



Weekly Newsletter

June 28, 2020

**Order of Worship**

**Greeting**  
Bill McFarland

**Scripture Reading**  
Bill McFarland

**Song Leaders**  
Kerry Cole  
Briley Ewing

**Opening Prayer**  
Patrick Springer

**Message**  
Justin Hatfield

**The Lord's Supper**  
Aaron Morrison

**Announcements/  
Closing Prayer**  
Scott Barton

**The Beatitude of the Crown**

I've just read the great verse in our daily reading. It's always impressive, but right now it seems especially relevant. "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him," it says (James 1:12). It's a "blessed" that provides us much nourishing food for thought.

Without this, we may have assumed that to be blessed is to never face any hardship or trying circumstance. Not true, according to James. It's by dealing honorably with trials of various kinds, he says, that faith becomes steady and mature, and leads on to joy (1:2-4).

Trial puts not only one's faith but also the person himself to the test. The line of thought in the chapter suggests that trials may come in various forms, that overcoming them requires wisdom, and that they expose values (1:2, 5, 9-11).

Standing the test means remaining steadfast under trial. It doesn't mean never having a doubt or never struggling. Remaining steadfast means persevering, enduring, practicing patient loyalty to the Lord when it isn't easy.

In this verse, at least, that's what it means to love God. James specifically says that what God has promised to those who love him is for those who've remained steadfast under trial and thus have stood the test. Loving God occurs in tough experience, not merely in comfortable sentiments.

And to be truly and ultimately blessed is to receive what God has promised after having stood the test – the crown of life. To be crowned with life is, to James, the same as the crown of righteousness is to Paul, or as the crown of glory is to Peter (2 Tim. 4:8; 1 Pet. 5:4). It's a promise and a gift, but it's for those who remain steadfast, who love his appearing, and who serve humble and faithfully.

This is a good time for us to remember that loving God and remaining steadfast through trying circumstances is worth it.

–Bill McFarland

Everyone is invited to a Wedding Shower for Mercedes Valeika and Josh Luna this afternoon at 2 PM in the fellowship room. They are registered at Walmart and Bed, Bath & Beyond.





- **Sue Lewis** is recovering from retina surgery; **James McCall** is recovering from knee replacement surgery; Judy Kirby is recovering from the shingles.
- **Sandra Pingnot** had a good report from recent tests; she is cancer free.
- **Ruth Raines** as she recovers from a recent stroke; she has no visible signs of paralysis; she also needs to have hip replacement surgery.
- **Clint Holden** has been dealing with pneumonia and a swollen arm.

- **Truman Coltrane** as his health has declined recently; he is home with constant care from Helen and Scheryl as he falls a lot; **Oran Green's** health continues to decline.
- The Essex's granddaughter, **Victoria Lacy**, as she deals with chemo treatments.
- **Julie Alexander's** surgery is 7/27 at Cox South. She has an appointment in St. Louis on 7/16.
- **Shirlane Horton** will have knee surgery on 8/11. She also has to see a back specialist.
- **Connie Thompson** as she deals with complications from throat cancer.
- **Marge Langston**, Virginia Hayter's mother, spent time in ER recently after a few falls.

Continued prayers for health concerns: Ron Stokes, Carolyn Young, Don Essex, Marty Long, Frank Cunningham, Marlene Matthews, Russell Harber, Betty Grabber, Dennis Smith, Lynette Schreiwes, Rachel Lilly

**Shut-Ins**  
 Ron Bower  
 Mary Bratcher  
 Don Essex  
 Clarence Feeny  
 Ola Jean Feeny  
 Cecil/Wanda Frost  
 Doris Iorg  
 Oran Green  
 Jim/Ruth Reaves  
 Doris Tobler  
**Nursing Homes**  
 Ella Mae Findlay  
 Ann Freeze  
 Wayne Harmon  
 Virginia Morgan  
 Sandra Pingnot  
 Nancy Snider



We extend our deepest sympathy to David

Ratterree, Ben & Jesse in the loss of a dear wife, mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, dear friend and sister, Debbi, who passed away on June 19 after a courageous battle with leukemia. Her memorial service was held Saturday.



Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 12, for our delayed Graduates' Reception. Graduates (or parents), please touch base with Carrie Lines if you have not already.

**Expectant Moms**  
 Chelsea Thrasher  
 Girl/August 10  
 Alison Thurlkill  
 Girl/August 31

Congratulations to McKenzi Maples and Sawyer Murphy on their marriage on June 13. May God bless you with a long and happy marriage.



**WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER SERIES:** We hope you're enjoying our Wednesday evening summer series. Our theme is "We're Part of the Family." This past week Bill interviewed Bob & Sue Aherin. Bob & Sue are one of our newer families so be sure to watch the video to learn more about their lives before Water Mill. We'll live stream for now, of course. Please join us Wednesday at 6:30. If you missed any of the interviews in this series, please go to the Water Mill Facebook page and take the time to watch.



Josh and Mercedes invite you to celebrate the union of their marriage August 1 at 2 p.m. at Water Mill Church of Christ. Reception to follow. RSVP at [lunawedding1@gmail.com](mailto:lunawedding1@gmail.com) by July 5th would be appreciated.

**UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:**

- Stay tuned for more information about the following events!
- Youth Group backyard movie nights.
  - Camp Water Mill
  - Backyard Bible study at the Hatfield house.
  - Outdoor Mini VIP for our young kiddos!

**Birthdays**

- 7/1 Carolyn Young
- Andy McFarland
- 2 Tate Thrasher
- 4 Vern Thompson
- Robin Scott
- 5 Ruth Lund
- 6 Sawyer Murphy
- 10 Mike Thurlkill
- 10 Harper Hatfield
- 10 Alexis David
- 11 Izumi Loomis

**July Anniversaries**

- 6 David/Karen Grimm 44 yrs.
- 8 Tommy/Betty Grabber 53 yrs.
- 9 Jonathan/Laurel Pendergraft 4 yrs.
- 10 Clarence/Ola Jean Feeny 69 yrs.
- 11 Chris/Trish Andrews 33 yrs.
- 11 John/Michelle Hulett 28 yrs.
- 12 Jerry/Angela Brummet 17 yrs.
- 24 Truman/Helen Coltrane 61 yrs.

**Schedule of Services**

- ◆ Sunday In-Person Worship at 10 am.
- ◆ Worship live on our Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday.
- ◆ Wednesday Bible class live on FB at 6:30 p.m.

- ◆ Thursday Ladies Bible Class will start back on July 9 at 10:30 am.
- ◆ Quilters will meet at 9 am and Card Makers will meet at 9:30.