



The staff would like to thank you for your Love Offering given this year. We truly appreciate it!

Thank you!!



January Missions Involvement

This month we are supporting H.E.L.P. Medical/Dental Clinic

The H.E.L.P. Medical Clinic provides medical care and medication to uninsured and underserved patients on the Peninsula. The Dental Clinic is a regional collaboration formed to meet the dental needs of the low-income and uninsured in our community. The Clinic is in need of small **snacks for the caregivers, small plates, napkins, utensils.** The dental clinic needs **toothpaste, toothbrushes, and dental floss.**

2017 Contribution Statements

Copies of your 2017 giving statements will be placed in the mailboxes located outside Fellowship Hall **after January 31st.** If you expect you will be unable to pick up your statement at the Church, call the Office (838-3107), and we will mail yours!



Giving Options!

Our online giving system is back and so much better than ever! Visit our website to give online. You can even give via TEXT or by scanning the QR code in Sunday's bulletin.



Text **IVYATCC** to **73256** to give to the Unified Budget using your text messaging. *Standard text messaging rates may apply.* If you have questions call the Office at 838-3107.

MINISTRY RESOURCES UNIFIED BUDGET December 2017 (as of December 26)

Given this Month.....	\$28,692.33
Total Needed this Month to Meet Budget.....	\$34,852.17



Dear Ivy Family,

The year ahead of us is shaping up to be one of the most adventuresome and challenging experiences in the Ivy story. As a church family we will most likely be making significant decisions on how we are discerning God leading us into the future. As the period of formalizing the decision as to whether or not God is calling us to partner with Freedom Life Church draws near, I trust that the experience of prayer and discernment in the busiest time of the year has been personally renewing and reviving for you. If so, that same renewal and revival will be felt throughout the entire church family.

I could not be more grateful for the many ways and the beautiful stories that have emerged throughout the process of church dialogue and conversation. Regardless of where this journey goes from here, the journey that we have taken to get here is priceless. Even with the reality that we may be at different places along the way in the journey, the very fact that an entire church family can come as far as we have is a beautiful expression of God's presence and faithfulness among us.

At the same time we must be honest and truthful in realizing that not everybody's experience is the same. This is not an issue about some being right and others being wrong. It is simply the realization that as human beings we are all created uniquely different and it is through those very differences that God speaks to us in various ways that benefit all of us. I am ever mindful that the process and journey can be challenging, dangerous, inconvenient, and even upsetting. I am also quite aware that if God parts the waters and calls us to move through them, there is a wilderness waiting for us on the other side. However, there is also the great mountain where God reveals himself and even takes up residence with his people. It is in the wilderness that God makes a people for the purposes of his own mission and his own glory.

I am excited to have the privilege of being part of the Ivy story. God is stirring up something inside us. Every single one of us, from whatever perspectives we have, has a vital role in helping discern and pursue God's story among his Ivy people. May the Ivy Journey of 2018 bring glory to God by bringing people to Jesus.

Blessings,
Brian



Sunday Night Study
with Chris & Allison
@ 5:00

Wed Night Fun
5:45—7:00

Winter RETREAT

Our youth are heading to Watermarks & Wintergreen January 26-28! The deadline to sign up is January 10th. We will meet at church at 1:30 on the 26th and return sometime late afternoon on the 28th. We will be snow tubing at Wintergreen so all youth will need warm water proof clothes -start checking thrift stores now! Please contact China or Allison with any questions.

Grassroots Seminary will be starting a new cohort this Winter. The cohort will be meeting at Ivy Memorial and is open to anyone throughout the Tidewater region. The class will meet one night each week for 15 weeks during the winter and for 15 weeks during the fall. The Winter session will focus on How to Read the Bible and The Story of God. The Fall session focuses on the Stories of Church History and Theology. For further information, please connect with Brian Williams. An informational meeting will be held in January. You can also check Grassroots Seminary out at <https://bgav.org/grassroots>



Our Next Family Gathering will be Wednesday, January 17 at 6:00pm.

Please join us as we close our discernment time and decide how God is leading us.

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sundays

- 9:00 am - Brunch
- 9:30 am - Small Group Bible Studies
- 10:45 am - Morning Worship Service
- 5:00 pm - Youth/ RA's, GA's
- AWANA Jr.

Tuesdays

- 8:00 am - Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays

- 5:00 pm - Supper
- 6:15 pm - Children's Choir
- Preschool Choir
- 6:00 pm - Experiencing the Story of the Bible
- Prayer
- 6:30 pm - Mission Friends

Thursdays

- 6:00 pm - Basketball in the Activity Center



January At-A-Glance Calendar

- January 3 - No Wednesday Night Services
- January 10 - International Missions Study
- January 17 - Family Gathering
- January 24 - Business Meeting
- January 26-28 - Youth Retreat

Mark your February Calendar

- February 10 - Social Ministry Sponsored Fun

Please check your Sunday bulletin and the weekly "Ivy Vine" message for calendar updates!

Your Church Office is open Monday—Thursday

9:00am—3:30pm 757-838-3107

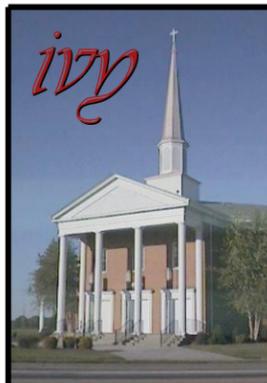
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Application to mail at periodical postage rate is paid at Hampton, VA
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Volume 46, No. 1

January 2018



January 10, 2018

6:00pm



The mention of Russia may conjure up images of Romanov royalty, cultural icons such as Mikhail Baryshnikov and Dostoyevsky, or maybe a parade of dictators like Stalin, Lenin, or Khrushchev. What probably doesn't come to mind are Muslims.

However, Muslims are actually one of the indigenous peoples of Russia, their roots lying deep in the isolated villages of the Caucasus region, the mountain range separating Europe and Asia.

But besides those indigenous people, there has been a rebirth of Muslim influence in Russian cities in the past 25 years, as the crumbling of the Berlin Wall changed the relationship between Russia and the Central Asian republics. Now migrant workers from the South come in unprecedented numbers to work in the large cities. In fact, Moscow's Muslim population has grown from 1 million to 2.5 million in the last few years, making it the largest Muslim city in Europe.

The transitory life of the migrant has proven to be fertile soil for the hope of the gospel, making this time in history a remarkable opportunity to share Christ. Christian workers are developing methods to come alongside the Muslims of Russia to give them a hope and a future.



Learn how God is at work bringing Muslims to Himself in the International Mission Study 2017. Peek into the life behind the veil of Islam in Europe and be challenged to develop your own strategies to share Christ with the Muslims around you.