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### Weekly Schedule

Wed, Jan 6th (Lewsville)	Area Prayer @ Joseph & Lillykuty's res. (7 PM)
Fri, Jan 8th (Mesquite)	Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)
Fri, Jan 8th (Mesquite)	Area Prayer @ Johnson & Leesa's res. (7 PM)
Sat, Jan 9th (Metro)	Sunday School / Youth Anniversary (6 PM)

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### Prayer for the Nations: Tanzania (Africa)\*

- A third of Tanzania is national park – the Serengeti plain draws hundreds of thousands of tourists every year.
- Formed when Tanganyika on the mainland and the island of Zanzibar joined together after gaining independence from Britain, Tanzania has been an island of peace in the troubled region of east Africa for 35 years. Protests in Zanzibar from people wanting independence for the island threaten to flare up into violence.
- During the '90s Tanzania accepted over half a million refugees from wars in neighbouring Burundi and Rwanda.
- Many Muslims have become Christians and the number of evangelical Christians continues to grow.
- The Holy Spirit has brought fresh life to many churches and encouraged evangelism but some remain spiritually dead.
- AIDS continues to spread across Tanzania – over 1.3 million people are infected and more than a million children are orphaned. Pray that churches can be active in addressing the needs of those who are suffering or losing their families and in teaching people about the disease.
- Over 5 million people listen to Christian radio stations and Christians now run one of the three national TV channels.

\* [http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country\\_id=99](http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=99)

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Metro Church Of God  
13930 Distribution Way  
Farmers Branch, Texas 75234

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Phone: (972) 686 8611  
E-mail: [metrodallas@gmail.com](mailto:metrodallas@gmail.com)  
[www.metrocog.net](http://www.metrocog.net)



# metrochurch

of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God  
Demonstrating the Love of God  
Communicating the Word of God  
Educating the People of God*

January 3, 2010

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday." (Ps 91:5,6)

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# Welcome

“...Behold your God...” (Is 40: 9)

Praise the Lord. It gives us immense pleasure in welcoming you all into the house of the Lord on the first Sunday of this New Year 2010. May the Lord continue to bless and keep you all in His grace and grant the desires of your heart.

Zion has been placed strategically by God to proclaim aloud to its satellite towns the coming of the Lord. It has been called and placed by God to announce to the world the nature and character of their God. It has been asked to proclaim that God is coming. God is calling us as a church and has placed us strategically in this metropolis to call out “ Behold your God” We have been given a mandate, a method and a message.

1) **The Mandate:** Like Zion the church has a mandate. The mandate is to shout and make their voice heard. The mandate is to proclaim. It is to speak, raise its voice, be the prophetic voice, speak the word, blow the trumpet, call out like the watchman, go out and make disciples, speak tenderly, be the salt and light, declare the works of God. The church cannot abstain from its mandate. If we do not do this no one else is going to do.

2) **The Method:** Zion has been asked to climb on top of the mountain to proclaim this message. Mountain climbing is difficult and it needs each others efforts. In mountain climbing each one looks after the other. Each one covers for the other. The climb is treacherous and difficult but with support of each other we can reach the summit. Church can truly be an authentic community when we look out for each other. There must be a sense of belongingness and concern and care for one another.

3) **The Message:** Zion has been asked to proclaim to the world to look at their God. In Is 40: 3-8 there is an anticipation of this coming God. Many words are used like “highway of God”, “glory of God”, “word of God”, “breath of God” etc. But the real character of this God is explained in vs.10 a perfect balance of God’s strength and tenderness. His arm rules for Him but he is gentle like a shepherd. He knows his sheep and using his rod and staff he disciplines and provides.

God is calling this church in this New Year with a mandate and he has provided the method of caring and loving each other to proclaim the message that our God is full of grace and truth. We do not compromise the truth of God for the cause of his grace and neither do we undermine grace for truth. We have been asked to proclaim the balance of God’s strength and his tenderness. His justice and righteousness and his love and mercy need to be declared. We do not know what is in store for us this year. But we can always rest assured in the grace of God and in his infinite wisdom to live a victorious life. May the Lord bless us to behold him in all the circumstances and situations of our life in this New Year. God bless you all.

In Christ Alone  
Rev Satish Kumar

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# Sermon Notes

## New Year Resolution

The following resolves come from Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) one of the architect of the Great Awakening in US during the 18th century.

1. "Resolved, never to do any manner of thing, whether in soul or body, less or more, but what tends to the glory of God..." (John 17:4b) (See Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 6:20; Galatians 6:14; Philippians 1:11; 1 Peter 2:12)
2. "Resolved, never to give over, nor in the least to slacken my fight with my corruptions, however unsuccessful I may be." (Romans 6:13) (See Romans 6:6, 14; 7:15-23; 8:1, 2; Galatians 5:16-18, 24; 2 Timothy 4:7; 1 Peter 2:11)
3. "Resolved, never to speak evil of anyone, so that it shall tend to his dishonor..." (Ephesians 4:31b) (See Proverbs 11:9; Titus 3:2; 1 Timothy 5:13; 1 Peter 3:16)
4. "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." (Acts 17:11) (See Psalm 1:1, 2; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:10-12; 2 Peter 1:19)
5. "Resolved, to examine carefully, and constantly, what that one thing in me is, which causes me in the least to doubt of the love of God; and to direct all my forces against it." (2 Corinthians 13:5) (See Psalm 26:2; Lamentations 3:40)
6. "Resolved, to strive my utmost every week to be brought... to a higher exercise of grace..." (2 Peter 3:18b)
7. "Resolved, never henceforward, until I die, to act as if I were any way my own, but entirely and altogether God's." (Romans 14:7, 8a,c) (See 1 Chronicles 29:14; Luke 9:23, 24; Romans 12:2; 14:7-9; 2 Corinthians 5:15; Colossians 3:17)

Adapted and Compiled

In Christ Alone

Pastor Satish Kumar