

Pastor's Perspective

Last year I failed one of my resolutions big time! Matter of fact, I didn't even come close. Remember that I set the goal of running a marathon during the year 2011. Though I ran more in 2011 than I have in my entire life I never ran a full marathon at one go. Sorry Alex, I know you were counting on me, maybe next year!

Here we are at the beginning of another year. Many of you will be setting goals, maybe you will strive to organize your life, and some will kick bad habits and pick up healthy habits. I applaud you! At first I thought my 2011 marathon debacle taught me a valuable lesson, I should set goals that are personally realistic. Then upon deciding that, I was reading through some of the works of Jonathan Edwards and realized that I am not the only person who bit off more than he could chew. Reading what Jonathan Edwards resolved to do made me feel like I was still using training wheels. Edwards knew he, in and of himself, could not attain his lofty goals, but with God's help he was free to resolve bold things.

Edwards writes, "Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace, to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will, for Christ's sake." Edwards would then read over his resolutions once a week to remind himself of what he was to be about doing. The following are a few of his resolutions:

- "Resolved," To live with all my might, while I do live."
- "Resolved," That I will live so, as I shall wish I had done when I come to die."
- "Resolved," That *I will do whatsoever* I think to be most to the glory of God and my own good, profit and pleasure, in the whole of my duration; without any consideration of the time, whether now, or never so many myriad or ages hence. Resolved to do whatever I think to be my *duty*, and most for the good and advantage of mankind in general. Resolved, so to do, whatever *difficulties* I meet with, how many soever, and how great soever."

Whatever your goals are this year, my prayer for you is that you heed the words of Jonathan Edwards and then set great goals for spiritual, physical, emotional, and financial health this year. Set your goal with your mind on God's glory and realize that you are unable to do anything without God's help. However, with God's help and the power of the Holy Spirit you can do wonderful things and you can change this year. Here is to a year of growth, a year of living the gospel out in front of your loved ones, a year in which you pursue God's glory over your own, and may this be a year you fall deeper in love with Christ.

Your Servant in Christ,

Richard

News from the Mission Field

Jason Sterling RUF Ole Miss

After 12 years on campus at Ole Miss, Les Newsome has changed positions. Les is now the RUF Area Coordinator for Alabama and the Mid-south. Jason Sterling is the new Ole Miss RUF campus minister. Jason graduated from Samford University in 1997 with a degree in Secondary Education. After graduation he spent three years in pharmaceutical sales and graduated from Reformed Theological Seminary Orlando with a Master of Divinity degree in 2005. His wife, Susie, graduated from Samford in 2000 with a degree in Human Development & Family Studies and earned a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies degree from Reformed Theological Seminary Orlando in 2003. After 6 years of ministering with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Samford University, Jason and Susie moved their family to Oxford, MS where Jason has been called to serve as the next RUF Campus Minister at Ole Miss. The Sterlings have three daughters, Kate, Elizabeth, and Anne Wright and are expecting their fourth daughter in September.

Men's Steak Supper – The Men's Steak Supper will be Thursday, January 26 with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. The Speaker will be Les Newsom, Area Coordinator for RUF. Invite a friend and join us for good food and fellowship.

Mid-South Men's Rally – The yearly Mid-South Men's Rally will be Friday, January 27 in Jackson at the First Presbyterian Church. The speaker this year is The Rev. Elbert McGowan, RUF Campus Minister at Jackson State University. Dinner begins at 5:15 p.m. and the sessions will be from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. If you are interested in going, please call the church office (453-7608) for more information.



Westminster will be the host church for the Annual GriefShare ministry in Greenwood, beginning **6:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 10, 2012**. GriefShare is a grief recovery group that meets for 13 weeks. It is non-denominational, Biblically based and Christ centered ministry, for anyone who has dealt with the loss of a loved one. A nursery is provided. For more information visit the website at www.griefshare.org. To register, email Kim Pillow at khpillow@yahoo.com or call the church office at 453-7608. Workbooks are \$15.00.

Help is also needed to provide refreshments each week for the participants. If you would like to help in providing refreshments one week, please contact Kim Pillow (299- 8750) or the church office.

Please be in prayer for this outreach ministry and spread the word to anyone who has lost a family member or friend in our community.

Wednesday Night Youth Suppers – The youth group wants to thank all who have volunteered to help feed them on Wednesday nights. Those who have volunteered to provide supper for the youth for the month of January are January 4 – Lauren Coleman, January 11 – Robbie Nichols, January 18 – Meredith Fletcher and January 25 – Selena Nause.

Women in the Church News (WIC) - We have some great additions to the church web site. Please go to www.wpcgreenwood.org and highlight ministries and click on Women's ministries. This will give you an overview of our current ministry efforts. We ask that all women complete the WIC survey by clicking on the WIC Survey option. Then just click submit when you are finished. This survey will give the WIC committee a good idea of the service areas of the women of our church. We plan to have each committee to meet sometime in January.

Another technological addition is a **WIC Google group**. This will provide a way for all of the women in our church to communicate with one another via email. To sign up for this group, go to the website groups.google.com/group/WestminsterWIC (a link to this page can also be found on our Women's Ministries page of the church website). If you already have a Google account, click "sign in and apply for group membership" on the left side of the page. If you do not have a Google account, click "apply for group membership" on the right side of the page and follow the directions. If you need any assistance with this process, please contact Kathryn Dyksterhouse (458-0998).

The WIC committee includes the following: Cathy Adams (Chairperson); Lorie Guenther (Discipleship Committee Chairperson); Sister Kosko (Mercy Ministry Committee Chairperson); Vicki Patridge (Special Events Chairperson); Kathryn Dyksterhouse (Organizational Committee Chairperson).

The Women's Bible study will start again on Tuesday, January 17 from 9:30-11:00. We are studying Nancy Guthrie's book, [Hoping For Something Better, a study through Hebrews](#). All women are invited to join the group. This study does not require that you attend every week. Each chapter is beneficial on its own merit so you can step into this study at any time. Please join us!

We will be taking action to organize and clean out all the storage areas at our church in late January and we will need help on this project. Please contact Cathy Adams (453-6818) or the church office (453-7068) if you know of any items that may be subject to being given away that should not be given away. We certainly do not want to discard any treasured items. If you would like to help, please contact Cathy Adams.

Thank you for responding to the WIC survey so we can start to plan events for 2012 that will nourish the Women of our church.

Flowers – We are organizing the flower schedule for 2012 and will be sending out a flower form sheet to each church family in January.

Little Worship – All children ages 4 and 5 are invited to participate in Little Worship. Those who have volunteered for the month of January are January 1 – Ellen Hey, January 8 – Bob and Jeanette Morgan, January 15 – Larry Myers, January 22 – Kim and Mary Elizabeth Makamson, and January 29 – McLeod and Allison Meek.

For the month of February those who have volunteered are February 5 – Rob and Amber Joiner, February 12 – Stephen and Kim Pillow, February 19 – Trey and Elizabeth O'Brien and February 26 – Neil and Allison Pillow.



Westminster Presbyterian Church | Greenwood, Mississippi

January, 2012

January 10, 2012, GriefShare

Westminster will be the host church for the annual GriefShare ministry in Greenwood, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10.

January 17, 2012, Women's Bible Study

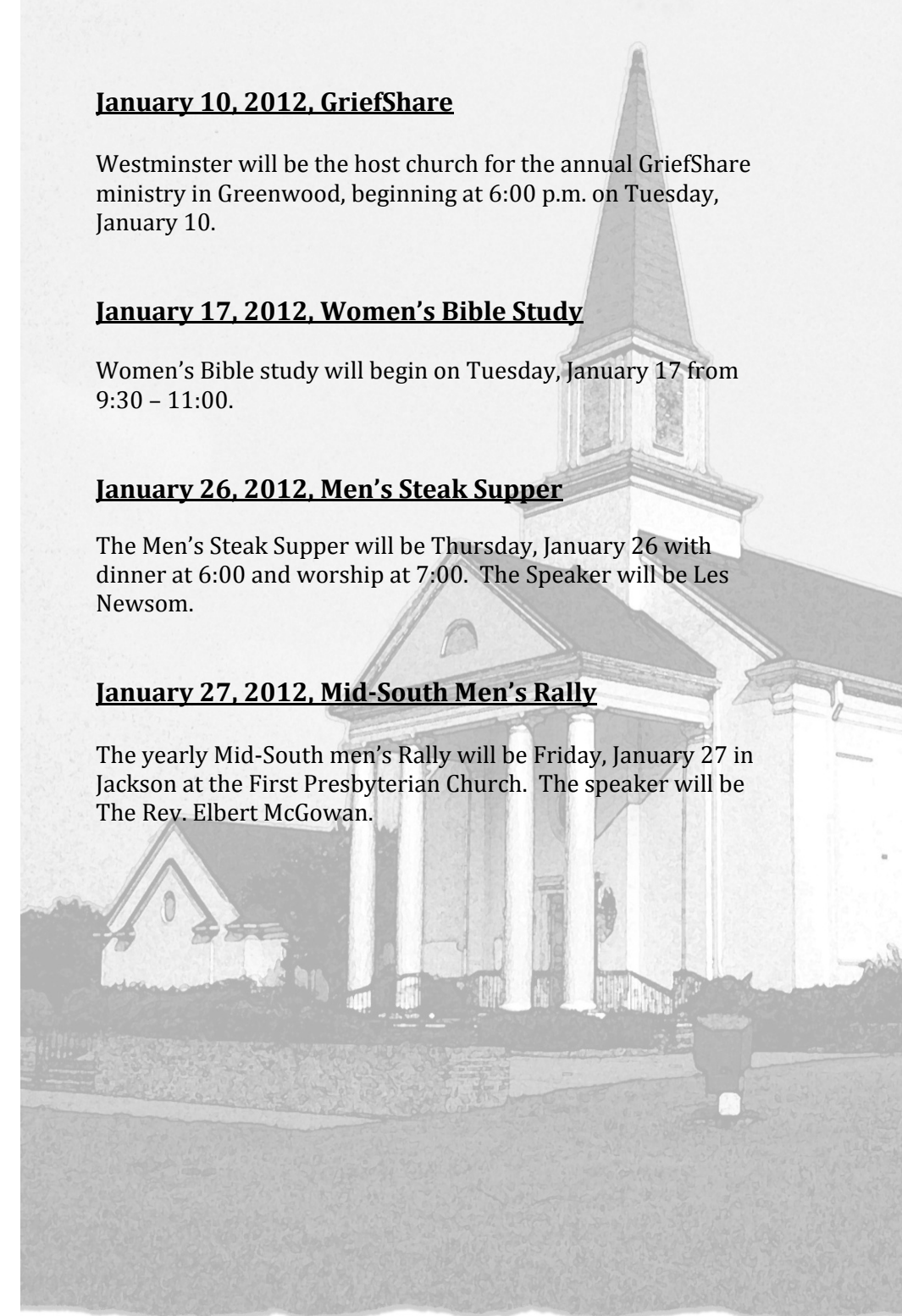
Women's Bible study will begin on Tuesday, January 17 from 9:30 – 11:00.

January 26, 2012, Men's Steak Supper

The Men's Steak Supper will be Thursday, January 26 with dinner at 6:00 and worship at 7:00. The Speaker will be Les Newsom.

January 27, 2012, Mid-South Men's Rally

The yearly Mid-South men's Rally will be Friday, January 27 in Jackson at the First Presbyterian Church. The speaker will be The Rev. Elbert McGowan.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
804 East Park Avenue
Greenwood, MS 38930

Prayer List – Please pray for the following: Becky Coleman, Neil, Allison and Cole Pillow and family, Bettye Jim Morgan, the Pastor Search Committee, Gene Stansel, Guy Robertson (Keith's father), Jane Morgan, Mary Lou Robertson (Mary Elizabeth Makamson's mother), GriefShare, Louise Fraiser (Johnny Smith's aunt), Mary Nell Downs, McKee Guenther, Georgia Seale (Georgeanne Smith's mother), John Sharp Pillow, MEM and Bobby Morton, Bettye and Bill Montgomery, JoAnn Woody, Harris Coleman and family and our expectant mother Amber Joiner.

Ushers – We want to thank all who diligently and faithfully serve the congregation each month when on the usher team. The usher team for January is Larry Myers (Head), Jennifer Burgess, Ted & Freda MacIntosh, Bob & Jeanette Morgan, Johnny & Georgeanne Smith, and Wayne & LaNelle Tollison.

Activities for January

Sunday, January 1	Communion
Wednesday, January 4	Jr. and Sr. High Bible Study (6:00 p.m.) Children's activities
Sunday, January 8	COVERED DISH LUNCHEON (11:15 a.m.)
Tuesday, January 10	GriefShare (6:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 11	Jr. and Sr. High Bible Study (6:00 p.m.) Adult Bible Study, Children's Bible Study
Tuesday, January 17	Women's Bible Study (9:30 a.m. at the church) GriefShare (6:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 18	Jr. and Sr. High Bible Study (6:00 p.m.) Adult Bible Study, Children's Bible Study
Tuesday, January 24	Women's Bible Study (9:30 a.m. at the church) GriefShare (6:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 25	Jr. and Sr. High Bible Study (6:00 p.m.) Adult Bible Study, Children Bible Study
Thursday, January 26	Men's Steak Supper (6:00 p.m.)
Friday, January 27	Mid-South Men's Rally, FPC Jackson, MS
Tuesday, January 31	Women's Bible Study (9:30 a.m. at the church) GriefShare (6:00 p.m.)

Happy Birthday Wishes

January 1 – Paul I. Kosko, M.D.	January 15 – McKee Guenther
January 1 – Joey Smith	January 15 – Ann Montgomery
January 3 – Mary Laine Dyksterhouse	January 19 – Baylor Pillow
January 3 – Justin Braswell	January 20 – Lucille Pillow
January 4 – David Hey, Jr.	January 20 – Robin Henry
January 7 – Zeb O'Bryant	January 23 – Jere Stansel
January 13 – Nelson Kelly	January 28 – Laura Hall
January 15 – Camryn Jean Joiner	January 31 – Emma Hodges
January 15 – Deb Ray	

Happy Anniversary

January 4 – Wayne and LaNelle Tollison
 January 6 – Neil and Allison Pillow
 January 18 – Meredith and Margaret Allen
 January 20 – Ben and Kay Downing
 January 29 – Walter and Stevie Pillow