



Weekly Newsletter

December 13, 2009

### Order of Worship

#### *Welcome*

Barney Crawford

#### *Song Leader*

Jon Ewing

**#111 (v.1,3,4)**

**#982**

**#961**

#### *Opening Prayer*

Matt Kelley

**#984**

**#516 (v. 1,4,5)**

#### *Communion*

Brian York

**#932, 933**

#### *Contribution*

Brian York

**#515 (v.1,2,3)**

#### *Lesson*

Bill McFarland

**#908**

#### *Announcements*

Barney Crawford

**#755 (v. 1,2,3)**

#### *Closing Prayer*

Tyler Thornton

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

### ABOUT OUR WORK

*Bill McFarland*

In my Bible class this Sunday morning we're beginning a series I've titled "James: Show Me Faith." Any of us who are looking for guidance in the great issues of Christian living will find help from the writing of James, the Lord's brother. His letter is not only intensely practical, but it also speaks to great doctrines of the Bible like law and grace, faith and works. James insists that faith is to be shown in the most down-to-earth ways—in how we deal with trials, how we treat people, how we talk, how we handle material goods, and how we think of life. I have been looking forward to this study. This would be a great time to get started to class.

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Have you ever noticed that this is a time of the year when some strange paradoxes appear in our lives? More people talk and sing about joy, but grief and loneliness are felt more keenly by many. Giving goes on more openly, but getting takes up our attention even more than usual. Time off is expected and looked forward to, but people may be more busy and stressed than ever. It's confusing!

How are we to deal with such a time? For one thing, we should keep our lives anchored to the things that come first (cf. Matt. 6:33). For another, we should remember the awesome power kindness has to bless both the recipient of it and the giver. People always need kindness, but especially now. Finally, we should count our blessings and rejoice in the One who provided them, along with others whom he has graced.

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The Psalms I have read in our daily Bible reading this week have been a great encouragement and strength to me. Here are some of my favorite statements from them. Follow the line of thought.

"Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain." (127:1)

"Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!" (128:1)

"If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared." (130:3, 4)

"O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul..." (131:1-2a)

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" (133:1)

May it be so in our lives.



### Today's Sermons

Morning: How To Stay Impressed

Evening: Songs of the King, # 1

# Prayer Lists and Announcements

## 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:	274
Morning:	381
Evening:	233
Wednesday:	222
Contribution:	\$10,521



Elder of the Month  
Barney Crawford

LTC Scrapbookers will meet today after morning service. Bring \$2 for pizza  
\* \* \*

Pew Packers meet this evening at 4:45  
\* \* \*

Youth Caroling 12/20 after pm service



Quilting and sewing ladies will meet Tuesday at 10 am.



Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 2, 2010 for the annual Miracle of Giving Blood Drive. Watch for more information.

Addresses/Phone #s of interest  
Doris Burch phone #866-7627  
\* \* \*

Helen Weger  
Plano Memorial Center, Rm. 270  
3901 W. 15th, Plano, TX 75075  
214-473-7270 (direct to room)  
\* \* \*

Megan (Crum) Hollingsworth  
603 South Kiowa Ct.  
Strafford, MO 65757  
\* \* \*

Michael Solomon (Bob's nephew)  
P.O. Box 4861  
Springfield, MO 65808

Malawi meeting today at 4 pm in room 130

Elders meet today at 2 p.m.



### Christmas SNAC Tonight after Service

- ♦ For all children (birth thru Youth) and their parents
  - ♦ Bring finger foods (sandwiches, etc.) to share and drinks; also bring your favorite Christmas treat
  - ♦ Grades 7-12—White Elephant Gift Exchange—use your imagination—less than \$5
  - ♦ All Younger Kids—Boys bring boy gift/girls bring girl gift—under \$5
- Please join us for fun, food, fellowship & Christmas songs

### Contribution Envelopes for 2010

are available for pickup. Be sure to pick up a packet of envelopes if you would like to have a receipt for your contributions at the end of the year for income tax purposes.



Seldon Essex is recovering at home from extensive shoulder surgery  
Helen Weger as she recovers from hip surgery

Elaine Noe is having some health issues

#### Friends and Family:

Jim Dunn's brain surgery went really well  
Mary Charlotte Lines' sister as she deals with cancer  
Kerry Cole's cousin, Bonnie's niece, Wendy as she continues her recovery from a stroke and a heart procedure  
Elizabeth Lilly's nephew, Jacob Cunningham, has been diagnosed with juvenile diabetes

#### Special Prayer Request

Monty & Lucy Lewis and Dale Lewis and his children  
David Nimmo responded Sunday asking for our prayers.

### Long-Term Prayer List

- Joy & Alice Allen
- Paul Bratcher
- Doris Burch
- Bonnie Cole
- Thelma Fain
- Lucille/Milton Ford
- Gerald/June Jean
- Clay Joseph
- Carol Mahon
- Jarita Nimmo
- Judy Todd
- Pat Woods
- Military:**
- Cody Newman in Iraq



## Former member honored

A painting by Gertrude Hughes has been selected as one of four 2009 holiday card designs by the national Alzheimer's Association. Gertrude is a resident at Butterfield Residential Care in Bolivar. Her painting "Carolers," along with paintings by other Butterfield residents, is featured on note cards available through the Alzheimer's Association in Springfield. The cards are also available at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

Congratulations Gertrude!  
We love you and miss you!

*Thank You*

To our extended family in Christ, We would like to express our appreciation for all your prayers and concerns expressed for Seldon during his time of need. Thank you so much for all your caring thoughts. We are so thankful to be a part of such a loving Christian family at Watermill Church of Christ. Thank you!

Seldon, Tammy, Trenton Essex Thank you for the respond to the special need request, I asked for a few weeks ago. We received enough to assist with the need. To everyone who helped, thank you so much.

In Christian Love, The Bartons

**Baptism**  
We rejoice with Adam Barton on his decision to put on Christ in baptism last Sunday. He was baptized by his grandfather, Verl Duncan. Please be an encouragement to Adam as he grows as a Christian. Adam is the son of Scott and Melinda and grandson of Verl & Karen Duncan.

## Featured Family



Scott, Melinda,  
Adam & Laurel Barton

## Needed Items

Linda Tracy's class at school is collecting **Best Choice bar codes** for field trips. See Linda for more info.  
\* \* \*

Don't forget to bring your used toner cartridges to the office. We can turn them in to Staples for rewards.

## Elders, Ministers, Deacons & Staff

### Elders

Barney Crawford	417-866-0592
Clay Joseph	417-833-3002
Gene Lund	417-869-6423
Bob Snider	417-833-3498
Jerry Young	417-724-0324

### Minister

Bill McFarland	417-833-0110
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### Golden Age Minister

Dennis Smith	417-866-6918
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### Youth Minister

Andrew Morton	417-712-4809
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### Deacons

Scott Barton	Matt Keener
Tim Bowling	Russell Lilly
Tim Buckner	Paul Lines
Tom Davis	Jim Meinsen
George Downing	Travis Morrison
Jim Elliff	Eddie Sanders
Jon Ewing	James Simons
Shannon Haddock	Tim Stockstill

### Staff

Johnnie Elliff	Secretary
Tim Bowling	Custodian

*It's easy to identify people who can't count to ten. They're in front of you in the supermarket express lane.*



## HEAVEN'S DAY OF ALL DAYS

Dennis Smith

We are just a few days away from what most of the religious community calls the most Holy Day of the year. Yes, I'm talking about the day called "Christmas." First, I agree that of all the 365 days of the year, the 25<sup>th</sup> of December and several days prior is a tender time and that most people are probably thinking more about Jesus than at any other time. It is supposed to be a time of good will with peace on earth. Isn't it a shame that this thought could not prevail all through the year. We know that Christ was born sometime and that it was and is a beautiful story as one can read in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. But His coming and the fulfilling of God's eternal purpose (Ephesians 3:11) was just the start of the desire of God for his Son and mankind. We need to remember such passages as "But God commendeth his love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Coupling that verse with the Golden Text of the Bible (John 3:16), we have the assurance of God's love for us. But the real "giving of God's Son" was not completed - neither was his eternal plan completed - until the supreme sacrifice when Christ's death occurred on the cross. It was then that he actually became "The Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world" (John 1:29). **This was Heaven's Day of all Days!**

### 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....7:00 PM

### OUR MISSION POINTS

Mark & Era Thiesen, Malawi, Africa  
 Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands  
 Jeremiah Akamah, Cameroon, Africa  
 Voice of Truth International

"The Living Word"  
 7:30 A.M. Sundays  
 KOLR TV 10

"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



3020 North Barnes Avenue  
 Springfield, MO 65803

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 Fax: 417-831-0312  
 E-mail: (office) info@watermillchurchofchrist.org  
 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:** Pat Malanowski/O. Blackburn  
**Greeters:** Matt & Sara Keener  
**Van Driver:** Kristy Sivils/838-1836  
**KYB Phone:** Jerry Young/Norma Bradley  
**Serve** Verl Duncan/Blanton Glenn  
**Communion:** Don Essex/Oran Green  
 Gene Lund/Shannon Haddock  
 Briley Ewing/Sam Hansen  
 Jackie Freeze/Byrle Hayter

### THIS EVENING

**Song Leader:** Travis Morrison  
**Opening Prayer:** Jerry Young  
**Speaker:** Bill McFarland  
**Closing Prayer:** Aaron Tovar  
**Communion:** Tim/Kyle Buckner  
**Nursery:** A. Buckner/J. Carroll

### NEXT WEEK, December 20

	MORNING	EVENING
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Jon Ewing	Travis Morrison
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Van Barnes	Andy McFarland
<b>Communion:</b>	Matt Keener	Tim/Kyle Buckner
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Larry Baggett	Randy Blackburn
<b>AM Nursery:</b>	Robin Meeks/Jan Bowling	
<b>PM Nursery:</b>	Lee Ann Donoho/Karen Duncan	
<b>Greeters:</b>	Jim & Debbie Meinsen	
<b>Van Driver:</b>	James Simons/732-5641	

### THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

**Ushers:** Adam Stipp  
 Grant Wheeler  
**AV Room:** Scott Barton/  
 Jeremy Thurlkill  
**Secure Building:** Paul Lines

### Wednesday, December 16

**Devotional:** Bill McFarland  
**Song Leader:** Larry Baggett  
**Opening Prayer:** Tom Davis  
**Closing Prayer:** Verl Duncan