

Weekly Announcements for the churches in McKinney, Plano & Richardson

<http://www.churchinplano.org/weeklynews>

February 14, 2016 573

• **The Holy Word for Morning Revival**

Crystallization-Study Outlines Exodus (3)

Message One The Ark of the Testimony

• **Bible One-Year Reading Schedule:**

	Lord's Day	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
O.T. One-year reading schedule	Job 1: 1~ 3: 26	4: 1~ 9: 35	10: 1~ 17: 16	18: 1~ 23: 17	24: 1~ 31: 40	32: 1~ 37: 24	38: 1~ 42: 17
N.T. One-year reading schedule	1Cor. 12: 12~ 31	13: 1~ 14: 12	14: 13~ 33	14: 34~ 15: 19	15: 20~ 34	15: 35~ 58	16: 1~ 24

• **Announcements**

- Sister Adriana Gonzalez was baptized on 1/31/2016. In 2016, there has been one saint baptized.
- Today's Chinese-Speaking PSRP is cancelled due to the International Chinese-speaking Conference.
- There will be a blending meeting and love feast for Chinese-speaking saints in DFW area in the Irving meeting hall (3600 Esther Rd, Irving, TX) on 2/20 (Saturday), 3:30pm - 9:00pm.
- The monthly children's service fellowship for Church in Plano and Richardson will be held in small meeting hall on next Lord's Day (2/21) starting at 12:00 pm and lunch will be provided there.
- There will be a South Texas Mini-conference held in Corpus Christie starting at 3pm February 21st and ending Lords day February 22nd at noon.
- There will be a gospel meeting for Plano District 4 on 2/26 (Friday), 7:00pm – 9:00pm.
- The Richardson sisters' meeting for February is postponed to 2/27 due to the International Chinese-Speaking Conference.
- The 2016 Spring College Conference will be held 3/4-3/6 at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment.

• **Regular Meetings**

Date	Time	Meeting	Place
Lord's Day	04:00PM	McKinney English Speaking PSRP	McKinney meeting hall
	04:00PM	Chinese Speaking PSRP Preview	Cancelled
Wednesday	10:00AM	Chinese Speaking Sisters	Plano meeting hall
	11:30AM	McKinney Sisters' Prayer Meeting	McKinney meeting hall
	07:30PM	Prayer and Service (McKinney)	McKinney meeting hall
	07:30PM	Prayer and Service	Plano meeting hall
	07:30PM	Prayer and Service (Richardson)	Plano meeting hall
Thursday	10:00AM	English Speaking Sisters	Plano meeting hall
	10:00AM	Chinese Speaking Sisters (Richardson)	Sister Shu-Fen Liao's house
Saturday	09:30AM	English Speaking PSRP	Plano meeting hall
	06:30PM	Young People	Plano meeting hall

• **Upcoming Events**

Date	Meeting	Location
04/08 – 04/10	2016 Spring International Elders and Responsible Ones Training	Anaheim, CA
05/27 – 05/30	2016 Memorial Day Conference	Washington, D.C.
07/04 – 07/09	2016 Summer Training	Anaheim, CA

• **Offerings Received for Richardson Meeting Hall (RMH):**

	Estimated Cost	Received as of 2/7/2016
Richardson Meeting Hall	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 1,690,689.04

• **Prayer**

- Pray for the UTD and CC campus work and RSG with the new students at UTD.
- Pray for saints to enter into and enjoy of the word of God and to function at the Lord's Day meeting.
- Pray for the need of the YP serving saints.
- Pray for more saints (particularly working saints) to be released to attend the prayer meeting.
- Pray for saints to be formed into prayer, Bible study, and gospel vital groups.
- Pray for the specific needs for individual, group or district saints.
- Pray that the Lord would supply the saints and the full-timers to carry out the overwhelming task of following-up the Recovery Version recipients through phone calls, seminars, and personal visits.
- Pray for financial needs of building Richardson meeting hall.

• **Home Meeting and Lord's Day Attendance Record of Last Week**

Group	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	3	9	10	Senior	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	K1	Total	UTD	Wed. Prayer	LD Children	Lord's Day								
Richardson	16	16	14					10			23	13	23					348	0	37		0								
Plano	8	8	18	10	30	6	10	31	21			17	23	14		8	62			43	190									
McKinney	FE1		11	ME1				ME2			MS1	18	AE1				10				46									
LD Dist.	P1	27	P2	22	P3	35	P4	53	ME	46	RC		RE	NB		Pray Dist.	P1	15	P2	6	P3	16	P4	25	ME	10	RC	19	RE	18

THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NEW YEAR (continue)

THE CHANGING OF DAYS, MONTHS, AND YEARS DEPENDING ON GOD HIMSELF

Every change within us, whether it is associated with days, months, or years, depends on God. God is light, and even death and resurrection are of God. Whenever we meet God, we meet light; when we meet God, we touch both death and resurrection. Whenever we meet God, we are in the presence of light; when we meet God, we enter into death and resurrection so that there is an ending and a new beginning.

God's work in the universe is a work of renewing. He wants to end the old things and begin something new. When His work is accomplished, He will be able to declare that all things are truly new (2 Cor. 5:17). The proper celebration of a new year is to have a new beginning. We need to go before God and touch His presence. When we touch God and meet God, we will enter into a new year and have a new beginning.

SEPARATED FROM THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

Meeting God in this way is not the same as the New Year celebrations of worldly people. People in the world celebrate the arrival of a new year outwardly, but they do not experience a new spiritual beginning. Their noisy way of celebration can be likened to the celebration of the children of Israel at the foot of Mount Sinai, who were sitting down to eat and drink and rising up to play. Their sitting down to eat and drink and rising up to play were related to idolatry (Exo. 32:4-6; 1 Cor. 10:7). Worldly people today celebrate the new year by sitting down to eat and drink and by rising up to play. When those who belong to God spend time to meet God at the beginning of a new year, their meeting with God is not a time for celebration. Rather, it is a time of sorrow, weeping, and fasting. When we see the desolation of our personal situation, the failures related to the church's condition, the need for salvation in many sinners, the shortage in function of many saints, the lack of accomplishment related to the Lord's will, and the frustration of God's plan, we will be full of sorrow and repentance.

Ezra 7:9 speaks of the first day of the first month, saying, "On the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylon." Ezra left Babylon, a place of degradation, on the first day of the first month; this is very meaningful. According to 8:21, Ezra proclaimed a fast for all the Israelites who intended to return to the Holy Land so "that we might humble ourselves before our God to seek from Him a straight way for ourselves and for our little ones and for all our possessions." All the Israelites who left Babylon, a place of degradation and captivity, needed to fast on the first day of the first month to grieve, confess, regret, and repent before God, asking Him for His grace and mercy.

If, by God's mercy, we meet God and are enlightened by Him at the beginning of a new calendar year, we will mourn and weep instead of celebrate. We will fast instead of feasting and grieve instead of rejoicing. We will weep and grieve, and we will pray and petition. Then we truly will have a new beginning of a new spiritual year. May the Lord be merciful and gracious to us to bring us into a new spiritual year, year after year. May we go before Him and ask Him to give us a new beginning. May we be under His enlightenment and receive His mercy. Such a seeking will bring us into victory and deliver us from the worldliness and celebrations associated with a new calendar year.

Source: God's Need and God's Goal, ch. 4