



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Family Matters

December 4, 2022

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Office Hours: M-Th 9a-2p

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Subscribe to our Daily Email:
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Please note:

We will have NO EVENING SERVICES on December 25.
(morning services as usual)

Leadership

Elders

Larry Dowdy
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Allen Hedge
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Gary Ridenour
573.225.6480

Randy Seabaugh
573.576.1128

David Selvig
573.620.7407

Steve Simmons
573.450.6358

Minister

Brian Mitchell
270-498-8407

Deacons

George Clark
Nate Crowden
Greg Dowdy
Charlie Kluesner
Doug Lester
Brian Mitchell
Todd Newman
Kenny Simmons
Scott Spraggs
Trey Walls

Lessons for Today

AM: Brian Mitchell

"Peace in the Face of Death (Pt. 1)"
1 Corinthians 15:55-57

PM: Brian Mitchell

"Peace in the Face of Death (Pt. 2)"
Philippians 1:21-23

Living Life with a New Perspective

Today we're beginning a short new series of lessons entitled "It's A Wonderful Life." Most of you I am sure are aware that there is a movie by this title that comes on quite often during every Christmas holiday season. While I wouldn't base any theological beliefs on the movie, for the most part, it's a highly acclaimed and much loved movie. For those of you who may have been stranded on a desert island for the last 60 years and are not familiar with the plot, here's the bottom line:

After a series of setbacks, George Bailey, a character played by James Stewart declares that he wishes that he had never been born, and Clarence (his guardian angel), hoping to teach George a lesson, shows him how different life would have been had he in fact never been born. After a nightmarish odyssey, through a George Bailey-less Bedford Falls (now a glorified slum called Potterville), wherein none of his friends or family recognize him George is made to realize how many lives he has touched.

He is also helped to understand that, through his existence; and just as Clarence had planned, George awakens to the fact that despite all its deprivations he has truly had a wonderful life. The moral of the story is that even though life on earth isn't perfect, it is wonderful. We may have trials and troubles, we may miss out on some of our dreams, but still, it's a wonderful life. Christians, more than anyone else, ought to believe this—DO WE?

I realize that life is not always what we want it to be and that it can be filled with setbacks and disappointments in ALL areas of life—Family, Church and Career. The problem, and I know it is a problem because I am struggling with it, is that we often FORGET what a wonderful life we really have. We forget because we lose sight of the reason our life is so wonderful.

The Christian Life IS a Wonderful Life because it is our relationship with God through Jesus Christ that makes it wonderful—Ph.4:4. We don't live in a perfect world; there is sorrow and sadness and misery and violence and poverty and hunger and war everywhere. If I didn't believe in God, I would be overwhelmed with the futility of it all; but the fact is because of God's involvement with the human race, because of His involvement with my life, life is not futile.

In spite of the problems in our lives...even in the midst of the problems in our lives...we can experience an abundance of joy—because God has made this a wonderful life. In a Three Stooges episode, Curly chances upon some good fortune. In the next scene he is sitting by a swimming pool, relaxing in the sunshine, being waited on hand and foot, and he sighs contentedly and says, "This is the life."

When people use that phrase it is usually in this context—a great life means doing nothing, having everything, enjoying it forever. In reality, this is not the recipe for a wonderful life—it's the recipe for disaster. That's why the "idle rich" are seldom truly happy but God promises a truly good life.

Jesus said, "I came that you might have life, and that more abundantly." He also said, "I give you peace...I give you joy...I give you strength to overcome." He has promised a wonderful life to anyone who wants it—not perfect life, not an easy life, but a wonderful life—both now and in the time to come.

Brian Mitchell

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:00 am
AM Worship: 10:00 am
PM Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Sunday Class: 66
Sunday AM: 117
Sunday PM: 58
Wednesday PM: 70
Contribution: \$4706
Budget: \$4464

Think on This...

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
Luke 6:27-28

Celebrating This Week...

Birthdays

Brent Lee: 12.10
Cole Lee: 12.10
Gary Ridenour: 12.10

Serving This Week

Announcements: Larry Dowdy

SUNDAY

Greeters: Nate & Christi Crowden

Ushers: Troy Bryan/Shawn Myers

A/V: Luke Selvig

Nursery: Terri Bryan

Lead Singing: Seth Spraggs

Head Lord's Table: Phil Swiney

Scripture: Greg Dowdy

Prayers:

AM: Randy Seabaugh/Bill Welshans

PM: Gary Ridenour/Doug Lester

WEDNESDAY

Lead Singing: Seth Spraggs

Devo: Scott Watson

Prayer: Kevin Reeves

Elder Chair: Randy Seabaugh

Communion to Shut-Ins: Randy Seabaugh

Worship Organizer: Scott Spraggs

Daily Bible Reading

December 4: Galatians 4-6

December 5: Ephesians 1-3

December 6: Ephesians 4-6

December 7: Philippians 1-4

December 8: Colossians 1-4

December 9: 1 Thessalonians 1-3

December 10: 1 Thessalonians 4-5

Continuing Prayer Needs

****Contact the office with updates****

Ron Anderson

Ginger Avery

Mark Blaylock

Lee Brooks

Thelma Brown

Dalton Bryan

Donna Cox

Bill Dillman

Kelly & Trudy Garland

Allen & Juanita Hedge

Diana Ivanovich

Betty Jones

Sid Naramore

Carolyn Neese

Wanda Raper

Susan Seabaugh

Earle Silvers

Steve Simmons

Lee Simpson

Sarah Singleton

Robin Star

Don Tawney

Lucky Vander

Chris Weaver



Remember in Prayer

- **Troy Bryan** had surgery on Wednesday to fuse two vertebrae. He is home and recovering well.
- **Terri Bryan** will have shoulder replacement on Friday.
- **Lee Simpson** had open heart surgery on Thursday. He had triple bypass, 2 valves replaced, and a heart pump. He is still in ICU after a couple of complications and bleeding. They woke him up on Saturday morning and hope to have him up and moving about to prevent additional muscle atrophy.
- **Ruby Silvers** is still sick with the flu.
- **Donna Hand** had back surgery last week and is recovering.
- **Jim Green** is continuing to heal from his recent heart surgery. He has a follow-up visit on December 15.
- **Bill Dillman** fell last week and cracked a hip and a rib and is still having a lot of pain
- **Lee Brooks**, Inger Selvig's father, is making slow progress in his recovery and is in Landmark Hospital for transitional care.
- **Esther Beck** is undergoing chemo for breast cancer.
- **Reita Conley**, Lena Schweain's daughter, is doing well with her therapy and is still staying with her daughter as she recovers from a recent surgery and stroke.

News & Notes

- **Paragould Children's Homes** Item of the week: **Tortilla Chips**
- The new Bible class quarter begins this Sunday, December 4. Teachers, please check the schedule and be prepared for classes! See Eva if you have any questions or concerns.
- All ladies, teens, and girls are invited to a **Ladies' Christmas Party** this **Monday, December 5** at 6pm. Bring a finger food and a festive winter/holiday pillow to exchange and join us for an evening of fellowship, food, and fun!
- Donations are always being accepted to the Curtis James Scholarship fund. Donations made in honor or in memory of a loved one are a wonderful way to acknowledge them while supporting our youth who benefit from this scholarship. See Murray Dunn with any questions.

Upcoming Area Events

- **January 5-8: TRUTH Conference** in Arnold for college and young adult Christians. Speakers will be **Todd Clippard** and **Avery Hackney**. Please register with the QR code on the posted flyer.
- **January 14-15: IGNITE 2023: Ignite Your Legacy.** We are hosting our annual youth rally with keynote speaker, **Jeremy Pierce**. Plans are well underway...please watch for ways you can help and begin making plans to attend.
- **February 23-26: CYC** in Pigeon Forge. Watch for details!
- **March 10-11: Inspiration 2023** in Dexter. **Lonnie Jones** will be speaking and the theme is "Spiritual Campers in a Physical Campground".

But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

- Luke 6:27-28