etc. Use your
imagination... just be in touch in some way to
brighten their day at this special time of year
- 🎄 We will be making fleece lap robes to be
given as Christmas gifts to each shut-in. If
you have fleece (36x30) that you would like to
donate for these gifts, please contact the
church office by Nov. 15.

Please join us in making this Christmas Season
blessed in special ways for our family members who
can't be with us physically to celebrate the birth of our
Savior.



From the Pastor's Heart....

We spent a lot of time in August, September and October talking about the church we want to be. In August our Board of Missions

spent time at each worship service telling you about the ministries that we support and why we support them. In September we introduced the stewardship theme "Find Us Faithful" and you heard from Chris Rosel as the Chairwoman of the Board of Christian Education about the ministry of discipleship we are trying to offer here. In October you heard from the Diaconate and the Board of Trustees as well as the Music Committee.

During September I shared 3 messages emphasizing *our mission; to share the faith, hope and redeeming love of Jesus Christ with all people*. I focused on the qualities of faith, of hope and of love in how we carry out the very purpose for our existence as a congregation. Then in October I shared 2 messages on our motto: *"Striving to be the church of Jesus Christ where every member is a minister."* Then on Oct. 19 I shared a comprehensive analogy of my vision for ministry in 2015.

I told you that faith is the food that vision lives on and that our highest callings as a congregation are to be a beacon of truth and life in our community and world. We need to proclaim the truth to a world that is confused and literally dying to know it. But in order to offer that truth in a way that the people around us can swallow it, we need to demonstrate vibrancy, warmth and life rather than judgment and legalism. It is not an easy balance to maintain but it is essential to our success.

The world of politics and much of the media has become an echo chamber. People gravitate toward the things they want to hear with little regard for the validity of the claims being made by those who are making those claims. That has never been more obvious than during election season. I subscribe to several organizations that investigate the claims being made by politicians and others and provide an objective analysis. As you might suspect most of what you see on television ads by politicians in both parties is filled with half-truth and unsubstantiated suspicion.

Many of the editorials in our newspapers aren't much better. At some point, many people simply throw up their hands and give up even trying to figure out what the truth is and who is telling it. That's exactly what Satan hopes we will do.

I am reminded of the first chapter of Romans: ¹⁸ *"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,"* ¹⁹ *since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.* ²⁰ *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has*

been made, so that people are without excuse. ²¹ *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened...*

²⁸ *Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.*

²⁹ *They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹ they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.*

³² *Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them. (Romans 1:18-21, 28-32)*

Those are harsh words... ominous words... but who can doubt that they are as true in 2014 as they were almost 2000 years ago when they were written? The good news is we have the antidote for the spiritual "Ebola" that Paul is describing in that passage. It is found in the person of Jesus Christ and in His holy word.

In order for the world around us to believe in that antidote we must demonstrate its effectiveness in our attitudes, our compassion, our faithful confidence as we share the faith, hope and redeeming love of Jesus Christ with all people by striving to be the church of Jesus Christ where every member is a minister.

To do that more effectively in 2015 I am proposing:

- A. Our highest callings are to be **beacons of truth and life**.
- B. **There is no substitute for private devotions.** Sunday School, group Bible studies, radio and TV teaching, etc. are important but God speaks to our hearts best when we are alone with Him.
- C. **Introduction to the Old Testament:** To prepare you for those devotions we will offer an introduction to the books of the Old Testament (as we did for the New Testament in 2013).
- D. We will focus more attention on **leadership development** next year by offering opportunities to learn and grow in leadership skills.
- E. Last but not least, we need to **improve our outreach** by looking for opportunities to meet unchurched people and bring them into fellowship with us.

~Pastor Dan

**Pastor Dan and Pastor Millard
want to say
"Thank You"
for the wonderful
Pastor Appreciation Celebrations
you offered in October.
We love you too!**



INTRODUCING

Deb Wuethrich

Deb recently returned to the Olean area where she was born to be nearer to family members and lives in Portville. She and her husband, Gordy, lived in Michigan for many years prior to his passing in 2010. Deb

retired this summer from a position as a journalist. She was responsible for news, features and column writing at The Tecumseh Herald, along with articles and photos for an annual NASCAR fan magazine. On two race weekends each summer, she covered race activities at the nearby Michigan International Speedway. She also compiled an as yet unpublished devotional for motorsports fans based on her experiences there.

Deb is also a published freelance writer, has taught writing in an adult education program, and also won a nationally recognized Amy Award in 2003 for sharing biblical truth in a secular publication. Some of her published work includes family stories in anthologies about her daughter, Michele, who lived just 11 years with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. She also volunteers at a nursing home writing down residents' life stories. Deb enjoys sharing her faith and love of writing with others.

Deb is being recommended for membership at First Baptist and has agreed to write articles and book reviews for our newsletter. Here is her first:

Book Review: "Made to Crave"

It's been out a few years, but reviewing Lysa Terkeurst's 2010 book, "Made to Crave: Satisfying Your Deepest Desire With God, Not Food," may help people in a season that kicks off with feasts at Thanksgiving then rolls out buffets full of holiday temptations.

While Terkeurst, a best-selling author and president of Proverbs 31 Ministries, often focuses on women's issues, men, too, may benefit from this book.

The author points out how it's natural for human beings to crave — but she believes we weren't made to be consumed with food cravings and other indulgences. We were made to crave God!

Terkeurst backs her claims with Scripture, citing Psalm 84:1-2, noting, "My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God." Satan, however, likes nothing better than to lure people away from God and will use worldly cravings to interfere. How we deal with food is mental, physical and also spiritual.

Self-control is hard, the author says, but she refers to Paul's letter to the Galatians that describes an available power that is greater. "So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature" (Galatians 5:16), adding that one can live with a "willingness to walk away when the Holy Spirit nudges you and says, 'That food choice is permissible but not beneficial — so don't eat it.'"

"Made to Crave" doesn't duck the issue of how difficult it is to overcome old habits, including eating to soothe emotions after a hard day and other behaviors people face.

I especially liked Chapter 11 that addresses bad days by revealing the author's tactic of taking an old lie, bolstering the situation with a Bible verse, and making a new truth. Her trademark humor is evident in observations such as how the old lie says, "God seems so far away and French fries are right around the corner." Reminding herself that the Lord's love is everlasting (Psalm 103:17), she affirms the new truth: "French fries don't love me," and is able to review the negative effects overindulgence could bring.

Each chapter end contains a Personal Reflection series of questions for readers to apply to their own lives. Appendices include some verses that have helped the author and also some "Healthy Eating Go-To Scripts."

In the end, Terkeurst says it's not about fleeing food, but making better choices and not letting food control us. She maintains, "I'm not on a diet. I'm on a journey with Jesus to learn the fine art of self-discipline for the purpose of holiness," in order to be an overcomer — made to crave God.



*Articles and information for the
December Issue of
At First Baptist*

Are due by Thursday, November 13



THE RETIRED MINISTERS & MISSIONARIES OFFERING

In the month of December we will receive the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering, which provides a special honorarium (just in time for the holidays) to the missionaries, pastors and their spouses in our denomination who served us so well for so long! This is a tremendous blessing for them; let's do our part!

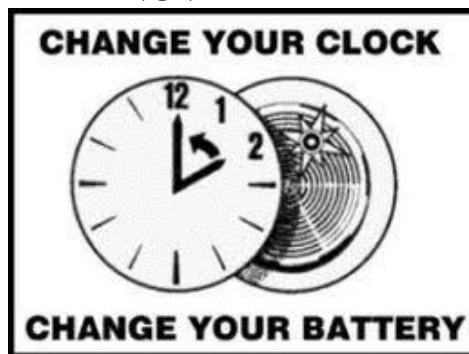


Happy Birthday!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Rhiannon Peck
- 4 Marilyn Piepho
- 7 Glenn Lowe
- 8 Art Brown
- 9 Jeff Nutt
- Dan Sorokes
- 10 Jim Kirkpatrick
- 11 Julie Barnes
- Bud Fortner
- Laura McDowell
- Mark Taylor
- 13 Zach Faulds
- 15 Michele Cone
- 16 Carol Walker
- 17 Travis Buckley
- 19 Micah Collins
- 20 Bob Ketchner II
- 21 Chris Rosel
- 23 Carol Mahoney
- 24 Ashley Sage
- 26 Josh Anderson
- 27 Lori Funden
- Dan McDowell
- Eli Rust
- Ken Wallace
- 30 Linda Anderson
- Cheyenne Rust

STANDARD TIME BEGINS
SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 2



TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK
ONE HOUR
BEFORE YOU GO TO BED ON SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 1



- 8 Bruce & Carole Laverty
—40th
- 23 Art & Lynn Brown
- 25 Harley & Donna DeLong
- 28 Don & Jodie Martin

WHY ARE WOMEN (PEOPLE) SO HARD ON EACH OTHER? By Lynn Cowell

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them." Proverbs 3:27 (NLT)

"Why, when a woman (person) walks in a room, do all the other women (people) size her (him) up?" my husband asked.

Where was the nearest rock? I thought, as I desperately wanted to crawl under one. My husband had just pointed out what I've often seen, but didn't think others noticed. Our insecurity tends to come out when we're in situations where we feel "less than" or uncomfortable. Greg's comment that evening stirred a series of questions in my mind.

What holds us back from offering encouragement when we know most of us struggle with feelings of insecurity?

Why, when we have the power to do so much good for each other, do we not do it?

Why would I not, when I have a good thought about another person, simply say it?

Beautiful comments we think in our head, yet fail to say such as:

"I noticed your kind act in the grocery store. You inspired me!

"Your generous heart makes me want to be giving as well!"

"When I see the boldness of your faith, I'm encouraged to be bold too."

The more I thought about it, the more I knew how easy it would be to start speaking good things about others.

King Solomon reinforced my thoughts as I read Proverbs 3:27, *"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them."*

My heart heard a thought from God as I read this verse, *"Lynn, do not withhold a compliment. When you speak good, you are doing My good."*

So, I'm starting with this resolve: If I have a positive thought, I'm going to say it. It doesn't matter if I know you or if you are a woman (man) I've never met. With God's help, I no longer want to withhold good from those who deserve or those who need it, when it is in my power to help them.

My prayer is that not only will I encourage others along the way, but my kids will see God's goodness pouring through me and they too will be inspired to not withhold good from others. If we'll join together and make sharing the good we see normal, we might just bring some really good change to the world.

Jesus, I want to be a bringer of Your good to my world today. In everyday moments like at the grocery store, when seeing my neighbor and as I go about my work, open my eyes to see the good in others and then call it out and encourage them with the power of my words. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TRUTH FOR TODAY:

Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (NIV)

James 4:17, "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them." (NIV)