



WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

January 2, 2011

Order of Worship

Welcome

Gene Lund

Song Leader

Jon Ewing

#226 (1,3,4)

#204

#44 (1,3)

Opening Prayer

David Kern

"In Christ Alone"

The Lord's Supper

James Simons

"Make Me A Servant"

Contribution

James Simons

#59 (1,2)

#213

Lesson

Joey Treat

#23

Announcement

Gene Lund

#170 (1,4)

Closing Prayer

Todd Kraus

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

On Reading the Bible

As you know, we have been announcing a plan to encourage daily Bible reading in 2011. We really hope you will participate. There are several reasons why this is so important.

1. **The word of God is a beacon to guide us.** The psalmist said, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105). The Bible makes it possible for us to walk safely through the darkness and uncertainty of this world. But, as with any light, it must be used.

2. **The word of God is bread to nourish us.** Our Lord, when facing temptation, said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). The word is the spiritual food which makes us healthy and strong. But, just as bread must be eaten, the scriptures must be read.

3. **The word of God is a mirror to instruct us.** Any person who wants to improve himself must first be able to see where he needs to improve. One who reads the scriptures is "like a man who looks intently at his natural face in the mirror" (James 1:23). Having read the word, he can see how to go about making his life more presentable.

4. **The word of God is a rock to support us.** One who hears the Lord's words and does them is like a man who wisely builds his house upon the rock (Matt. 7:24-25). The stormy floods of life may descend upon him, but he will stand because his life has a solid foundation. If we will read the scriptures, we can take the first step toward building our lives upon the rock.

5. **The word of God is a sword to arm us.** Paul said that Christians are to take "The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). It has the power to make us mighty soldiers in the battle for right. However, just as a sword has to be used skillfully, we must take up the word and use it bravely.

The Christian life is just not possible apart from God's word. Such a life can begin only after one has been "born again through the word of God" (1 Peter 1:23). It continues as one is built up by the word (Acts 20:32).

When God's word is taken into good and honest hearts, marvelous fruits can be brought forth (Luke 8:15). But the seed must be sown! The word must be read!

— Bill McFarland

*"With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!
I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."
(Psalm 119:10-11)*

Prayer List & News

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 26

Bible Study:	205
Morning:	281
Evening:	148
Wednesday (12/29):	208
Contribution:	\$ 6,916



Elder of the Month
Gene Lund

- Nancy Snider has some health issues
 - Leona Snider's biopsy for temporal arteritis was positive
 - Don Tracy is doing well after his surgery
 - Doris Burch and Doris Tobler are both at home now
 - Marilyn Lanpher is at the Gardens, Apartment 158, phone # 890-1368.
 - Continue to remember Herman Harris, Dale Harp, Shirley Bartlett & John Mahon
- Friends and Family:
- ♦ Junior Sneed is now at home but has a long road of recovery ahead



Daily Bible Reading Schedules for 2011 are available in the foyer. The schedule is a chronological reading of the Bible. JOIN US IN READING THRU THE BIBLE in 2011.

1/1/11

Our new year began with all ones! We might use the occasion to resolve to make this a year of putting first things first. The kingdom of God and his righteousness before all other concerns. His ways and his will before mine. Service rather than selfishness. Family before work or other activities. Christ above all.

As a congregation, too, first things first. Glory to God before attention for any of us. The good news taught everywhere, the church strengthened for the battle, and deeds of mercy which bless people's lives. That is our task.

Remember that each Lord's day is a first—the first day of a week, and a reminder of the priorities we have with each new day because of his life.

May this new year bless our lives! It will if we put first things first.

—Bill

Birthdays next week

- 9 Megan Hollingsworth
- 11 Kaycie Noe
- Bill McFarland
- 14 Vilena Breger
- Gayle Gaunt
- 15 Jackie Freeze

Happy Birthday

Expectant Moms

- Sara Stipp (Jan) (boy)
- Brittany Morrison (Feb) (boy)
- Angela Morton (May)
- Summer Azeez (June)

Contribution Envelopes 2011

Please include your name and contribution amount on the envelope for the first month and thereafter only the amount.

Dear Christian Family,

We are so thankful to you for the prayers, love, concern, calls and cards when I had surgery. We are also thankful for medication to help cure the temporal arteritis and save my eyesight.

In Christian love, *Leona Snider*

To my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Gerald and I want to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, visits and especially Betty & Blanton for the great fruit basket and tin of candy; also thanks to Carolyn for the good cookies she brought Gerald on his birthday. We miss being with you.

In Christian love, *Gerald & June Jean*

To the church family at Water Mill,

Thank you so much for the many thoughts, cards and especially prayers during my recent health issues and surgery. I am recovering well and appreciate all your many concerns.

Tom & Marsha Stipp

To our special Santa,

We want to thank you for our special gift. We do not know who you are, only that you are special. Thank you for helping to make our Christmas extra special. We want to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season.

Love, *Julie, Amber & Aaron Alexander*

Activities

Today & this week ...

- ∞ **LTC Banner kids** meet today at 3 p.m.
- ∞ **Golden Agers** meet today at 4 p.m.
- ∞ **Golden Messenger** for January is available in the foyer
- ∞ **SNAC** is tonight after PM service
- ∞ **Make-up Picture Day** for Pictorial Directory is Wednesday from 2 to 9 p.m. See Johnnie today if you have not scheduled your appointment.
- ∞ **Titus 2 Ladies** will meet Saturday at 9:30 a.m. We will then visit shut-ins and deliver our treats. All ladies and teenage girls are encouraged to be a part of this good work.

All classes fifth grade and up will meet in the auditorium this morning as Joey Treat reports on his work in Palau, Saipan.



All are invited to a baby shower **next Sunday afternoon** at 3 p.m. honoring **Brittany Morrison**. Aaron & Brittany are expecting a boy and are registered at Babies-R-Us.

We still have copies of the Daily Devotional Books "**Strength for the Journey**" by Bill McFarland & David Deffenbaugh and "**In Our Father's Hands**" by Justin & Tyrel Hatfield. See Johnnie if you would like to purchase a copy.

Next Sunday ...

- **Potluck lunch** after AM service. Team 2 will be responsible for working that day. **Dining Room:** Tom Davis, Aubrey Cobb, Luke Lines, Jim Meinsen, Daniel Meinsen **Kitchen:** Anita Cobb, Jamie Davis, Debbie Meinsen, Bekah Meinsen
- **Book Club** will meet after potluck lunch to discuss Ann Thiesen's book, "**The Warm Heart of Africa**." See Linda Currier if you have questions.
- **Baby Shower** at 3
- **Ladies Prayer Group** will meet at 4 p.m. Please join us as we lift each other up in prayers as well as the many needs of the congregation.

Messages of Truth: I have sent several copies of my new book, "**Messages of Truth**," to be given at no cost to interested members of the congregation as a small token of appreciation for Water Mill's faithful support of **The Voice of Truth International** through the years. Please take only one copy per household. More copies will be made available if desired. Anyone wanting extra copies for family or friends may purchase them at the special cost of \$5 each. All proceeds are used to provide additional free copies in other countries. (a note from **Byron Nichols**) (These books are available at the information desk.)



FORGETTING THOSE THINGS BEHIND?

By Dennis R. Smith

While the Apostle Paul admonishes us to "*forget those things which are behind*" (Phil. 3:13), he surely did not mean all those things which were good, honorable, beautiful and what had a cleansing impact on our lives at a given point in time. It is interesting to see how the Apostle Peter often cried out for us "*to remember*" (2nd Pet. 1:12, 13, 15). These two separate *texts* must surely be studied in complete compliance with the *context*. On the one hand, Paul was stating that there must not be any experience from our past, however wrong it may have been, that should hinder our serving the Lord faithfully today as a Christian. He reminds us that past sins have been forgiven and washed away with the blood of Jesus Christ. At the same time, Peter calls out for us to remember how that Christ provided a way in which we could be "fruitful" in His Kingdom by never forgetting Him who died for our sins. Jesus was quoted by Paul in connection with the observance of the Lord's supper that we do so "in remembrance" of Him" (1st Cor. 11:24). So we come to this conclusion: there is always a time to remember as there must also be a time to forget. Jeremiah predicted that with the coming of Messiah, he would "*forgive our iniquities and our sins remember no more*" (Jer. 31:34). John adds another dimension by saying, "*If we walk in the light, as he is in the light....the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin*" (1st John 1:7).

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

OUR MISSION POINTS

Mark & Era Thiesen, Malawi, Africa
 Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
 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



WATERMILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

3020 North Barnes Avenue
 Springfield, MO 65803

Phone: 417-866-0915
 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: Donna Jordan/Michelle Hulett
Greeters: Carolyn Smith/Johnnie Elliff
Van Driver: James Simons/732-5641
KYB Phone: Mary J. Rookstool/J. Dutton
Serve Russell Lilly/Jason Luna
Communion: Paul Lines/Briley Ewing
 Brent Looney/Les Malanowski
 Fred Lorenz/Andy McFarland
 Steve Prewitt/Tom Meeks

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Jeremy Thurlkill
Opening Prayer: Jim Meinsen
Lesson: Elders
Closing Prayer: Daniel Meinsen
Communion: D. Meinsen/A. Tovar
Nursery: Lisa Stayton/E. Simons

NEXT WEEK, January 9

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole	Jeremy Thurlkill
Opening Prayer:	Russell Lilly	Aaron Morrison
Communion:	Bob Snider	D. Meinsen/A. Tovar
Closing Prayer:	Paul Lines	Travis Morrison
AM Nursery:	Pat Malanowski/Orvella Blackburn	
PM Nursery:	Alice Buckner/Jenny Carroll	
Greeters:	Bob & Leona Snider	
Van Driver:	Steve Prewitt/872-6849	

MONTH OF JANUARY

Ushers: Shannon Haddock
 Kyle Buckner
AV Room: Adam Stipp/
 Daniel Meinsen
Secure Building: Paul Lines/
 Tim Buckner

Wednesday, January 5

Devotional: Dennis Smith
Song Leader: Andrew Morton
Opening Prayer: Bob Snider
Closing Prayer: Jeremy Thurlkill
Van Driver: Todd Kraus