



# by Jerry Ascher

Many of those who will read this week's article have gone through the process of applying for some sort of loan. For instance, you may recall when you decided to purchase your first home. After looking at all of your finances, getting advice from friends and family, deciding on a location and studying up on the process, you gathered the necessary information and went to the bank to apply for a mortgage. After filling out all the paperwork, the wait began. Do you remember the sense of relief when you received the communication that everything checked out and that your application had been approved? You called your best friend, hugged your spouse and kids, and may have even eaten out at McDonalds for supper that night just to celebrate. Perhaps the news you received was not good news. The bank agent called to tell you that your loan would not be approved. That rejection provided a completely different set of emotions.

Seeking approval by God is something that should motivate every Christian. What does that look like? Paul answers that question in 2 Timothy 2:14–26. In general, God approves of godly speech and actions. We demonstrate our desire for His approval by how we interact with His Word. The life approved by God is a life that pursues holiness and righteousness, and one that exemplifies the fruit of the Spirit.

Unfortunately, the desire and excitement pursuing God's approval does not often come with the same kind of anticipation as being approved for a loan. Hearing, "Well done, good and faithful servant" isn't as motivating for some as getting approval from friends and co-workers. Unfortunately, not being approved by our Heavenly Father carries with it little sense of foreboding or embarrassment. This should certainly not be the case for a child of God. It is my prayer that the intensity with which we seek approval in any way here on earth pales in comparison to how passionately we seek God's approval.

Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

2 Corinthians 5:9

## **SUNDAY, 16 JANUARY 9:30 OR 11 AM**

In-person services take place in the auditorium. Livestream is available.

- "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"
- "The Gospel Song"
- "Near to the Heart of God"
- Prayer
- Scripture Reading: Philippians 1:19-30
- "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know"
- "Here Is Love"
- "I Love You, Lord"
- Message: "Preparing to Rescue"
   Exodus 2:1-25
   Pastor Kevin Williams
- "Hallelujah, What a Savior!"

#### ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

9:30

Judges: God's Faithfulness to Disobedient People Pastor Jerry | Room 207

11:00

College & Career

Jeff McConnell | Room 221

Young Couples: 20s & 30s

Will Breckenridge | Room 207

Epistle to the Philippians

Manuele Russo | Gym Foyer

# CHILDREN'S/TEEN MINISTRIES

9:30

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

11:00

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

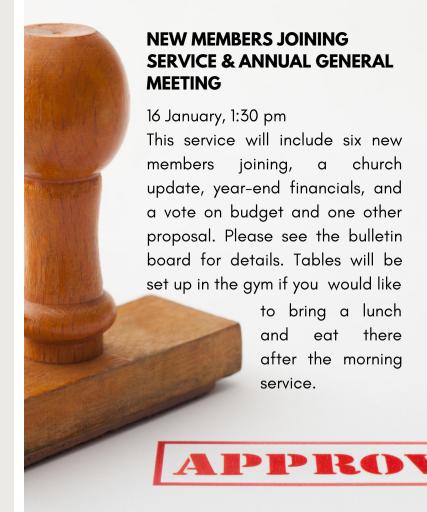
Ages 4-5 Room 209

Grades 1-2 Room 212

Grades 3-4 Room 211

**Grades 5-6** Room 309

Teens Room 308



### **THIS WEEK**

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study/Teens Bible Study/Kids 4 truth





## **Teen Sledding Activity**

Friday, 21 January

- Meet at Millwoods Park parking lot (66 St/23 Ave-"Millwoods Spray Park" in your GPS) at 6 pm
- Dress warm and bring a sled
- Everyone will carpool back to the church for snacks. Help is needed for car pooling. Please contact one of the sponsors if you can help.
- Pick up at church at 8 pm



Sunday, 6 February, 4-8 pm

- Do you want to learn how to share your faith with others?
- Do you have a passion for evangelism but need help taking the next step?
- Join us to learn how to better communicate the Gospel to others.
- Supper included.
- Please sign up by 30 January.

#### **GIVING**

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist. com. Your donation will be automatically accepted, and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

#### **CONTACT US:**

**Church Office** 

780-440-1195

**Pastor Kevin Williams** 

587-635-2758

**Pastor Jerry Ascher** 

587-635-2751

**Pastor Mark Richmond** 

587-635-2752

**David Treau** 

587-635-2753

## SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The deadline to sign up is February 16.

New connect groups are forming for winter/spring. Meadowlands is setting aside four Sundays to encourage small group fellowship. Groups will meet for lunch, supper, or snacks on February 27, March 27, April 24, and May 29. There are no age restrictions and we encourage everyone to participate. Register here or fill out a form at the Information Desk. After registering, you will be placed in a group and your assigned host will arrange the time, place and details.

Connect Groups
MEADOWLANDS

SUNDAY, 6 FEBRUARY, 4-8 PM

# Church Membership Class

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

A basic introduction to the mission and ministries of Meadowlands Baptist Church and how you can get involved.

Supper included.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board or contact the church office by 30 January.