

“You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.” -Psalm 65:11, NIV



LAURENTIAN WESLEYAN
CHURCH LIFE
JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



A New Year. A New Beginning.

By Jason McCutcheon

Have you noticed that those “year in review” news stories are getting earlier and earlier. You know what I mean don’t you? “Let’s take a look at the top movies of 2018” or “Here are this year’s top 10 searches on Google”. Those stories make sense *after* Christmas and between New Years Eve, but not *before* Christmas. Why are we so eager to put the past behind us? As I write that question, and I suspect as you read it, you know the answer. The past isn’t always good, and we want to move forward. There is something appealing about the fresh start of a new year, the clean slate of a new calendar. What will this new year bring?

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV) In Christ, YOU are a new creation! Isn’t that awesome. Now you might be saying “I want to believe that, but how? Why will this year be any different?” Let’s read a little further in 2 Corinthians; **“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”** (2 Corinthians 5:18-19, NIV)

I love God’s Word, because I think it shows us how this year can actually be new. Give this past year to God...with all its joys and sorrows, and yes, even its mistakes, and be reconciled to God. To reconcile means to “restore friendly relations with”. God wants to go with us into this new year...in fact, He’s already there cheering us on. We just need to surrender our junk to Jesus, and He will take it.

The scripture says **“Christ gave us the ministry of reconciliation”**. We can share the good news that Christ has come and paid our ransom and no matter who you are or what you’ve done, you can be right with God. But in that mission lies a *secret* to why this year can really be new.

God wants to restore and reconcile your relationships. He wants to bring people together. He doesn’t want us to live with resentment, bitterness and anger towards others. He wants us to give those things over to Him.

It’s pretty hard to desire others be reconciled to God if we hate them. Perhaps that’s a strong word; hate. But I’ll bet someone reading this immediately thinks of someone that the phrase “friendly relations” is far from describing your relationship. Jesus wants you to give Him that old life, that old way of thinking and let Him do something new in you. The person we forgive may not reciprocate and although I believe God can do the impossible, relationships aren’t always restored. But we don’t have to carry around the baggage of a resentful heart any more. **God forgives us when we ask. We must...and can with the help of the Holy Spirit...forgive others and move into a new year with a desire for restoration, not retribution.** Doesn’t that sound like a new, better beginning to 2019?

What do you need to give up before you ring in the new year? Jesus can take it.

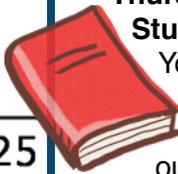




LAURENTIAN WESLEYAN CHURCH

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3 No Bible Study	4	5
6 Service @10:30am 	7 Please bring items for the Salvation Army food bank. 		9	10 Bible Study Starts @7pm	11	Pastor Jason & Chrissy are away from January 1-12. If an emergency arises, please contact our church's vice-chair, Steve Szydluk at (705) 495-4507.
13 Service @10:30am ~ Waters Edge @2pm	14 Don't forget your loose change for our "Change for Change" offering. 		16	17 Bible Study @7pm	18  Thursday Bible Study You're welcome to join us as we finish up our study of the Gospel of Mark.	
20 Service @10:30am ~ Hospital Service @2pm	21	22 Advisory Board Meeting @7pm	23	24 Bible Study @7pm	25	
27 Service @10:30am with guest musicians Rory & Dana Force	28	29	30	31 Bible Study @7pm		

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Jim Erickson (Jan. 10th)
- Jason McCutcheon (Jan. 12th)
- Marg Anderson (Jan. 17th)
- Angela Verlinden (Jan. 24th)
- Darlene Floyd (Ja. 27th)
- Beryl Nicolson (Jan. 28th)

We Bless You

on Your Special Day!

Is your special day missing? Sorry about that. Contact the church and we'll add your name.



Coming In February!

•"I Can Only Imagine" Movie.

Sun., Feb. 3@6pm

•Breakfast Fundraiser.

Sat., Feb. 9th at 9am



•Hope Awaits Presentation.
Sun. Feb. 10 @10:30am



Join Us Sun., Jan. 27@10:30am for Music & Testimony by

Rory & Dana Force

Bio: Rory and Dana Force have been married for 20 years and in ministry together for most of those. They have enjoyed serving the Lord together in youth ministry, associate pastoring, coaching couples in marriage difficulties as well as life mentoring. Now, for the past 10 years, Rory and Dana have been ministering itinerantly through speaking and music ministry with songs the Lord has given them, sharing with the Body of Christ at large. They often testify that Rory's story is one of God's redeeming grace and Dana's tells of His preserving grace. They are a homeschooling family, with four children ranging in ages from 18 to 8, currently living in North Bay, ON. However, Dana is originally from Southern California while Rory grew up here in Ontario. They love to minister in the truth of God's Word and bring encouragement to the Body of Christ. Their hearts are to see "the bride" as beautiful for "the Groom" as she can be, daily moving into greater Christ-likeness. Visit their website to learn more about their ministry and listen to their music: www.inhimallthings.com



We will be receiving a special offering to give to Rory & Dana.

705-494-9710
www.laurentianchurch.com

529 McKay Ave.
North Bay, ON P1B 7V7

laurentianchurch@gmail.com

[/laurentianchurch](https://www.facebook.com/laurentianchurch)

@laurentianwc

@laurentianchurch