

connecting people to Jesus, people, and God's mission

**Please keep the following
people & their families
in daily prayer...**

- RICHARD GRIFFIN: Issues with blood flow and circulation to legs & feet
- GREG ENGLE: Inclusion Body Myositis
- SHEILA IANTORNO: Lupus, Breast Cancer
- TROY KUBINSKI: Inclusion Body Myositis
- GAY WALKER: Lung cancer
- TANYA COLLIS: severe pain 24 hrs/day
- CHARRON GAYDEN: Mental Health
- JADEN MALDONADO: (child)
Congenital cytomegalovirus
- TANYA MCKOWN: Lupus, Health issues
- EMMA ROMERO (Teen): Seizures
- BERTHA MARTINES: Stroke/ complete healing
- FRANCES HOLTON: Full recovery of knees
- RAQUEL MALDONADO (23): Recently diagnosed with MS
- WILLIAM SUAREZ: CHF
- JOSE PAGAN: Malignant tumor located near front of ear

Death, imprisonment, violence, isolation, oppression, and eviction from home are the day-to-day reality of many of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world. The persecution faced by Christians is global, spreading from the Middle East, through Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Due to the growing number of deaths and Christian refugees, many experts now consider this an act of genocide. While strong in their faith, our brothers and sisters have lost their homes, churches, livelihoods, and many have lost their lives. Will you prayerfully consider partnering with the Church as we seek to support our brothers and sisters overseas?

opendoorsuk.org - barnabasfund.org
samaritanspurse.org - worldhelp.net



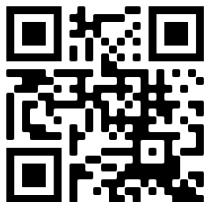
JAN 12 @ 7PM in the Activity Center.
All men High School and up

Our Christian sympathy to Larry & Lori Vander Molen and family on the passing of Larry's mother, Marge Jessup, on Tuesday, December 27th.

Congratulations to proud grandparents Kenny and Dianne Wright on the birth of their grandson Rocky on Saturday, December 17.

English: 9am 10:30am 12pm 6pm | Spanish: 10:30am 12pm | Nepalese: 9:30am
(sanctuary) (activity center) (brick building)

**Scan to access
ERC's Hub!**



Additional Giving Opportunities

Vision fund offering Jan 15

Weekly Offering

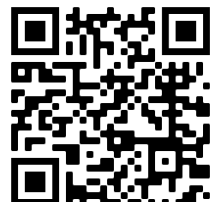
YTD Offering: \$29,617.63

YTD Budget: \$60,766.00

Last Week's Offering: \$29,617.63

2023 Weekly Budget: \$60,766.00

**Scan to
GIVE**



HOLINESS: RISKS, REASONS AND REWARDS



When life looks like its getting out of hand remember God is still in control (Daniel 1:1-2)

- **Scripture: Daniel 1:1-21**

1 - The risks of holiness

But the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you." - Daniel 1:10

- Doing the right thing does not guarantee good results

2 - The reasons for holiness

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. - Daniel 1:8

Preparation

- God is preparing, not abandoning, Daniel and his people for their future
- Daniel will soon fight greater battles than his diet (ie: dreams, death sentences, fiery furnaces, hard truths and a lion's den)

Jesus teaches us if we're faithful with the little things he'll allow us to be faithful with the big things as well. - Luke 16:10

Protection

- unconfessed sin leads to unanswered prayers (Psalm 66:17-19)
- Defilement distances us from God's protections (Judges 13-16)

He (Jesus) chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. - Hebrews 11:25 (parentheses mine)

Don't be afraid of the one who can destroy the body, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. - Matthew 10:28

3 - The rewards of holiness

Sometimes the "reward" for holiness does not come this side of heaven. Sometimes it comes years later. Sometimes it comes right away (Daniel 1:20-21)

Question: How do we make Christianity credible to a society that doesn't believe in God?

Answer: Live out Biblical convictions with uncompromised courage

- **Time of Reflection:**

1 - What is holding you back from fully pursuing Jesus? Better said, what risks are you facing?

2 - Pray, right now, that God would give you conviction to follow Jesus
