



# North Florida Tres Dias Newsletter

## January Sequela

January 10, 2015  
Medart Assembly  
6:00 pm



Bring a Covered Dish to Share

A new year is about to unfold  
With new opportunities to explore  
Doors will open for new experiences,  
New adventures with the Lord  
Remember not the former things,  
The things of this past year,  
The Lord will do new things in us,  
Much more than we are aware  
For He will make a way for us  
As we put our trust in Him  
And He will guide our every step  
By His presence we have within

What God has placed within our hearts,  
We find we'll be able to do  
If we look for the opportunities,  
We'll see the door to go through  
We mustn't let anything hold us back  
But rise up and take our place  
And be all that God wants us to be  
With a fresh touch of His grace  
By M.S.Lowndes

## Happy New Year

From Your Pre-Weekend Couple

What better gift to give in the New Year than to sponsor someone to experience the rich experience of a Tres Dias weekend and to gain a new family in the community.

Please pray and listen as the Holy Spirit speaks to you a name; talk with the person you are led to, pray with them, sponsor them and continue to love on them as they prepare and make their weekend.

Then help them find a reunion group so they stay connected and involved!

Blessings on each one of you in the New Year.  
*Terry & Rossie Tullis*

## Upcoming Tres Dias Weekends

- Men's #52 • April 9-12, 2015**  
Marty McClamma, Rector
- Women's #52 • April 23-26, 2015**  
Ginny Sapp, Rector
- Men's #53 • October 8-11, 2015**  
John Blackwell, Rector
- Women's #53 • October 22-25, 2015**  
Cathy Corredor, Rector



## What's Your New Year's Resolution?

If you haven't been asked that question this month, with only a few days remaining in 2014 it's likely you'll be asked soon enough. As a culture it seems we're obsessed with making New Year's resolutions in December, and then breaking them in January. Before you follow the pattern of the world, it is worth considering how a Christian should think about resolutions.

Please prayerfully consider these before you make any New Year's resolutions.

1. Resolve Sensibly - Our resolutions must be in accord with the Word of God. "Being sensible," Edwards begins his preface we must be sensible, reasonable, in making resolutions. If we set ourselves about the business of hastily making resolutions as the result of our grand illusions of sinless perfection, it is likely that we will not merely fail in our attempt to keep such resolutions, we will likely be less inclined to make any further resolutions for similar desired ends. We must go about making resolutions with genuine prayer and thorough study of God's Word. Our resolutions must be in accord with the Word of God; therefore, any resolution we make must

necessarily allow us to fulfill all our particular callings in life. We must consider all the implications of our resolutions and be careful to make resolutions with others in mind, even if it means implementing new resolutions incrementally over time.

2. Resolve Dependently -Every resolution must be made in dependence on God. "I am unable to do anything without God's help," We must be sensible in grasping the simple truth that every resolution must be made in dependence on God. And while every Christian would respond by saying, "Well, of course we must depend on God for all things," most Christians have been sold the world's bill of goods. They think that once they become dependent on God, then they will have immediate strength. They mimic the world's mantra: "Whatever doesn't kill me will make me stronger." While the principle is generally true, such thinking can foster an attitude of proud independence. We must understand that in being able to do all things through Christ who strengthens us means that we must depend on His strength continuously in order to do all things and to keep all our resolutions (Eph. 3:16; Col. 1:11). In truth, whatever doesn't kill us, by God's conforming grace, makes us weak so that in our weakness we will rely continuously on the strength of our Lord (2 Cor. 12:7-10).

3. Resolve Humbly - We should approach God in humble reliance, seeking not merely the blessings but the one who blesses. "I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these resolutions." In making resolutions for the glory of God and before the face of God, we must not come into His presence pounding our chests in triumphal arrogance as if God must now love and bless us more because we have made certain resolutions to follow Him more. In reality, the Lord in His providence may choose to allow even more trials to enter our lives; in His unchanging fatherly love for us, He may decide to discipline us even more in order that we might more so detest our sin and delight in Him. We should approach Him in humble reliance on His grace as we seek not merely the blessings but the one who blesses.

4. Resolve For Christ's Sake - We cannot resolve to do anything with a presumptuous attitude before God. "So far as they are agreeable to his will for Christ's sake." We cannot resolve to do anything with a presumptuous attitude before God. The whole matter of making resolutions is not just goal setting so that we might have happier lives. We are called by God to live according to His will, not our own — for Christ's sake, not our own — for it is not unto us but unto Him that all glory belongs (Ps. 115:1).