

January 1, 2022

Happy New Years!

To each of you my fellow congregants and friends, Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and Happy New Years! The year 2022 has arrived and we must not rest until the Masters' Agenda is complete. Last evening for our New Year's Eve Watch Meet Services, we had a spectacular and spiritual Worship service in bringing the New Year in. Special thanks are extended to the Sons of the House, Rev. Jessie Bilbrew, Pastor Anton McBride, Dr. Raymunda Barnes, and the Rev. (Dr.) Luther Fairley for their remarkable expository message. They did not waiver in their exhortation and exaltation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is with encouragement that I share with each of you to not waste time on New Year's Resolutions; however. Commit yourself to a better relationship in Christ and with others. We are currently under unprecedented, unparalleled, and uncharted times with respect the pandemic of Covid-19. The mutation of various strains is allowing us to remain distancing and wear the proper masked. Our church will continue to adhere to the CDC guidelines and stress vaccination to those who are unvaccinated. I encourage every member, friends, and love-ones alike to help promote vaccination on Sunday, January 16th, in observation of Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday weekend, as host during our services from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Finally, a New Year's Message, "God can still use You in 2022." From the scripture, Matthew 10:7, "*And as ye go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'*" It's been said that the Allegheny ants, mostly in the eastern United States, help enrich forest areas by carrying tons of soil from below the ground to the surface. A study from the University of Wisconsin revealed that one colony of ants moved fifteen tons of subsoil, building clusters of large mounds, and burrowing five and a half feet below the surface. This work increased the nutrients, clay, and organic matter of the surface soil in the forest. If God can use Allegheny ants to move tons of subsoil to the surface, surely God can use you in 2022 to do like the ant!

There are at least five reasons why God solicits each of us. First, God can use you when you see others compassionately. Second, God can use you when you respond to a challenge enthusiastically. Third, God can use you when you come to Him prayerfully. Fourth, God can use you when you accept His power trustingly. Fifth, God can use you when you share the Gospel joyfully. If you are not yet a Christian, or if you have slacked on your commitment to Him, make 2022 the acceptable year that God can use YOU!

Pastor