

Newsletter of the Weatherly Heights Church of Christ

# Weatherly Weekly

February 2, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 5

## “Glory in My Church”

Michael W. McLemore

When Jesus declared to His apostles, “Upon this rock I will build my church” the disciples scarcely could have imagined the plan He had for it and for those who are privileged to be a part in it. The 3rd Chapter of Paul’s Ephesian letter emphasizes the glory of the Lord’s church, his role in preaching it’s riches and it’s promises to the whole world, *Ephesians 3:8-11*.

The heavenly audience was amazed when they saw God save sinners, when they saw what God can do for defiled men, when God united Gentiles and Jews in one family, when they saw the church. “By Christ is glory, in the church, throughout the ages,” Paul affirmed, *3:21*.

Paul knew he was but a steward, entrusted with grace intended for outcasts, *3:1-5*. He said, that it is “God given, to me for you!” Though previously unknown, it is now revealed, *3*. Paul declared, “What I know,” revealed directly from the Lord, can be “understood through reading” what I have written, *4*. It has been

unveiled by God’s revealing Spirit, *5*.

The written word is God’s “mystery: A message to humanity, *3:6*. This “mystery now revealed from God” makes three claims. First, Gentiles are “fellow-heirs with Jews in Christ. Second, they are given belonging “in one body.” And third, they are “partners in promise.”

God’s plan is brought to light for everyone, *3:7-13*. “This gospel,” constitutes the Creator’s plan from the “ages,” *7-9*. “The church,” is God’s wisdom for a heavenly audience, *10*. “The eternal purpose” of God gives “confident access through faith” to ALL men, *11-12*. Paul willingly suffered for the “glory” of another, *13*.

“The church” is a system of diversified human mirrors reflecting the glory of God’s wisdom to the universe. You are part of a visible, corporate, audible representation of God’s eternal plan. In Christ you have become part of His trust; you’re part of God’s eternal plan. Is your partnership with Him reflecting His glory? □

What difference does it make whether churches cooperate or function independently in their work? Is a discussion over institutional versus non-institutional concepts of the church worthy of my time? What of eating in church buildings, or clapping in the assembly? What of traditional versus contemporary worship? What of kitchens, and orphans’ homes, and ball teams, and sponsoring

God’s word is a big deal. If we can’t have total confidence in the sufficiency of God’s word, then we stand on shifting sand.

**THE ISSUE OF TRUST IN GOD’S MIGHT.** The observant reader of the New Testament will be struck with the simplicity of the early church. Its organization, its worship, its mission were simple and wholly spiritual in focus.

## Do These Differences Really Matter?

Jason Moore

church arrangements? Does any of this really matter? Do these questions warrant my study and reflection? Are they worthy of spirited and lively discussion with others? I aver that they are.

“Whoever speaks,” Peter says, “let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God ... so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.” *1 Peter 4:11*.

“Whoever” means me. And you, too, I might add. “Whoever” embraces all men of all time. Whether I speak or act by myself, or in concert with you, or together with a congregation of fellow believers, I should watch my step. My thoughts and speech on any subject ought to be constrained by “the utterances of God.” My service ought to be governed by the means and might “which God supplies.” My ambitions realized in word and deed “in all things” must yield to the advancement of God’s glory. The questions posed above and addressed elsewhere by the other writers in this issue of Abundant Life are relevant because they all bear on how Christians react to God’s word, relate to God’s power, and further God’s glory. That makes them all considerations of the highest order in other words, something that matters greatly.

**THE QUESTION OF FAITH IN GOD’S WORD.** Do the Scriptures really furnish a man for “every good work.” *2 Timothy 3:17*, or just some? Do the commandments of Jesus have the force of commandments, or are they mere suggestions *Matthew 28:18-20*? Are we not confident enough in God’s word that we regard the sum of His communications as complete and every part as authoritative? And do we trust that His foresight was sufficient to anticipate our needs in the twenty-first century so that we respect His silence? Those are important questions especially given man’s propensity to improve upon Christ’s design for His church. We must not give mere lip service to the notion of “speaking as the utterances of God.” Faith in

The early church was not distracted with carnal, or political, or social agendas. Yet that simple organizational model effectively turned the first-century world “upside down” *Acts 17:6*. Is the world too sophisticated to be toppled by God’s first-century devices? Are the tools and materials which the carpenter from Galilee used to build His church no longer sufficient? And do we possess the wisdom to improve on God’s means and methods for edifying His people, for reaching the lost, for effecting change in a lost world? You see, the issue of serving —whether individually or collectively” by the strength which God supplies” is an issue that matters. It matters very much.

**THE MATTER OF SEEKING GOD’S GLORY.** Peter says that Christians ought to be constrained by the utterances of God, and reliant on the power of God, so that God receives the glory in all things. Whenever man tinkers with the word of God or with the designs of God, he robs God of the glory due Him. Religious innovations make worship and religion a man-centered enterprise, rather than a God-centered one. Man shoves God from His place on the throne and takes His seat in God’s chair. He presumes to speak for God, to plan for God, to improve upon God’s design. Does that not matter? It’s a very big deal to change God’s word! It is not the man who talks of glorifying God that succeeds in that quest.” Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven...” No it’s the one who “doeth the will of My Father,” Jesus said *Matthew 7:21*.

It’s uncomfortable to consider hard and potentially controversial questions. Re-examining old prejudices and concepts, re-evaluating past assumptions and positions those are all hard tasks. But they are necessary ones. We are constrained by our confidence in God’s word, by our reliance on His strength, by our quest for His glory to consider these vital and timely issues. Let us not shrink from the challenge. It deserves our best effort. □

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# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

We were saddened to learn of the passing of **Sarah Jernigan**, **Will Stark's** sister, on Friday. Our prayers for the family in this time of grief and loss are in order.

**Jim Ehl** underwent surgery on Friday afternoon to repair his femur following a fall. He is doing well and expects to go home in a few days. Both **Caryl & Jim** are well. Prayers for Jim's quick rebound. No visitors please.

**Cathy Preston** had back surgery on Friday and is Huntsville Hospital, room 331. Her surgery went well. We are thankful. Please keep Cathy & family in your prayers.

**Stacey Beshorse** is home doing well after her surgery. She will not be able to place any weight on her foot for 6 weeks after surgery. Your prayers are appreciated.

**Ron Harmon** is home. Thankfully Ron's sister **Rosie** and her husband **Bobby** arrived on Wednesday from the Dothan. They are here to help **Phyllis**. Ron will have rehab at home and regular visits from home health nurses. Please pray for Ron to begin making progress.

**Silvia Hnederson's** mom, **Rosa Castaneira**, fell shortly after arriving home from the hospital. She is better and we are thankful. Your prayers are solicited.

**Will Starks** is scheduled for hip replacement surgery on Tuesday of this week at Crestwood. Pray for **Will & Sarah**.

**Steven Guice** begins Chemo on Tuesday at UAB. Please remember Steve in prayer. Also, say **Julie's** name to the Lord. She's working hard to attend to Steven's every need.

**Donna Godette** arrived home from Kuwait on Friday. She has a cold but is otherwise well. Remember that **Melvin** is anticipating more back surgery on February 26th.

**Rodney Summers, Sr.**, former Weatherly member, cousin of **Forest**, will have hip replacement surgery on Tuesday at Huntsville Hospital. Pray for Rodney. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

**Marty Haselden** **Betty Reavis**  
**Glenda Cavender** **Laura Phillips**  
**Barbara Jean Woodard**

### Cooper Austin Caudle

Our whole Weatherly family is rejoicing with **Wes & Megan. Cooper Austin Caudle** arrived January 23rd, at 2:54 pm. He was 9 lbs. 4 ounces and 19.5 inches long. Both mother and son are home doing well. The grandparents are thrilled. ☐



**Ladies Class Thursday** — Ladies Class will be at **Peggy Coward's** on Thursday, February 6th at 10 am. Plan to attend if possible. You'll be encouraged.

### Group One Meeting

Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, will meet following worship this evening in the back classroom. Plan to attend.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



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2-7	Maragem Harbin	2-8	Travis Barnett
2-11	Aaron Gore	2-13	Julie Guice
2-14	Brennan Ivey	2-15	Glenda Cavender
2-15	Hilda Wright	2-17	Olivia Holland
2-23	Layla Belle Beshorse	2-27	Penny Hill
2-28	Virginia Skinner		

## “Intuitive or Symbolic” James W. Adams

Interminable controversies have raged in religion when a clear understanding of “the terms” involved might have resolved the whole matter amicably. Logicians recognize two types of knowledge, “intuitive and symbolic.” **Intuitive Knowledge** is “any knowledge which we have directly through the senses or by immediate communication to the mind” *Elements of Logic*, Jevons-Hill, 60. On the other hand, **Symbolic Knowledge** is that which is obtained through inferences and reasoning by the use of symbols — Algebra is a good example. Words are symbols — signs and ideas. Reams of paper have been employed in religion in controversy over *mere words*, each party to the controversy using the terms basic to the issue in a different sense or extent of meaning. “Whenever in common life we use words, we possess *symbolic knowledge* only. There is no worse habit for a student or a reader to acquire than that of accepting words instead of a knowledge of things,” *ibid*, 62-63. Current issues are greatly obscured by reason of this very habit; e.g. the use of such terms as “anti, non-cooperative, institutionalism, liberalism, autonomy, all-sufficiency.” In matters of eternal moment may we be delivered from the habit of being governed by *words*, rather than a *knowledge of things*. ☐

*Gospel Visitor, Feb. 1960*

## WEEKLY WALK

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Weatherly Heights  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## 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>

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### WATCH:



Sermon archive or  
live stream during  
all Weatherly services



## Weatherly's Shepherds

<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>Hill Roberts</b>
<b>Collis Terry</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>



These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, February 2

**Welcome:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Song Leader:** **Charles Hill**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Ron Holland**  
**Scripture Reading:** **Phil Shaver**  
**Matthew 16:13-20**  
**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
**My Church**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Bill McCord**

### Sunday, February 9

**Tommy Hill**  
**Hill Roberts**  
**Collis Terry**  
**Jeremy Leshko**  
**1 Corinthians 3:1-9**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**God's Building**  
**Nick Holland**

### Evening Worship

**Bible Skills** **Mike McLemore**  
**Songs Leader:** **Charles Hill**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Charley Skinner**

### Evening Worship

**Hill Roberts**  
**Hill Roberts**  
**David Jacks**  
**Kirk Hatcher**

### Wednesday, February 5

**Songs Leader:** **Collis Terry**  
**Invitation:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Closing Prayer:** **W.D. Patrick**

### Wednesday, February 12

**Mike Coward**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**Charley Carter**

### Group 1

**2020 Weatherly Lectures**  
**April 30th—May 3rd**

**Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams**  
**& Matt Bassford**

### Group 2

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
**January — March 2020**

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**  
Galatians  
**Tommy Hill**

**AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**  
The Gospel According to John  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in February

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Adams Hagewood</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Nick Holland</b>	<b>W.D. Patrick</b>
	<b>Jimmy Harbin</b>	<b>Wes Caudle</b>
	<b>Steve Hagewood **</b>	<b>Will Patrick</b>

<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Ed Dill **</b>	<b>Jim Risner</b>
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<b>Communion Prep</b>	<b>Phyllis Harmon</b>
<b>Building Lockup</b>	<b>Ron Harmon</b>

