



**THE CHRISTIAN ALERT**  
**January 4, 2021**

The 2020 calendar has come down from the side of a kitchen cupboard at our house and been replaced by a new 2021 calendar, evidence that the months of 2020 are all behind us now. And yet we know that the months aren't really behind us but instead they have become a part of us embedded in the fabric of our lives. It has been a tough year for so many, a rough year that practically no one wants to repeat. The good news is that through it all we have not traveled alone. Our God has been with us every bewildering step of the way. And our God will continue to be with us as we move forward into 2021. I share this poem from writer Joyce Rupp entitled "Standing at the Gates of the New Year" to remind us that in God's continuing care new hope can wash over us for 2021. Enjoy the read and have a good week!

*Sacred Mystery,  
waiting on the threshold  
of this new year,  
you open the gates  
and beckon to me;  
"Come! Come!  
Be not wary of what awaits you  
as you enter the unknown terrain,  
be not doubtful of your ability  
to grow from its joys and sorrows.*

*For I am with you,  
I will be your Guide,  
I will be your Protector.  
You will never be alone."*

*Guardian of this new year,  
I set aside my fears, worries, concerns,  
I open my life to mystery, to beauty,  
to hospitality, to questions,  
to the endless opportunity  
of discovering you in my relationships,  
and to all the silent wisps of wonder  
that will draw me to your heart.*

*I welcome your unfailing Presence  
and walk with hope into this new year.*

Let's get going!

F.Y.I. from Rev. Cynthia Klingemier

1. With Rev. Ken on sabbatical until mid-February, the elders and I will be handling his duties. You can reach me through the church office, or if you want to share what's on your mind email me at [revckdoc91@gmail.com](mailto:revckdoc91@gmail.com) or send a text to cell number 330.720.4254, making sure you identify yourself. I'd be glad to hear from you!
2. While we are looking forward to worshipping together in person sometime in the future, that time is not yet. We must be patient, doing all we can to keep each other safe and healthy. For now, we will not be meeting in person. We will do this because we love and care about each other! In the meantime I invite you to join me for our on-line worship experiences. Please set aside thirty minutes of your time each week to sit with me, pray together, hear some music, and celebrate the Lord's Supper. I will also offer a brief message as words from scripture are shared. Watch for some new tidbits to be thrown in too! These worship services are posted each Sunday morning on the [ChampionChristianChurch.org](http://ChampionChristianChurch.org) webpage and can be accessed through the week. "Like" them and share them! Spread the word!

**HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!**

On Saturday, January 3, 2021 George Pearce turned 90! It's not too late to help him celebrate! Give him a call or mail him a card to let him know you are thinking of him and wish him a Happy 90<sup>th</sup>!

**CONGRATUALTIONS**

Carol Anson shares with all of you that her granddaughter, Regan Dieter Poling and Braden Poling had a baby girl Brooklyn on December 30<sup>th</sup>. She weighed 6# 3 oz. Lisa and Ryan Day are grandparents, Carol and Chris Margrave are great-grandparents and Kay O'Donnell is great-grandmother! Congratulations to all.