

Pastor's Corner

January 2014 – Rev. Eric Lane

Once again, we come to the beginning of a new calendar year. With the New Year comes the excitement that 2014 will bring with its new beginnings. Wouldn't it be great if every January 1 we could wipe clean the slate of our lives and start completely over again?

Sadly, while we can make New Year resolutions concerning goals that we set for our lives in the coming year, we really don't get a chance to start fresh and new. However, with Christ we do have an opportunity to start anew. 2 Corinthians 5:17 reads, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!"

Sure, accepting Christ as our Lord doesn't make our bills go away, and may not free us from the human struggles that we face in life; but with Christ we are given a new life, one that goes beyond the realm of this world.

Being "born again" also gives us something that the world does not have to help us face the things that we may have to face in the coming year--the Holy Spirit. Jesus says; "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly," John 10:10.

When we use that which God gives to us to face that which we must face, we have a power that is greater than this world to guide us, direct our decisions, and cope with whatever we must.

Here is a fail-proof New Year's resolution for all of us; listen closely: begin with Christ. Those who have accepted Christ as their Lord have a promise that every day can be a new beginning. We can go to our Lord and seek his forgiveness, and he will forgive us of our past mistakes and sins; then restore us in his presence.

For those who have never professed Christ as Lord, there is this promise, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved," Romans 10:13. And as quoted earlier, anyone in Christ is a new creation. So, you, too, can find new life--a new beginning for your life.

Yes, I look forward to the new year of 2014 for "life is worth the living because he lives." Happy New Year and may your life be blessed forever.