

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU



### Devotional By Deacon Keith Freeman

#### LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

As we start the new year we have many exciting things happening all at once which we never believe in coincidences, but we know it is all the plan of God.

First, we have the new year, 2018 which we know God has many good things planned for us and remember our message for the year is 2 Corinthians 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Pastor Michael also gave us this verse from the Lord for the year 2018 as well, Isaiah 30:21 Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk ye in it." And where are we walking to? God is leading us into a "new freedom" a freedom we have not experienced yet. One where we come into a maturity in the Lord and realize that instead of looking for a blessing we now realize that we are the blessing which we will be free to give out to others so that they might be blessed. However, the start of the new year is also a time to look back at 2017 and remember the greatness of our God and see how God matured us, and He was there with us in the good moments and carried us



### Hello From Helen

February, 2018, can you believe it? There is so much going on around here; we have so many new people walking into our doors and of course, they turn into family members and it is such a blessing.

We have a new ministry called "**Loaves and Fishes**". Gail and Joe King will prepare a scrumptious meal every Thursday and deliver it to church members who may be in need for one reason or another. If you are in need of a meal once a week, please let us know.

Right about now, we are getting

through the tougher situations we faced.

Which brings us to the second thing which is our new Wednesday night Bible study in the book of Deuteronomy and the book begins by looking back and then moving forward which is what we do at the beginning of the new year. For us to progress into the future we need to reflect upon NOT how WE got where we are, but instead at how GOD got us to where we are. A couple of our messages so far in Deuteronomy are "Never Forget" and "What God Has Done for Israel". We grow and learn from the past as the Israelites did when Moses reminded them all before crossing the Jordan river into the promised land of the greatness of their God and how He brought them to where they were that day which is the same for us.

Which brings us to the third event which is our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and ties in with the other two in a way only God can do. With the new year and the book of Deuteronomy God is telling us before we go into the promised land or the new day we are entering we must first look back and never forget what got us to where we are because in Ecclesiastes God tells us there is a purpose for all the seasons in our life. So, as we get ready to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will do as the Israelites did before crossing the Jordan, we will look back and marvel at how God brought us to this day. We will take what the Lord taught us into this new day, God said we are the blessing now we will go bless others, God told us to rebuild the ancient ruins which means to build each other up and stop tearing each other down, and be the voice of freedom that sets others free.

As we look back and then forward it brings us to one of our Pastor Phil Sr's favorite versus which is Psalm 66:5 Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind! Let this be what we shout from the heavens this year, "come and see what God has done" and may we be the vessels that God uses to bring forth His awesome deeds for mankind in this 30<sup>th</sup> year of ministry.

## ready for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of ***New Image Ministries!***

By the time some of you are reading this we might have already celebrated. I can't believe that our amazing church has been around for 30 wonderful years. Although I was not around from the beginning, I have had an opportunity to hear and read about a lot of history. 30 years ago, Pastor Judy Porzio and Pastor Phil Porzio Sr. started having Bible Studies in their living room; this is where the church began in February 1988. In April of 1988 they had to rent their first Place of worship due to the size of the group, which was a store front on Homestead Road. There were even a couple of other locations along the way. It wasn't until 2006 that they made their home in the building we now know as New Image Ministries, our church home.

Just take a look at us now, 30 years later and we have this beautiful church building and our Pastors who truly are God Sent, not to mention our precious church family. The love that is in our church is second to none. We are so blessed to have each other.

I want to say "HAPPY ANNIVERSARY" ***New Image Ministries*** and here's to another 30 years and another and another.

I am feeling so blessed to be a part of this family.

Love and blessings,  
Helen J. Caliendo





