



WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

December 13, 2015

Order of Worship

Song Leader
Jon Davis

#392 (1,2,4)
#707 (1,3,4)
#250

Opening Prayer
Luis Tovar

#688

The Lord's Supper
Larry Baggett

Contribution
Larry Baggett

#863 (twice)

Lesson
Bill McFarland

#765

Announcements
Jon Ewing

#847

Closing Prayer
Jackie Buck

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



Gratitude for Mercy in the Form of a Peg

"And now for a little while grace has been shown from the Lord our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg in His holy place, ...and give us a measure of revival in our bondage" (Ezra 9:8).

Tabby and I sometimes like to watch a TV program called *Barnwood Builders*, on the DIY network. The show follows a small WV company whose business is to tear down old, dilapidated 18th or 19th century barns and cabins, and repair and rebuild them as home sites for people to live in. In a recent episode, the workers tore down a HUGE old barn, which when down to its bare bones, was built entirely without the use of even one single nail! Instead, the structure was held together by only 6 pegs, each only a few inches long! The corners of the building were notched such that a wooden peg would be driven through, thus holding the structure together.

I was reminded of this from our Bible reading this week, cited above from the book of Ezra. Ezra's prayer in that chapter is that of confession and gratitude. Confession for the people's sins and shortcomings, and gratitude that God had brought them back from captivity and slavery, to dwell in their promised homeland again. The metaphor Ezra makes in describing their current situation is interesting: he is grateful that God has shown great mercy and allowed them to return and simply be a peg in His holy place, His temple. What does Ezra have in mind? Maybe a few things.

Relatively speaking, a peg, in the scope of an entire structure is minuscule. Whether it be a peg to hang your utensil or jacket on, or a peg to hold boards together, they are tiny pieces of the structure. However, from our barn example above, though seemingly insignificantly small, the pegs are actually vitally important to the structure! If not for them, the building collapses.

Maybe we can learn from Ezra's gratitude, that he was so incredibly thankful for God's blessing them with something even as small as a peg in His temple. Maybe we can be motivated to think more about the privilege we have to be even a small peg in the overall work of His kingdom. However, may we also be reminded that our existence as a "peg" in His mission for the world is also one of vital importance! Just because our work may seem small, doesn't mean that God deems it any less important than those that may seem greater. Without the "pegs" in His kingdom, the structure collapses, as we've learned.

Maybe I can take a few minutes this week and be thankful for my role as a "peg," and be reminded of how important that role really is. Blessings to all the pegs this week!

- Adam

Prayer List & Notes

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

December 6

Bible Study:	207
Morning:	300
Evening:	192
Wednesday (12/9):	177
Contribution:	\$ 6,860



Elder of the Month

Jon Ewing

- ◆ Continue to remember Eula Compton, Rachel Lilly, Marsha Bower, Dale Harp, Thelma Pendergrass, Doris Burch, Jackie Buck
- ◆ Jerry Gillespie is now in a care facility in Arkansas.
- ◆ Bill Culley is steadily improving; Jim Reaves is now home
- ◆ Helen Coltrane is recovering from hip replacement surgery
- ◆ Elizabeth Lilly is recovering from knee replacement surgery
- ◆ Tim Timmons has finished another round of radiation
- ◆ Denzil Raines fell recently and is having a lot of trouble with his leg and back.
- ◆ Julie Alexander is in Cox South ICU at this writing

Friends & Family

- ◆ Bill & Pat Culley's daughter, Valerie Lawson, had surgery this past week but is now home and doing good
- ◆ Mary Ann Wood, friend of Bob & Leona, has serious health issues.
- ◆ Leah Freeze's mom, Glynda Gardner, and Ruth Reaves' brother, Jimmie Hocker, as they deal with cancer; Lance Griter's grandpa, John Berglund, has been moved to Woodland Manor (on Valley Water Mill), C24, and would love visits.
- ◆ Debra Davis' 19-year old great-niece, Courtney Price, has been diagnosed with leukemia. They don't know the sub type but have started treatment.



We extend our sympathy to Barney Crawford in the loss of a dear friend in Texas this past week. He was able to attend the funeral service in Texas.

SYMPATHY

Thank you!

Thank you for

all the cards, good wishes, thoughtful gifts and especially for your presence at my birthday party. Thelma Pendergrass

Thanks so much for the food that was provided after the birth of Ronnie. It meant so much to us. The Horton Family

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover the prisoner was you.

"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

(Matthew 6:14-15)

Holiday Schedule

On December 30 we will have a year-end devotional time with no classes. There will be classes as usual on 12/23. As always, if you are in town, we would love to have you join us for this special devotional period.

Bible Classes (7th Grade thru Adult)

Sunday AM

Adult	A Family's Life	Fellowship Room	Bill McFarland
Adult	Discovering Jesus	Room 126	David Kern
Adult	Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia	Auditorium	Byron Nichols
Adult	The Portrait of God	Room 129	Jon Ewing
Adult	Chronological Study of the Bible	Room 130	Paul Lines
Grades 7-12	The Story	Room 122	Adam Blaney

Wednesday PM

Adult	That We May Share His Holiness	Auditorium	Bill McFarland
Adult	The Scripture That Impacted You Most	Rm. 126	Matt Keener
Women	C.E. Feeney Chart lessons restudied	Rm. 129	Linda Barnett
College Age	The Treasure Chest of Grace	Rm. 130	Scott Barton
Grades 10-12	The Heart of a Servant	Rm. 122	Adam Blaney
Grades 7-9	The Heart of a Servant	Rm. 118	JJ Blevins

Family Bible Time Tonight at 5 p.m.

News & Activities

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOS

Men's Wednesday evening devotional meeting.

TODAY AFTER PM SERVICE IN ROOM 126.

This meeting is **mandatory** for all men who wish to continue to be involved in leading the Wednesday evening devotionals.

If you cannot attend, but still would like to be included, PLEASE let Aaron Morrison or Matt Keener know. We will be putting together the 2016 schedule soon. Thank you to those who have served; you are greatly appreciated.

LADIES ...

In place of the Bible Class on Thursday, December 17, we will just have a day of fun and fellowship beginning at 10:30.

ALL Ladies who can attend are requested to do so and bring a "batch" of your favorite holiday recipe to share with others as well as a copy of the recipe. The ladies will also be making gift bags for our shut-ins from the "goodies" that are brought. So, the more ladies who can attend, the more "goodies" there will be to share.

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A MEAL AT 11 AM; SO BRING FINGER FOODS, etc. (no desserts as you will be enjoying a sample of the "favorite holiday recipe" that others bring). If you have questions, see Ruth Essex.

*** Quilters meet Tuesday at 10 a.m.**

Feeding the Homeless and Underprivileged

Sunday, December 20

- Immediately after the morning worship service / 806 North Jefferson Ave

Contacts: - Aaron/Brittany Morrison

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GREAT RESPONSE! We now only need two more casseroles and water!!

Please use disposable containers for the casseroles!!

Thanks in advance for all your help!

New Addresses

Ann Fahr

2351 W. Nichols Street
Springfield, MO 65802
* * *

Fred & Norma Lorenz

26765 Gene Drive
Lebanon, MO 65536
Phone: 417-532-1109

Happy Birthdays

December Birthdays

20 Shirlane Horton
23 Gabby Gellan
24 Greg Donoho
24 Linda Tracy
27 Josiah Downing
28 Eddie Currier
29 John Dutton
30 Lynn Luallin



Elders, Ministers, Deacons & Staff

Elders

Scott Barton	417-234-2679
Barney Crawford	417-866-0592
Jon Ewing	417-569-8698
Eddie Sanders	417-833-5712
Bob Snider	417-833-3498
Jerry Young	417-724-0324

Minister

Bill McFarland	417-833-0110
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Youth/Associate Minister

Adam Blaney	304-520-9800
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Deacons

Tim Buckner	Aaron Morrison
Tom Davis	Travis Morrison
Jim Elliff	James Simons
Matt Keener	John Stayton
Russell Lilly	Mike Thurlkill

Staff

Johnnie Elliff	Secretary
Tim Bowling	Custodian



For our next book club meeting in January, we will be discussing *Surprised by Hope* Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church by N. T. Wright. See Linda Currier if you have any questions.

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

CHINESE AGAPE Foundation
Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
Steven Ashcraft, West Africa Mission
Voice of Truth International
Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions
World Christian Broadcasting
Churches of Christ Disaster Relief
Fair Haven Children's Home

"In Search of the Lord's Way"
 7 AM Sundays KOLR TV 10
'KNOW YOUR BIBLE'
 10:30 AM Sundays/Springfield 33/KSPR



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(office) info@watermillchurchofchrist.org
B. McFarland: b.mcfarland@mchsi.com
A. Blaney: ablaney1028@gmail.com
Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Tuesday - Friday

Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

Greeters: Gerri Dickens/Ann Thiesen
KYB: John Dutton/Verl Duncan
Van Driver: Todd Kraus/207-7877

Serve David Kern//Todd Kraus
Communion: Paul Lines/Jason Luna
 Gene Lund/Gabe Mahon
 Travis Morrison/Byron Nichols
 Brian Carroll/Brock Snitker

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Larry Baggett
Opening Prayer: John Hulett
Lesson: Adam Blaney
Closing Prayer: Aaron Morrison
Communion: Tucker Jobes/Jon Davis

NEXT WEEK, December 20

	AM	PM
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole/Jon Ewing	Adam Blaney
Opening Prayer:	Brendan Carroll	Todd Kraus
Communion:	Van Barnes	T. Jobes/J. Davis
Closing Prayer:	Adam Stipp	Mike Thurlkill
Greeters:	Alice Buckner/Connie Westerman	
Van Driver:	Dustin Stokes/840-8160	

MONTH OF December

AV Scott Barton/
 Room: Bruce Tindall
 Open Tim Timmons
 Building
 Secure Tim Buckner
 Building:

Wednesday, December 16

Devotional	Dale Gregory
Song Leader	JJ Blevins
Prayer	John Stayton
Van Driver:	Charles Crum/ 840-2632