



# WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

December 15, 2013

## Order of Worship

*Song Leader*  
**Jon Ewing**

#238  
#111  
#400

*Opening Prayer*  
**Van Barnes**

*“In Christ Alone”*

*The Lord’s Supper*  
**Todd Kraus**

*“Blessed Be Your  
Name”*

*Contribution*  
**Todd Kraus**

#134

*Lesson*  
**Bill McFarland**

#380

*Announcements*  
**Clay Joseph**

#138

*Closing Prayer*  
**Scott Barton**

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

## Observations

Once in a science class during my school days we were required to keep a journal, filling it with observations regarding the trees, plants, soils, birds and animals we encountered in our part of the natural world. It was, and is, a good life exercise to try, and it has seemed especially appropriate recently. Circumstances have included odd weather, an unusual time of the year, and kind of a different place in my life. Here are some of the things I’ve been noticing.

1. It’s probably good for us to be reminded once in a while that there are some things over which we do not have control. A simple weather event involving a little well-timed snow and ice can do that quite effectively! We can plan activities and schedule events and have our intentions, but we’re not in charge of the world, and there are still a lot of things we can’t do a thing about. A little reminder doesn’t hurt.

2. Related, but on a bit more of a spiritual level: apart from the Lord, we can do nothing! That’s what he himself said to his disciples in John 15:5. His servants are related to him like branches are to the vine. The life and the production derive from him; their great task is to abide in him. That’s easy to forget. We get to wanting to “help him out.” It would be better to be sure we are abiding in him, gaining our identity and our purpose from who he is.

3. It surely is good to be able to look forward to being with others who have that aim. A few days of limited ability to be out and about as much as normal makes us even more glad for the privilege of meeting with those who share our faith. There is something about the assembly with our family in the Lord which assures us that things are OK and which anticipates the fulfillment of our common hope.

4. The darker and colder a night is, the brighter and more impressive the light seems. Maybe you’ve also notice this with the moon and stars during these winter nights, or even with some of the colorful holiday lights in your neighborhood. I wonder if there isn’t a life-lesson in this as well.

5. I’m glad there are times of the year that allow for breaks in routines, a little excitement, some family traditions, any grateful thinking that contributes to peace and joy, and a bit of renewal in our lives. It would be great if we could avoid getting so stressed trying to pull off the perfect holiday production that we miss all of that. I hope you and yours have a good one!

–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

December 8

Bible Study: 186  
 Morning: 247  
 Evening: N/A  
 Wednesday (12/11): 190  
 Contribution: \$ 6,676



Elder of the Month  
 Clay Joseph



### Prayer List

- ♦ Continue to remember Eula Compton, Thelma Fain, Pat Harris, Norman High, Dale Harp, Leon Wake
- ♦ Melinda Barton as she continues her chemo treatments and the side affects that go with it
- ♦ Jackie Freeze has not been feeling well.
- ♦ Cecil Lines and his ongoing health concerns.
- ♦ Scott Barton is dealing with whiplash and has been in a lot of pain
- ♦ Nancy Snider has not been feeling well.
- ♦ Orvella Blackburn has not been feeling well for the last few weeks.
- ♦ Greg & Scheryl Larimore will leave on 12/22 for Greg's appointment on the 24th at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN
- ♦ Truman Coltrane has an appoint at Mayo Clinic on 12/23 so they can study his heart disease as it is getting worse; they will leave on 12/22 with Greg & Scheryl.
- ♦ Blanton Glenn as he continues to be an inspiration to all of us
- ♦ Betty Stockstill has a hairline stress fracture in her foot; she is wearing a "boot cast" to help it heal.
- ♦ Shirlane Horton has a staph infection in one of her fingers.
- ♦ Marlene Matthews is in Cox South with pneumonia.

### Friends & Family

- ♦ Ruth Reaves' brother, Jim Hocker, has been diagnosed with cancer; they removed a tumor this past week and it was not as big as they had first thought; cards of encouragement can be sent to him at 608 Cumberland, Hurst, TX 76054.
- ♦ Todd Kraus' dad, Phil Kraus, is now home from the hospital and doing well
- ♦ Tim Stockstill's friend, David Crawford's dad who is in Cox South in an induced coma to try to keep him alive
- ♦ Continue to remember Carolyn Young's sister, Nita; Gene Lund's brother, Bill Lund; Jean Evans, Lyle Mishler's sister, who is dealing with cancer; her address is 152 Grand Drive, Apache Junction, AZ 85120

### Sympathy



We express our sympathy to Gerri Dickens in the loss of her sister, Eva Ruzicka, who passed away last Saturday. Funeral services were held this past Wednesday. She has now lost all her siblings, losing three this year.

Congratulations to Ruth and Denzil Raines on the safe arrival of their great grandson, Grayson, born December 11. Carrie has had a difficult time the last few months awaiting his arrival. All are doing well.



Another new issue of The Voice of Truth International is now available for everyone including our visitors.



Dear Water Mill Church, During the last month so much has happened to just our family. Brandi wants to thank everyone who remembered our family in the time of her Aunt Mary's illness and passing. Your cards and well wishes were deeply appreciated by the entire family. My dad, Phil, is now home recovering and is thankful for a new lease on life. Truly, the Water Mill Church of Christ is filled with the deep in the faith and salt of the earth people. Clearly the bread of life and conviction of the blood of Christ is in the body of our church. Much goes unspoken, words can't say enough, but love abounds. In Christian love, Todd, Brandi, Trevor and Anthony Kraus.

### Long Term/ Shut-ins

Kay Adams  
 Shirley Bartlett  
 Doris Burch  
 Eula Compton  
 Fern Davis  
 Thelma Fain  
 Ella Mae Findlay  
 Chloe Gaddis  
 Doris Iorg  
 Irene Johnson  
 Carol Mahon  
 Betty Shaw  
 Doris Tobler  
 Judy Todd  
 Pat Woods

### Expectant Moms

Megan Jobs  
 (girl) (March)  
 Brittany Morrison  
 (?) (June)

# News & Activities

## Men's Retreat

February 28, March 1

Wyndham Resort in Branson

Cost is \$40/person plus food costs. Sign up sheet is on the Information Desk. Deadline to sign up is December 20 so we will know how many rooms to reserve. See Travis Morrison if you have questions.



• **Friday night—**  
Ugly sweater/  
white elephant gift/  
lock out-in party

Interacting with others encourages, nurtures, challenges, hones and helps refine me. My journey has been made more joyous by connecting with friends.

- Patsy Clairmont

## Upcoming Events

- *Elders* meet Tuesday at 1 p.m.
- December 29th is the 5th Sunday this month. All contributions that day will go toward our building.
- *There will not be a potluck on the 29th.*



Due to the weather, ladies' class was rescheduled to

December 19 at 10:30 a.m. Ann Thiesen will bring the lesson, "How Others See Me." She has taught thousands of women in her many years as the wife of a preacher and missionary in Africa. Bring a favorite holiday dish and enjoy the food and fellowship at our potluck lunch. Child care will be provided.



### Birthdays

23 Gabby Gellan  
24 Greg Donoho  
Linda Tracy  
27 Josiah Downing  
Lori Fisher  
28 Eddie Currier  
29 John Dutton  
30 Lynn Luallin



Congratulations to the following individuals who graduated from college this weekend:

Rachel Lilly/MSU

Andy McFarland/Masters/Drury

Todd Kraus/Masters/MSU

We're proud of your accomplishments!



We would like to recognize some special men for their hard work doing a good job trimming shrubs: **Greg Donoho, Don Gaunt, Verl Duncan and Van Barnes.** We thank God and give Him the glory for these servants in His Kingdom.

Join Us At  
Sunday School



## BIBLE QUESTIONS WHICH MUST BE CONSIDERED TODAY

By Dennis R. Smith

It is so interesting as we read the bible to see how God often asked questions to stimulate the thinking of certain ones. Equally so, questions that were given in reply should create serious thinking on the part of today's readers. Let me share some of these questions for this article.

- "Where Art Thou?" - was asked of Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:9).
- "Where is your Brother?" - was asked of Cain who had just killed his brother, Abel (Gen. 4).
- "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" - was the answer given by Cain. (Gen. 4).
- "What Hast Thou Done?" - was another thought provoker asked by God to Cain (Gen. 4).
- "Whom Do Men Say That I Am?" - Jesus asked his disciples (Matt. 16:13).
- "What Then Shall I Do With Jesus?" - was asked by the governor, Pilate (Matt. 27:22).
- "Will You Also Go Away?" - was asked by Jesus to some of his disciples (John 6:67).
- "What is Your Life?" - the question of the ages asked in the book of James (4:14).

Of course there are many others but surely these should help us examine our own lives to see how we stand with our Creator. As we are nearing the close of this old year, maybe these questions need to be answered by us all. Remember this - whatever the question, God has the answer!

### Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study ....9:00 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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 B. McFarland: [b.mcfarland@mchsi.com](mailto:b.mcfarland@mchsi.com)  
 A. Blaney: [ablaney1028@gmail.com](mailto: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:** Adam & Sara Stipp  
**Van Driver:** Tyler Thornton/840-6303  
**KYB Phone:** Van & Barbara Barnes

**Serve** Tom Easterly/Oran Green  
**Communion:** Briley Ewing/Dale Gregory  
 Jeff Fisher/Sam Hansen  
 Jon Davis/John Hulett  
 Carl Tindall/Tucker Jobs

### THIS EVENING

**Song Leader:** Briley Ewing  
**Opening Prayer:** Jon Ewing  
**Lesson:** Bill McFarland  
**Closing Prayer:** Kerry Cole  
**Communion:** Jason Luna/Gene Lund  
**Nursery:** LeAnn Donoho

### NEXT WEEK, December 22

#### AM

#### PM

<b>Song Leader:</b>	Kerry Cole/Jon Ewing	Briley Ewing
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Randy Blackburn	Luke Lines
<b>Communion:</b>	Russell Lilly	J. Luna/G. Lund
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	J.J. Blevins	Fred Lorenz
<b>Greeters:</b>	Mike & Glenda Thurlkill	
<b>AM Nursery:</b>	Gin Crumrine/Meredith Reaves	
<b>PM Nursery:</b>	Donna Jordan/Meredith Reaves	
<b>Van Driver:</b>	Jerry Stockdale/693-7505	

### MONTH OF DECEMBER

AV Scott Barton/  
 Room: Bruce Tindall  
 Open Tim Timmons  
 Building  
 Secure Justin Reaves/  
 Building: Tim Buckner

### Wednesday, December 18

**Devotional:** Bill McFarland  
**Song Leader:** John Mahon  
**Prayer:** Dennis Smith  
**Van Driver:** Tim Stockstill/  
 849-7678