

# 1Thessalonians 5:13-15 Rise and Shine

13 and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. 14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

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A New Year, A New You How a daily ritual can help you live a new life.

Read Romans 6:1-11 & Colossians 2:6-15,3:1-17 for context.

New Year's resolutions are not a bad thing. I have made one that I will share with you at the end.

It gets a little discouraging if you think about the gym memberships that started with zeal in January only to be forgotten about in March or the Bible reading plans that don't come to completion. God created everything good, even time.

God set things in order and gave us a natural rhythm with the days, weeks, months, and years. Each with their own time of rest and or restoration. The cycle of death and rebirth in the year with its winter, spring, summer, fall. The new and full moons of the months. The sabbath rest and time to worship in the week.

Each day the whole plant is given a little mini practice at death and resurrection. Darkness covers the land at night and then the sun is revealed in the morning. We all fall asleep which we don't have a lot of control over. Sometimes we wish we could get to sleep but we can't, other times we want to stay awake but we can't keep our eyes open. Sleep is a picture of death in the Bible. The apostle Paul uses the word sleep to describe those who have died in Christ as having fallen asleep. When we wake up, even if we set an alarm for a certain time it's really God who wakes us up. In a way He gives us a resurrection each morning.

The Bible encourages us to consider ourselves dead to sin and alive in Christ. We are to put to death what is earthly in us and sinful because we have been joined with Christ in His death. We have died to sin, how can we any longer live in it? It also says that we have been joined with his resurrection so right now even in this life we have an opportunity to live in a new resurrected life which we receive and live by faith (Romans 6:1-11 & Colossians 2:6-15,3:1-17).

My New Year's resolution is this: every night before going to bed and each morning when I wake up I'll pray, make the sign of the cross, and remember that I am joined with Christ in his death and resurrection; because of this I can walk in the newness of life right now as described in Colossians chapters 3 and 4. In doing this I can practice for when/or if I do die (having fallen to sleep for an indefinite amount of days or years) and then wake up at the resurrection when our Lord Jesus returns. With a real resurrected body when our faith is made sight.

God's peace! Pastor Ryan

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# January at PLC



#### Sundays:

7, 14, 21, 28	9:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible			
	Study			
	10:30am Worship service			
	11:30am Coffee Fellowship			
7	11:30am Nominations Meeting			
21	10:30am Worship service			
	with Communion			
28	11:30am Abbreviated Communion			
Mondays:				
1	 New Year's Day			
22	March for Life at the State Capitol			
Tuesdays:				
9	6:00pm Mission Committee meeting			
	6:30pm Board of Trustees meeting			
Wednesdays:				
3	9:00am Men's Breakfast @ Perkins			
	HWY 55 & 494			
	6:00pm Evening Bible Study			
10,17,24,31	9:30am Men's and Women's Bible			
	Study at the church			
	6:00pm Evening Bible Study			
<u>Saturdays:</u>				
20	9:00am Feed My Starving Children			
27	1:00pm Annual Meeting			

### Nominations Meeting following the Service on January 7<sup>th</sup> 2024.



## Celebrate Our Congregation December Birthdays:

Kevin		Wempen	1/4
Avery		O'Neill	1/11
Amy		Caviness	1/11
Audrey	,	Krutzig	1/12
Martha	a	Koski	1/13
Bette		Hietala	1/20
Reuber	า	Aho	1/21
Lloyd		Walters	1/23

# Save The Date

Feed My Starving Children event scheduled for Saturday, January 20th @ 9:00am @ the Chanhassen Location Sign-up sheet on the Narthex Desk

#### **The Annual Meeting**

of the Plymouth Lutheran Church is set for **Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm** All members are urged to attend.



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup> 2024

## Caroling at The Residence at North Ridge December 20<sup>th</sup> 2023.

