

# Pressing On....

Ellington Baptist Church

January 2019

Edition 1, Volume 2

## From the Pastor's Pen...

### 365 Opportunities

Here we are at the beginning of another calendar year; 2019 is here! What do the next days, weeks, and months hold for us? Will Jesus return this year? Will I be called home this year? Will I still have a job, home, etc. in the coming year? If we are honest there are too many unknowns for us to even, with surety, map out the rest of this day...let alone an entire year.

Chuck Swindoll once said, "We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations." It is true that we are all on the cusp of 365 great opportunities in 2019 that will no doubt present themselves as impossibilities. But what makes them impossibilities? I think that, hands down, the main hinderance to enjoying what I have in God and what He wants me to experience is me. This is true for each one of us. By the way, in case you were thinking this, I am not hindering you from what God has for you, you are. With that said, I know the solution to seizing all those great opportunities...God in me and God in you!

We all need in 2019 to take hold of all 365 of those great opportunities:

- Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness—  
Matthew 6:25
- Consciously set aside time to spend with God—  
Colossians 4:2
- Do not be anxious about anything—Philippians 4:6-7
- Be content no matter the circumstances—  
Philippians 4:11-12
- Renew my mind with God's truth—Romans 12:2 &  
Philippians 4:8
- Guard my ears, heart, lips, eyes, & feet—Proverbs 4:20-27
- Train myself for godliness—1 Timothy 4:7-8
- Mend broken relationships—Colossians 3:12-14

*1 Timothy 4:8 - "for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come."*

### Sunday Schedule

Early Morning Worship – 8:30 – 9:15  
Fellowship – 9:15 – 9:45  
Sunday School – 9:45-10:45  
Morning Worship – 11:00-12:15  
Prayer Meeting – 5pm-6pm  
WOL Teens – 6pm-8pm

### Weekly Activities

Monday 7pm – Men's Bible Study  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays)  
Tuesday 9:45am – Ladies Bible Study  
Friday 6:15pm – WOL Olympians

### December/January Activities

Jan 6 - Baby/Child Dedications  
Jan 13 – Annual Business Meeting

WOL Teens Sled and Banner Building  
January 6,13,20,27

*If you have some special news about your family that you would like to share, please send it to the church email.*

[ebchurch2017@outlook.com](mailto:ebchurch2017@outlook.com).

### *Pressing On...*

*Pray for our young adults that will be in college or serving away from home in 2019*

*Daniel Blais – stationed at Camp Pendleton (Marines) in St. Clemente, CA*

*Hannah Bodner – attending UCONN in Storrs, CT for*

*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

*Emily Champagne – teaching grades 3-6 at two schools in Daegu, Korea*

*Carina Diggins – attending Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, MI - Creative Writing Degree*

*Seth Diggins – studying with Northeast Helicopter Flight Services in Ellington, CT*

*McKenzie Gorman – attending Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, MA Early Childhood Education*

*Robbie Gorman – attending Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, MA - Majoring in Business*

*Miranda Graziani – attending Manchester Community College in Manchester, CT*

*Majoring in Criminal Justice*  
*Stephanie Pardi – attending the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, RI -Majoring in Kinesiology*

*Kiara Stone – studying at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA.*

*Nick Topor – studying in the Eurotech program in Konstanz, Germany towards a dual degree in Mechanical Engineering and German studies from UCONN.*

*Zach Topor – working on PHD in Marine Biology at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette, LA*

### **New Year's Challenge**

Start a journal where you record at least two specific ways that God has blessed you each day. Number them so that you can see your blessings grow... Count Your Many Blessings

### **Olympian Cookie Swap**

The annual Olympian Cookie Swap took place on Friday night, December 14<sup>th</sup> with 52 people in attendance which included the Olympians, leaders and prayer partners. If you weren't there you missed a great time! As the children came in they were assigned a color group which was then used to shepherd them through a night of crafts, snacks, cookie baking and cookie decorating. Each child left with a prize and a tray of cookies, and two platters of cookies were donated to the church for the Christmas Program cookie night. Special thanks to head coaches Dawn and Bruno Blais and all the adult and teen helpers! And please continue to pray for our Olympians as they resume meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Ministry Opportunities in Our Church Family**

If you are not plugged in to a ministry, please pray about where God would have you serve. Here are some possibilities with the contact person... (There may be new contacts after the business meeting)

Men's Bible Study – Dick Offerman

Ladies Bible Study – Jamie Berube

WOL Teens – Pastor Bill, Barry Gilbert

Olympians – Bruno & Dawn Blais

Sunday School – Erin Graziani, Dick Offerman

Nursery – Elaine Cooke

Sunday Fellowship – Mary Savelyev, Elaine Cooke

Property Maintenance – Tracy Leutjen

Ushers/Greeters – Warren Kessler

Did you know....

At the age of 19 in 1722-1723, Jonathan Edwards wrote 70 resolutions for life which he prefaced with these words "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 reread his resolutions at least once a week throughout the rest of his life.