

# Weatherly Weekly

June 16, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 24

## The Road Home

Michael W. McLemore

The road home is always the same. Sin takes every man far from God. In our own ways we have all fallen from the fellowship we once enjoyed in innocence with our Father. Our own bad decisions have left a wake of ruin behind. Littering the way is waste — wasted resources, wasted opportunity, wasted lives. Jesus' prodigal parable, Luke 15:11-32, assures that far from our present life of sin, our Father waits at the other end of the road with tender heart.

His wounds were deep when His son left. In avarice and disdain the boy demanded that his life was his own and he intended to live it.

From the day he left the Father wondered constantly, the way any parent would. News of His son's bad choices found their way home. Concern bore against His heart.

Still, He waited patiently. As parents weep for their renegade and rebellious children, the Father waited. Counting the hours since he

left, He had but one desire — come home.

His thoughts were never far from His son. He watched for Him. Peering in the distance, His eyes perpetually kept vigil to see if today might perchance be the day.

Sooner rather than later was what the Father wanted. He wanted His son to come home before it was too late. The what — what he had done — was not the concern, but the when.

One day it came. His eye saw a familiar form breaking the horizon of His gaze while yet a long way off. Unhesitatingly He ran to meet him. He kissed him in spite of his filth. The words of His confession mattered not nearly as much as the heart that had compelled it. His son was home and it was cause to celebrate.

The road home is always the same. At the end is our "welcoming Father." He is ready to forgive those who come to Him in humble repentance. He is willing if we will come home! □

## You Better Watch Out, You Better Not...

Dee Bowman

The Devil is no fool. How often we underestimate his cunning and crafty nature. The Scriptures warn of his "wiles" (Ephesians 6:11) and tell us of his devices (2 Corinthians 2:11). "Wiles" have to do with the Devil's abilities—abilities to concoct methods, plans, strategies for deceiving us. He's good at it. Real good. "Devices" are the tools he uses to make his plans work, to cause us to move toward evil. He's good at that, too. Real good.

Peter tells us in 1 Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." This passage should lend a sense of urgency to our situation. It should tell us that we're at war and there's not time for civilian activities, only for constant vigilance and complete concentration as to the whereabouts and stratagem of the enemy.

Be sober. That means be serious about his possible invasion. He is.

Be vigilant. That means watch out. He lurks in the shadows, moves in the dark, skirts the periphery all the time, looking all the while for a chance to strike. Look out.

Your adversary. He is the enemy. We best not associate with him. When we fraternize with the enemy we are apt to become like him. Best be careful about that. It's hard to recognize him when you look so much like him yourself. Be careful.

Walketh about. He is not passive. He doesn't work a forty-hour week, nor does he take any time off. He's always on the job, working to do us harm. Where is he? Right now.

As a roaring lion. A lion stalks his prey for days until such a time as he finds it in a vulnerable position: Then he lets out a gargantuan roar, thus freezing the prey in its tracks. It's easy from there on: "There's a place where you can no longer turn back, folks. Be careful how close you allow him to get.

Are there some things we can do to combat the devil?

You better know it. God has provided an apt description of the enemy. He knows his plans, has intercepted his codes, and deduced his projects. He'll help us if we'll just pay close attention to what He says.

We are not ignorant of his devices (2 Corinthians 2:11). God knows. We don't—not yet anyhow. We must learn. We need to read the Bible, study the word, search the scriptures. They will inform us of his wiles, how he works. We can know, but only if we want to. Do you want to? It sure helps to know.

God will provide a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13). But God's faithfulness to provide does not equal our having the information automatically. We must look for the way of escape. It's in His word. Remember Jesus. "It is written" was his answer to the Devil's temptations. It's ours as well.

Resist him and he will flee (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9). Resistance is hard. It takes resolve. It takes steeling your nerve. It takes hurting sometimes. But resistance is the key to conquering the Devil. He can't win if you resist.

Give no place to him (Ephesians 4:27). You can't keep the Devil from wandering through your mind now and then but you don't have to give him a place to stay. Kick him out. Make him go someplace else. Tell him he's not welcome. If you give him a room, before long he'll own the house.

Don't let him win the war, even if he wins a battle now and then (2 Peter 2:26). Because he's likely to win some doesn't mean you have to just give up. Repent and start again. Repent and get up. Repent and pray God for help. Repent and regroup. "And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will" (2 Peter 2:26). That ought to restore your broken spirit. You can still get out of there. You can still run. Just do it.

I hate the Devil. I mean I hate him! Don't you? And I don't know for the life of me how you could possibly have any trouble with him when he's over at my house nearly all the time. □

Watch  
LIVE



# FAMILY MATTERS

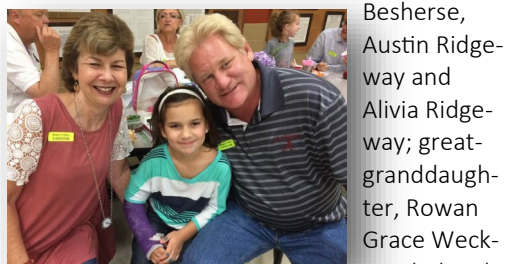
News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## John Besherse II Passes

We are saddened by the passing of **John Bell Besherse, II**, age 59 of Athens — father of our own **John Besherse III**. He passed away suddenly on Thursday following a heart attack. This devastating loss is keenly felt by all those who love him.

John leaves behind his loving wife of 39 years, Denise, son, John Bell Besherse, III and wife Stacey of Huntsville, AL; daughter, April Ridgeway of Elkmont, AL; grandchildren, Madeline Weckwarth and husband Austin, Brody Besherse, Layla Belle



Besherse, Austin Ridgeway and Alivia Ridgeway; great-granddaughter, Rowan Grace Weckwarth; brothers, Doug Besherse (Rhonda), Jeff Besherse (Dana) and Mark Besherse (Pam) and several nieces and nephews. John loved coaching baseball and basketball, flying and teaching aviation.

John will be missed by a host of friends. He was known to many in north Alabama and especially Limestone County. The Besherses worshipped with the Valley View church of Christ in Athens. ☐

## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**Dot Summers** was admitted to Huntsville Hospital Saturday and is being treated for an infection. She's in room 738. Please pray for **Dot** and for **Forest**. He is understandably very concerned.

**Edith Turner** is slowly getting better. She is hoping to be back with us soon.

**Wanda Castleman** has been cleared by the physician that has been managing her leg infection! We are thrilled. She looks great. Our prayers have been answered and its time to be thankful to our loving Father.

**Debbie Harbin** is awaiting the date for her upcoming back surgery. It will be a two step process and will be extensive. Pray please. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

<b>Barbara Woodard</b>	<b>Melonie Power</b>
<b>Melvin Godette</b>	<b>Glenda Cavender</b>
<b>Ken Cavender</b>	<b>Betty Reavis</b>
<b>Aladean Jacks</b>	<b>Marty Haselden</b>
<b>Pam Davis</b>	<b>Laura Phillips</b>

## Group Three Meeting

Group Three, led by **Murray Castleman**, will meet after worship tonight. You will be dismissed from the assembly immediately after the Lord's Supper. Plan to attend.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS



6-16	Jaxie Rogers	6-16	Phil Shaver
6-23	Jared Jimison	6-23	W.D. Patrick
6-26	Keion Godette	6-30	Susan Hand

## No Longer Enemies

Michael W. McLemore

David Sargent is credited with preserving the following story, "In the days of the American Revolutionary War there lived in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, a preacher by the name of Peter Miller who enjoyed the friendship of General George Washington. There also dwelt in that town one Michael Wittman, an evil-minded man who did all in his power to abuse and oppose this preacher.

One day Michael Wittman was involved in treason and was arrested and sentenced to death. When the old preacher heard this news, he started out on foot and walked the whole seventy miles to Philadelphia to plead for this man's life. He was admitted into Washington's presence and at once begged for the life of the traitor.

Washington said, "No, Peter, I cannot grant you the life of your friend."

The preacher exclaimed, "My FRIEND?? Why, this man is the bitterest ENEMY I have." Washington cried, "What? You've walked seventy miles to save the life of an ENEMY? Now that puts the matter in a different light. I will grant the pardon."

And so he did. And Peter Miller took Michael Wittman from the very shadow of death back to his own home in Ephrata — no longer as an enemy, but as a friend."

Sargent's story illustrates well Romans 5:8, "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." He is not ashamed to call us friends. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Weatherly Road SE  
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

### Mailing:

P.O. Box 4619  
Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Phone: 256 881-9535

Email: [contactus@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:contactus@weatherlychurch.com)

## TIMES OF SERVICES

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday AM Assembly</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday PM Assembly</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday Classes</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

Stay informed and engaged online at  
[www.weatherlychurch.com](http://www.weatherlychurch.com)

### WATCH:



Sermon archive or  
live stream during  
all Weatherly services



## Weatherly's Shepherds

<b>Louis Garrett</b>	256 883-7785
<b>Tommy Hill</b>	256 883-0010
<b>Will Starks</b>	256 883-5273
<b>Forest Summers</b>	256 348-2251

## Evangelist

**Michael W. McLemore** 256 698-5941  
Email: [mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com)

## Weatherly's Deacons

<b>Phil Furlough</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>Ron Harmon</b>	<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>
<b>David Jacks</b>	<b>Ben Little</b>
<b>Hill Roberts</b>	<b>Collis Terry</b>
<b>Bobby Wright</b>	



These are asked to assist in our labor.

## Sunday, June 16

**Welcome:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Song Leader:** **Bill Thompson**  
**Opening Prayer:** **W.D. Patrick**  
**Scripture Reading:** **Philip Dill**  
**Philippians 1:12-18**  
**Sermon:** **Michael McLemore**  
**"Living Above Circumstance"**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Jeremy Leshko**

## Sunday, June 23

**Tommy Hill**  
**David Jacks**  
**Ron Harmon**  
**Ken Cavender**  
**Colossians 1:23-29**  
**Michael McLemore**  
**"Wisdom in a Mystery"**  
**Jim Ehl**

## Evening Worship

<b>Bible Skills</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>
<b>Songs Leader:</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>	<b>David Jacks</b>
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	<b>Ben Little</b>	<b>Tommy Hill</b>
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Jim Risner</b>	<b>Gene Preston</b>

## Evening Worship

## Wednesday, June 19

**Songs Leader:** **Mike Coward**  
**Invitation:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Louis Garrett**

## Wednesday, June 26

**Collis Terry**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**Riley Monroe**

## Group 3

**2019 Weatherly Singing**  
**August 9th**

**Tim Stevens, John Kilgore**  
**& Jack Bradford**

## Group 4

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
**April – June 2019**

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Living Responsibly  
**Tommy Hill**

### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Lessons from Isaiah  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in June

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Dwight Ivey</b>	<b>Gene Preston</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>	<b>Ron Holland</b>
	<b>Charley Skinner</b>	<b>John Besherse</b>
	<b>Ben Little **</b>	<b>Jerry Mitchell</b>
<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Collis Terry **</b>	<b>Terry Childress</b>
<b>Communion Prep</b>		<b>Julie Singleton</b>
<b>Building Lockup</b>		<b>Jared Jimison</b>

