



Weekly Newsletter

January 30, 2011

Order of Worship

Welcome

Gene Lund

Song Leader

Jon Ewing

#499

#401

#924

Opening Prayer

Brian York

#261

The Lord's Supper

Dennis Smith

#883

Contribution

Dennis Smith

#402

Lesson

Bill McFarland

#687

Announcement

Gene Lund

#298

Closing Prayer

Andy McFarland

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

INCREASE THE DEBT!

Bill McFarland

No, not that kind! Not the kind of public debt that increases exponentially as political leaders view their success in terms of what new programs they can add, and as American citizens bemoan the deficits but are unwilling for anything to be subtracted from their own special interests. Not the kind of personal debt that burdens a life with anxiety and places a family at the mercy of whatever unexpected need lurks around the corner. None of us wants to see more financial debt; we wish for a more sound fiscal footing for our lives.

But we would be so blessed if we could be more aware of one kind of indebtedness. It is the sense of obligation our beloved brother Paul felt toward the cultured and the uncultured, the educated and the uneducated, so much so that he was eager to preach the gospel even in Rome (Rom. 1:14,15). He understood himself as a debtor because he remained aware that he had freely received what he could never have earned or deserved—the grace of life—and that as a result he had in his possession what all people everywhere need most. Could he, or anyone, have the right to receive such a gift but not to pass it along?

The debt that must increase is the kind that matures through gratitude and praise to the One who is owed. It is not a burden, but a delight arrived at by increasing appreciation. Dwelling on it leads one to exclaim, “Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!” and to ask, “Who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” (Rom. 11:33, 35). A sense of indebtedness like this thinks not in terms of repayment, but of humble and joyful and grateful submission to the Giver, day after day, year after year.

The kind of debt of which we are thinking bears interest in terms of lives that are transformed through renewed minds. Any person who has been given life in Christ is indebted to live by the Spirit, not according to the flesh (Rom. 8:11-13). Individuals who are facing up to this debt will be seeking to fulfill the obligations of love (Rom. 13:8). Knowing they have come to share in spiritual blessings, they want to be a glad blessing to those who have brought them that privilege (Rom. 15:27). Even when slighted and trespassed against, this sense of indebtedness strengthens their heart: “and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,” prays each one who knows his debt to Christ (Matt. 6:12).

Increase that kind of debt—at least our sense of it! The kind that fills us with grateful respect for God, motivates us to conduct ourselves with humble and joyful honor, and turns us into the most important blessings our neighbors have: bearers of good news!

Lord, help us to, in a healthy and scriptural way, face up to what debtors we are!

Today's Messages:

AM: “Little Children:” A Last Word

PM: Genesis: A Brief Introduction to the Problem of Sin

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 January 23

Bible Study: 288
Morning: 422
Evening: 254
Wednesday (1/26): 206
Contribution: \$10,449



Elder of the Month
Gene Lund

Welcome

Please extend a warm welcome to:
Brent & Shanna Asher
2122 N. Campbell Avenue
Springfield, MO 65803
417-459-3209
We are happy they have chosen to work and worship with us here at Water Mill. Please make them feel welcome!

Congratulations

Adam and Sara Stipp welcomed their son, **Dane Thomas**, into this world last Thursday afternoon. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. All are doing well, even Adam!

Also, **Bob & Leona Snider** and **Gerri Dickens** welcomed great grandson **Andrew Ryan**, born last Monday to Andy & Kellie Snider.

Ann Thiesen also has a new great granddaughter, **Mileyanna Dawn**, born last week to Jordan & Amber Dibben in Mt. Vernon.



Food Pantry Needs Boxed & Canned Meals Jelly Peanut Butter

Soups Cereal
Tuna Canned fruit
Jello/Pudding Canned Veges
Please place items in the cans just inside the fellowship room. Thank you for your continued support.

Always keep your words soft and sweet just in case you have to eat them!

Birthdays next week

6 James Simons
7 Denzil Raines
9 Verl Duncan
Betty Glenn
10 Kirsten McFarland
Mary Jo Rookstool
11 Julie Kelley
Claudia Morrison
Elijah Morrison
Happy Birthday



- **Jarita Nimmo** is now at home
- Continue to remember **Paul Bratcher**, **Herman Harris** and **Shirley Bartlett**
- Friends and Family:**
 - ◇ **Melissa Mahon**, John & Teresa's daughter who lives in Chicago, has a tumor at the base of her spine; she will have surgery on 2/2. Teresa will go to Chicago to be with her
 - ◇ **William Rymer**, Gin Crumrine's new nephew, remains in ICU at Barnes Hospital
 - ◇ **Sarah Cowden** will have more back surgery at Children's Hospital in St. Louis on February 5th
 - ◇ **The McGaughy Family** (3 small children) from Mobile, AL, friends of Ann Thiesen; Ben is now in Afghanistan for a 13-month tour.
 - ◇ **Monty Lewis's dad** suffered a heart attack last week
 - ◇ **Mark Best**, 4th grader at Strafford with Josh Luna and Kaven Mahon, has Aplastic Anemia. He will have a bone marrow transplant at St. Jude next month.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Angela Morton and her family in the loss of Angela's grandpa, Joseph Stafford from Enid, OK, who passed away last Thursday.

Thank You

A special thanks to all of you for my get well and birthday cards, but most of all for the prayers. Love, Bonnie Cole

Jarita Nimmo is now home. Thanks for all the prayers and concern during her recent sickness. She is doing much better. Please keep her and the family in your prayers as we care for her. David Nimmo

Our prayers were answered! Jamie is home and alive. Thank you all for your genuine concern and prayers. Please continue to pray for the family as they deal with many issues. In Christian love and thanksgiving, Lanae Gillespie

I appreciate all the cards, presents, and visits from you since my surgery and illness and during the holidays. I count all of you as dear friends and hope to be back among you soon. Thanks again for thinking of me. Donna Harcrow

February Anniversaries

8 Raymond/Alice Daniels 42 yrs.
9 Tom/Tiffany Meeks 21 yrs.
Ron/Lisa Stokes 27 yrs.
14 Don/Linda Tracy 42 yrs.
15 Kevin/Connie Westerman 25 yrs.
22 Jim/Sheryl Low 48 Yrs.
27 Bob/Betty Stockstill 57 yrs.
28 Clint/Betty Holden 53 yrs.

If you would like to purchase the book "Behold, the Lamb of God," see Johnnie in the office. The cost is \$9.

Activities

Ladies, *It's still not too late to vote on the movie for the February 3rd movie night. Voting is at the information desk through today. We will meet here at the building at 6:30 to begin our show. Wear comfortable clothes & bring whatever you want for the movie (ie. pillow, blanket etc.) We will provide popcorn & soda.*

Can't wait to see you at the movies!



- All who can are encouraged to attend the singing/devo at **James River Nursing Home** Saturday at 2.
- **Golden Agers** meet next Sunday at 4 p.m.
- **GOLDEN MESSENGER for February is available in the foyer.**

LTC *All who are involved or want to be involved with LTC for this year's conference on April 22-23 in Rogers, AR, please meet up front TODAY immediately after AM services.*

LTC Banner Kids meet at 3 today

LTC Puppet & Drama will meet on 2/27 and 3/27

URGENT NEED: If you have pictures of church activities from April 2010 till the present, see Ruth Essex. LTC Scrapbookers need them for their project ASAP!!



SNAC at the Bartons next Sunday evening (just for youth)

Wedding Shower

Next Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. we will honor **Ryan and Jeanne Friend** with a wedding shower. They are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond. Ryan & Jeanne were married in December.

Valentine Banquet

Golden Agers, be sure to sign up for the Valentine's Banquet scheduled for Friday night, February 11, from 6-8 p.m.



Kids & Family Bowling on February 20 after AM service—watch for more information

Mark Your Calendars

- **Married Couples Retreat** March 11-12
- **Ladies Spring Tea** will be Saturday, April 16th, from 10 to 2. Please watch the bulletin closely for more information about this event
- This year our **potluck lunches** will be on the 5th Sundays: May 29, July 31 and October 30



GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS SON

By Dennis R. Smith

The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself. Without a knowledge of the Bible we fail to have the proper communication with our Heavenly Father. This thought can be seen in Hebrews 1:1-2: "God, who at various times and in different ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds." If we continue reading in verse 3, we will see that He upholds all things by the "word of His power." In other words the Bible is God's Revealed Message for our own dispensation. There was a time in which God spoke directly to His people. Understanding the importance of our need to receive the right message, the Apostle Paul commanded us today to "study to show ourselves approved unto God..." (2nd Tim. 2:15). There is power in the blood (Eph. 1:7) - the gospel is God's power unto salvation (Rom. 1:16) - there is power in prayer (James 5:16) - but without a knowledge of the Bible we would not even know of these great truths. You see, God's Son is also God's Word and God's Word is also God's Son (John 1:14). What great blessings God offers to us in the Holy Scriptures. After all, this is His way of communicating with us. Shake the dust off your Bible and let God speak to you daily through His Word.

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

WORKS WE SUPPORT

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

Voice of Truth International
 Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions

World Christian Broadcasting
 Churches of Christ Disaster Relief

Lincoln Church of Christ
 A.G. Bailey, India

Fair Haven Children's Home

"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



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 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: Jill Morrison/Linda Barnett
Greeters: Ron & Lisa Stokes
Van Driver: Travis Morrison/742-1970
KYB Phone: Verl & Karen Duncan
Serve Russell Lilly/Jason Luna
Communion: Paul Lines/Kyle Buckner
 Brent Looney/Les Malanowski
 Fred Lorenz/Andy McFarland
 Steve Prewitt/Tom Meeks

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Jeremy Thurlkill
Opening Prayer: James Simons
Lesson: Bill McFarland
Closing Prayer: Kelley Epperly
Communion: D. Meinsen/A. Tovar
Nursery: Jammie Davis/M. Reaves

NEXT WEEK, February 6

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole	Travis Morrison
Opening Prayer:	Daniel Wilson	Scott Barton
Communion:	Dale Harp	Adam/Scott Barton
Closing Prayer:	Jeremy Thurlkill	Larry Baggett
AM Nursery:	Donna Jordan/Michelle Hulett	
PM Nursery:	Lisa Stayton/Emily Simons	
Greeters:	Verl & Karen Duncan	
Van Driver:	James Simons/732-5641	

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Ushers: Brendan Carroll/
 Ron Stokes
AV Room: Terry Loveland/
 Matt Keener
Secure Building: Paul Lines/
 Tim Buckner

Wednesday, February 2

Devotional: Bill McFarland
Song Leader: Tom Easterly
Opening Prayer: Jackie Buck
Closing Prayer: Brendan Carroll
Van Driver: Jason Luna