



WATERMILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

November 23, 2014

Order of Worship

Song Leader
Kerry Cole

#111 (1,2,4)
#515

Opening Prayer
David Kern

#501
#782

The Lord's Supper
Jerry Young

Contribution
Jerry Young

#238 (1,2,4)

Lesson
Bill McFarland

#800

Announcements
Bob Snider

#391 (1,3)

Closing Prayer
Brian Carroll

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matt. 5:14)



GRATITUDE AND CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

When the New Testament addresses Christians on how to live, it emphasizes that we must be thankful. To always be giving thanks for everything is clearly God's will for us in Christ (Eph. 5:20; I Thes. 5:18). But why is this grateful spirit so crucial to godly character?

It's because both thanksgiving and ingratitude belong to ways of living. Being ungrateful is just one element of a self-centered, dishonorable, debased life (Rom. 1:21, 28-32; 2 Tim. 3:1-4). Being thankful is also part of a whole way of life, one which is lived through faith in the Lord and obedience to him (Eph. 5:1-4; Col. 3:17).

Ingratitude and thankfulness belong to wholly different ways of being because they are reflections of the heart. Giving thanks, for example, means being thoughtful enough, aware enough, to realize that I've been blessed. All that I am or have come from somewhere; it was given by someone (Js. 1:17).

Giving thanks also means being humbled by the realization that I have been blessed. I've not demanded a right; I've received a gift. My place is with the one leper who fell on his face at Jesus' feet and gave him thanks (Lk. 17:16).

Giving thanks means that, having thought upon the kindness I've been shown, and having been humbled by it, I feel a sense of indebtedness which effects how I conduct myself (cf. Rom. 1:8; 8:12). "E'en on earth, Lord, make me know, Something of how much I owe" (McCheyne).

Giving thanks means that I have a desire to praise, honor and glorify the one to whom I am indebted. The point is not just my fulfilling of an obligation. The point is that I've received a blessing, a gift, and that all I can offer in return is a sacrifice of praise (Ps. 116:12, 17).

Giving thanks means that I tend to act upon what I know I ought to do, that I turn good intentions into actions. Gratitude shapes a character and fashions a life.

- Bill McFarland

Family Bible Time Tonight at 5 p.m.

Prayer List & Notes

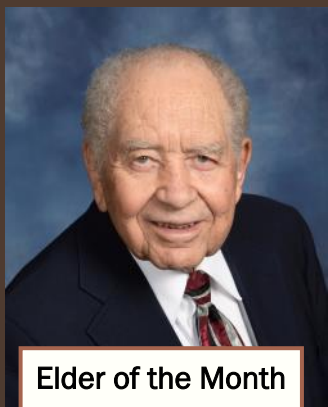
Welcome Visitors

We are honored that you joined us. We hope you will be blessed by your time with us. We have an attended nursery, a cry/training room and a nursing mother's room for your convenience if you have small children. Please fill out an attendance card and pass it to the end of the pew so that we may thank you for your visit.

For The Record

November 16

Bible Study:	256
Morning:	314
Evening:	108
Wednesday (11/19):	178
Contribution:	\$8,114



Elder of the Month
Bob Snider

- ◆ Continue to remember Eula Compton, Dale Harp, Greg Larimore, Estel Pendergrass, Lyle Mishler & Ola Jean Feeney as they all deal with continuing health issues.
- ◆ Shawna Stockdale will meet with surgeon on 12/4 to schedule back surgeries; also, their son JT has an infection in his bones
- ◆ John Stayton is having difficulty with the incision from his back surgery
- ◆ Ruth Raines who is recovering from surgery for the pain stimulator
- ◆ Tim Timmons will see the surgeon on 12/9
- ◆ Sherry Sherman is in Cox South
- ◆ Angela Asher has been having some health issues recently.

Friends & Family

- Tom Meeks is in Cox South
- David and Debbie Kern's little grandson Josiah (and his parents) as he has several health concerns
- Ann Thiesen's granddaughter, Sierra Bower, is home and doing better. Her diagnosis was Cat Scratch Fever and Mono.
- Carolyn Young's sister, Nita, is now in a skilled nursing facility in Joplin
- Greg Larimore's 4-month old grandson recovering from surgery
- Norma Lorenz's daughter, Sherry, is feeling some better
- Lucile High's son David's mother-in-law, Ilene Essary, who has cancer
- Pat Kerr, Bob and Leona's neighbor, as she deals with cancer
- Robert Keith requests prayers for Marilyn Keith's health issues
- Amanda Eilenstein's uncle, Richard Fredendall, as he continues to battle leukemia; Judy High requests prayers for her father Horace High; Nadean Green's nephew, Tyler Crabtree, recently had a malignant tumor removed from his neck. Mary Jo Rookstool's neighbor, Julie Dibben, and her mother, Joy Shelburn
- Bonnie Cole's nephew, Scott Golden, Jon Ewing's brother, Mike Ewing, Joyce Harmon, Gaitha Downing's mother-in-law, Coyeatte Ewing's mom, Beverly Hammond.
- Ron Brown, who just spoke to us about the China Mission, as he recovers from a recent fall

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Dennis Smith in the recent loss of his aunt, Mildred Morrison of Van Buren.



Once again our Water Mill Family has come to the rescue. We wish to thank you, our dear friends and family, for all the beautiful cards for both our Birthdays and our Anniversary; also for all the Get Well cards while I was recovering in the hospital. We thank you for thinking of us and praying for us. We appreciate so much any way you contributed to help in our getting-well process. We are so thankful for answered prayer and for your friendship and love. Clay & Sharon Joseph

Dennis Smith's new e-mail address is
drsshag@gmail.com.

Long Term/ Shut-ins

Kay Adams
Shirley Bartlett
Doris Burch
Eula Compton
Fern Davis
Thelma Fain
Ella Mae Findlay
Chloe Gaddis
Mary Head
Doris Iorg
Sherry Sherman
Doris Tobler
Judy Todd
Pat Woods



Expectant Moms

Stephanie Schwartz/boy/
February
Sara Keener/girl/March
Leah Prewitt/boy/March

Birthdays

12/1 Sheryl Low
3 Ashlyn Wuench
4 Marsha Bower
Jeremiah Nichols
Regina Woods
6 Adam Barton
Nancy Johnson



Thanks so much to everyone for helping to restock our food pantry. Your generosity is always encouraging.

News & Activities

There will be a combined devotional in the auditorium Wednesday night. If you are in town, we encourage you to be here with us for a special time of devotional and singing. If you are traveling, have a safe and happy weekend.

Next Sunday is the 5th Sunday. As always, our contributions that day will go toward our building.

If you were given a nickname descriptive of your character, would you be proud of it?

A GOOD name is rather to be chosen than great riches. Proverbs 22:1

Bro. Dennis will begin a new series of lessons in the Auditorium Class starting this morning entitled "Spending Time With and Information About Jesus Christ and His Church." (Some timely thoughts about our own personal thoughts and the age and culture in which we live.) If you haven't been attending a Bible class, now would be a good time to get involved.

We will NOT have a potluck luncheon on the 30th, the fifth Sunday this month, but will instead welcome in the New Year with a soup and salad luncheon on January 4. (Watch for more information.)



CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS

By Dennis R. Smith

John the Baptist is described in scripture as a prophet dressed in a raiment of camel's hair and a leather girdle wrapped about his loins. The prophet Isaiah described him as "*the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness*" (Isa. 40:3). It is generally accepted that this John's purpose was to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus Christ to the world. The circumstances of his birth can be seen by reading the first chapter of the book of Luke. In the third chapter of Matthew's gospel we find him full grown and preaching in the wilderness of Judea. His message to the multitudes who came out to hear him was clear and concise. He said "*Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand ... prepare ye the way of the Lord*" (Matt. 3:1-3). While the area of his preaching was no doubt in a barren and unsettled part of the region of Judea, the "wilderness" might have been the rough, wild and sinful lifestyle which so many were in as can be seen in John's message for repentance. Consider this possibility: There is a wilderness today much like that in the days of John. All manner of sin exists today. God is not only denied, but He is often cursed and rejected by millions. The church, which takes on the role of God's Messenger, cries out in this wilderness "*repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins*" (Acts 2:38). However, this plea is rejected and ridiculed by many. May it not be so with any of our readers!

Elders, Ministers, Deacons & Staff

Elders

Barney Crawford	417-866-0592
Clay Joseph	417-833-3002
Eddie Sanders	417-833-5712
Bob Snider	417-833-3498
Jerry Young	417-724-0324

Minister

Bill McFarland	417-833-0110
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Golden Age Minister

Dennis Smith	417-866-6918
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Youth/Associate Minister

Adam Blaney	304-520-9800
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Deacons

Scott Barton	Russell Lilly
Tim Bowling	Aaron Morrison
Tim Buckner	Travis Morrison
Tom Davis	James Simons
Jim Elliff	John Stayton
Jon Ewing	Mike Thurlkill
Matt Keener	

Staff

Johnnie Elliff	Secretary
Tim Bowling	Custodian

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study9:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship...5:00 PM
 Wednesday Night Bible Class....7:00 PM

WORKS WE SUPPORT

CHINESE AGAPE Foundation
 Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
 Steven Ashcraft, West Africa Mission
 Voice of Truth International
 Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions
 World Christian Broadcasting
 Churches of Christ Disaster Relief
 Fair Haven Children's Home

“In Search of the Lord’s Way”
 7 AM Sundays KOLR TV 10
 ‘KNOW YOUR BIBLE’
 10:30 AM Sundays/Springfield 33/KSPR



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 B. McFarland: b.mcfarland@mchsi.com
 A. Blaney: ablaney1028@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Fri-



Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

Nursery: Linda Currier
Greeters: Norma Lorenz/Johnnie Elliff
Van Driver: Lance Griter/833-2818
KYB: Mike & Glenda Thurlkill

Serve Jason Luna/John Mahon
Communion: Andy McFarland/Tom Norrell
 Aaron Morrison/Scott Nichols
 Travis Morrison/Gene Lund
 Steve Prewitt/Eddie Sanders

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Adam Blaney
Opening Prayer: Brendan Carroll
Lesson: Bill McFarland
Closing Prayer: Tim Stockstill
Communion: Carl Tindall/Adam Stipp
Nursery: Donna Jordan/M. Reaves

NEXT WEEK, November 30

	AM	PM
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole/Jon Ewing	Adam Blaney
Opening Prayer:	Grant Schaper	Jon Davis
Communion:	Luis Tovar	Carl Tindall/Adam Stipp
Closing Prayer:	John Hulett	Paul Lines
Greeters:	John & Michelle Hulett	
Van Driver:	Travis Morrison/343-7451	

MONTH OF NOVEMBER

AV Scott Barton/
 Room: Bruce Tindall
 Open Tim Timmons
 Building
 Secure Tim Buckner
 Building:

Wednesday, November 26

Devotional: Combined Devo
Song Leader: in the
Prayer: Auditorium
Van Driver: Charles Crum/
 840-2632