

1 John 3:1: "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

Have you ever considered the weight and wonder of being adopted into the family of God? It's a realization that can be both awesome and, in its own way, a little overwhelming.

It is like you are Frodo realizing that your ring is the ONE ring;

Like you are Peter Parker suddenly transformed from geek to greatness;

Like you are Briar Rose realizing you are Princess Aurora;

Like you are Rapunzel realizing you are the lost princess.

On one hand, being a child of the King bestows upon us incredible privileges. We have access to the richness of God's grace and His boundless love. But on the other hand, this noble lineage also brings forth a set of remarkable responsibilities.

Just as Rapunzel couldn't simply stay hidden in her tower or Peter Parker couldn't ignore the call to be Spider-Man, we, too, as children of the King, have a purpose to fulfill. It's not a passive role; it's an active participation in the divine narrative. We can't simply sit back, passively observing the world or assuming someone else will tackle the challenges.

As children of the King, we are entrusted with a mission—an important role to play in God's story. Yet, this task isn't meant to be shouldered alone. It's a calling that necessitates our reliance on God's strength because, truthfully, it's impossible to fulfill without Him.

Embracing our title as children of the King doesn't mean shirking away from our duties. Rather, it's an invitation to seize all that our identity offers. When we fully embrace this identity, we discover that the gifts bestowed upon us exceed our wildest imagination. Moreover, fulfilling our divine mission, though undeniably challenging, becomes immensely rewarding.

So let's step into the fullness of our identity as children of the King. Let's receive the abundant gifts and, with humble hearts and reliance on God, embrace the fulfilling mission we've been entrusted with. Together, let's live out this incredible truth and witness the extraordinary work God does through His children.

Shane

Weekly Activities

SUNDAY

Sunday School - 9:30 am
Worship - 8:15 am & 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm
Children's Bible Study - 6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 6:30 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Children's Bible Study - 6:30 pm



Friendship filled over 400 boxes in 2024 so that children around the world will hear the Good News. We will collect monthly items in 2025 for OCC boxes. The items for January are: Winter hats, gloves, scarves. There is a box in the KidZone for your donations.



COOKIE BRIGADE

January 5
Pam Hawkins
January 19
Debbie Scourick

Welcome to our New Members

Kyle Martin

Steven Roberts

*We're So Glad
You're Here!*

Phone: 270.534.1900
www.friendshiponthenet.org
www.facebook.com/friendshiponthenet
Dr. Jason Browning, Pastor
Rev. Shane Yancey,
Minister to Students & Children
Rev. Chad Davidson,
Minister of Music & Worship

Budget Receipts

Required to Date: \$ 577,616
Received to Date: \$ 569,936

Nursery Volunteers

January 5

8:15 am: Christa Copeland
10:45 am: Andrew & Lacy Halligan (BB)
Cathy & Lauren Barks (T)

January 12

8:15 am: Debbie Alvey
10:45 am: Robbie Spees & Kelly Dixon (BB)
Kara Allard & Susan Knight (T)

January 19

8:15 am: Amanda Triplett
10:45 am: Gene & Deborah Reaney (BB)
Kathy Goodman & Kathy Baucum (T)

January 26

8:15 am: Bridget Browning
10:45 am: Jamie Hawkins (BB)
Luke & Rachel Diefenbach (T)

BB - Bed Babies C201
T - Toddlers C202



FRIENDSHIP NEWSLETTER

Friendship Baptist Church
146 S. Friendship Rd.
Paducah KY 42003

Volume 25

JANUARY 2025

Number 1



Therefore if any man be in Christ,
he is a new creature: old things are passed away;
behold, all things are become new.

EPHESIANS 4:11





“Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
do not depend on your own understanding.
Seek His will in all you do,
and He will show you which path to take.”
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were always getting into trouble. The parents were desperate. They were at their wits end as to what to do about their sons’ behavior.

The mother heard that the new pastor in town had been successful in helping students get on the right track. She asked her husband about sending the boys to speak with the pastor. The husband said, “We might as well give it a shot. We have to do something before the boys find themselves in serious trouble.” The husband contacted the pastor and he agreed to speak with the boys but asked to see them individually.

The 8-year old went to meet with the pastor first. The pastor sat the boy down and asked him, “Young man, where is God?” The boy made no attempt to respond, so the pastor repeated the question again. “Young man, where is God?” Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. So the pastor raised his voice, shook his finger in the boy’s face, and asked a third time, “Young man! You must tell me, where is God?”

The little boy still didn’t answer. After an awkward pause, the boy bolted from the room and ran all the way home, slamming himself in his bedroom. His older brother followed him into the room and asked what happened. The younger brother replied, “Boy, we are in big trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it.”

My prayer as we begin the new year is that God will not be missing from our everyday lives. Human understanding is always subject to error. God, on the other hand, sees and understands all. He is the One we can trust. Instead of moving forward in fear, let’s move forward in faith, trusting our God who is all-knowing and all-powerful.

God is good! All the time!

Jason



Disaster Relief Team Interest Meeting — January 5 at 5:00 p.m. Meet in the fellowship hall. The team will serve January 26-31 and will serve with Samaritan’s Purse.



- 1 New Year’s Day (no evening activities)
- 5 5:00 p.m. — Disaster Relief Team Interest Mtg.
- 7 11:30 a.m. — JOY Club
6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 4
- 8 5:00 p.m. — Family Night Supper
5:30 p.m. — Nominating Team
- 12 7:00 p.m. — Deacons
- 14 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 5
- 15 5:30 p.m. — Finance Team
6:30 p.m. — Business Mtg.
- 19 5:00 p.m. — Personnel Team Mtg.
- 21 10:30 a.m. — Women on Mission
6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 1
- 26-31 Disaster Relief Mission Team
- 28 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 2

Tuesdays @ 6:30 a.m. — Men’s Prayer Group
Saturdays @ 8:00 a.m. — Mighty Men



Bro. Jason & the Friendship Family extended
Christian love & sympathy to...
...the family of Mary Bryan.
...Craig & LeeAnn Brown & family in the death of
his father, Noble Keith Brown.
...Rocky & Vickie Turley in the death of his mother,
Shirley Turley.



Family Night Supper — Wednesday, January 8, 5:00 p.m.
The menu is: **Soup, Sandwiches & Dessert.** Sign up in the
Worship Center or call the church office by noon on
Tuesday, January 7 if you plan to attend. Cost: \$6 for
adults; \$3 for children under 10. Please remember that
the food is purchased according to the number who
signed up, so you will need to pay for your meal if you
sign up and do not attend.



Join us at Pizza Inn on Tuesday, January 7 at 11:30 a.m. Meet at
the restaurant.



Contact the church office to sign up for text alerts
regarding service time changes, church events, prayer
requests and service cancellations due to inclement
weather.

As I continue to offer “The Story Behind The Song” writings
in 2025, one of our newer worship tunes “Holy Forever” by Chris
Tomlin is my focus this month.

Holy Forever: A Song of Transcendence
“Holy Forever,” according to Tomlin, embodies the essence of
transcendence. It is a song that directs our gaze heavenward,
inviting us to participate in the eternal chorus of praise that
surrounds God’s throne. When Tomlin shared this song with his
mentor, the response was immediate and affirming: “This is it, man.
This is what it’s all about.”

In “Holy Forever,” listeners are drawn into a space of
profound worship, where the focus is solely on the holiness and
majesty of God. The song serves as a reminder of the greater story,
the divine narrative that calls us to worship not just for what God
has done for us, but for who He is.

“My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.” –
Isaiah 56:7

Tomlin’s insights challenge us to embrace both lanes of
worship in our ministry. As worship leaders, we are called to
provide songs that both cry out for God’s deliverance and exalt His
transcendence. Each type of song fulfills a crucial role in the life of
the church, helping believers to navigate the full spectrum of their
spiritual journey.

In closing, Tomlin’s reflections on “Holy Forever” and the
dual lanes of worship offer a powerful reminder of our calling as
worship leaders. We are invited to lead our congregations into
deeper encounters with God, whether through songs of deliverance
that speak to our need for His grace or songs of transcendence that
lift our eyes to His glory.

May we, like Chris Tomlin, continue to seek God’s guidance
in our songwriting and worship leading, always striving to create
spaces where His presence is known and His name is exalted.

Taken from: <https://worshipleader.com/worship-culture/chris-tomlin-holy-forever-a-song-of-deliverance-or-transcendence/>

Under the Master’s Baton,
Chad

