

WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

March 18, 2012

Order of Worship

Welcome
Jerry Young

Song Leader
Travis Morrison

Opening Prayer
Matt Keener

The Lord's Supper
Clarence Feeny

Contribution
Clarence Feeny

Lesson
Bill McFarland

Announcements
Jerry Young

Closing Prayer
Oran Green

Elder of the Month
Jerry Young

Window Fighting

I sat down to write about something else but I was soon interrupted by an unusual racket at my window. The sound startled me a little, and I looked up quickly. There in front of me was a robin frantically fighting his own reflection in the glass. It is the springtime and, acting by instinct rather than by reason, he was apparently engaged in guarding his territory and seeking a mate. Undoubtedly he thought he was taking on a rival, but he was only struggling against himself—and getting nowhere.

That bird is not the only one of God's creatures to have ever spent his energies in window fighting. I have done it myself more than a few times, and perhaps you have, too. We react to appearances and, without thinking things through enough to see if there is really an adversary there, we jump to a conclusion and fly to a battle. Though it exhausts us, is not worthy of us, and accomplishes nothing, we cannot drop it and direct our attention to the real issues of life. And as with my view of the robin, it is easier to see when someone else is engaged in this futile business than it is to recognize that we are doing it ourselves.

Window fighting may take one of several forms in our lives. Often we struggle against ourselves, rather than understanding, accepting, and devoting ourselves to the goals we were made to seek. Frequently we assume some relatively small offense in the words or actions or inactions of someone around us, then wrestle indignantly against that slight. After all, that is easier than having to confront the great issues of life. Sometimes, when you get right to the bottom of it, we are resisting what we know the will of God is. That is the most futile and destructive window fighting of all.

The God in whose image we are made created us for a fight that is worthy of our being. He has given us a purpose which deserves our most careful thought, our very best effort, and our most loving devotion. He has designed us in such a manner than we may find fulfillment in this pursuit, though it will occupy our hearts for a lifetime and though it will require every fiber of our being.

The Bible calls it "the good fight of the faith" (1 Tim. 6:12). It is a struggle against all the spiritual forces of evil (Eph. 6:12), and for the truth of the gospel (Gal. 2:5). One engaged in it is seeking to lay hold of the eternal life to which we have been called and about which every Christian has made the good confession (1 Tim. 6:12). Such a one desires to come to the time of his departure able to say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim. 4:7).

That is a fight worth fighting.

—Bill McFarland

Today's Lessons:

AM: Joseph's Boys

PM: The Resurrection and What the Church Has to Offer

Prayer List

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

March 11

Bible Study:	232
Morning:	321
Evening:	201
Wednesday (3/14):	211
Contribution:	\$9,206

- ◆ Continue to remember *Eula Compton & Ella Mae Findlay, Paul Bratcher*
- ◆ *Briley Ewing is recovering from foot surgery*
- ◆ *Andy McFarland is recovering from wrist surgery*
- ◆ *Marilyn Lanpher will have surgery April 3 in Houston; remember her as she awaits this surgery*
- ◆ *Romeo Vega will have bypass surgery Tuesday at Mercy Hospital*
- ◆ Ruth Lund's mother, *Martha Alspaugh*, is home
- ◆ Eddie Currier's mom, *Doris Thomason*, is recovering from a fall last week
- ◆ Jo Baggett's mom, *Ann Freeze*; remains at Life Care Center, PO BOX 210, Sparta, TN 38583.
- ◆ Bill's sister-in-law, *Joann McFarland*, remains in the Baxter Regional Hospital, Room 3314, 624 Hospital Dr., Mountain Home, AR, 72653.
- ◆ 17-year old *Jonathan Saterfield*, friend of the Norrells, as he completes chemo treatments at St. Jude
- ◆ Eddie & Donna's daughter, *Teresa Connolly*, will have a needle biopsy on Friday and then determine if surgery is needed
- ◆ Julie Alexander's dad, *John Lopez* in CA has several health issues

Baptism

*We rejoice with **Sue Holt** on her decision to put on Christ in baptism Sunday evening. Sue's address is 1730 E. Valley Water Mill Road, Apt. G208, 65803, phone 417-207-9566. Please offer your encouragement to Sue as she begins her walk as a new Christian.*

Long Term/Shut-Ins

<i>Kay Adams</i>	<i>Irene Johnson</i>
<i>Alice Allen</i>	<i>Carol Law</i>
<i>Shirley Bartlett</i>	<i>Carol Mahon</i>
<i>Paul Bratcher</i>	<i>Wilma Melton</i>
<i>Doris Burch</i>	<i>Jarita Nimmo</i>
<i>Bonnie Cole</i>	<i>Betty Shaw</i>
<i>Fern Davis</i>	<i>Wilma Spoor</i>
<i>Thelma Fain</i>	<i>Doris Thomason</i>
<i>Lucille Ford</i>	<i>Doris Tobler</i>
<i>Milton Ford</i>	<i>Judy Todd</i>
<i>Doris Iorg</i>	<i>Pat Woods</i>

Thanks to all of you who pay special attention to our long-term sick and shut-ins.

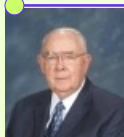
Expectant Moms

Kirsten McFarland/boy/April
Sarah Griffin/boy/May
Megan Jobes/boy

S y m p a t h y



We express our sympathy to Megan Glenn in the recent loss of her grandfather, Howard Steeley.



DRAWING A PICTURE OF A MAN - (Part Two)

By Dennis R. Smith

The picture we are drawing today of a man (or woman) is the exact opposite of the one in Part One from our last article. Remember, the first man had grown up loving and being loved by his parents and was taught the values of being a Christian throughout life. Today, our man physically equals the first man in every way. However, he has not had the gentle love of his parents. He has never been required to attend Bible school or church services neither has he been instructed in living a life of righteousness. He has no respect for the laws of decency nor does he see anything wrong with living a life of complete immorality. He has been instilled with the philosophy of "taking more than giving" and believes that the world owes him something. His life quickly goes by even as a vapor and leaves nothing but a bad name. What a sad picture this is and for the most part it started without the simple ingredient of love as was the case with our first man. Even more sad is the reality that our pictures are not always "played out" as I have depicted. For example: Our first man was not completely exempt from falling away from his teaching and the second man did not have to live his whole life without making a change for the better. In either case God still loved them both (Rom. 5:8). He was always there through the blood of His Son to render love, support and forgiveness. It was a matter of "putting on Christ" (Gal. 3:26-27) and letting Him make the difference.

New Youth/Associate Minister

Last Sunday the Elders announced that **Adam Blaney** and his family had accepted their offer and will relocate to Springfield to work with us in the Youth/Associate Minister position.

We are all excited that Adam, Tabitha, Mason, Eliza and Lindy will be joining us sometime in the near future, hopefully by June 1. Feel free to send them a note or e-mail and keep them in your prayers as they prepare to make this move. Their address is 209 Hilltop Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901; e-mail address is ablaney1028@gmail.com.

Welcome

Please extend a warm welcome to

Brian & Danielle Horton who have made known their desire to work and worship with us at Water Mill. Their address is 118 Patterson Avenue, Rogersville, MO 65742. Please make them feel welcome

**CANCER CAPS**

On Tuesday we will meet to sew, cut fabric, press and package cancer caps from 10 A.M.—1 P.M. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Bring your favorite pair of scissors and a snack if desired.

- ◆ Youth Night at Ozark tonight
- ◆ Secret Sisters will meet next Sunday after AM services in Room 130
- ◆ Youth Weekend at Fordland March 24-25 with Willie Franklin (see flyer on bulletin board)



◆ Puppet & Drama will rehearse after AM service **TODAY.**

- ◆ April 1 after PM service —LTC presentation to the congregation
- ◆ April 6-7/LTC Conference in Rogers, AR

Work Day at Happy Hollow

Saturday, **March 31**
from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
If you plan to work all day, bring a sack lunch. (Please see letter on bulletin board for more information!)

2012 Ladies Day

A sign-up sheet for our 2012 Ladies Day is now on the information desk. Our theme this year is "Restore My Soul." We would like to encourage everyone to invite friends, and please make sure you sign up everyone you are bringing with you. See the flyer by the sign-up sheet for more details.

Phone #s for the Meinsens

Jim /417-569-2359

Debbie /417-860-7952

Bekah /417-522-4927

(no home phone)

Youth Dinner

Adults, be sure to sign up at the information desk if you can help serve, entertain, decorate, cook, etc. for the formal youth dinner on Friday night, May 4th. Let's all do our part to show these young people (5th Grade thru college) how much they mean to us.

ATTENTION YOUTH 5TH GRADE-COLLEGE: If you plan to attend the May 4th Dinner and entertainment being planned to honor and thank you, please sign up at the Information Desk!

Gospel Meetings:
March 25-28 at Sparta
with Bill McFarland

March 26-28 at
Fordland with Willie
Franklin



Birthdays Next Week

25 Fred Winters
28 Lucile High
Marlene Matthews
29 Tom Davis
Oran Green
30 Mary Bratcher
Glenda Thurkill
Brian York

If you would like to help **KYLIE DUTTON** with the costs of her mission trip this summer to the Czech Republic (See letter from Kylie on the bulletin board), make your check payable to Water Mill and turn it in to the office; we will send one check to the Mount Comfort church.



Thank you for your cards, prayers, visits and other acts of concern during my recent hospital stay. Dale Harp

Thanks to all who sent the beautiful anniversary cards. It made our 54th very special. We are so thankful to have such a loving church family. Clint & Betty Holden
Thanks to all for your prayers and many expressions of sympathy after the recent loss of our brother. Van Barnes & Chloe Gaddis families

Dear Church Family, We each would like to express our thankfulness for your many acts of love and support. Herman greeted each day with joy and expressed how wonderful each day had been. We rejoice in the promises the Lord has made to the faithful and the blessed. May God bless each of you as we continue life's journey to that heavenly home. Pat Harris & Family

SERVICE ROSTERS

THIS MORNING

Nursery: *Jill Morrison/Meredith Reaves*
 Greeters: *Jerry & Pat Milligan*
 Van Driver: *Lance Griter/350-4646*
 KYB Phone: *Carolyn Young/Shirley Chilton*
 Serve: *Tom Meeks/James Simons*
 Communion: *Aaron Morrison/John Stayton*
 Scott Nichols/Luis Tovar
 Tom Norrell/Tyler Thornton
 Steve Prewitt/Adam Stipp

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: *John Mahon*
 Opening Prayer: *James Simons*
 Lesson: *Bill McFarland*
 Closing Prayer: *Jerry Young*
 Communion: *Tucker Jobs/Justin Reaves*
 Nursery: *Lee Ann Donoho/Karen Duncan*

NEXT WEEK (March 25)

	<i>AM</i>	<i>PM</i>
Song Leader:	<i>Jon Ewing</i>	<i>Larry Baggett</i>
Opening Prayer:	<i>Jeff Fisher</i>	<i>Adam Barton</i>
Communion:	<i>Mike Thurlkill</i>	<i>T. Jobs/J. Reaves</i>
Closing Prayer:	<i>Paul Lines</i>	<i>Tim Timmons</i>
Nursery:	<i>Linda Currier/ Leona Snider</i>	<i>Glenda Thurlkill Mike Thurlkill</i>
Greeters:	<i>Eddie & Donna Sanders</i>	
Van Driver:	<i>Kirk Tracy/576-4591</i>	

Wednesday, March 21:

Devotional: *Tom Davis*
 Song Leader: *Tom Easterly*
 Opening Prayer: *Jeremy Thurlkill*
 Closing Prayer: *Travis Morrison*
 Van Driver: *Todd Kraus/207-7877*

MONTH OF MARCH:

AV Room: *Scott Barton/Ron Stokes*
 Secure Building: *Paul Lines/Tim Buckner*

Please see Mike Thurlkill if you are unable to serve.

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

CHINESE AGAPE Foundation
Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
Voice of Truth International
Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions
World Christian Broadcasting
Churches of Christ Disaster Relief
Fair Haven Children's Home

"In Search of the Lord's Way"
7 AM Sundays KOLR TV 10

"KNOW YOUR BIBLE"
10:30 AM Sundays/Springfield 33/KSPR



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Office Hours:
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Friday