

AN OPEN DOOR

Perhaps you feel like I do, like the Philadelphia church, we have “little strength” for ministry (see the verses on the front cover). Our strength is not the obstacle to our fruitfulness, though, it is that door! When it is shut, no man can open it, and that means no manipulation or gimmicks or compromise will do it. However, when God chooses to open the door for us no man can shut it! That means that the devil cannot prevail against us, and no heart of man is hard enough to resist the melting powers of the Light of God when it shines through that door!

This year I am praying that we will see doors of ministry opened to us, and I would like for us to claim Revelation 3:8 as a promise, “I have set before thee an open door.” Our theme for the new year, then is: “2012, An Open Door.”

The Lord will not open any doors so that we can stand back and observe and perhaps applaud. “Oh look, He has opened the door, how nice, someone should go through don’t you think? Of course that is not for me, but we have professionals, and people with that kind of personality, they ought to go through, not me.” No, the Lord will open the door for the faithful and true whom He already knows will step through when given the opportunity. We have already shown great faith and unity in working together. You have not lacked in service or sacrifice to this point, let us pray together for an open door in this new year.

If that be to only one soul, or if it be an opening to a hundred, we will leave that to God, but, by all means, we must walk through whenever and wherever He provides an opportunity. Please join me in praying that God gets through to us, and then that we can get through to the lost and/or unchurched of our community. - *Pastor*

Last Week from our Pulpit:

“The Dayspring came ‘To guide our feet.’ The light of God’s revelation, the Bible, is able to make us ‘wise unto salvation,’ and ‘faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.’

As we were promised in Luke 1:79, the Lord will guide us in the ‘way of peace.’ The peace of salvation provides an end to enmity with God. Are you tired of fighting? The peace of salvation provides an end to doubt about eternity. Are you tired of fearing? If you are a child of God, you, of all people, know that resisting Him is futile, so why are you holding out in certain areas of your life? Why not enjoy the peace that He has provided for you? Do people see that peace when they look at you?”

“KEY OF DAVID”

Isaiah 22:22

1. TREASURY

A. The Blessing

B. The Book

2. AUTHORITY Matthew 16:15-19

A. The Children of Israel.

B. The Church of God.

3. MINISTRY Revelation 3:7-13

A. Faithful “I know thy works.”

B. Fruitful

1. **No one would take their crown vv. 11,12.**

2. **He would come quickly.**

3. **He will keep from temptation v. 10.**

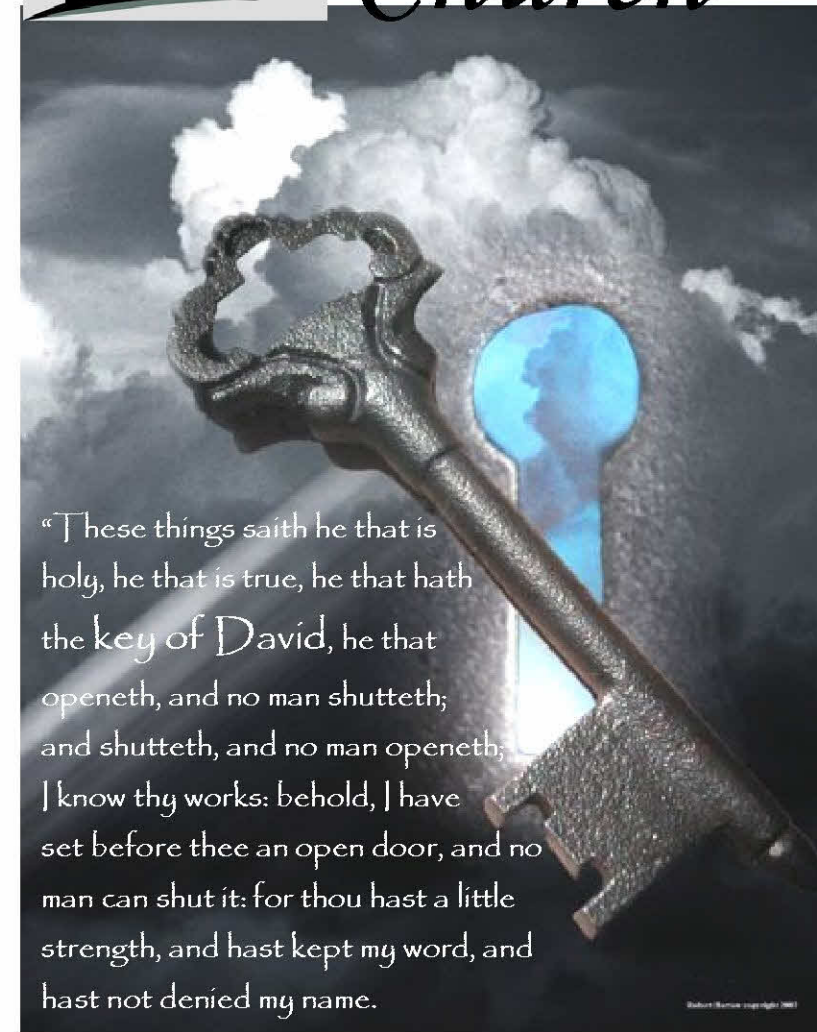
4. **Their enemies would be defeated v. 9.**

5. **“An open door.”**

CONCLUSION:



Recordings of our messages are available on CD or they can be downloaded from the church website in MP3 format.



“These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

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A word to visitors from our pastor:

We are glad to have you with us today. I hope that our services will be a blessing to you.

We desire that Southport Baptist be a warm, friendly church, and for God to use us to help our neighbors and friends. When someone near us is confronted with heartache and difficulty we want them to know that God cares, and so do we!

Our church believes and proclaims the old fashioned message that can save souls and change lives. We would like to share with you the joy of life in Jesus Christ. I invite you to experience the excitement of being part of a growing, caring church!

Please give me a call if there is ever anything that I can do for you (at church 857-8063, my cell 496-3739, or at home 764-9849).

Yours in Christ's service,

Pastor Scott Jones

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

General: \$5,925.25
(\$2,080 per/week needed)

Missions: \$935

Sunday School (missions): \$14

Praise the Lord!

Please don't let your phone ring in the new year.

We have room for you in

Sunday School



and you have room to grow!

January 1, 2012

Schedule of Services:

Morning Worship 9:00AM

Sunday School 10:30AM

Evening Service None



MORNING WORSHIP:

Hymn #201 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymn #278 One Day

Prayer/Welcome

Hymn #228 What Child Is This

Offering

Hymn #229 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Special Music: Christina Gorden

Message: "Key of David" Isaiah 22:22

Hymn #401 Open My Eyes, That I May See



Pray for Our Missionaries around the world today.

Most of our missionaries in dedicating themselves to the Lord's work have surrendered their holidays with family to Him. The Callands in Russia are spending their first Christmas apart from their three oldest children. The Raders have some of their children serving on the field with them in Bolivia. The Nassets have one daughter in China (four children and several grandchildren are not). The Smiths in Turkey and Jacobs in Brazil have new babies with them. Pray for the encouragement and fruitfulness of all our missionaries during this season.



Looking Forward:

January 5, 4pm, Church Undecorating

January 7, 8am, **Leadership Breakfast**

All current Deacons and Trustees are invited to come and prepare for the Annual Meeting and make prayerful plans for 2012. Just bring your Bible and your ideas.



January 8, 5pm, Nominating Committee Meeting.

5:30pm, *Steve Taylor* will be our Special Speaker.

January 21, 11am, Ladies' Winter Tea.

Invitations will be ready next week.

January 22, 5:30pm, *ANNUAL MEETING*, everyone is invited and members are needed to participate in elections, budgeting, and planning for the new year.



Thank you, church family, for the generous Christmas gift! Jones'

THIS EVENING:

There will be no Evening Service tonight. Enjoy a blessed time with family and friends, and, most importantly, with the Lord.

THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, 6:30pm, **Bible Study and Prayer** for the adults, **Kids Club** and **Teen Club** meet at the same time.

Thursday, 4:00pm, **Church Undecorating**. Come (whenever you can) and help us put things back where we got them!

Church Cleaners: This Week: Parks

Next week: Parks *Thank you!*

Special Music: 1/8- Jones, 1/15- Schmoeckel

Ushers Today: Stan M., Dan B., Rick H., Gordon J.

Nursery Ministry: AM - April P., Chris & Stephanie E.