

A periodic newsletter for BLVD leaders and servant volunteers sharing information and inspiration as we "Move from Mediocrity to Greatness for God"

Upcoming Events

***February 4**
"Emerge" Worship Service

***February 25**
Women's Retreat

***April 5**
Maundy" Thursday Service

***April 7**
New Servant's Brunch

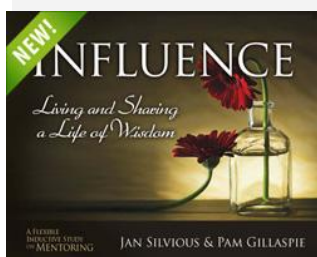
***April 8**
Easter Sunday

***April 27-29**
"UMOJA"

***May 17-23**
Global Missions Trip
(Nicaragua)

***May 19**
"INSPIRE" All Hands Meeting

Influence: Living and Sharing a Life of Wisdom
Authors: Pam Gillaspie and Jan Silvius



Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."
Matthew 9:17

Often we use Jesus's reference about new wine in old wineskins as a justification to pit the old against the new. Consequently, its misuse belittles or minimizes one over the other. I think this misses an alternative meaning of the Scripture. According to this short verse, placing unfermented wine into inflexible, restrictive skins destroys both the wine and the skins. The new wine needs a place to grow, expand, and flourish. The old skins have already reached its maximum capacity and cannot accommodate the flexibility the new wine needs. Perhaps this Scripture is about our lives as Christians. We must ensure that we always present to God a flexible, expandable, and elastic vessel to carry the good news of Jesus Christ!

How do you respond to the growth that Christ brings in your life? Do you respond like a constricting, inflexible old wineskin? Do you list for God all of the reasons why this new thing doesn't work for you? Do you try to control the pace at which the new wine in your life expands? I think that a more fulfilling way to live life is as an ever expanding and flexible new wineskin. When you feel the limits of old wineskins sneaking in, ask God to renew your mind and refresh your spirit so that you can be used to carry the ever-expanding gospel of Jesus Christ!
#newwine

Pastor Janae

Pastor R. Janae Pitts-Murdock
Lead Pastor

Leadership Nuggets

"A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go but ought to be."

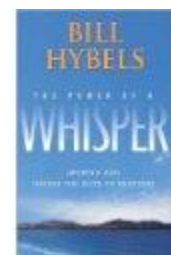
– Rosalynn Smith Carter

Suggested Reading



Sun Stand Still
Author: Steven Furtick
Publisher: Multnomah Books

Killing Cockroaches
Author: Tony Morgan
Publisher: B & H Publishing Group



Whispers from God
Author: Bill Hybels
Publisher: Zondervan

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Great things are happening at THE BLVD, come see for yourself!!