

New Beginnings

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him" (<u>Lamentations 3:22-24</u>).

One of the things we see over and over in scripture is people who have awesome encounters with God and it leads to a new beginning in their life. I think that one of the ways we continue to experience the Lord's renewal and refreshment in our lives is by Him allowing us to experience a new beginning, a fresh start, a renewed heart.

Here is the thing. It is often something that happens in us. Often there is not much else that changes. We might be in the same job, have the same family and live in the same home. But God can give us this sense of everything being renewed because of the work that He has done in our heart.

We see people like Abraham, Moses and Isaiah in the Old Testament who experience a new beginning. There are people in the New Testament who got new beginnings: woman at the well, Zacchaeus, certainly the disciples, and Paul. But God forces himself on no one and certainly there were people who were in the crowd who did not follow. We have the very detailed example of the rich, young man who went away sad.

Are you sensing a new beginning is what you seek? Before trying a major change or life shift, look to God. He has some joy, love, and grace to share with you.

Winter Events & Happenings

VINEYOUTH EVENINGS (GRADES 6-12)

Join us this Sunday evening from 6-7:30pm in Baldwin Hall.

ENCOUNTER will be held every Tuesday from 7-8:30pm in the sanctuary. Bring your Bible and a notebook for this time of prayer and worship.

REFRESHED WOMEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Ladies, our next Women's breakfast will be held Saturday morning, January 20, 9am, in Baldwin Hall. Please join us for food, fellowship and an inspirational message. Circle **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST** on your connection card or sign up at the Welcome Center on Sunday morning. Please bring a breakfast dish to share.

WELCOME LUNCH

Sunday, January 21, following the 11 am service in the Ministry Center. This is a place to quickly and simply connect with what happens at the Vine. We will discuss the story of the Vine

along with the vision God has given us to pursue. Please circle **WELCOME LUNCH** on your connection card by 1/14 so that we can plan accordingly.

THE VINE DANCE TEAM-Spring & Easter Dance

Beginning Monday, January 22 from 7-8pm in Baldwin Hall. All ages welcome. This team meets on Mondays and you will be required to attend The Vine's Easter services. Pink ballet shoes and pink short sleeve leotard required. Strong dance background not needed. See or contact Adrienne (901-4597) or Becky (901-3251) with any questions. If you are interested in participating please sign up at the Welcome Center or circle **DANCE TEAM** on your connection card on Sunday morning.

GUY'S NIGHT OUT

Wednesday, January 24 at 6:30pm, Baldwin Hall. Men, come join us for a fantastic evening with chili, soup, fellowship, a short message on how you can be all God wants you to be in 2018 and a cornhole tournament! If you would like to take part in helping with the food or by bringing soup or chili, please see or contact Steve Priola at 870-0903 or Bob Emser. Also, we would like to get an idea of how many will be playing in the tournament. If you would like to participate, please let Steve or Bob know. You can enter as a team or you will be paired up, if you would like. If you have a corn hole set that we can use, let us know as we will need multiple sets. This event is open to all gentlemen, teenage and above and we hope to see you there. Please circle GUY'S NIGHT OUT on your connection card on Sunday morning if you plan on attending.

GROWING DEEP: LOVING OTHERS WELL

Beginning Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30pm in Baldwin Hall. Part of the Vine's Discipleship Path, this powerful 8-week course will equip you with practical tools to really love people in difficult situations and mature into an adult follower of Jesus. To sign up circle **GROWING DEEP** on your connection card or email Amanda Hartrich at ahartrich@vinewc.org. Workbook & devotional \$22. Additional devotional books \$11.00. Pay at the Welcome Center on Sunday morning. Make checks payable to The Vine Wesleyan Church.

FUSION CLASSES

Wednesday, February 8 & 15, 7-9pm, Ministry Center Conference Room. During this time we will share the story and vision of the Vine Wesleyan Church, how to live a life of holiness, how to share your faith in meaningful ways and how to become a member of the Vine Wesleyan Church. If you would like to attend, please circle **FUSION** on your connection card on Sunday morning.

VALENTINE'S DINNER

Saturday, February 10, 5:30 pm, Baldwin Hall. Enjoy a date night with your sweetheart. Evening includes fully catered dinner, games and prizes and great fellowship with other couples. \$40/couple (Make checks payable to The Vine). Purchase your tickets at the Welcome Center or contact the Vine office. Limited to the first 40 paid couples.

SPONSOR-A-TEEN TO BE AWAKENED FOR GOD'S KINGDOM AWAKEN CONFERENCE|FEBRUARY 16-18

Theme: Awakening a generation to His Kingdom

Our teens will enjoy 3 conference days full of great speakers and worship. You can sponsor a partial scholarship (\$35) or full scholarship (\$69) and help our teens get to this amazing conference. See Pastor Tammy if you can donate by January 21.

SIGHT & SOUND THEATER-JESUS

Tuesday, April 3-Friday, April 6. Travel with The Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church's Young at

Heart Group (55+) to Gettysburg & Lancaster, PA, through Maestro Tours. The itinerary includes stops at Hershey Museum, Gettysburg National Military Park & Museum and the Sight & Sound Theater where you will experience, *Jesus*, the musical stage adventure about the most famous person ever to walk the earth and the everyday people whose lives he changed forever. If you would like to learn more, please contact Bill at Maestro Tours LLC (716) 235-7165.

MORNING PRAYER

The first Thursday of each month from 10-11am, please join Pastor Tammy in the Prayer Room as we pray for our church and region.

SHOVELERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to clear the entryways of our church and Ministry Center of snow this season. Please circle **SHOVEL** and include your name and phone number on the front of your connection card on Sunday morning if you would be willing to volunteer your time. Thank you!

CHURCH CALENDAR

Check out our Vine calendar http://vinewc.org/calendar/ for more upcoming events.