

The Start of the New Year

Did you realize that we are just weeks away from the start of the New Year? I know you think January 1st, the traditional start of the New Year is months away and we are still in summer. For those of you however who have kids in school the new school year is just around the corner. For families there are two starts to the New Year. The first is January 1st but the second, one almost as important is the start of the new year in school.

For families getting ready to send the kids back to school is no cheap and easy thing. It's estimated that Americans will spend almost \$28 billion dollars getting little Jane and Johnny ready for the start of the New Year. On average families will spend over \$500.

Is it worth it? Of course, it is. While we might complain about the prices we shell out the money because we love our kids and we want them to excel in their educational pursuit. Parents will do whatever it takes to help their kids get a good start to their New Year.

Here at, YOUR CHURCH NAME, we put a high value upon children and students. We take seriously our responsibility to help train up tomorrow's Christian leaders. Our staff and volunteers are deeply committed to this. Every week we work with scores of children and students teaching them Christian values and principles so that they can and will make a difference in their schools and in our society.

Every time you give here, a portion of that gift goes to help us in this endeavor. So, thank you for your generosity. Because of your giving we have had a tremendous summer working with children and students. We are not done! Our "New Year," for children and students will be a busy and packed one. Your generosity helps us accomplish all of this. So, as we take up this offering, remember that your gift is an investment into the future. Let's start the New Year off right by providing the resources needed for the spiritual education of tomorrow's leaders!