Newsletter of the Weatherly Heights Church of

June 28, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 26

Toning It Down

Neekly

Robert Turner

"country meeting" had gone exceedingly well, and elders from another community asked the preacher to work with them the following year. He came at the appointed time, and found his reputation had spread, and the building was packed. The elders met him at the car, told him they had never had such a gathering, so he must be very careful lest he offend someone with his forthright teaching.

Being young and brash, and having no more tact than to tell the truth, he reminded them of the undiluted lessons that had been given at the neighboring church in the previous year. He said that since he had not been in that section of the state before, the previous year's work must have drawn this year's crowd; and certainly was the reason he had been asked to come. He concluded, "If you expect to hold and convert these people with something other than the kind of preaching that brought them together, I'm afraid you have the wrong man. I'll get back into my car and go home."

With much confusion... "Oh no, you must

have misunderstood us." The preacher was persuaded to stay, and the meeting began. The preaching was strong, and seemed to get a little stronger, but the people continued to come, and several were converted.

I do not now believe, nor did I then, that "skinning the sects" is good preaching. Some fold will turn away from straight, plain truth, no matter how fairly we seek to present it. But we are dead wrong in thinking we can convert people to Christ with anything other than the Bible message. It will convict the world respecting sin, righteousness, and judgement; and many won't like that. But we are looking for the "few" who will like it, and will genuinely turn to God.

"Toning it down" will produce only "toned down" members of a "toned down" church. You may keep the money, the politicians, and silkstocking row; but you will lose the backbone and fiber that is necessary for a church to prevail and please the Lord. And if "members" are not interested in pleasing the Lord and saving souls, why bother with any preaching at all.

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In Good Times and Bad

It's easy to give God the glory when you have great God didn't give you what you thought you wanted? At the friends and family, and enjoy wonderful health and happitime of denial, our selfishness made it hard to praise Him. ness. It's easy to praise Him when others surround you in Given time and opportunity for reflection, it becomes easier. like mind and your voice is joined in a chorus of hundreds. One mark of spiritual maturity is to learn to glorify Him It's easy to be thankful when you walk along a quiet beach in days of delight and days of distress. After the Nashville or sit atop a mountain where you can see forever. It's easy flood of 2010, I made a list of lessons learned to our benefit. then. And I have had those times. You have, too. We learned that we are not in control.

There are "mountaintop" days when your cup is filled to We learned to quit complaining about insignificant stuff. overflowing, days when you can't thank Him enough. The We learned that God has given man an indomitable spirit. simple song, "God is so good," seems to be on "repeat" as We learned that things could change in an instant. We learned to thank Him for our safety. it plays in your mind. In fact, you wake up to the message We learned that after the storm comes a rainbow of hope. of Psalm 118:24—"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Indeed. I love those days. Unfor-Can God be glorified when times are hard and circumtunately, there aren't enough of them. stances difficult? Yes.

Psalm 145 is filled to overflowing with bounty and bless-When a friend's wife died just shy of their 30th wedding ing. "Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name anniversary, he was given wisdom perspective when presentforever and ever" (v. 2). Yet in the midst of this beginninged with this question. "If God had sat you down thirty years to-end song of praise, there is this realistic reminder: "The ago and said, 'You can have her, but only for thirty years'-Lord sustains all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed what would have been your decision?" He responded, "I down" (v. 14). There will be days when we fall, days when would have still said, 'Yes!'-and been thankful." His friend we are bowed down. paused and replied, "God gave you those thirty years." He Hence, Can we bring Him glory when times aren't so learned there and then to glorify God for the time that he good? Can we praise Him in spite of the pain? Can we thank had. It's a faith-perspective that, sometimes, only tragedy Him in the midst of trials? Can we trust Him when we don't allows you to find.

understand? The song "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" was taken

Job's response to Mrs. Job sums up the struggle (2:10): from something Job said in 19:25. It's one of those hymns "Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adwe sing with great fervor and emotion. It's also easy to conversity?" What do I tell the young mom struggling with two clude that whomever wrote those original words must have toddlers in tow and feeling completely overwhelmed? Or been experiencing a mountaintop moment unlike any other. what do I say to the sister that has buried a spouse or to the Friend, Job wrote those words and ... he wasn't sitting on a brother that looks into the mirror and speaks the word he mountain. In fact, he was at one of the lowest ebbs of life. never thought he would hear: "Cancer?" What words can be Even then, his faith stirred him to look past his troubles and said to the one struggling through a divorce or to the family glorify God for what he knew. facing the loss of their home to a natural calamity? Life is hard and some days it gets harder. Ask God for

In those moments of intensified emotion, the words, help to see the good. Satan will do everything he can to con-"Praise God!" ring hollow. Yet, in the aftermath of each sitvince you otherwise. Don't listen to that liar. Put your trust uation just described, He can be praised. Looking back on in the One who can see what you cannot see. Be thankful life's toughest days, we can give Him the glory for what He for what you have. And keep your eye cocked toward heavcould see when we couldn't. Have you never prayed for an en. outcome only to be denied, and then later been thankful that Good times or bad—Glory to His name!



Watch

By Wilson Adams

We learned that people are more important than possessions.



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

FAMILY UPDATES

Pravers:

David Jacks is making excellent progress. He graduated from PT and continuing the work at home. Thank you for Your prayers.

Remember **Forest Summers** as he prepares for his upcoming scan. Pray for a good result. Also, please remember him and **Dot** to the Lord as you pray this week.

W.D. Patrick continues to recover at home. He is doing better and for that we are thankful. We have much for which to be grateful.

Ron Harmon continues to do well. We are so thankful for his progress. Pray for Ron & Phyllis.

Steve Guice continues the oral medication regimen. Say his name to the Lord.

Phil Furlough is scheduled to have orthopedic surgery on July 7. Remember him please.

Glenda Cavender remains in our prayers. It was awesome to see Ken Sunday.

Aaron Gore continues to need our prayers. Also, remember Sandra.

EXTENDED FAMILY

Edith Turner's sister, Katheryn Wall (102), was diagnosed with COVID. She is a resident in an area nursing home. Sister Wall is experiencing no symptoms of the illness and for that we are thankful. Please pray for her. Edith is understandably very concerned.

Angelia Leyva, great-niece of Ruth Mitchell suffered a heart attack last week. She underwent triple bypass heart surgery on Friday and

remains in ICU at this printing. You may remember that Angelia had her foot amputated several months ago, and was scheduled to receive her prosthetic last week. Pray for her.

Ben Starks, nephew of Will, suffered an unexplained neurological event last week. He is some better and has been moved to a Bowling Green, Kentucky rehab hospital. Pray for Ben and his family please.

Daily Prayer List:

Laura Phillips Melvin Godette

WEATHERLY UPDATES

Our first Sunday back to the building went very well. We were grateful for all of those who helped make that possible. Tomorrow will be much the same, with a couple of revisions. First, when you arrive please go ahead and make your way to the south entrance (covered drive-thru doors). Keep a safe distance from those ahead of you. Our greeters will meet you and get you seated. Second, handouts will be passed out after everyone is in place.

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00. That's a change. We are studying Hinges of Christianity: Common Treasury.

Sunday morning worship will begin at 10. Mike will continue his June series entitled God's Greatest Blessings: Crown of Life. Look for the handout in your email.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" will begin on Zoom at 7 pm. We will email a link Sunday.

Wednesday Bible Study – Mike

Treasures Unknown

I am a collector. Over the years, I have accumulated a lot of stuff. Some things have sentimental value, such as the wooden cigar box guitar my father made as a boy or the chipped "Love Conquers All" plaque that hung on my grandfather's living room wall. However, most of my stuff is simply made up of things that I thought I had to have.

As I grow older, my collection does not seem as important anymore — "You can't take it with you." When I leave this earth, my lifetime of treasures will stay behind. They will be split between my surviving relatives or, worse yet, heaped into the nearest dumpster. I have come to realize that the only things I will take with me are in my heart.

So, I've started a new collection. This one takes up a lot less space and I never have to dust it or polish the tarnish. I have started collecting the smiles on a shutin's face when I pay him a visit; the gratitude of a young child when I give her my time, and the tender hugs from nursing home residents as I bend down beside their wheelchair to chat.

Sometimes, when I am all alone, I marvel at the treasures of my heart and give thanks for every opportunity God has given me to perform, a simple act of kindness. Jesus said, "Lay up treasures in heaven ... "I'm collecting treasures that last! 🗖





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.weatherlvchurch.com

WATCH:

Sermon archive or LIVE live stream during all Weatherly services

Weatherly's Shepherds

Tommy Hill 256 883-0010 Will Starks 256 883-5273 256 348-2251 **Forest Summers**

Evangelist

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

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Ron Harmon David Jacks Collis Terry

Steve Hagewood Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright**

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Calendar

JUNE & JULY BIRTHDAYS Susan Hand 6-30

Jim Ehl 7-19 7-27 Donna Godette 7-31 Phillip Dill

Will Starks 7-10 **Peggy Shelton** 7-19 7-29 **Mike McLemore**

McLemore's study of 1 John will be streamed live at 7 pm. No assembly Wednesday.

Betty Reavis Jean Woodard



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, June 28

Welcome: Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** Scripture Reading:

Mike McLemore Jared Jimison **Bill Thompson** Wes Caudle 2 Timothy 4:6-8 Mike McLemore The Crown of Life

Closing Prayer:

Sermon:

Evening Worship

Nick Holland

Bible Skillz

CANCELLED

Songs Leader: **Opening Prayer: Closing Prayer:**

Virtual Devotion on ZOOM

Wednesday, July 1

Songs Leader: Invitation: **Closing Prayer:**

Streamed Bible Study

Streamed Bible Study

None

Ouarterly Adult Classes

None

2020 Weatherly Lectures April 30th—May 3rd

We rearet to announce that our 2020 Lectures have been cancelled.

April – June 2020 **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**

Hinges of Christianity Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Letters from John Mike McLemore

Serving in July

Serving on the Lord's Table AM ** Overseer

Lord's Supper PM

**

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Communion Prep Building Lockup

Sunday, July 5

Mike McLemore Jared Jimison Ken Cavender Nick Holland 2 Timothy 4:1-5 Mike McLemore What's Real Preaching? Steve Hagewood

Evening Worship

CANCELLED

Virtual Devotion on ZOOM

Wednesday, July 8