

# *the* Will

January 2018 | Monthly Newsletter of God's Will Christian Church

## **Mark Your Calendar**

**Service Time: 10AM**

**1.7  
Communion Sunday**

**We welcome our newest  
member, Tineal Summers!**

**Please see Sis. Jeania for  
to make payment for the  
Jesus play.**

**Happy Birthday to all who  
celebrate in January!**

## **New Beginnings Make New Endings** by Cathy Irvin

I recently saw this quote, "No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending" (Unknown). I really began to think about that statement. The conclusion was that we don't start over; but we begin again right where we are, making things better in our lives.

As a believer in Christ, it is not about saying I will do this and I won't do that and then dropping the idea or falling short. It is more about asking the Lord to help us each day, to fall deeper and deeper in love with Him. This way our focus will be set on the things of heaven and not on all this earthly stuff.

If I were to make a New Year resolution, it would be to have a deeper commitment, a deeper love, and a deeper worship for the Lord. In the beginning of this past year, He spoke to me in that still small voice in prayer and said, "I am more than enough. I am more than enough in

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## Pastor's Corner

every area of your life." He also said to tell others the same thing.

This year I am determined to make Him my all and all. He wants our undivided attention in spite of the distractions and temptations that lie waiting around the corner. He has to be our main focus.

How we will end this year will be determined by how we started it. Did we want to get more "INTIMATE" with the lover of our soul? I looked up the word intimacy and the meaning is to be close, familiar, very personal and private.

Do you want a new ending this year? How do you want the ending of your life? If you're not a Christian, please know that this could be the best New Year of your life. Your life can be filled with hope and peace. To know what the

ending will be is an extra bonus. Why should every year be the same as the one before with nothing really changing? After all, the New Year resolutions may or may not get accomplished.

If you are a Christian and you feel stagnate in your relationship with the Lord, then now is the time to rekindle the love affair with Him. He calls us to Himself and says, "Come away my beloved." Can you hear Him? He is tugging at your heart. The real ending in our life will be when Jesus says well done my good and faithful servant. That statement will be for someone who took the time to get to know Him, love Him, and that obediently followed Him.

### REMINDER:

Please remember to  
download our App in the App  
Store or Google Play!

## Member's Corner

## Recipe Corner: White Bean, Kale, and Vegetable Soup



This month, we shine the spotlight on Brother Tony Upson. He and his two sons joined GWCC in 2016. Tony jumped right in and developed a mobile app as well as lead the redesign of our website. He serves in the Audio/Visual/IT Support Ministry. Brother Tony has been a great blessing to the body of Christ.

### Who introduced you to Christ?

My father introduced me to Christ as a very young boy; in a Catholic Home, so I wasn't really embraced to their way of reaching into my soul.

### What do you do for a living?

I am an IT Network Engineer for the US Office of Government Ethics. I also own my own IT/Web Design LLC.

### What are your hobbies?

I enjoy basketball, poetry, drawing, bowling, roller skating and putting smiles on my sons faces.

### What have you found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC?

Very intimate and supportive. I have been to several churches trying to find a home and I felt like a seat filler amongst hundreds of others. I was never able to find the tools to learn and ask questions - where responses were meaningful. The Men's Fellowship has really educated and groomed my soul and heart with how I deal with real life matters. To have pastors call and check up on you personally was a very new experience for me. To have personal relationships with other Christians is so fulfilling; it would be stupid of me not to support and join.

### What advice would you give a new Christian?

Have Faith in God and Trust He will show up. If you choose to remain in the driver seat of your problems; He will grant you free will. However, if you give it all to Him, and believe in Him, He will show up. To show up for me during the worst moments of my life — I couldn't live without spreading his Word and Name to others in need. There is nothing better than knowing He is merciful and is the best Father anyone could ask for.

## INGREDIENTS

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil  
½ cup chopped onion  
1 cup chopped carrots, peeled  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
4 cups water or Vegetable Broth  
1 (15-ounce) can cannellini beans, rinsed, drained  
1 (14.5-ounce) can diced tomatoes  
2 cups chopped B-size red potatoes, peeled, cut into 1-inch pieces  
2 cups fresh or frozen green beans, cut into 1-inch pieces  
2 cups kale, torn into bite-size pieces, lightly packed  
1 teaspoon dried basil  
1 teaspoon dried parsley  
½ teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon pepper

## DIRECTIONS

Heat olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook onions and carrots until vegetables are softened. Stir in garlic, and cook for another minute, stirring constantly so garlic doesn't burn.

Add water or broth, cannellini beans, tomatoes, potatoes, green beans, kale, basil, parsley, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, over low heat about 30 minutes to allow the flavors to blend.

Yield: 8 servings (serving size: about 1 cup)

### Recipe Notes:

Remove ribs from kale before using. Substitute great northern beans for cannellini beans. Use russet potatoes instead of red potatoes.

## God's Little Devotional

**The most valuable gift you can give another is a good example.**

In his autobiography, Armand Hammer—known as much for his humanitarian effort as for being chairman and CEO of Occidental Petroleum, an advisor to presidents from Roosevelt to Reagan, and an industrialist—reveals the roots of his giving spirit:

“My father had become a prominent and greatly loved figure in the area . . . It was an almost ecstatic experience for me to ride with him when he went on his doctor's rounds . . . patients at their doors greeted him with such warmth that waves of pride and honor would surge in me to find myself the son of such a father, a man so obviously good, so obviously deserving of the affection he received.

“He could have made himself many times richer, however, if he had insisted on collecting all of his bills; or if he could have restrained himself from giving money away; but then he would not have been the man he was . . . I have seen, in his office, drawers full of unpaid bills for which he refused to demand payment because he knew the difficult circumstances of the patients. And I heard innumerable stories from patients about his leaving money behind to pay for the prescriptions he had written when he visited people who were too poor to eat, let alone pay the doctor.”  
What a wonderful legacy to leave to your child—the business of loving and giving to others.

**For I have given you the example, that ye should do as I have done to you. John 13:15**

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### Weekly Activities

**Morning Prayer Conference Call**

**Daily 7:00AM**

**Weekly Bible Study Conference Call**

**Wednesday 7:00-8:00p**

**Men's Bible Study Conference Call**

**Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm**

**Conference Number:**

**712-775-7031 Access Code: 443-268-839**

**Women's Bible Study Conference Call**

**Monday 7:30-8:30pm**

**857-232-0158 Access Code 262390**