

# The Star News



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WWW.BSBCOKC.ORG

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Bethlehem Star is now on Facebook, Twitter (@bsbcokc) and YouTube (mybsbcokc).

Check out Pastor Payne on Periscope!

BSBCOKC app in your Google Play or App Store.

Need Wi-Fi at church? Connect to BSBC Guest (password: bsbc)

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## Take Another Look

By Pastor Rodney Payne

As we close out 2016 and embark on the new endeavors 2017 hold, we should take a moment and *Take Another Look*. As believers, many times in an effort to move on in life, we often fail to learn the many powerful lessons failure can hold for us. It seems we move from one thing to the next without really considering the value in the process. Whether we find perceived success or self-proclaimed failure, we are sometimes too eager just to move on. I have found that truly "successful" people are those who are willing to self-evaluate.

The key to self-evaluation is honesty and not brutality. Most people are by their own confession "too hard" on themselves. The real value comes in honest self-assessment. There are a few things I have learned over the years that can help you in your assessment process. First, you must set measureable goals. When you set goals that can be easily measured, assessment becomes easily quantifiable, even if not easily digestible. Retrieving the good (or bad) number is the easy part. Unpacking the detailed information to affect a positive impact on your future can be a bit more challenging.

Secondly, you must be willing to celebrate your successes. Although it is very rare for someone to reach all of their goals, it is also very rare for someone to reach absolutely none of their goals. With that said, we must be willing to identify our successes, celebrate them and build on them as well.

Finally, we must be willing to learn from our



failures. I have often heard it said we should correct our failures, but I feel it is better said to learn from our failures. Please keep in mind, a failure has already happened. Every failure should become a case study for the next steps in the process of becoming successful. When you learn from a failure it no longer serves as a stumbling block to your success, but rather becomes strength for your future performance.

So as we look to close out another year the Lord has blessed us to experience, let us move forward with grateful hearts. We should examine our faith. 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobrates." (KJV).

In your examination, remember God created you, Jesus died for you, the Holy Spirit empowers you and you are both gifted and purposed to do good works. Maximize everything God has given you and have confidence to know, "The Best is Yet to Come" in your life!

God Bless,

Pastor Payne

*“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*

**Matt 1:23**

*“Withhold no good from them to whom is it due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.”*

**Proverbs 3:27**

## 8th Annual Appreciation of Pastor Payne and Family

BSBC will celebrate our Pastor’s 8<sup>th</sup> appreciation service on February 26, 2017. This is the one time in the year that the congregation comes together to show its love to Pastor and Sister Payne. On this day, the members show their love by presenting our Pastor with monetary gifts of love along with additional individual gifts that indicate how special Pastor and Sister Payne are to us.

For the BSBC family, the Pastor’s Anniversary is much more than a tradition or an event that is on the calendar. It was by the hand of God that He sent the Payne family to BSBC. We believe the union of Pastor Payne and BSBC was God ordained as only He can do. The God-given characteristics of our Pastor that we celebrate during this special time is a compassion for people, a love for God, a hunger for the

Word, a passion for teaching, the gift of leadership, and a vision for the church.

We have been blessed with a Pastor that God has given a vision to lead BSBC. Teaching us how to Live in the love of God, Walk in the will of God and Experience the power of God. This vision encompasses the scripture principles that empower individual relationships with Christ. BSBC is blessed to have such a God inspired spiritual leader. We look forward to honoring Pastor and Sister Payne on their 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

BSBC is requesting each member to honor our Pastor with a \$100 gift or whatever the Lord places on your heart. You may present this gift to any anniversary committee member listed in upcoming bulletins. This honorarium and other gifts will be presented to our Pastor at the 10:45am service. Please mark this celebration date on your calendar.

## New Years Eve Youth

By Sis Barbara Campbell

As we close out 2016, I would like to thank all the youth workers who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to pour into the spiritual lives of our youth. To celebrate the start of a New Year our teens, age 13-17, will start their (December 31st) evening by meeting at the church at 7:30pm to travel to the Main Event Complex (1441 W. Memorial Rd.) for a fun

evening of games and laser tag. The teen group will return to BSBC by 11:00pm to pray in the New Year. At 10:00pm the celebration will start for our youth, ages 2-12. Our leaders have planned a fun night of crafts, games, and their favorite making sundaes. Praying for a Joyous Christmas Season as we celebrate our Saviors birth.

## Christmas Day and New Year's Day Services

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, and The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Greetings this wonderful holiday season from the BSBC Music & Fine Arts Team. Our prayer always this time of year is for God to grant you and your family peace of mind, safety and redemptive moments of time; to reflect on His goodness, grace, and generosity given throughout the year. Christmas and New Year's Day will both fall on a Sunday this year and as a result, our services will be reduced to one main service on each day. That's right, the Christmas Day service and New Year's Day service will be at 10:45am (regular scheduled services will reconvene on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of 2017) and will include special guest soloists from the Oklahoma City metropolitan area and the collaboration of our

entire Music & Fine Arts Department. We are anticipating a glorious worship experience and encourage you to invite family and friends to join us for these powerful services. I'm sure you would agree, God is the reason we celebrate during this holiday season and it is Him who affords us everything else we celebrate in our lives. Please be safe and prayerful always; Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the entire BSBC family.

Joseph Smith, Director of Music & Fine Arts



## Team Star

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. (1 Pet 4:10, NLT)

God has blessed the ministry of Bethlehem Star immensely through the leadership of our Pastor Rodney Payne. As our territory increases to where God is leading the ministry of Bethlehem Star, it has be-

come imperative that our team of leaders grows to meet the local as well as global needs of God's people. Opportunities are available for our entire congregation to become a part of Team Star. Our Communication Ministry will have information on the 1st-3rd Sunday of December at the Ministry table to assist you with finding a ministry that will allow you to walk in your spiritual gift as you serve others.

## The Blessing in Giving

The annual Thanksgiving food give-away took place at Bethlehem Star on November 21, 2016. Approximately 75 people of all ages served to make this event a success. Whether it was sacking the groceries that morning with our youngest helpers (Brenna and Maggie Tillman) or taking part in the activities that evening, this could not have been done without your help.

We were able to bless 52 families with enough food to last them well beyond Thanksgiving Day. This also gave us an opportunity to bless our fellow members and witness to families without a church home.

We thank all of you for your monetary and food contributions, as well as taking the time to serve. This service can only be a success by you doing what you

do. As we prepare for the Christmas give-away, we need (only) the items listed below. Let us get ready to do it again!

### Specific Items Needed

Green beans, Whole kernel corn (cans)  
 Black eyed peas, Green peas (cans)  
 Pork and beans, Tuna (cans)  
 Cranberry sauce, Chicken broth (cans)  
 Macaroni & Cheese, Jiffy cornbread mix  
 2 Lbs. Pinto beans bag, 2 Lbs. Rice bag  
 Cake mix and cake icing  
 Mustard, Vegetable oil, Miracle Whip, Syrup  
 Corn Flakes, Oatmeal  
 Peanut butter  
 Sugar, Flour, Cornmeal

## HIGHLIGHTED CALENDAR EVENTS

### December

- (7) Worship Service, 7:00pm
- (9) Mass Choir engagement (Fairview Baptist Church), 7pm.
- (14) Worship Service, 7:00pm
- (16) BSBC Christmas Dinner, 7:00pm
- (17) Youth Christmas Program, 4:00pm
- (21) Movie Night, 7:00pm
- (25) Christmas Day service, 10:45am (one service only).
- (28) No Service

- (31) Teen (age 13-17) Main Event, 7:00pm. Youth (age 2-12) Church festivities and Watch Meeting, 10:00pm.

### January

- (1) New Year's Day service, 10:45am (one service only)

### February

- (12) Annual Men and Women's Day, 3:30pm
- (19) Black History Program, 9:30am
- (26) 8th Annual Pastor Payne and Family Appreciation, 10:45am

