

**DAILY BIBLE READING - 2016**

**Sunday, December 25th**  
Revelation 1-4

**Monday, December 26th**  
Revelation 5-7

**Tuesday, December 27th**  
Revelation 8-10

**Wed., December 28th**  
Revelation 11-13

**Thursday, December 29th**  
Revelation 14-16

**Friday, December 30th**  
Revelation 17-19

**Saturday, December 31st**  
Revelation 20-22

**Website: [www.essexvillage.org](http://www.essexvillage.org)**

**Essex Village Church of Christ**  
**736 Savage Road**  
**Charleston, SC 29414**

**Deacons:**

Jim Lamm 843.556.6756  
Benevolence

Larry Polutta 843.795.5266  
World Bible School

Eddie Haselden 843.991.5020  
Financial

Durwood Collins 843.603.0120  
Worship & Youth Activities

Scott Fowler 843.513.2009  
Audio/Visual

Andy Streets 843.478.8876  
Facility/Systems

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



**“STAND UP STRAIGHT”**

**By: Allan Hornbuckle**

**December 25, 2016**

Jesus often taught in parables, as we have discovered so often through these articles. He was able to perceive that we need illustrations or stories to be able to comprehend and apply deep spiritual truths. We are a people that not only need to know the truth, but also what to do about it once we understand it. There are so many wonderful and classic illustrations in scripture, but within this article I would like to reference one that may not be as well known.

In Hebrews 12, the Hebrew’s author is discussing the need for the chastening of the children of God. The Christians to whom he was writing were going through challenges and persecution and needed to hear more about why this was happening to them. The writer makes remarks like “...My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives” (Hebrews 12:5-6). Also, “Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it” (Hebrews 12:11). The application of this for them was that when our physical fathers correct us or teach us through discipline, we don’t enjoy it, but later we

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**Sermons for  
Sunday, December 25th**

*Sunday AM:*  
**LESSONS FROM MARY**

*Sunday PM:*  
**GIFTS FROM GOD**

You may visit  
[www.allanhornbuckle.com](http://www.allanhornbuckle.com)  
for archived articles  
and sermons.



**Schedule of Services:**  
Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:00 am Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am  
Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 pm Wednesday Evening Worship: 7:00 pm

**Elders:**

Larry Casbeer  
843.795.0429  
Howard Streets  
843.766.7727  
Bill Ragland  
843.810.0227

**Minister:**

Allan Hornbuckle  
804.832.6197

**Office**

843.556.1792



## Week of December 18th

Bible Classes: 77 AM Worship: 126 PM Worship: 39  
 Wednesday Evening: 43 Contribution: 5,236.00

## Military

Jordan Akers Robert Bagley Kristopher Black  
 RJ Boris Adam Bowles Brandon Boyles  
 Kimberly Boynton Russell Coble Ryne Collins  
 James Dalton Ellis Flenoid Steven Hilton  
 Michael Hilton Matthew Lemieux Katie Bledsoe  
 Kevin Mitchell Shawn Reynolds Nicholas Ragland

## Remember in Prayer

**Ken & Sue Adams**, friends of Wanda Brown.  
**Dixie Akers**, Royce's sister-in-law, for her health.  
**Stephen Beels' grandfather** had a stroke.  
**Sydney & Mildred Carter**— Chemo round one completed. More rounds to go and talk of possibly doing a bone marrow transplant.  
**Maxine Doll** has health issues. Maxine is Pam's mother.  
**Diane Haney**, a friend of Jim Lamm's daughter-in-law.  
**Pete Kenny**, Diana Byrd's nephew, is fighting cancer.  
**Christine Lamm's sister** has cancer.  
**Jim & Esther Lamm** - Esther for health & Jim is her caregiver.  
**Brooklyn Mayer**, Dawn White's 4 year old niece, has cancer.  
**Nell McIntire** is Lois Ott's sister and has cancer.  
**Chris Newell**, Stephen's grandmother, for her health.  
**Ray Price** has congestive heart failure and overall health.  
**Jill Rush**, Ronnie & Sharon's daughter, health issues.  
**Violet Sharp**, Nancy's mom, has Alzheimer's.  
**Howard Streets** is recuperating from surgery on his knee..  
**Hoite & Margaret Sullivan**, Doris' in-laws, health problems.  
**Frances Wakeland** for her health.

## PROGRAM OF WORSHIP

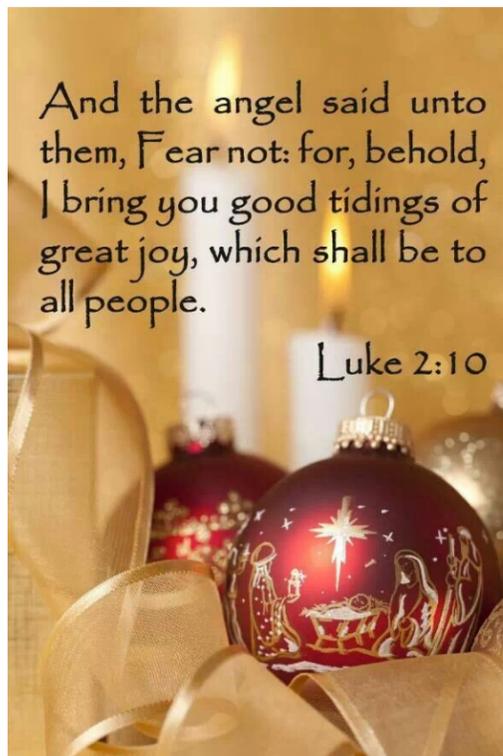
**Announcements:** Bill Ragland  
**Song Service:** Royce Akers  
**Opening Prayer:** Larry Polk  
**Communion:** Eddie Haselden  
**Serving:** Ray Brown Ron Herman  
 Ray Boynton Norman Ricker  
**Sermon:** Allan Hornbuckle  
**Closing Prayer:** Larry Casbeer

## For the Month of December

**Elder:** Bill Ragland  
**Communion Preparation:** Sandy Dee  
**Baptismal Garments:** Michelle Porter

## VISITS APPRECIATED

Ruby Cooper  
 Esther Lamm  
 Lois Ott  
 Evelyn Pack  
 Violet Sharp



12/27  
 Ray & Ellen  
 Brown  
 12/31  
 Ron & Christine  
 Herman  
 1/25  
 Jimmy & Jane  
 Snyder



12/29  
 Eric Zink  
 1/3  
 Tina Cooper  
 1/6  
 Royce Akers  
 1/9  
 Meghann Ragland  
 Moulton  
 Doug Smith  
 1/11  
 Sharon Rush  
 1/20  
 Shannon Wakeland  
 1/24  
 Emily Brown  
 Julia Brown  
 1/25  
 Annie Loomis  
 Woudwyk

## ARTICLE CONTINUED

appreciate the lessons. The same is true of spiritual difficulties that come our way. We may not like the hard times that we face, but afterwards we learn to be thankful for the chance to overcome the obstacle.

The illustration that the Hebrews writer uses next is key: *“Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed”* (Hebrews 12:12-13). Within this command, we find an illustration. It is not one of a sower, or a king, or a net, or any other kind of thing that Jesus so often used in His public ministry. What we find here reminds me more of someone who has been beaten down. The hands are hanging down, which is hard to do when standing upright. There are feeble, tired knees and crooked feet. There are broken limbs, maybe even broken bones which are not mending well. All of this is symbolic of the hardships which these Christians were going through. They were being beat down for being followers of Jesus, and the Hebrew's writer was commanding them to stand up straight. He was explaining that God was not punishing them, but he was teaching them. But the problem was they were never going to learn the lesson if they stayed down on the ground.

We too can feel like we are being beaten down by the things we go through in this life. It is not a punishment, but a valuable lesson. Let us resolve to learn from those situations and then stand up straight as we serve our Lord.

## BULLETIN BOARD



**Bible Bowl:** The Bible Bowl teams will begin practice on Sundays from 1:00 - 5:00 on January 8th. If you would like to prepare a

meal or contribute towards snacks, please see Sandy.

**SECH:** We would like to thank everyone who gave so generously to Olivia & Deven from SECH. We collected \$330.00



to purchase gifts plus many gifts were bought for them. You are truly a generous church family!

**Meals for the Carters:** Sydney is about to begin his 2nd round of chemo. We would like to provide 2 meals a week for the Carters while he is undergoing treatment. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those willing to help.

**Nursery:** There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for those willing to volunteer in the nursery.

**Children's Sunday Night Class:** Join us @ 6:00 pm as we learn about God.

**Please join us** on Wednesday evenings @ 6:00 pm for dinner before Bible study.



**Coffee for Troops** provides care packages of coffee and snacks to deployed troops overseas. We are sharing a picture of a troop receiving their care package. Thanks to all who support this effort. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please speak to Eric.

**Hope Lodge:** A group from Essex Village prepares lunch on the last Monday of the month for the cancer patients, families & staff.