

/12/2012

Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! I pray this will be a blessed year for you and yours and for the Masonic Family. For many who are part of the Masonic family 2011 was a year of challenge, but I tell you with God's help 2012 will be better. **"With God's help" – what does that mean?** Just for fun I typed that sentence into Google and it came back with more than 4 million answers. **(Who thinks all that stuff up? Are there modern day scribes who sit around all day and type and post to the web?)** High on the list of results were the 12 steps of AA and a myriad of other things that require God's help if we are to be successful in them. Things like forgiveness, marriage, parenting and understanding God and love Etc. In Hebrew "with God's Help" is "B'Ezrat HaShem", it refers to future things we might do and is a reference to **Proverbs 3:6 "in all your ways acknowledge Him, and he will make your paths straight."** (NIV) **I encourage you to acknowledge God in everything you say and do this year and I know that He will direct you're steps and keep you on the right path.** If you give God the Glory, He will give you the blessings and 2012 will be an awesome year.

Last week we held the Memorial Service for Brother Milton Schachterle. He went home to be with the Lord on 12/13/2011, one month short of his 94th birthday. I am guessing there were about 200 of us there to pay our respects. Milt received Military Honors from the U S Navy, since he was a Pearl Harbor Survivor. Brother Ed from Liberty Lodge # 134 led the Masonic portion of the service and his performance along with the rest of the brothers from Liberty Lodge was second to none. **I was proud to be a Mason!** Milton was my friend and brother, he always made me laugh and he taught me how to cook a turkey. He had a strong faith in Jesus Christ and because of that I know that today he is walking on streets of gold with His Lord and with loved ones who went before. He never missed one of our Sunday Night Services and I will miss him. Please pray for his family.

On Sunday March 4th, 2012 at 1:00 pm I am calling on every Mason, Eastern Star member and everyone who belongs to any and all of the Masonic orders around the world, to meet at their Lodge and as a group to pray for the future of Masonry. When King Solomon had finished the Temple, he dedicated it to the Lord. **When he had finished the Lord appeared to him and said: "... if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."** (2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV) Some might think this is foolish, but I know that prayer is powerful and we in the Masonic family need to humble ourselves and pray to Almighty God. We need to seek His face and pray that he will heal our Masonic lands and deliver us from those who seek to destroy our craft. **I believe that we are in a spiritual battle for the very survival of Masonry.** We need to pray that God will help us connect to a younger generation who will cherish the legacy we are leaving behind. We need to pray that God will fill the Blue Lodge with passionate men who love God and the craft, because the members every other part of Masonry comes from the Blue Lodge. **On March 4th, 2012 let us all unite and "March Forth" in prayer to save our beloved fraternity!**
I ask you to forward this to the Masonic family around the world and to organize your members.

If you are in Denver you are invited to the Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Chapel each Sunday evening at 6:30 PM to enjoy the music, worship, fellowship and refreshments.

**I pray God will bless you and yours,
Rev. Steve Schroeder PM
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