



Weekly Newsletter

November 8, 2020

### ***Order of Worship***

#### ***Greeting***

***Song Leader***  
Jon Ewing

***Prayer***  
Aaron Morrison

***Message***  
***Brendan Carroll***

***The Lord's Supper***  
John Mahon

***Announcements/  
Prayer***  
Barney Crawford



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

## **A TREE OF LIFE**

“The tree of life” is crucial to the story the Bible tells. In the beginning the account, fallen man is denied access to the tree which was in the midst of the garden (Gen. 2:9; 3:22). At the conclusion of the record, redeemed man is granted the right to the tree of life again, and pronounced blessed (Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14).

In between, however, the phrase “tree of life” appears only in the book of Proverbs. In contrast to “the tree of life,” which has to do with our eternal fellowship with God, “a tree of life” speaks of things which are sources of the kind of life we were meant to live in this world. The phrase symbolizes those qualities which add beauty, joy, strength and meaning to human experience.

Wisdom is a tree of life in this sense. Proverbs says of wisdom, “She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed” (3:18). They are blessed because they can tell the difference between right and wrong, but still with a spirit which is “first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere” (Js. 3:18). Such an individual both finds life and obtains the favor of the Lord (Prov. 8:25).

His influence becomes a tree of life to others, too. “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and whoever captures souls is wise” (Prov. 11:30). A good man’s example and teaching enriches the lives of those around him. His words and deeds are like the fruits of a tree which nourish many souls and lead them to God, turning them into sources of blessing to many others.

Especially of his words is this true. “A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit” (Prov. 15:4). Harsh words have broken many a heart, but kind and thoughtful talk has a healing effect. Wholesome speech is a source of grace and encouragement, refreshing and building up those who hear (Eph. 4:29).

Living like this tends to fulfill us. “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life” (Prov. 13:12). Few things are as disheartening as dashed hopes, but when our deepest longings are met it is as satisfying and refreshing to our souls as fresh, ripe fruit is to a hungry man.

If you want to really live, seek wisdom, bear fruit, speak gently, and have a secure hope. You will find them all in Christ.

–Bill McFarland

# Lord, Hear Our Prayer

- [Don Tracy's brother, Jim](#), who has been hospitalized for COVID will hopefully go home in a few days.
- Kerry Cole's brother-in-law, [Steve Barnett](#), has COVID and is recovering at home.
- [Vickie Baker](#) also has COVID. She is recovering at home.
  - David & Ginger White's daughter, [Marti Davis](#), has the virus. She works at Mercy as an emergency dispatch operator.
- [Josh Brumfield](#) is home and feeling better.
- [Nancy Snider](#) as she deals with health issues and the recent loss of her brother. Also, Nancy's sister, [Paula Hunt](#), is in very poor condition.
- [Sandra Pingenot](#) is still in the Skilled Nursing part of Manor Care. She is starting therapy and once she can walk, she can return to her Assisted Living apartment. Cards or phone calls will be appreciated. Her number is 417-763-2520.
- [Ryan Murray](#) is recovering from surgery in Japan to deal with issues from his previous surgery.
- The Essex's granddaughter, [Victoria Lacy](#), as she continues her chemotherapy. She asked that we continue to remember her in our prayers.
- [Jim Elliff](#) as he and Johnnie continue to adjust to life with dialysis.
- Sue Lewis' son-in-law [Clint White](#) is scheduled to have open heart surgery-double valve replacement tomorrow in Ohio.
- David Grimm's mother, [Dorothy](#), is not doing well.
- [Connie Westerman](#) as she continues to improve.
- [Truman Coltrane](#) is having some good days but needs our continued prayers.
- Continued prayers for health concerns: [Ron Bower](#), [Dennis Smith](#), [Marty Long](#), [Julie Alexander](#), [Frank Cunningham](#), [Carolyn Young](#), [Ruth Raines](#), [Jim Reaves](#), [Marlene Matthews](#)

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



## SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bill McFarland and his family in the loss of his brother Keith this past Thursday.

We also extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Gary Emerson who lost his battle with COVID.

## THIS WEEK ...

- ◆ **Thursday Ladies Bible Class** will meet on November 12th at 10:30 am. Ruth Essex will be teaching from the book, "The Begging Place," by Becky Fowler Blackmon. The lesson title is "Jesus, the Figure in the Shadows".
- ◆ **Quilters** will meet at 9 am; **Card Makers** will meet at 9:30.

## BIBLE CLASSES

- ◆ In-person Bible classes will begin Sunday morning, Nov. 15.



## November Birthdays

- 9 Tecumseh Ussery
- Abel Bowman
- 10 Cindy Hannah
- Kasey Sekulic
- 11 Betty Holden
- Linda Currier
- 12 Judy Johnson
- 14 Reid Hollingsworth
- 15 Carol Tovar
- 16 Ann Fahr
- 17 Kay McFarland
- 18 Van Barnes
- Kelli Kirk
- 19 Carol Jackson
- Cassandra Dobbs
- Montana Dobbs
- 21 Doris Tobler

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### November Anniversaries

- 16 Aubrey/Anita Cobb—52 years
- 16 Sam/Julie Gillham—52 years
- 24 Veri/Karen Duncan—59 years
- 27 Randy/Orvella Blackburn—16

Thank  
You

I want to thank everyone that called and sent cards when I had surgery. I am now waiting to hear when they will do the left one. I also want to thank everyone for the birthday and anniversary cards. I miss not being there to see everyone.

In Christian Love—Ruth Raines

## WEDNESDAY EVENING:

Please join us Wednesday at 6:30 via FB livestream. for Bill's new series "Blessed be the Name".

A class for [second through sixth graders](#) by [Justin](#) will be posted. The theme is "Heroes of Faith" (Hebrews 11)

## Schedule of Sunday Services

- ◆ In-Person Worship at 10 a.m. and live on our Facebook page at 10 a.m.