



WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

November 18, 2012

Order of Worship

Welcome
Eddie Sanders

Song Leader
Jon Ewing

Opening Prayer
John Mahon

The Lord's Supper
Don Essex

Contribution
Don Essex

Lesson
Joey Treat

Announcements
Eddie Sanders

Closing Prayer
Daniel Meinsen



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

A. LINCOLN AND GRATITUDE

You can't help but notice that Lincoln is invoked on all sides these days. During the recent political season, his sayings or actions were cited when they could be made to appear to lend approval to stances of candidates. In the world of entertainment, an acclaimed current movie is focusing attention on his character again. It occurs to me that this last full week of November might be the right time to reflect on one quality that comes up in whatever I read of Lincoln: gratitude to God.

As this week approached in the dark days of 1863, President Lincoln issued his Thanksgiving Proclamation. He began, "It is the duty of nations as well as men to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon..." He went ahead to observe that the nation had become "too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us." So, in his concluding paragraph, Mr. Lincoln said, "It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be acknowledged, as with one heart and voice, by the whole American people," and he invited his fellow citizens to join him in so doing on the last Thursday of that month.

A year and a half later, during the first week of April in 1865, Richmond was captured. Lincoln decided it was important that the President of the United States visit the city and, despite the continuing danger, he set out on the journey by boat. Doris Kearns Goodwin says that as soon as the vessel he was aboard reached the landing, Lincoln was surrounded by a small group of black laborers who were blessing the Lord and calling Lincoln the great Messiah. She writes, "First one and then several others fell on their knees. 'Don't kneel to me,' Lincoln said, his voice full of emotion, 'that is not right. You must kneel to God only, and thank him for the liberty you will hereafter enjoy'" (*Team of Rivals*, 718).

Lincoln obviously understood something of the necessary power of gratitude in human experience. Neither mental health, nor decent character, nor right relationships are possible without it. We have within our souls a deep need to both feel and express genuine, humble thankfulness.

But Lincoln also seems to have realized something else—something basic: *that gratitude requires a recognition of the One to whom thanks is due, and an expression which is in keeping with who He is.* By definition, thanksgiving involves the reverence toward the Giver, humble dependence upon His goodness, and the seeking of His will.

When the God to whom thanks is due is excluded, gratitude becomes a vague emotion based in a faint tradition of thanksgiving, neither of which disciplines personal life in any way.

—Bill McFarland

Prayer List & Notes

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

November 11

Bible Study:	244
Morning:	313
Evening:	180
Wednesday (11/14):	205
Contribution:	\$9,213



Elder of the Month
Eddie Sanders

In our prayers ...

- ◆ Continue to remember Eula Compton, Thelma Fain, Alice Allen, Leona Snider, Lucille Ford
 - ◆ Clarence & Ola Jean Feeney as they have both been dealing with health issues in the last couple of weeks
 - ◆ Gene Creson has moved to a nursing facility in Oklahoma to be near his son. His address is 2200 N.E. 140th Street, Apt. A10, Edmond, OK 73013. I'm sure he would love to hear from you.
 - ◆ Pat Woods is still in CA to see her doctor
- Friends & Family**
- ◆ Don Lewis, Tiffany Meeks' father, as he is dealing with some very serious health issues
 - ◆ Continue to remember Judy Dixon, from the Brandsville congregation and Johnnie Elliff's sister, Annie Hysaw
 - ◆ Carolyn Young's sister, Nita, will have surgery Tuesday to remove a part of her lung
 - ◆ Ann Freeze, Jo Baggett's mother
 - ◆ Tiffany Meeks' sister, Larrie White, as she recovers from surgery

Long Term/ Shut-ins
 Kay Adams
 Alice Allen
 Shirley Bartlett
 Doris Burch
 Eula Compton
 Fern Davis
 Thelma Fain
 Ella Mae Findlay
 Lucille Ford
 Milton Ford
 Allen Harmon
 Doris Iorg
 Irene Johnson
 Carol Law
 Carol Mahon
 Wilma Melton
 Betty Shaw
 Doris Thomason
 Doris Tobler
 Judy Todd
 Pat Woods



Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Mary Bratcher and her family in the loss of our dear brother Paul Bratcher. A lot of us have been touched by Paul's helping hands over the years. Please keep this family in your prayers. Services were held this past Thursday. Donations in his honor can be made to Fair Haven Children's Home.



Expectant Moms

Sara Stipp/boy/December
 Leah Prewitt/boy/January
 Stephanie Schwartz/boy/February
 Tabitha Blaney/girl/March
 Brittany Morrison/boy/March

The Elders ask for names of Godly men to be Deacons, as we see in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Please turn the names in to the Elders by December 9th.

If you can provide a meal for Adam and Sara Stipp after the baby is born (due in December) please sign the list at the information desk.

COUNTING

Count your blessings instead of you crosses;
 Count your gains instead of your losses;
 Count your joys instead of your woes;
 Count your friends instead of your foes;
 Count your smiles instead of your tears;
 Count your courage instead of your fears;
 Count your full years instead of your lean;
 Count your kind deeds instead of your mean;
 Count your health instead of your wealth;
 Count on God instead of yourself.

- The Christian Builder

Wednesday night we will have a special combined devotional in the auditorium. We hope you will join us if you are in town! If you are traveling, we hope you have a safe and enjoyable weekend with family and friends.

News & Activities



Youth Night at Sunset tonight. Let Adam know this morning if you plan to attend. The bus will leave the building at 4:15.



COLLEGE MINISTRY

Don't forget to bring your items for the baskets being prepared for college students. Suggested items:

Popcorn, Fruit Snacks, Candy, Cookies, Crackers, Chewing Gum, Hot Chocolate, Oatmeal, Toothbrushes, Kleenex packages

Please drop off these items in the Rubbermaid barrel located in the fellowship room by **WEDNESDAY NIGHT**. We need as many donations as possible! If you can, please help us assemble the packages on Monday **November 26th**. If you know any college students (not just in Springfield) that would like to have a package, please submit the name and address so we can send one to them.

All Adult classes will meet in the auditorium today. Joey Treat (Jeff's brother), missionary who we support in his work in the Pacific Region, will report on his work in that region.

College/Career Class:

There is a new College/Career class in the fellowship hall led by Daniel Meinsen. We will have a series of lessons called **"I Know Whom I Have Believed."** Please be praying for us, and invite a friend to join us for our class!

Birthdays

- 25 Bob Stockstill
- Russell Lilly
- Alexis Merritt
- 26 Lee Ann Donoho
- 27 Tom Crumrine
- 29 Wayne Harmon
- Johnnie Elliff
- Elaina Treat
- Jerry Stockdale
- 30 Travis Morrison



Elders, Ministers, Deacons & Staff

Elders

Barney Crawford	417-866-0592
Clay Joseph	417-833-3002
Eddie Sanders	417-833-5712
Bob Snider	417-833-3498
Jerry Young	417-724-0324

Minister

Bill McFarland	417-833-0110
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Golden Age Minister

Dennis Smith	417-866-6918
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Youth/Associate Minister

Adam Blaney	304-520-9800
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Deacons

Scott Barton	Matt Keener
Tim Bowling	Russell Lilly
Tim Buckner	Paul Lines
Tom Davis	Travis Morrison
Jim Elliff	James Simons
Jon Ewing	

Staff

Johnnie Elliff	Secretary
Tim Bowling	Custodian



MEN, mark your calendars for Saturday, December 8. Watch for more information.



HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF

By Dennis R. Smith

"Hell is from Sheol, and Strong defines it, 'hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), including its accessories and inmates' (E. M. Zerr)." Another writer stated "in the King James translation the word is rendered grave 32 times, hell 31 and pit 3." Today, with so many different translations being used, we have to be most careful not to misunderstand the actual meaning of the word "hell" as it may be used at different places in scripture. Such is the case with Isaiah 5:14 where the prophet speaks *"hell hath enlarged herself."* Be it known that this writer is aware of the many different metaphors (and applications) which often entertain our minds based on which translations we are using. This being the case we have to distinguish between what is literal and what is figurative and for sure if it is used as an allegory as is often the case. For example: *"the grave has enlarged its appetite" (NIV); "Sheol has enlarged its throat - itself" (NAS - NKJV);* etc. In looking at all these different translations what then are we to conclude? My answer is this: Look at the overall text. What is it saying? In this case it was a warning to those who chose to live a life of lasciviousness and without any change they would be destined to spend eternity in a hungry, overcrowded environment of evil-throated inmates. It is not a very pretty picture either way. Let us then seek after the Lord and live by his precepts to the very best of our ability. Heaven has much more to offer.

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/KSRP



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 B. McFarland: b.mcfarland@mchsi.com
 A. Blaney: ablaney1028@gmail.com
 Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Friday



Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

AM Nursery: Jill Morrison/Meredith Reaves
Greeters: Barney & Debbie Crawford
Van Driver: Jackie Freeze/616-9789
KYB Phone: Adam & Sara Stipp
Serve
Communion: Brendan Carroll/Carl Tindall
 Dustin Stokes/Randy Blackburn
 Adam Barton/Scott Barton
 J.J. Blevins/Tim Bowling
 Jackie Buck/Kyle Buckner

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Jeremy Thurlkill
Opening Prayer: Dennis Smith
Lesson: Bill McFarland
Closing Prayer: Aaron Tovar
Communion: Blanton Glenn/J. Hulett
Nursery: Lee A. Donoho/K. Duncan

NEXT WEEK, November 25

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole	Jeremy Thurlkill
Opening Prayer:	Travis Morrison	Eddie Sanders
Communion:	John Dutton	B. Glenn/J. Hulett
Closing Prayer:	Andy McFarland	Daniel Wilson
AM Nursery:	Linda Currier/Leona Snider	
PM Nursery:	Glenda Thurlkill	
Greeters:	Randy & Orvella Blackburn	
Van Driver:	Kirk Tracy/576-4591	

MONTH OF OCTOBER

AV Travis Morrison/
Room: Larry Baggett
Secure Paul Lines/
Building: Tim Buckner

Wednesday, November 21

Devotional: Bill McFarland
Song Leader: Tom Easterly
Prayer: John Stayton
Van Driver: Todd Kraus/
 207-7877