



# THE YEAR OF

PURPOSE



PRODUCTIVITY

**Sunday**  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION | 9:00AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE | 10AM

**Tuesday**  
TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE | 7:00PM

**Wednesday**  
MORNING PRAYER | 11:00AM

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**Bishop Mark C. Tolbert**

**Overseer**

1st Assistant Presiding Bishop—PAW



District Elder Christopher D. Collier

**Senior Pastor**



## VLC Insights Newsletter

January 2026 Edition

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**Victorious Life Church**  
**2026 Theme**  
**The Year Of**  
**Purpose and Productivity**

As we step into 2026, Victorious Life Church embraces a bold and Spirit-led declaration: **This is the Year of Purpose and Productivity.** It is a season where God invites us not only to understand *why* we are here, but to activate *what* He has placed in our hands. Purpose is the divine blueprint; productivity is the obedient response.

All throughout Scripture, God calls His people to live intentionally. Jesus Himself declared, *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.”* Purpose fueled His steps, and productivity marked His ministry. This same rhythm—hearing, obeying, and bearing fruit—is what the Lord is calling us into this year.

**Walking in Purpose**

Purpose begins with alignment. Before we produce anything meaningful, we must hear from God clearly. That means drawing nearer to Him, seeking His direction, and allowing the Holy Spirit to refine our vision. In 2026, we are committing to deeper prayer, intentional discipleship, and spiritual clarity. Purpose is not discovered through busyness, but through closeness to the Father.

**Living in Productivity**

Productivity in the Kingdom is not measured by how much we do, but by how much we obey. It is fruitfulness that flows from faithfulness. This year, we will take practical steps to activate the gifts within us—whether in ministry, our families, our workplaces, or our personal callings. God is stirring creativity, discipline, and boldness in His people. It is time to build, to plant, to launch, and to grow.

**Purpose + Productivity = Impact**

When purpose meets productivity, impact becomes inevitable. Our church will expand its outreach, strengthen its ministries, and cultivate leaders ready to influence their communities. This is the year where dormant dreams awaken, delayed assignments accelerate, and God’s plans move from vision to reality.

As we journey through 2026, let us fully embrace the call: **to know God’s purpose, to walk in God’s strength, and to produce God-honoring fruit.**

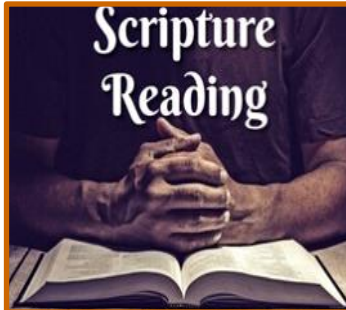
Together, let’s make this year one of intentional living, passionate pursuit, and supernatural productivity.

**Victorious Life—this is our Year of Purpose and Productivity!**

**Pastor Christopher D. Collier**

**Senior Pastor**





**"BELIEVE"**

**Father, thank you for  
Your power at work in Your people.**

**Thank You for equipping us  
and calling us according to Your purpose.**

**Give us Your strength and peace  
to continue the journey into the New Year!**

**Help us to keep our minds stayed  
upon You in Jesus' Name.**

**Amen**

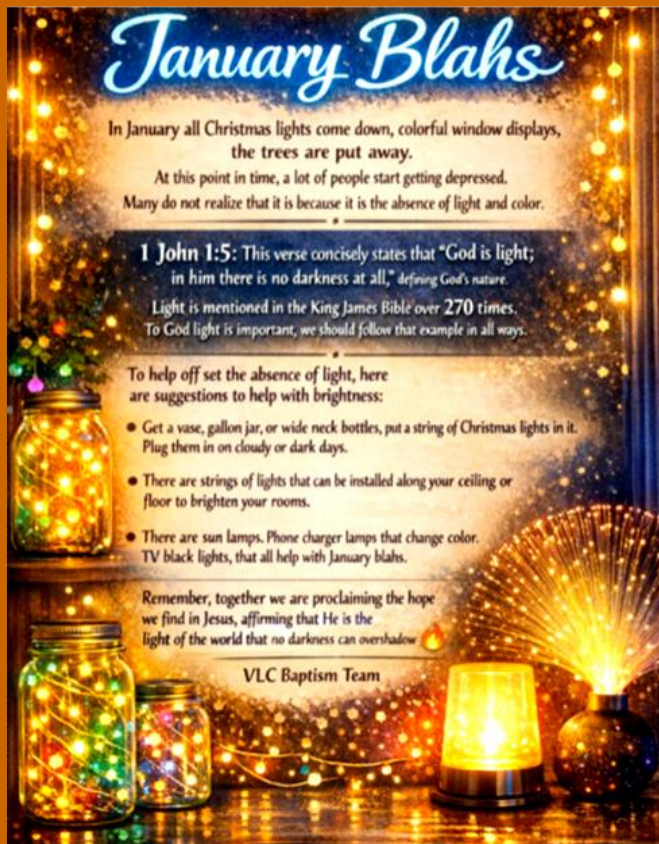
**Asst Pastor LaVerne S. Jones**

By His divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. For receiving all of this by coming to know Him, the one who called us to know Him, the one who called us to Himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence. II Peter 1:3

**Psalm 30:1-12**

**The Living Bible**

1. I will praise you, Lord, for you have saved me from my enemies. You refuse to let them triumph over me.
2. O Lord my God, I pleaded with you, and you gave me my health again.
3. You brought me back from the brink of the grave, from death itself, and here I am alive!
4. Oh, sing to him you saints of his; give thanks to his holy name.
5. His anger lasts a moment; his favor lasts for life! Weeping may go on all night, but in the morning there is joy.
- 6-7. In my prosperity I said, "This is forever; nothing can stop me now! The Lord has shown me his favor. He has made me steady as a mountain." Then, Lord, you turned your face away from me and cut off your river of blessings. Suddenly my courage was gone; I was terrified and panic-stricken.
8. I cried to you, O Lord; oh, how I pled:
9. "What will you gain, O Lord, from killing me? How can I praise you then to all my friends? How can my dust in the grave speak out and tell the world about your faithfulness?
10. Hear me, Lord; oh, have pity and help me."
11. Then he turned my sorrow into joy! He took away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy
12. So that I might sing glad praises to the Lord instead of lying in silence in the grave. O Lord my God, I will keep on thanking you forever!







Each year, we face new challenges and have to set new goals. But meeting those challenges and reaching those goals doesn't come without its own set of problems. Problems that are at times beyond our control. We pursue careers, love, relationships, and other things with a purpose that gives our lives depth and meaning. Why? Because purpose is permanent. Proverbs 19:21 says, *"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails"* (NIV). Our plans may change, but our purpose is unrelenting. What God wants is established, but how He gets it may vary. Purpose is resilient, meaning capable of withstanding stress without injury. God has set a purpose for our lives, and no matter how difficult things may become, that purpose will not change. Purpose transforms. To quote Dr. Myles Munroe, *"It transforms mistakes into miracles and disappointments into testimonies."* It also transforms sinners into "saints." That is God's purpose for mankind. *"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10). His plan is for us to be productive citizens of the Kingdom.

God's plan for His people is simple. He is calling for us to be righteous and live a holy life. In doing so, we have God's word for His blessings. Being righteous brings numerous benefits, including divine protection (Psa. 5:12), inner peace (Prov. 16:7), guidance and wisdom (Psa. 32:8), and prosperity (Prov. 11:28), and spiritual and earthly lives (Rom. 6:23). In Jeremiah 29:11, God tells His people, *"I, the Lord, tell you this: I have decided what to do for you. I have plans to help you do well. I do not want to hurt you. I want to give you hope for a good life for the future,"* [give you purpose and make you productive] (Easy). Isaiah 3:11 states, *"Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings"* (KJV). The Message version (vs. 10-11) puts it this way: *"Reassure the righteous that their good living will pay off. But doom to the wicked! Disaster! Everything they do will be done to them."*

























As children of God, we have access to the benefits God offers. Psalm 103:2 declares, *"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits."* His benefits are many, but only the righteous will enjoy them.

In my conclusion, as we enter into this new year of "Purpose and Productivity", let us remember God's purpose for His saints. It is His desire for us to be saved, to live a righteous and holy life, and reap the benefits of salvation in Jesus Christ. So let me encourage you as we "Walk into the New Year, that if you do not know Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, take this time to repent and seek God for salvation. The rewards and benefits are GREAT!" You will not be disappointed!



# January 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				 1	 2	 3
 4	 5	 6	 7	 8	 9	 10
 11	 12	 13	 14	 15	 16	 17
 18	 19	 20	 21	 22	 23	 24
 25	 26	 27	 28	 29	 30	 31



# The Busting Rocks Story

## Purpose and Productivity



Revised by  
AP LaVerne Jones

*"Go the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer, no ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest." ~ Proverbs 6:6-9*

When my daughter was a small child, I used to read her stories that had meaning in life. These stories were meant to teach her lessons about having purpose, valuing time, and being productive. Short stories about purpose and productivity often explore the meaning of work, such as the classic fables "The Ant and the Grasshopper" and "The Hare and the Tortoise." Other stories, like the "Busting Rocks" anecdote, highlight how a sense of purpose—building a temple—transforms a mundane task into a meaningful one. The "Busting Rocks" story is about purpose and productivity, though it is more commonly known as the "rocks, pebbles, and sand" or the "big rocks" theory. Let's explore the story of "Busting Rocks."

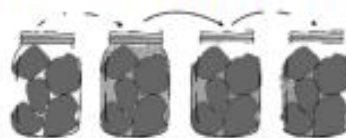
The core message is to prioritize your most important tasks ("big rocks") first, because if you fill your time with small tasks ("pebbles" and "sand"), you'll have no room left for the truly significant ones.



### The "big rocks" theory

- **Big Rocks:** These represent the most important, non-negotiable priorities in your life, such as your health, family, or major projects.
- **Pebbles:** These are smaller but still important tasks that support your goals, like specific work assignments or hobbies.
- **Sand:** This represents the minor tasks, distractions, and busywork that fill up the remaining time.

### The analogy and its lesson



1. An empty jar is presented to a group of students.
2. The professor or trainer first places the "big rocks" into the jar, and the participants confirm that it looks full.
3. Next, they add "pebbles" which fit into the gaps between the rocks, and the jar still looks full.
4. Finally, he pours in "sand," which fills all the remaining tiny spaces.
5. The lesson is that if you fill the jar with the sand and pebbles first, there is no room left for the big rocks, the more important things.

If we want to take a lesson from the "busting rock" story, it would be that we prioritize **purpose**. We must knowingly decide which are our "big rocks" and put them first to ensure they get done. Avoid busy work! If you spend all your time on minor tasks, you will never have time for the more meaningful work that creates real **purpose** and **productivity**. In other words, schedule time for your "big rocks" first, treating that time as non-negotiable, and then fit the pebbles and sand around them.

2026

# NEW YEAR POEM

How can I use the New Year to better serve my Lord?

I'll read my Bible every day, and be more in accord.

I'll find new ways to serve others; I'll love my neighbor, too.

I'll focus on "give" instead of "get" in everything I do.

I'll forgive the people I'm mad at; angry feelings I'll discard;

I'll try to love my enemies, even though it's hard.

In the New Year, I'll lift people up, instead of putting them down.

I'll fill my heart with love and joy, and never wear a frown.

I'll let go of my worries; put it all in His hands;

I'll repent and try to sin less, and obey all His commands.

These New Year's resolutions are difficult, at best.

Yet, here's what I can do each day that will put my soul at rest:

I'll love my Lord with all my heart, with all my mind and soul;

If I do that essential thing, I'll leave the rest in His control.

- Anonymous

## EASY HOMEMADE EGGNOG

### Ingredients

- ♦ 2 ½ cups low-fat milk
- ♦ 2 large eggs, beaten
- ♦ 3 tablespoons white sugar
- ♦ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ♦ pinch ground nutmeg

### Directions

Combine milk, eggs, sugar, vanilla extract, and nutmeg together in a blender and process until well combined; transfer to a large pitcher.

Chill before serving.



allrecipes

## COLD vs. FLU vs. COVID-19

	COLD	FLU	COVID-19
Onset of Symptoms	Gradual	Sudden	Gradual
Fever	Rare	Common	Common
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fatigue/Weakness	Mild	Common	Common
Muscle Aches	Mild	Common	Common
Stuffy/Runny Nose	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes
Sneezing	Common	Rare	No
Sore Throat	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes
Cough	Common	Common	Common
Shortness of Breath	Rare	Rare	Common
Diarrhea	No	Sometimes	Sometimes



Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that damage the optic nerve, often due to increased pressure inside the eye, leading to gradual, irreversible vision loss, typically starting with peripheral vision, and potentially causing blindness if untreated.

While there's no cure, early detection through regular dilated eye exams and treatments (like eye drops or surgery) can slow progression and preserve sight, as early stages often have no symptoms.

The most common type, open-angle glaucoma, usually has no early symptoms, so people often don't notice vision loss until it's advanced.

Google.com





# INFO



Since 1938

**WELCOME**

**LET'S PRAY**

Please remember to pray for and visit or call our members that are sick, shut-in, or hospitalized.

*Happy Birthday.*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Husband. Father. Leader.

We celebrate you today.

## ZOOKEEPER

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

— PSALM 46:6-7 NIV

The world around us is in a tremendous uproar, yet we can be at peace, knowing that God is still in control. We are comforted by His voice, and we know that His purposes and plans will ultimately work out. A few verses further on in Psalm 46 we can read these words: "Be still, and know that I am God."

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters

Bishop Mark Tolbert—Overseer

First Lady Emelda Tolbert

Britton Tolbert

Mother Bernice Faciane

Dist. Elder Chris Collier and Family

VLC Assistant Pastors & Ministers

Councilman Jermain Reed

White House Staff

VLC Family & Friends

Mayor Lucas & Kansas City, MO

VLC Executive Board & Adm Staff

LATCA Staff and Students

Mother Aurora Winn

Mother Hazel Lawrence

All VLC Senior Saints

Brother Roy Reliford

Brother Ryan A. Hayes

Sister Laverne Lunn

Sister Patrice Jordan

Sister Letitia Howard

Mother Joyce Pearson

Bro OB & Sis Rosie Jemmerson

AP David & Viola Williams

Local Nursing Homes

Homeless Families

Family Members Incarcerated

The Kansas City Chiefs

The Kansas City Royals

KC Homicide Victims & Families

Israel

**Tithing**

giving God the first tenth of your income

*Dorothy*  
**SORRELLS**  
FOOD PANTRY

**FOOD PANTRY EVERY TUESDAY**  
**6:00pm - 7:00pm**  
IN THE VLC FELLOWSHIP HALL  
(ENTER ON 34TH STREET SIDE)  
3400 PASEO BLVD. KANSAS CITY, MO 64109

**JANUARY CONSECRATION 2026**

This January, as we begin a new year, let's stay committed to prayer, seeking God's wisdom, strength, guidance, comfort, and anointing for our lives and our church. I'm inviting everyone to join us every **Tuesday** from **7-8 p.m.** as we seek the Lord together. Each service will be led by one of our auxiliary departments. Let's believe God for our year of Purpose and Productivity!

<b>Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Men / Women Auxiliary</li> <li>Married Couple</li> <li>Silver Saints</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOV3</li> <li>Assistant Pastors</li> <li>Altar Workers</li> <li>Baptism Team</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H.Y.P.E.</li> <li>G.Y.M.</li> <li>Ushers/Greeters</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deacons/Deaconesses</li> <li>Trustees</li> <li>Outreach</li> <li>Family Fun Ministry</li> <li>Christian Education</li> </ul>



**WATCH**

**FACEBOOK**

**YOUTUBE**

**MY VIDEO MINISTRY**

**Sister**

**Tonya D. Hayes**

**President**

**and**

**Chief Editor**

**VLC**

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Dr. Kathy Jones.....Writer

AP Laverne Jones.....Writer

Sister Karla Canada.....Treasurer