

Weatherly Weekly

March 14, 2021

2021 Edition, Number 11

HE CARES!

Michael W. McLemore

Have you sought to comfort another who finds himself in a difficult period of life? Has it gone wrong in spite of your best intentions? Anyone who has entered the fray knows what I mean. Unlike ours, Jesus' comfort is perfection.

Sometimes our expressions of consolation create more hurt than help. Even the most well-intentioned words, "I understand" feel empty if we've never actually experienced exact situation. Sometimes it's hard to help when we haven't walked in the shoes of one in pain.

We all long to feel we have been understood. It helps to know individuals who have endured circumstances similar to ours. The author of the Bible book of Hebrews reassures us that Jesus truly understands because He endured struggles like ours.

The writer of Hebrews refers to Jesus as our High Priest. Each year the man serving in this capacity would enter the Holy of Holies, and

there, in God's presence, offer a sacrifice for sin. The priest was the Jewish people's bridge to God. Christ not only took on this role, He became the sacrifice when He died on the cross. Now He sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven and intercedes on our behalf.

In Jesus we find the encouragement that He understands our pain and our weakness. He faced the very temptations, needs, and hurts we experience. He identifies with betrayal. Judas turned against Him for money and spite. He know isolation, even His own trusted disciple Peter denied knowing Him when He needed someone most. He feels the pain and anxiety of depression for he faced separation from His heavenly Father at the cross. Jesus knows! And, best of all, He cares!

If you feel alone in the hardships you are facing, recall Jesus' trials, hurts, and temptations. You will find comfort in His understanding. □

"I AM A RESTORER"

David Edwin Harrell, Jr.

I am a restorer – unbowed, undaunted, extremist, and eccentric. A period piece in a Disciples of Christ movement grown increasingly uncomfortable with the intellectual, social, and psychological pitfalls of restoring New Testament Christianity.

The centerpiece of my intellectual universe is Biblical primitivism, a search for the first pure truths and ordinances. I am seeking that elusive image of Christianity as it came from the mind of God.

You may say it is not there; it is an illusion. I have decided to seek it anyway. We live in a world of illusions. You say I will not find it because I carry on my back the baggage of my own past, of the culture in which I live, of the language with which I think. Self-consciously and with as much self-awareness as possible, I have decided to try.

You may say I will fail and be disillusioned. So far I have not. In a sense, all restorers are seekers though sometimes we may think otherwise. Yet I will not become cynical or despairing because all truths are not readily apparent. But rather I am joyous and thankful that we have come this far by faith. To be a restorer has always meant to be an explorer in search of Zion bound to grope in our own human and cultural maze. Never finishing our task, but ever learning through struggle and commitment to the truth. But I have never been alone. God has provided others of like mind to be my fellow travelers.

It has been a rigorous journey, but I know exist-

entially no other way. The search has served me well and should you come to look for me, you will find me a bit further down the same road. □

Editor's note: I am including this piece in tribute to a stalwart voice in the kingdom of God for more than six decades. "Ed" Harrell at this printing is nearing the end of his earthly life and is anticipating his heavenly reward. Ed Harrell is a Christian, a preacher and an American historian who is best known for his scholarship of Religion in the United States. He is a Professor Emeritus at Auburn University, where he served as the Breeden Eminent Scholar of Southern History and retired in 2006. Brother Harrell has written biographies of Oral Roberts, Pat Robertson, and Homer Hailey, as well as other works about Pentecostalism and the Charismatic movement. In 2006, he published **Unto a Good Land: A History of the American People**, a college textbook that discusses the effects of religion in the history of the United States.

According to my friend and brother Steve Wolfgang this piece was originally an extemporaneous speech at the end of an academic conference in 1985 which brought the audience, which had been pin-drop quiet, to its feet with applause. Ed repeated it over the years in various venues, and it still inspires.

Please pray for brother Harrell's family and for those who love him the world over. *MWM* □

Watch
LIVE!

www.weatherlychurch.com



MARCH 14, 2021

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Dennis Curtis had his tonsils removed on Wednesday. The surgeon also removed a polyp that they were concerned about. Thankfully the polyp was benign. He is doing well. Dennis wanted me to express his thanks for your prayers.

Terry Childress' mother, **Sandra Ivey**, continues to do well at home. Thank you for continuing to pray for her. Also, please pray for **Terry & Peggy**.

Marty's brother, **Mike Hunt**, remains on our prayer list. Say **Mike & Karen's** names to the Lord as you pray this week. **Mechi Hunt's** family also continues to have an interest in our prayers.

Bill Reavis also remains on our prayer list as his doctor works to get a handle on the cause of his gastrointestinal issues. Bill is staying with his daughter, **Darlene**, in Owens Crossroads. They are taking great care of him.

Louis Garrett continues his recovery from the fall several weeks ago. Your prayers are appreciated by brother Garrett.

I learned that a former member at Weatherly, **Nina Rieben** underwent a hip replacement last week. She is doing well at home. Nina is anticipating having the other hip replaced shortly after she finishes her rehab. Pray for Nina.

Jerry Eakes, **Sam's** father, remains on our prayer list as he undergoes extensive rehab at home. **Lori & Sam** appreciate your prayers.

Continue to pray for sister **Becky Shaw**. She remains in rehab. She still has a ways to go.

Your notes are encouraging.

Pray for those who are chronically ill and those who are confined — **Louis Garrett, Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers**. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

Glenda Cavender	Melvin Godette
Laura Phillips	Dot Summers
Charlotte Hagewood	Lane Roberts

Directory Update

Searcy Hall has a new email address. Please add it to your directory.

searcyhall368@gmail.com

WEATHERLY UPDATES

WOW!! Our number is growing. Last Lord's Day we had several faces in the assembly that we have not seen there in a year. That's shocking, but such is life during a global pandemic. We are looking forward to seeing even more today. We can't wait to be back to 100%.

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's live streamed study entitled **Reading the Psalms**.

Sunday morning will begin at 10. Mike is continuing his series in March. Today's lesson is **Keys to the Kingdom**. Today's lesson is taken from **Acts 2**.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" on Zoom at 7. We will email a link Sunday. Join in.

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike continues his quarter long study of **The book of Lamentations**. We stream at 7. No public assembly. ☐

MARCH & APRIL BIRTHDAYS



3-12	Stevie Hagewood	3-14	Becky Hill
3-18	Susan Ivey	3-22	Thomas Hill
3-28	Adrienne West	4-2	Silvia Henderson
4-5	Carolynn Barr	4-6	Jerry Mitchell

Contending with Culture

Adapted

How do you respond to hostility toward your "Christian" belief? If you have not confronted cultural challenges, be assured that you will, sooner rather than later.

Do you let your anger simmer, get into an argument on Facebook, or just keep quiet? It's difficult to know how to respond to those who show antagonism to our faith; Peter leaves a pattern.

Be willing to suffer or be misunderstood. Since the world finds holiness, obedience, and reverence for God confusing or even offensive, taking a stand for righteousness may bring you criticism instead of praise. Don't fear the intimidation, but remember that when you are persecuted, you are blessed, *Matthew 5:10*.

Sanctify the Lord in your heart. Followers of Christ are no longer enslaved to the world but slaves to Christ and His righteousness, *Rom 6:18; 1 Cor 7:22*.

Always be ready to give a defense for your hope; gently and respectfully — never with anger.

Keep a good conscience. You can't foresee how God may use your example. Perhaps your righteous behavior and words will influence others to see their own sin and turn to Christ.

Our culture looks very dark; Let Christ can use your light to show culture the way to Him. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	5:00 pm
Wednesday Classes	7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at
www.weatherlychurch.com

WATCH:

LIVE Sermon archive or
live stream during
all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

Tommy Hill	256 883-0010
Will Starks	256 883-5273

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941
Email: mcmclmore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough	Steve Hagewood
Ron Harmon	Kirk Hatcher
David Jacks	Hill Roberts
Collis Terry	Bobby Wright



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, March 14

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer:
Scripture Reading:

Acts 2
Mike McLemore
Keys to the Kingdom

Closing Prayer:

Sunday, March 21

Mike McLemore
Hill Roberts

Acts 4
Mike McLemore
To Speak, Or Not

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **CANCELLED**

Songs Leader:
Opening Prayer: **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**
Closing Prayer: **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**

Wednesday, March 17

Songs Leader:
Invitation: **Streamed Bible Study**
Closing Prayer:

None

2021 Planning Underway

Wednesday, March 24

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes

January – March 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Reading the Psalms
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Bible Book of Lamentations
Mike McLemore

Serving in March

Serving on the Lord's
Table AM
**** Overseer**

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

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