ON FREEDOM

Edith Hamilton observed, “When the freedom they wished for most was freedom from responsibility, then Athens ceased to be free and never was free again.”

Her observation is cause for some sober thinking about the state of things in our own society. The liberty which many are seeking today is not freedom to do what is right and to answer for one’s own behavior. Instead, it is the opportunity to do whatever one wants without ever having to bear any of the consequences. More than anything else, our people seem to be wishing for freedom from responsibility.

Such “freedom,” of course, is no freedom at all. It is only bondage to whatever whim may cross a person’s mind. It inevitably makes people slaves to any consequences which may follow, for, like it or not, we are responsible. In a vain pursuit of freedom, they become slaves to sin and death.

Real liberty is to be found in Christ (John 8:36). It means being free to do what is right instead of what is easy (Romans 6:18). It means being free to lovingly serve others instead of having to satisfy ourselves (Gal. 5:13). It means being free to be open and genuine instead of covering up with pretense and deceit (John 8:32).

The kind of freedom we must long for is not that which becomes a cloak to excuse evil. It is the freedom of doing good while living as servants of God (1 Peter 2:15, 16).

Pursing freedom from responsibility will inevitably result in shame and death (Romans 6:21). But the freedom we find in loyal service to God leads to holiness and finally results in eternal life (Romans 6:22). Let us seek that liberty which is freedom indeed.

- Bill McFarland
FAMILY CONCERNS

- Connie Thompson has throat cancer and will start radiation treatments soon.
- Oran Green continues to recover from his health issues.
- David Nimmo is recovering from neck surgery.
- Don Essex needs our prayers as his health is not good.
- Yvonne Tindall continues treatments.
- Barbara Barnes as she deals with several health issues.
- Continue to remember Jim & Ruth Reaves, Clarence & Ola Jean Feeney, Bob Stockstill, Doris Tobler, Rachel Lilly, Dennis Smith

Friends & Family

- Bill’s mom, Pauline Redmon, is not doing well.
- Ilene Birdsong’s son-in-law, Jeff Falley, is in the hospital in Kansas City, KS dealing with a serious illness.
- Shirline Horton’s mom, Sandra Long, will have a medical procedure on June 4.
- Neal Rosenberg, Debra Davis’ daughter-in-law’s father, has been taking chemo for about a year. Now her mother, Vickie, has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Gretchen Thomas’ dad, Ron Thomas, is now at Springfield Rehab.
- Continue to remember Chris Andrews’ dad, James; Christine Davis; Susan Green; Wilma Nutter, Rosemary Sanders’ aunt; Leon Wake, Tina Orum’s dad; Elvin Volker; Tucker’s brother, Taylor; Pat Culley’s nephew, Bill Culley; Gloria Luallin’s brother, Wally Buttram

PRAYER REQUEST: Brent Looney responded Sunday asking for prayers on behalf of his children and himself as they continue to deal with family issues.

Phil Baker’s memorial service will be held at the Sparta Church of Christ on Saturday June 1st at 11am.

June Anniversaries

1st thru 10th
1 Josh/Lauren Brumfield 17 yrs.  
2 Tim/Alice Buckner 29 yrs.  
3 Jon/Makesha Davis 19 yrs.  
4 Mike/Gena Ussery 15 yrs.  
4 Brian/Danielle Horton 8 yrs.  
6 David/Ginger White 49 yrs.  
6 Kenneth/Audra Bowling 15 yrs.  
8 Kevin/Marla Wuench 23 yrs.  
9 Dewayne/Carol Jackson 47 yrs.  
9 Mike/Glenda Thurkill 41 yrs.  
10 Van/Barbara Barnes 63 yrs. 
FYI: There are 21 anniversaries in June for a total of 740 yrs. WOW!!

Birthdays

27 Tim Buckner  
28 Melinda Barton  
William Downing  
June  
2 David Nimmo  
5 Virginia Hayter  
7 Brendan Carroll  
7 Joshua Carroll  
8 Virginia Morgan

Parents, make sure your kiddos have a Sermon Notes form to fill out during our worship service. They are on the Information Desk!
Our 2019 Summer Series

This year’s Summer Series will begin Wednesday, June 5, and run through August 28. The study will be “What The Lord Would Say to His People in Our World” based on the Minor Prophets. Here are the speakers for the month of June:

June 5—Ken Burton—Introducing the Minor Prophets
June 12—Hosea—Derek Yarber
June 19—Joel—Lance Cordle
June 26—Amos—Jack English

We will all meet together in the auditorium to begin and ask that you sit in the front section if it is convenient. We will start with a few songs, have our family announcements and prayer, then dismiss our children for their classes. Fifth grade and up will remain in the auditorium. Please plan to be present for this important series. You will be blessed!

Devotional at Woodland Manor Nursing Home Saturday at 10 a.m.

Thank you for the nice birthday cards and calls. Also, the cookies were delicious as usual. Thanks again. Clint Holden

We are having difficulty finding words to express our thanks for every act of kindness sown to our family during Oran’s 2 visit to the hospital, one in April and one in May. We still covet your prayers as we continue to improve at home. In Christian love, Oran & Nadean Green.

Thanks for the Bible and thank you to everyone who wrote me cards and gave me money. Thank you for my graduation gift. I’m going to buy a computer for college! Nathan

Blood Drive

Wednesday, June 5, 3-6 p.m. Free pizza and t-shirt for all donors. Remember, type “0 negative” is always in short supply. Every donation is critical. The Blood Center has set a GOAL OF 20. Sign-up today at the Information Desk if you are willing to help.

Thursday Ladies Bible Class

The ladies Bible class will meet Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Chelsea Thrasher/Kelly Kenyon will teach the next two lessons, “Abraham & the Promise.” Babysitting will be provided. Also, check out our Facebook page.

Feeding the Homeless and Underprivileged

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

Immediately after the morning worship service/806 N. Jefferson Ave

Contacts: - Aaron/Brittany Morrison

We need enough food to feed approximately 80 people!! We need servers!! Sign up at the Information Desk!

You are invited to a bridal shower for Erica Ewing & Chris Richardson on June 9 at 3 p.m. They are registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

THURSDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The ladies Bible class will meet Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Chelsea Thrasher/Kelly Kenyon will teach the next two lessons, “Abraham & the Promise.” Babysitting will be provided. Also, check out our Facebook page.

Ladies with young children wanting to attend Ladies Bible class on Thursdays during the summer can take advantage of an opportunity for child care from 9 a.m. until noon. There will be supervised activities. It was a big success last week so ladies take advantage of this opportunity!!

BE A BLESSING

One of the many ways Water Mill people serve and encourage each other is through sending cards. In the past the Golden Agers maintained a special card box just for Golden Agers. This box is now being used by and for all of us but is in need of more room and organization. With this in mind, please take notice of the changes listed below.

⇒ As sending cards is a great part of being a blessing, this good work has been moved to the Be A Blessing table located just to the left as you enter the auditorium through the main doors. There are now 4 boxes labeled A-D, E-J, K-R, S-Z with section divider tabs. If you want to use this method for sending cards, please follow these guidelines:

- Place your cards in the correct box and section. (Please do not just place them on the table for someone else to file.)
- Mail cards to those who are on our shut-in and nursing home list and others who won’t be able to be here.
- Check the boxes regularly and take your cards. When you check the boxes, help others by letting them know when they have cards to be picked up also.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A BLESSING!
**THIS MORNING**

Greeters: Jackie & Virginia Buck  
Van Driver: Brock Snitker/417-830-3851  
Nursery: Jenny Carroll  

**THIS EVENING**

Song Leader: Jon Davis  
Opening Prayer: Byron Nichols  
Lesson: Bill McFarland  
Closing Prayer: Mike Putnam  
Communion: Matt Keener/David Kern  
Nursery: Michelle Hulett/Lisa Stayton  

Wednesday, May 29

Scripture Reading: Tim Stockstill  
Song Leader: Patrick Springer  
Prayer: John Hulett  
Van Driver: Jason Luna/838-7152

**NEXT WEEK, June 2**  
AM PM

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday Morning Bible Study ....9:00 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship........10:00 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship...........5:00 PM  
Wednesday Night Bible Class...6:30 PM  

**Worship With Us**

Minister  
Bill McFarland  
b.mcfarland@mchsi.com

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

Deacons  
Tim Buckner Russell Lilly  
Tom Davis Aaron Morrison  
Jim Elliff John Stayton  
Matt Keener Mike Thurkill

Staff  
Secretary Johnnie Elliff  
Custodian Tim Bowling

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES  

**Sunday AM**

“Wonder-Life” Andy McFarland  
“More About Jesus Would I Know” Auditorium/Byron Nichols  
“A Chronological Study of the Bible” Room 130/Paul Lines

**Wednesday Evening**

“The Promises of God” Jon Ewing/B. Crawford  
“A View of Redemption: Historically, Conceptually, and Actually” Auditorium/Bill McFarland  
“Sticky Faith” Room 126/Scott Barton  
“Follow in His Steps” Room 129/Women’s Class

3020 North Barnes Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65803  

Office 417-866-0915  
E-mail: info@watermillchurchofchrist.org  
Website: www.watermillchurchofchrist.org