

# Weatherly Weekly

October 13, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 41

## Past, Present & Future

Michael W. McLemore

The renowned English poet William Wordsworth once challenged, "Life is divided into three terms—that which was, which is, and which will be. Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present to live better for the future." In principle the poet declares our lives are divided moment by moment. What has been is past, what is present, what will be is future. Each has both its place and its potential to effect change and outcome.

Paul's love letter to the Philippians offered a living example of how he sought to live faithfully for the future, "attaining the resurrection," 3:11. Listen to his counsel — "One thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way," 3:13-15.

Both Paul and Wordsworth challenge their readers to three areas of self-examination: RETROSPECTIVE remembers, "Where have I been?" INTROSPECTIVE considers, "How am I now?" PROSPECTIVE contemplates, "To what am I going?" If correction of past error is ignored and former faithfulness is forsaken, present restoration is essential. Paul set the past in the past and reaches into the future by faithful living in the present. He knew that past accomplishment or failure will not defeat, nor excuse, present action.

God does not promise his treasures to apathetic people. Paul did not run aimlessly and has enjoined upon the students of his letter to the Philippians, "Join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us," 3:17. Wordsworth was right, "Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present to live better for the future." □

# Love Will Find a Way!

## A touching story by Sewell Hall

All Christians want to bring the lost to Christ. But each of us has some handicap which causes us to feel limited in our ability to do so. It may be a weakness of knowledge or difficulty in expressing ourselves. Perhaps it is a personality deficiency or even a lack of transportation. Whatever it may be, we tend to feel that it excuses us from responsibility. Actually, our most debilitating handicap is a lack of zeal. Once zeal is stirred, love will find a way to overcome all obstacles.

Take June McNeese as an example. Just 4 years ago, June held a responsible position with a Tennessee-based company which manufactured automobile hoses. She was, however, experiencing considerable throat trouble and the problem grew steadily worse, slurring her speech, until she could no longer function in the office. Doctors discovered that she had dreaded Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, more popularly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease. Rapidly it began affecting the other parts of her body until all of her limbs were paralyzed.

Her speech continued to deteriorate until now only a constant companion can understand anything she says, and then only when she uses the simplest of words. Often she must spell out very slowly what she is trying to say. Meanwhile, her sparkling eyes and the few words she is able to get across reveal a mind that is still keen and active.

If ever anyone would be excused from "personal evangelism" it would be June. Without use of her lower limbs she cannot go on her own. Without her arms and hands she cannot write. And with her damaged speech mechanism she cannot talk. But June does not look for an excuse. She looks for a way. When a nurse was employed, one stipulation was that she would take June to worship just as long as possible. Patti, the nurse who was chosen, found the services strange and the sermons very different from what she was accustomed to in her own religious experi-

ence. Soon she was asking questions which June found very difficult to answer with the communication problem. To add to the frustration, Patti could never seem to remember her questions when Joe Olson, a gospel preacher, came to visit.

Somehow June had to find a way to get those questions answered, either by herself or by Joe. But all she had to work with were her neck muscles. Then an idea! An electric typewriter! One was borrowed to see if she could use it. Her father cut a wooden dowel rod and placed a rubber tip on one end. Placing the other end of the rod between her teeth, June happily began typing some answers for Patti and typing questions for Joe when he came.

Patti was not easily converted. She had already changed religion once and she wanted to be sure this time. But little by little the truth, adorned by the life of her cheerful patient, did its work. Patti was baptized into Christ.

Patti is not her only convert. A Christian couple who were in error visited her on occasions. She loved them and longed to see them come closer to the truth. She successfully used her limited opportunities to teach them "the way of the Lord more perfectly." There are many others whom she hopes to reach before her time runs out. The limited life-expectancy characteristic of those with her disease makes her constantly aware, as Jesus was, that she is approaching a night "when no man can work." This lends urgency to her efforts.

Perhaps all of us would be more zealous and more diligent if we could only realize how short is the time each of us has to accomplish whatever is to be accomplished in this life. I visited June recently in her Tennessee home. I did not understand a single word she said. But, at her usual speed of 5 words a minute, she typed a message for me, perfectly capitalized and indented. "Dear brother Hall, I am very glad you could come to see me this afternoon." □



Watch LIVE



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**Steven Guice** remains hospitalized at UAB following surgery to remove a recurrent tumor from his intestinal tract. Steve went last week for what he hoped would be a routine annual follow-up with his oncologist. It was far from routine. We are thankful that the surgery went well and the blood-loss abated. **Julie** has indicated they plan to return to M.D. Anderson in Houston to address the other tumors as soon as Steve is able to travel. Please pray for Steve and his very concerned family.

**Barbara Woodard** remains at home. Please pray for her as she works to regain strength following her recent surgery.

**Bobby Ferguson** is staying with **Tammy & Scott Woodard** for the time being. He is barely able to move from severe back pain. He is scheduled for an MRI Tuesday at 12:45 pm at Crestwood. Your prayers for him are appreciated.

**Betty Reavis** continues her radiation treatments. Please continue to say her name to the Lord daily. We are trusting Him to see Betty through this arduous ordeal and to heal her body. Pray for both **Betty & Bill**.

**Debbie Harbin** was able to be with us for the first time last Sunday. We are thankful for her progress and continue to pray for her improvement.

**Edith Turner** is continuing to try to overcome a nagging infection. Your prayers and expressions of concern for her are very much appreciated. She plans to be here today.

**Laura Phillips, Jenny Jacks'** mom, remains at

The Cottages under the care of home health. We are all praying for her improvement and her strength. Say her name to the Lord as you pray this week. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

**Melvin Godette**      **Glenda Cavender**  
**Pam (West) Davis**      **Marty Haselden**  
**Travis Barnett**

[weatherlychurch.com](http://weatherlychurch.com)

Are you able to sign into the member area of our website? For the members of the congregation who do not have access to weatherlychurch.com or would like to make changes to your contact information, please contact **Phil Furlough**. He will help you.

## Sunday Night Study Series

The fall edition of Sunday Night Studies begins tonight at 5. Our theme this year is **God Works Through His People: "I Want to Be a Worker."** We hope every member of our Weatherly family will participate heartily in these evening assemblies. In the end it will make us better. ☐

## Group Meetings

Group Two, led by **Phil Furlough**, will meet immediately following evening worship in the large back classroom.

Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, will meet today after morning worship for a covered dish and group meeting at the **Starks'** home.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



10-14	Janeth Hagewood	10-20	Don Roberts
10-24	Amanda Jimison	10-26	Dwight Ivey
10-27	Jimmy Harbin	10-29	Charlotte Hagewood

## On Eagle's Wings

James W. Adams

A driver while motoring through the mountains rounded a blind turn and ran over something in the road. Stopping his car at a nearby drive-out, he went back to see what he had struck. To his surprise, he found he had killed a giant eagle which had been feeding upon the putrefying body of a dead animal.

Long ago, the prophet Isaiah pictured the servant of God as rising "with wings as eagles," *Isaiah 40:31*. The giant eagle's great wings could have taken him in a moment almost out of sight, and certainly, out of harm's way. Yet, he was killed by an earthbound automobile because he was absorbed with filling himself with the flesh of a rotting carcass.

Through Christ, God's servants can rise to the heights of spiritual excellence. Yet, they too often meet their catastrophic ends because of their lust for the world's carrion. John warned, "Love not the world, neither the things that in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him," *1 John 1:15*. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



Weatherly Heights  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## 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](http://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  
**Forest Summers**      256 348-2251

## Evangelist

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

## Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, October 13

**Welcome:** **Will Starks**  
**Song Leader:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Marty Hunt**  
**Scripture Reading:** **Philip Dill**  
    **1 John 4:1-6**  
**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
    **Testing the Spirits**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Charley Skinner**

### Sunday, October 20

**Will Starks**  
**David Jacks**  
**Will Starks**  
**Jeremy Leshko**  
    **1 John 2:12-17**  
**Mike McLemore**  
    **Leaving the Spirit of this World**  
**Gene Preston**

### Evening Worship

**Study Series**      **Jared Jimison**  
**Songs Leader:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Collis Terry**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Kirk Hatcher**

### Evening Worship

**David Jacks**  
**W.D. Patrick**  
**Hill Roberts**

### Wednesday, October 16

**Songs Leader:** **Mike Coward**  
**Invitation:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Jim Ehl**

### Wednesday, October 23

**Phil Furlough**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**Jared Jimison**

### Group 2

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

### Group 3

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
**October – December 2019**

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY  
& WEDNESDAY**

The Gospel According to John  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in October

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Charley Skinner</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>	<b>Ron Holland</b>
	<b>Jim Ehl</b>	<b>Clark Boles</b>
	<b>Ron Harmon **</b>	<b>Will Patrick</b>
<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Ed Dill **</b>	<b>Phil Shaver</b>
<b>Communion Prep Building Lockup</b>		<b>Peggy &amp; Mike Coward</b>
		<b>Murray Castleman</b>

