



Morganton First Church of God

PO Box 1404, Morganton, NC 28680
675 Summers Road, Morganton, NC 28655
(828) 433-6709 Fax: (828) 433-0736

Sunday

Sunday School~ 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service & Kid's Church ~ 10:30 a.m.
Youth Power House ~ 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Fellowship Supper ~ 5:45 p.m. & Adult Classes ~ 7:00 p.m.
KidsPlace & Nursery ~ 7:00 p.m.
Youth PowerHouse ~ 7:00 p.m.

Website: www.mfcog.com
Email: mfcog@mfcog.com

**Our Purpose is to expand God's Kingdom, as we reach, teach,
disciple and activate people for our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Pastor Don Blankenship
Interim Pastor

Kevin Wyatt
Youth Pastor

Beth Walker
Music Director

Kathy Turner
C.E. & Children's Director

Pam Bennett
Administrative Assistant



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The Pastors Notes



What does the new year hold for us? A once-popular folk song said, "may bring me sunshine, may bring me rain..." We may have more influence on what happens

in the new year than sometimes we are aware. Jonathan Edwards made resolutions throughout his life, but it's a list he made after graduating from Yale that has earned the awe of admirers for the past three centuries. "Resolved, to study the Scriptures so steadily, constantly, and frequently, as that I may find, and plainly perceive myself to grow in the knowledge of the same." Nothing was so trivial that Edwards couldn't work to improve it. "Resolved, to maintain the strictest temperance in eating and drinking." His resolution to "act so as I think I shall judge would have been best, and most prudent, when I come into the future world" served him well even though it meant financial ruin in this world. But it was those principles, formed in part by his resolutions, that made Edwards the theologian whose works continue to be widely read. While most people today resolve to lose weight or earn a promotion, the new year can be a time for Christians to resolve with Edwards "to renew the dedication of myself to God."

You see, the ways we choose to spend our time, energies, resources, beliefs and attitudes, will have great influence on outcomes. The new year will be, to a large degree, what we make it. What do you want to do with your life? What direction for your family? How about the church? What influences will be born out in Morganton First Church of God by your actions?

We looked in a sermon at the concept of Emmanuel, God with Us. As Edwards puts it, "...when I come into the future world," he wanted to live in such a way as that he would be prepared to face God with the choices, decisions, behaviors that would be acceptable to a Holy God. In other words, to live in such a way that the "God With Us," being the same God of our eternity, will confront us with the consistency and the constancy of our lives.

New Year!! God With Us means that we are serving the same God who will be our Judge and our Eternity.

God bless you,
Pastor Don