



WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

March 6, 2011

Order of Worship

Welcome

Bob Snider

Song Leader

Jon Ewing

#238

#863

#77

Opening Prayer

John Dutton

"In Christ Alone"

The Lord's Supper

Jerry Young

#619

Contribution

Jerry Young

#405

Lesson

Bill McFarland

#732

Announcements

Bob Snider

#317

Closing Prayer

Tom Easterly

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matt. 5:14)

"IN THE BUD"

A bud is "a small lateral or terminal protuberance on the stem of a plant that may develop into a flower, leaf, or shoot." So says my dictionary. I might not have been able to offer as thorough a definition as that, but I can see that buds are becoming prominent on the trees and shrubs. I can anticipate what will soon follow.

Have you ever thought about what buds on the trees mean? One thing is that they are a testimony to the presence of life. A harsh season has been survived and the process of renewal is in the works. We are reminded that God said, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22). Buds are witnesses of the faithfulness of God who speaks in terms everyone hears.

In this very way, the buds on trees are heralds of hope. The life in them can be expected, before long, to issue forth leaves of the loveliest green color, or the most glorious blossoms, or eventually even some delicious kind of fruit. The bare brown branches, and the cold which made them that way, will give way to more pleasant conditions in a while. And if hope is woven into creation itself, is there not reason for us who "hope for what we do not see" to "wait for it with patience" (Rom. 8:25)?

But there is another side of this truth that should not be missed. Buds are forerunners of reality. Jesus used the image of the budding fig tree to prepare his disciples to recognize when the destruction of Jerusalem was near (Mk. 13:2, 28-30). The point is that it is not only good things which give evidence of their approach: unpleasant plants put forth their buds, too. When lilacs are coming out of it, crabgrass is also getting ready to do its germinating. The reality is that there are habits, associations, and practices which, if not dealt with in the bud, are certain to issue forth in the bitter fruit of ruined character, broken relationships, and lost souls.

There is a time to rejoice in what a bud announces. There is a time to act on the warning a bud brings. The person who is wise enough to know the difference is blessed indeed.

— Bill McFarland

Today's Messages:

AM: Holiness, Honor, and Your Body

PM: With God, on a Journey

Prayer List & News

Welcome Visitors

We are honored that you joined us. We hope you will be blessed by your time with us. We have an attended nursery, a cry/training room and a nursing mother's room for your convenience if you have small children. Please fill out an attendance card and pass it to the end of the pew so that we may thank you for your visit.

For The Record

February 27

Bible Study:	238
Morning:	351
Evening:	240
Wednesday (3/2):	217
Contribution:	\$ 8,947



Elder of the Month
Bob Snider

- ☞ *Eula Compton* is not feeling well
- ☞ *Lucille Ford* is in Cox South
- ☞ *Julian Penner* is recovering from outpatient surgery
- ☞ *Kay Adams* has been moved to The Maples

Friends and Family:

- ◇ *Melissa Mahon*, John & Teresa's daughter, is recovering from surgery; the tumor was benign
- ◇ Norman & Lucile's great grandson, *Dylan*, in Houston, TX as he has some health problems
- ◇ *Sarah Cowden* is now at home recovering from surgery last week
- ◇ *Mark Best*, 4th grader at Strafford, is still awaiting a donor for a bone marrow transplant
- ◇ Mary Jo Rookstool's brother, *John D. Key*, continues to improve
- ◇ Jim Elliff's mom, *Lorene*, who is recovering from a fall

Baptism

We rejoice with *Shawnda Reed* and her family at Fair Haven on her decision to put on Christ in baptism last Sunday. Please offer your encouragement and support to Shawnda as she grows as a Christian.

* * *

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the following families:

Donna White, daughter of Charles & Ava White, passed away last week in TN. Charles was the preacher for the North National congregation from 1965 to 1971. He later preached in Ozark, MO. Their address is 100 Bel Arbre Place, Dickson, TN 37055-1005.

* * *

Brenda Noe's sister-in-law, *Stephanie Houser*, passed away last Wednesday night after a long battle with cancer. She was in Georgia as she was unable to make it back to Taiwan.

* * *

Bill White lost a brother-in-law, *Clary O'Neal*, last week.



Thanks to everyone for the beautiful birthday cards, prayers and phone calls. The messages meant a lot to me for my 90th birthday.

In Christian love, Wilma Melton

We want to thank you at Water Mill for the wonderful wedding shower that was thrown for us on February 20. The hostesses most definitely went out of their way to throw a beautiful shower. Also, thank you for all who attended as well. Your gifts are a great contribution to our house and new lives together. Thank you again.

Ryan & Jeanne Friend

Prayer Requests

Mark Thiesen has asked that we pray for rain to come in Malawi. He is really concerned about this as Malawi depends on their crops in order not to be hungry.

Also, keep Ann in your prayers as she prepares to leave for Malawi on March 28th.

Birthdays
(sorry I left these 2 off last week)
Today—Paul Lines
11 Bob Snider

Next Week:
13 Anthony Kraus
14 Allen Harmon (90)
Hannah Meeks
Emily Simons
17 Pat Malanowski
Michael Penner
18 Erica Dutton
Chatty Timmons
Kevin Westerman
Happy Birthday

Long-Term

Paul Bratcher
Doris Burch
Bonnie Cole
Lucille/Milton Ford
Donna Harcrow
Herman Harris
Clay Joseph
Marilyn Lanpher
Jarita Nimmo
Betty Shaw
Doris Tobler
Pat Woods

Military:

Cody Newman
Elaine Noe

If you have not already done so, be sure to pick up a copy of the Golden Messenger for March. Bro. Dennis seriously invites young and old to read his article, "What Values Are There In Visiting The Sick and the Afflicted" in this issue.

Activities

Ladies Bible Class

March 10th at 10:30 a.m.

Ruth Essex will present the lesson on *Conquering Your Giants: Overcoming Your Fear With Faith*. Potluck lunch will follow. All ladies are invited to come and enjoy a great lesson by Ruth, good food and fellowship.



Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday!



Ladies Spring Tea

Ladies ~ The sign-up sheets for the Spring Tea are now on the information desk. This year's event will be held on **April 16th from 10 AM to 2 PM**. Each member is invited to bring one guest, so please sign your name as well as the name of your guest. Also on the information desk will be an information sheet with further details on the event as well as sign-up sheets for the areas we need help in--food, table decorating, prayers, and several others. We look forward to a wonderful day of fellowship again this year!!



Married Couples Retreat
March 11-12 in Branson

Sign up at the information desk if you plan to attend. Cost will be approximately \$45 which you will pay to Jill on Friday.

New Cell Phone #s for the Harps:
Pat 833-7333
Dale 833-7334

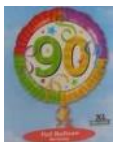
"Still Living By Faith"

(A collection of Lectures by Annie May Alston Lewis)

Margaret Cobb's family has given this book to the church in memory of Margaret. If you would like to check this book out to read, see Johnnie.

Upcoming Events...

- Golden Agers meet today at 4 p.m.
- Elders meet Tuesday at 2 p.m.
- Ladies Prayer Group meets March 14 at 4 p.m.
- Quilters next meet on March 15 at 10 a.m.
- Ladies Book Club meets March 21 from 6-9 p.m. at the Library Station Panera Bread on N. Kansas Expressway.
- Bible Teachers Workshop "Heavenly Treasures in Earthly Containers" at the Eastside Church of Christ in Duncan, OK on **May 7** (see flyer on bulletin board for more info)



All are invited to a 90th birthday celebration for Violet Smith at the Strafford Senior Center on Saturday, March 19, from 2-4 pm.



The Time of Planting is Upon Us

By Dennis R. Smith

After a long, cold and snowy winter some of us are anxiously awaiting the coming spring when we can return to our gardens, get our hands in the dirt, drop the tiny seeds into the ground and wait for the summer harvest. This has been a continuing effort with mankind from the beginning. No wonder Jesus used the gardening process to teach us great lessons of faith. The parable of the sower is evidence of this (Matt. 13, Mark 4, Luke 8). It is in Luke's gospel that our Lord, using the analogy of planting the proper seed, gave a basic principle which has been the answer to how the powerful early church could also exist in the ages to come. He said, "the seed is the word of God" (Luke 8:11)." Looking back over church history, one is made to wonder how the many radical changes from the original pattern have occurred. The answer is in the failure to plant the right kind of seed. When seed is properly stored, it will last indefinitely. Time should have no bearing on its ability to reproduce after its kind (Gen. 1:20-29). In view of this analogy, if men would only plant the right kind of seed in the right kind of soil, nurture and care for it properly, there is no reason why they could not reap the harvest of the first century church in any age. To restore New Testament Christianity should be the desire of all sincere minded men and women.

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study9:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship...5:00 PM
 Wednesday Night Bible Class....7:00 PM

WORKS WE SUPPORT

Mark & Era Thiesen, Malawi, Africa
 Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
 Voice of Truth International
 Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions
 World Christian Broadcasting
 Churches of Christ Disaster Relief
 Lincoln Church of Christ
 Fair Haven Children's Home

"In Search Of
 The Lord's Way"
 7:00 A.M. Sundays
 KOLR TV 10

"Know Your Bible"
 10:30 A.M. Sundays
 Springfield 33
 KSPR-TV



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 B. McFarland: b.mcfarland@mchsi.com
 Website: watermillchurchofchrist.org
 Office Hours:
 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Friday



Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

AM Nursery: Donna Jordan/Michelle Hulett
Greeters: Scott & Melinda Barton
Van Driver: Lance Griter/833-2818
KYB Phone: Jim & Debbie Meinsen
Serve Jeff Treat/Kevin Westerman
Communion: Jeremy Thurlkill/Mike Thurlkill
 Tyler Thornton/Aaron Tovar
 Daniel Tovar/Isaac Tovar
 Luis Tovar/Don Tracy

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Andrew Morton
Opening Prayer: Jon Ewing
Lesson: Bill McFarland
Closing Prayer: Jim Elliff
Communion: Kyle/Tim Buckner
Nursery: Lisa Stayton/Emily Simons

NEXT WEEK, March 13

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Jon Ewing	Andrew Morton
Opening Prayer:	Don Essex	Dale Harp
Communion:	Van Barnes	Kyle/Tim Buckner
Closing Prayer:	Blanton Glenn	Shannon Haddock
AM Nursery:	Pat Malanowski/Orvella Blackburn	
PM Nursery:	Alice Buckner/Jenny Carroll	
Greeters:	Randy & Orvella Blackburn	
Van Driver:	Travis Morrison/742-1970	

MONTH OF MARCH

Ushers: Matt Keener/
 John Stayton
AV Room: Ron Stokes/
 Scott Barton
Secure Building: Paul Lines/
 Tim Buckner

Wednesday, March 9

Devotional: Daniel Tovar
Song Leader: Isaac Tovar
Opening Prayer: Russell Lilly
Closing Prayer: Paul Lines
Van Driver: Don Tracy