

This article connects with the Pastor's page but is written by Max Lucado.

**Laws of the Lighthouse**  
by Max Lucado

The first of the year is known for three things: black-eyed peas, bowl games, and lists. Some don't eat black-eyed peas. Others hate football. But everybody likes lists.

The Bible certainly has its share of lists. Moses brought one down from the mountain.

There are lists of the gifts of the Spirit. Lists of good fruit and bad. Lists of salutations and greetings. Even the disciples' boat got into the action as it listed in the stormy Sea of Galilee. (If you smiled at that, then I've got a list of puns you'd enjoy.)

But the greatest day of lists is still New Year's Day. And the number one list is the list I call the Laws of the Lighthouse.

The Laws of the Lighthouse contain more than good ideas, personal preferences, and honest opinions. They are God-given, time-tested truths that define the way you should navigate your life. Observe them and enjoy secure passage. Ignore them and crash against the ragged rocks of reality.

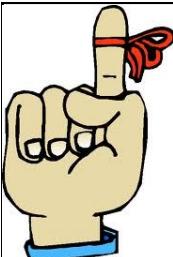
Smart move. The wise captain shifts the direction of his craft according to the signal of the lighthouse. A wise person does the same.

Herewith, then, are the lights I look for and the signals I heed:

- Love God more than you fear hell.
- Once a week, let a child take you on a walk.
- Make major decisions in a cemetery.
- When no one is watching, live as if someone is.
  - Succeed at home first.
  - Don't spend tomorrow's money today.
    - Pray twice as much as you fret.
    - Listen twice as much as you speak.
    - Only harbor a grudge when God does.
    - Never outgrow your love of sunsets.
  - 'Tis wiser to err on the side of generosity than on the side of scrutiny.
    - God has forgiven you; you'd be wise to do the same.
    - When you can't trace God's hand, trust His heart.
    - Toot your own horn and the notes will be flat.
    - Don't feel guilty for God's goodness.
  - The book of life is lived in chapters, so know your page number.
    - Never let the important be the victim of the trivial.
      - Live your liturgy.

To sum it all up:

Approach life like a voyage on a schooner. Enjoy the view. Explore the vessel. Make friends with the captain. Fish a little. And then get off when you get home.



**Just a reminder...**

Items for Sunday bulletin announcements are due **Wednesday at noon** for the following Sunday. Please have any items for the November issue of the newsletter to the church office before **Friday, October 18th**. You can email both of these items to the church office email: [churchoffice@stjamesquincy.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjamesquincy.org) Thank you.

**Martin Luther's Germany**

Keith & Conny Gerhardt, members of Christ Lutheran Church, are organizing a trip to Germany to trace the life and history of Martin Luther. The trip is tentatively scheduled for October 15, 2020 for nine days. This trip will take you to Erfurt, Eisenach, Leipzig, and Wittenburg, ending in Berlin. The first general informational meeting will be at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 12, 2020 at approximately 11am. Anyone interested in more information, may contact Keith Gerhardt at 217-316-0119 or [kgerhardt@hotmail.com](mailto:kgerhardt@hotmail.com)

**Happy birthday to these members of the 80 years and older club:**

Wayne Hempleman, 87 on January 14th  
Donna Schwedes, 84 on January 19th

**Congratulations! These couples are celebrating 50 years or more of marriage:**

Jim & Bev Mitchell, 59 years on January 21st

**Mission Tower**

January Mission Tower gifts go to support Lutherans for Life. Lutherans For Life (LFL) is so much more than an organization that produces facts and figures and keeps people informed on the latest life related news and political maneuverings

**Church Office Will Be Closed**

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1st. We will be back to normal operations on Tuesday, Janu-

**Challenge Grant**

Notification has been received that our grant request from DOT Foods for Improving the Church/School computer infrastructure has been approved, as a Challenge Grant. For every \$1 we raise, up to \$5,000 will be matched by DOT Foods with \$2, up to \$10,000. Anyone willing to donate, please earmark your donation "DOT Foods Challenge Grant". Thank you!

**Church Office**

Please stop by and welcome Jonica Bretz to the St. James staff. Jonica, will be beginning on January 6th at the church office secretary. Jonica lives here in Quincy with her husband and children. The church office hours will be Monday—Friday 9am—430pm. Please stop by and welcome Jonica.

**Church and School Financial**

SCHOOL	Actual November, 2019		Budget November, 2019	
	November	Year to Date	November	Year To Date
Income	\$48,181.75	\$262,516.94	\$55,228.00	\$250,510.00
Expenses	\$54,741.14	\$294,046.43	\$64,077.00	\$309,180.00
Difference, Income or Loss	(\$6,559.39)	(\$31,529.49)	(\$8,849.00)	(\$58,670.00)

CHURCH	Actual November, 2019		Budget November, 2019	
	November	Year to Date	November	Year To Date
Income	\$22,614.03	\$141,147.58	\$41,008.00	\$147,484.00
Expenses	\$26,267.83	\$118,354.93	\$29,312.00	\$133,324.00
Difference, Income or Loss	(\$3,653.80)	(\$22,792.65)	(\$8,849.00)	(\$14,160.00)

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## St. James Monthly Newsletter

### January 2020 "To SEE JESUS AND CAUSE HIM TO BE SEEN"

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STJAMESQUINCY.ORG



## St. James Monthly Newsletter January 2020



Our Mission:  
**"To See Jesus and Cause Him to Be Seen"**  
*IN MY LIFE, IN MY HOME, IN OUR CHURCH,  
IN OUR SCHOOL, IN OUR COMMUNITY*

Our Vision:  
**"A Visible Christ in our Lives and our World"**

Our Values:  
**DEVOTION  
COMMUNITY  
LIFE!  
COMPASSION  
GENEROSITY**

To God's Chosen People,

There are so many gifts that God gives that we fail to appreciate. One of those is His gift of time. I don't have a source for this article but it is entitled, The Value of Time.

To realize the value of one year ask a student who has failed his exams .

To realize the value of one month ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To realize the value of one week ask a newspaper editor.

To realize the value of one day ask a wage earner who has five children to feed.

To realize the value of one hour ask two lovers who are waiting to meet.

To realize the value of one minute ask someone who just missed the train.

To realize the value of one second ask someone who survived an accident.

To realize the value of one millisecond ask a person who won a medal in the Olympics.

How do we make the most of God's gift of time? Richard Exley, in The Making of a Man, p. 23 says:

Sit down with your wife and /or a trusted friend and ask for help in dividing your daily activities into four categories:

1. Absolutely essential
2. Important but not essential
3. Helpful but not necessary
4. Trivial

Now eliminate everything in categories three and four.

God wants us to make the most of our time. Here is what He has to say in Ephesians 5:15 – 10.

<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We will not make the most of our time by getting drunk. We will make the most of God's gift of time by understanding God's will, by joining in worship, by singing and by always thanking God.

God Himself said that one day is like a thousand years. That makes every day significant and valuable.. God not only values time, He also values you. In order to recognize that, all you have to do is look at Christ. It was for you that Jesus used His time to serve the Father and to save you.

What a way to live, knowing that God created you and redeemed you. What a way to live, knowing that you are forgiven and your future is secure. Please make your resolutions with that in mind and then use your time, your money, your gifts and abilities to build the kingdom. Use your time in such a way that everyone will know that you are ...

In Christ,  
Pastor Rempfer

Happy New Year!