Newsletter of the Weatherly Heights Church of Christ

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September 18, 2022

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2022 Edition, Number 38

PARALYZED BY FEAR Michael W. McLemore

he Lord Jesus assured His contemporaries that God will meet "the needs" of the faithful, Matthew 6:25-34. He feeds the birds of the air and clothes the grass with the splendor of lilies. How much more, then, will He care for us, who are made in His image? He calls upon to "seek Him first," obeying the heavenly Father, leaving the consequences to Him, 33. Affirming this truth is one thing; living in the "fear" of actually doing it is quite another.

Fear obviously produces anxiety, but it also creates chaos in our lives. It impacts those around us. It stifles our thinking and our actions. Fear creates indecisiveness that results in stagnation. I have known talented people who procrastinate indefinitely rather than risk failure. Lost opportunities cause erosion of confidence, and the downward spiral begins. Fear hinders us from becoming the people God wants us to

be. When one is dominated by negative emotions, he cannot achieve the goals that the Lord has in mind for him. A lack of self-confidence paralyzes belief in what the Lord can effect with and in our lives. Fear when left unchecked can drive people to destructive habits. To numb the pain of overbearing distress and foreboding, some turn to drugs, alcohol or even immorality for artificial relief. Fear steals peace and contentment. When one is always afraid, life becomes centered on pessimism and gloom. Doubts control and paralyze. Jesus promises an abundant life, but if we surrender to the chains of fear, our prayers won't be worth very much.

So, what are YOU afraid of? Loss, rejection, poverty, or death? All people will face such realities at some point. Christians need to know that God will never reject those who seek Him first. Whether you accept Him is your decision.



MICHAEL W. MCLEMORE

onversations with students and young preachers sometimes reveals discouragement with what they find in many churches — "These people don't care; they're not on fire for the Lord."

My first thought is "How long have you cared -- when did you catch fire?" The newly enthused likely fall into three groups: First, new converts (perhaps starry-eyed, but we need their freshness as much as they need our experience); second, new preachers, elders, deacons, teachers, etc., where new responsibility has awakened eyes to see brethren in a different light; and, brethren shaken out of complacency by the influence of those "faithful few" who plug on regardless of what others do.

The new converts may "burn out" or line up with the majority, as many of them do; the new teacher may quit in frustration, and the young preacher "moves on" looking for Utopia. But none will have served their Lord with honor. The cause of Christ depends on those who stay on fire, lighting others; whose flame is not the flaring rock-



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et of a celebration, but the glow and warmth of the home hearth — feeding the family, welcoming strangers. These make the converts, shake the complacent, and with their help continue the work others quit in disgust.

One can be realistic without being a pessimist; can work with the status quo without accepting it as final. We must recognize our problems in order to work on them. Saying the church consists of imperfect people is another way of saying we have a job to do — on ourselves, and others.

The teacher must not quit because the pupils lack interest. It is his job to create interest in the subject matter. The zealous young preacher, with maturity enough to control himself and put his talents to work, is just what that dead church needs. By example, we can teach those new converts that all of us are but striving for perfection. There are yet "seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal," Romans 11:4, and join hands with them to salt and light the world in which we live. We are but "a remnant, chosen by grace." Let's get to the work! \Box



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

Family Updates

Prayers:

Becky Hill is in the recovery interval between treatments. This is an especially hard time as she resumes treatments with which she is very familiar. Please keep her in your prayers. Also remember our brother **Tommy**!

Wanda Castleman is scheduled for gall bladder surgery next Wednesday at Crestwood Hospital. Barring any complication she should be able to go home that same evening. Remember Wanda & Murray to the Lord. We are praying this will help her feel better.

June Furlough had eye surgery on Tuesday to "unstop" her glands in the region around her eye. All went well and she is recovering nicely. She was able to be with us Wednesday. Your prayers are appreciated.

Hannah Harmon, granddaughter of Phyllis & Ron, is wearing a heart monitor for a few weeks, but was released to return to Auburn. Her cardiologist is coordinating her care with physicians in Auburn. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Donna Rovere, former Weatherly member, underwent surgery on Wednesday. She had been taken to the hospital earlier in the week in critical condition. We are thankful that she recovered enough to have the surgery. Your prayers are coveted. We will update you as more information becomes available. Also, please remember her husband, Joe.

Guy McDaniel, former Weatherly evangelist, was hospitalized on Friday. MRI proved negative for a stroke. We are thankful. Ann is staying with their daughter, Tabitha, for the time being. Please pray for Guy as her struggles with health.

"Thank you for your prayers for our daughter, Amanda Jimison, during and following her surgery." She is still recovering, but her followup visit with the surgeon went really well. In his words, "everything went perfect." She is planning to return to work on Wednesday.

Mechi Hunt's sister, Zoila Herring, is continuing her Chemo. Mechi says that she is doing well considering. Pray for her daily.

The Stark's granddaughter, Ciera Elledge, also continues to have an interest in our prayers as she anticipates further scans and an important procedure soon.

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — Peggy Monroe, Bill McCord, Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Charlotte Hagewood & Betty Dubose.

TODAY AT WEATHERLY

Sunday morning Bible class begins at 9:30. Mike is leading us in a study of "Lessons for Today from Exodus."

Sunday morning Worship begins at 10. Mike is continuing his series "Draw Near." His lesson this morning will be entitled "Don't Shrink Back" from Hebrews 10:39.

TONIGHT at 6 we will gather for **Bible Skillz** and then open forum class. Mike is leading the class is a study of Galatians. We are in Galatians 5 tonight. Come be a part.

Wednesday evening Bible study begins at 7 with our study of the Book of Exodus. This is a great study. We hope to see you all.

9-25

10-6

10-11

LaNelle Patrick

Henry Frazier

Caryl Ehl

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

	<u> </u>	Cale	end	lar		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	13	14	15	16	17	18
12 19 26		21	22	23	24	25
	20 27	28		3	0 3	51

9-20	Sophia Hunt
9-28	Dorris DeCelles
10-10	Karen Thompson
10-14	Janeth Hagewood

September	18,	2022
SEI IEMDER	10,	2022

Michael W. McLemore read this once... "One night a

wife found her husband standing over their baby's crib. Silently she watched him. As he stood looking down at the sleeping infant, she saw on his face a mixture of emotions: disbelief, doubt, delight, amazement, enchantment, skepticism.

Order Our Thoughts

Touched by this unusual display and the deep emotions it aroused, with eyes glistening she slipped her arm around her husband. "A penny for your thoughts," she said.

It's amazing!' he replied. I just can't see how anybody can make a crib like that for only \$46.50.'''

Sometimes our thoughts are not as ordered as they might be. We partake of the Lord's Supper and ought to have our thoughts centered on the sacrifice of our Savior. Instead, we think about what we're going to eat for lunch. We see a spectacular sunset and ought to be led to reflect on the glory and grandeur of God the Creator. Instead, we wonder who's winning the ball game.

You get the idea. As difficult as it is to keep our lives and our tongues under control, it seems so much more difficult to bring our "every thought into captivity," 2 *Corinthians* 10:5. If we're not careful, our thoughts tend to wander into forbidden territory. Allow these words of Paul to call us back:

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things," *Philippians 4:8.* Let's get our thoughts in order.





Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST

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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	6:00 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 Will Starks 256 883-0010 256 883-5273

Evangelist

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

Weatherly's Deacons

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





These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, September 18

Don't Shrink Back

Welcome:Will StSong Leader:Hill RoOpening Prayer:Phil ShLord's Table Lead:Ed Dill

Will Starks Hill Roberts Phil Shaver Ed Dill Hebrews 10:39

Mike McLemore

Sermon:

Closing Praver:

Evening Worship

Will Patrick

Bible Skillz

Mike McLemore

Songs Leader: Opening Prayer: Closing Prayer: David Jacks Kirk Hatcher Bobby Wright

Wednesday, September 21

Songs Leader: Invitation: Closing Prayer: Collis Terry Mike McLemore Alex Thompson

2022 Lectures Cancelled

Sunday, September 25

Tommy Hill David Jacks W.D. Patrick Steve Hagewood Hebrews 13:13 Mike McLemore "Let Us Go to Him" Riley Monroe

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore

David Jacks Tommy Hill Wes Caudle

Wednesday, September 28

Bill Thompson Mike McLemore Tommy Hill

Quarterly Adult Classes June – September 2022

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Lessons for Today from the Exodus Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Exodus *Mike McLemore*

Serving in September

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

** Phil Furlough (9-4), Tommy Hill (9-11), Ed Dill (9-18), Steve Hagewood (9-25)

Communion Prep Building Lockup

Collis Terry