

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

January 12, 2025

## Perfect & Complete



God has graciously allowed me to serve as your pastor these 31 years. Seeing God establish leadership, strengthen His vision, expand His ministries, and grow and mature His saints has truly been a blessing. When God's faithfulness manifests itself so powerfully, all one can do is continue to press for the mark of the high calling (Philippians 4:14). It does not mean that everything has been peachy throughout all these years, but seeing God's faithfulness has undoubtedly been the strengthening factor for our perseverance. Charles Spurgeon once said; "By perseverance, the snail reached the ark." Robert J. Morgan put it this way; "We must never forget that the word persevere comes from the prefix per, meaning through, coupled with the word severe. It means to keep pressing on, trusting God, looking up, doing our duty—even through severe circumstances."

"Greg Asimakoupoulos tells of a commuter flight from Portland, Maine to Boston. The pilot, Henry Dempsey, heard an unusual noise near the rear of the small aircraft. He turned the controls over to his co-pilot and went back to investigate. As he reached the tail section, Dempsey was tossed against the rear door when the plane hit an air pocket. He quickly discovered the source of the mysterious noise. Someone failed to latch the rear door properly before takeoff, and it flew open, instantly sucking Dempsey out of the jet. Seeing the red light that indicated an open door, the co-pilot radioed the nearest airport, requesting permission to make an emergency landing. He reported that the pilot had fallen out of the plane and asked for a helicopter search of that ocean area.

After the plane landed, they found Henry Dempsey holding onto the aircraft's outdoor ladder. Somehow, he had caught the ladder, held on for ten minutes as the plane flew 200 mph at an altitude of 4,000 feet, and then, at landing, kept his head from hitting the runway. It took airport personnel several minutes to pry Dempsey's fingers from the ladder. Things in life may feel turbulent," said Asimakoupoulos, "and you may not feel like holding on. But have you considered the alternative?" (Leadership Journal, Summer 1991, 49).

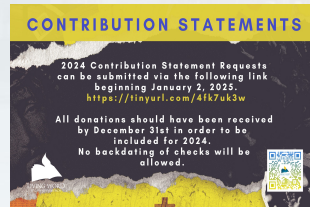
The purpose of our trials is to teach us perseverance: "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4; Romans 5:1-5). The focus of trials is never to test God's faithfulness; trials prove it (John 10:27-30). I do not know what this year may expose us to as a church body, but Christ's question is always before us; "when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)

His faithfulness should inspire us to trust His Word. We must press on, no matter the challenges we experience.

## UPCOMING Events



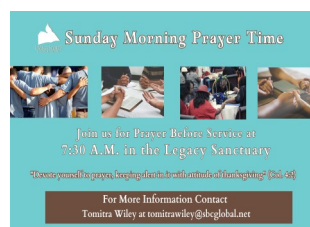
**LWFC BUSINESS MEETING—1/14/25**  
Join us for our annual church business meeting on January 14th at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. There will be no bible study however, please join us to discuss the new goals and business objectives for LWFC in 2025. For more information, call the church at (281) 260-7402



**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**  
2024 Contribution Statement requests can be submitted via the below link  
<https://tinyurl.com/4fk7uk3w>  
All donations included should have been received by December 31, 2024 in order to be included for 2024 Taxes. For more information, call the church at (281) 260-7402



**LWFC KIDZ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
If you are interested in volunteering at either 8 a.m. or 11 a.m. services for the LWFC Kidz Ministry assisting with check-ins at least once a month, contact Mrs. Sylvia Edwards at 281-260-7402 or at [sylvia.edwards@lwfcfellowshipchurch.org](mailto:sylvia.edwards@lwfcfellowshipchurch.org)  
No experience necessary.



**SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER TIME**  
Join the Prayer Ministry every Sunday morning for Prayer Time at 7:30 a.m. in the Legacy Sanctuary. Also join the Prayer Call every Monday evening at 7 p.m.  
**ZOOM MEETING ID: 776-2097-8265**  
**Password: PRAY!**  
For More Information, Contact Tomitra Wiley at [tomitraw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tomitraw@sbcglobal.net)



**JOIN THE LEGACY YOUTH BAND APP**  
Legacy Youth parents and youth, join the **BAND APP** to stay connected. WE have an exciting year planned for our youth and we don't want you to miss a single event or activity. Use the link below to join:  
<https://band.us/n/a8adA2G6V4fdO>  
For more information, contact **Angela Holmes** at [angholmes32@gmail.com](mailto:angholmes32@gmail.com)



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Worship In Giving

*Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses*

Special Music

**"Shouting Down Strongholds"**

2 Cor. 10:4, 5; Joshua 6:1-5

Pastor Rodney Maiden

Click "Sermon Notes" on the Website

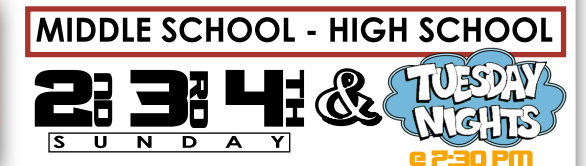
Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Visitor's Welcome

Benediction

Children are now required to check-in upon arrival. Please report to the registration desk located in the children's wing.  
**Infants—6th grade**





**Shouting Down Strongholds**  
**2 Cor. 10:4, 5; Joshua 6:1-5**

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”  
**1 Corinthians 10:4 NKJV**

**I. He wants You to Be \_\_\_\_\_ of your victory.**

“Joshua, I have given you Jericho. It is yours. I have declared it, it is yours. Jericho is yours and all that dwell therein belongs to you.” **Joshua 6:2**

Our victory is guaranteed:

1. By the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ

“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, art thou for us, or for our adversaries?”

**Joshua 5:13**

2. By the \_\_\_\_\_ of God

Seven priests shall bear before the ark...” **vs.4**

“The Ark of the Lord compass the city.” **vs. 7**

**II. He wants You to \_\_\_\_\_ your victory.**

- 1. You acknowledge your victory by walking in obedience to God.

What are you trusting God to do that no one else can do?

**III. He wants you to \_\_\_\_\_ your victory**

He says this, “Now on the seventh day, or on the seventh lap, the people are to shout.”

**vs. 16**



Meet The Biblical Counseling Ministry

Sunday, January 12, 2025 After Each Service



MEET WITH THE BIBLICAL COUNSELING MINISTRY TO LEARN ABOUT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR POTENTIAL COUNSELORS AND TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND HELP THE HURTING.

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3CYRYDQ>



**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

2024 Contribution Statement Requests can be submitted via the following link beginning January 2, 2025.  
<https://tinyurl.com/4fk7uk3w>

All donations should have been received by December 31st in order to be included for 2024. No backdating of checks will be allowed.



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Grieving:** Arthur Latham & family, De'anna Mitchell & family, Mary Wheatley and Carol Dickerson and their families, and Randy Hadnot & family.

**Health and Healing:** Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Eric White, Pat Crawford, Tanisha Collins, Jon Heard, Rutha Patrick, Kevin Carey, Sherri Love, Elizabeth Clarke, Clara Williams, Kathryn Ford-Cheatham, Anthony Thomas, Beverly Austin, Joshua Williams, Ruby Hunter, Elizabeth Bean, Patsy Gatterson, Joyce Newsome, Arleatha Housley, Patrina Johnson, Elvis Anderson, Cheryl Walker, Walter Banks, Angelique Hudson, Sheryle Crowe, Arnie Glover, Clarence Coleman, Diana Doyle, Vivian Phillips, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, Janie Buchanan, Yolanda Barnes, Rochelle Carter Brown, Terrance Ford, Robert Edwards, Beatrice Williams, Jessie Austin, and Evelyn Harvey.

LIVING WORD  
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH



ANNIVERSARY