



WATERMILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 14, 2019

Stories of the Gardening Season

The evidence is that the Lord meant for us to identify with the gardening process. The church is like a field that God works (cf. 1 Cor. 3:6-9). Not only are our lives like soil being tended to produce a crop, but we are also his hands to help with the sowing, watering, and necessary garden chores. It's a picture with much to contribute to our understanding of ourselves.

This, then, is our time of the year. The garden section of every home store is stocked to overflowing. Neighbors all around are preparing the ground, marking off rows or beds, and choosing varieties of seeds (or plants started from them), all in anticipation of the harvest. We may well think on the spiritual truths being demonstrated as this happens.

Jesus did that very thing as he taught in the fourth chapter of Mark. He was sitting in a boat and the crowd was spread out on the land before him. Maybe they looked to him like a garden coming up. Whether that was the reason or not, he used stories of the garden to illustrate what occurs as persons hear the word of his kingdom (cf. v. 14).

Like a seed, the word has life in it (Mk. 4:26-29). Because it does, it can sprout and grow by itself, developing into a sprout, then becoming a mature plant, then bearing fruit. The gardener plants it, tends it, and goes about his business, but he knows the power is in the seed.

As a seed seems a small and insignificant beginning, so the life of the kingdom of God does not develop from humanly impressive events (Mk. 4:30-32). It has a far-reaching impact over time because of who rules it and because of what it is, not because of what people think of it.

Just as all seeds do, what the seed of the kingdom ultimately brings forth depends on the kind of soil upon which it falls (Mk. 4:13-20). A hearer may leave the word on the surface, allowing Satan to take it away before it has any impact. One may have an initial interest, but not enough depth to sustain life through the dry seasons. Another may take the word in only to allow the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desire for other things to choke it out. But there will also be good hearts who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit in keeping with their opportunity.

The stories of the garden allow us to be both realistic and hopeful, not only with regard to the word of the kingdom in our own lives but also with regard to our efforts to sow it in the lives of others. We are reminded that our first task is always to pay attention to what we hear (Mk. 4:24-25). That is where all growth starts.

—Bill McFarland



Order of Worship

Song Leader
Kerry Cole

#647 (1,2,4)

Scripture Reading
John 10:10-18
Tim Stockstill

"Faithful Love"

Opening Prayer
Tom Davis

#350 (1,3)
#312 (1,2,4)

The Lord's Supper
Our Contribution
John Mahon

#287

Message
Bill McFarland

#742 (1,2,3)

Announcements
Jerry Young

#453 (1,3)

Closing Prayer

Serve Communion

Patrick Springer
David Grimm
Mike Ussery
Braden Keener
Mike Putnam
John Dutton
Adam Barton
Wyatt Maples
Brendan Carroll
Gaylen Jones

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 April 7

Bible Study:	188
Morning:	284
Evening:	174
Wednesday (4/17):	181
Contribution:	\$ 8,868

Daily Bible Reading schedules for the 2nd Quarter are available at the Information Desk. Pick up a copy and get started now!



Congratulations to Kim and Dustin Stokes on the safe arrival of **Jackson Lee** born Friday afternoon. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. Mom and baby are doing well. Congrats also to Ron & Lisa.

If you can provide a meal for Kim and Dustin and family, please sign up at the Information Desk.



FAMILY MATTERS

FAMILY CONCERNS

- ◆ **Oran Green** has been in and out of the hospital this week. He had a TIA.
- ◆ **Yvonne Tindall** continues recovering from surgery and treatments.
- ◆ **Dennis Smith** will be having some follow-up tests on April 29.
- ◆ **Rachel Lilly** continues to need our prayers for her recovery from eye surgery that will hopefully help with some of the issues that occurred when she had the brain tumor.

Continue to remember **Jim & Ruth Reaves, Clarence & Ola Jean Feeny, Bob Stockstill, Barbara Barnes, Beverly McCormick**

Friends & Family

- **Phil Baker**, former member at North National, and Brooke Barton's grandpa, has had a recurrence of cancer.
- Laurie Atwood's cousin, **Debbie Brown**, will have breast cancer surgery Tuesday.
- Julie Alexander's mom, **Bertha Lopez**, is having health problems.
- Tucker Jobes' brother, **Taylor**, continues to be seriously ill.
- Chris Andrews' dad, **James**, is dealing with several health issues.
- Bill's mom, **Pauline Redmon**, is not doing well.
- **Susan Green** is back in the hospital.
- The Horton's friend's dad, **Elvin Volker**, is in ICU in St. Louis. He is improving, but they think he will be there 6-8 weeks.
- Continue to remember **Christine Davis; Erin Marsoff; Bob & Ellie Swartz; Wilma Nutter**, Rosemary Sanders' aunt; the Mahons' daughter-in-law's mother, **Barbara Groce; Leon Wake**, Tina Orum's dad; **Janet & Wayne Barrier**.

Long Term/Shut-Ins

**Marsha Bower
Ron Bower
Don Essex
Clarence Feeny
Ola Jean Feeny
Cecil Frost
Wanda Frost
Doris Iorg
Jim Reaves
Ruth Reaves
Doris Tobler**

Nursing Homes

**Ella Mae Findlay
Ann Freeze
Chloe Gaddis
Jerry Gillespie
Frances Grann
Wayne Harmon
Virginia Morgan
Sandra Pingnot
Nancy Snider
Lonnie Wilkinson**



We express our sympathy to Bill White and his family in the loss of his sister-in-law, Mary Helen West Herndony. She was Ida Mae's sister.

Ron Brown, one of the missionaries we support, will give a report of his work with the Chinese Agape Foundation at the evening service.



Birthdays

**16 Darren Wake
21 Michelle Hulett
Alice Buckner
Teresa Griter
22 Lisa Stayton
26 Doris Iorg
Gail White**

Notice the new lettering on our newest van. Our thanks to Jerry and Pat Milligan for their time and effort to letter the van. Be sure and thank them. Thanks, Jerry

Please take note of the flyers on the bulletin board announcing various area events.

April Anniversaries

**15 Brock/Christina Snitker 13 yrs.
17 Mike/Constance Jackson 20 yrs.
26 Byrle/Virginia Hayter 56 yrs.
Happy Anniversary!!**

**Eddie Sanders
new cell phone #
is 417-830-6395.**

What's Happening?

TIES that BIND

Deuteronomy 11:18-19

Please sign up if you are interested in participating in the Ties That Bind Ministry.

This program combines 2 households (Golden Agers/Empty Nesters) with 2 teens (grades 6-12) for the purpose of connecting across generational lines. More details about your level of involvement will follow this signup sheet. We will give you all the resources to be successful and build

Kickoff Party
April 28 after PM service!

The Mystery of Whose History:

I have battled against 2 Hall of Fame pitchers? Who am I?

Answer to last week's question: Cindy Hannah was kissed by Shamu the Killer Whale at age 18!



Thank you to everyone who made our Ladies' Tea a great success and especially to our special servers of the day. It was a beautiful day!

LTC

Preview Night:
TONIGHT after Service
This is a special time for the kids so you don't want to miss it!

Convention/April 19-20

Saturday,
April 27



Class OF 2019

GRADUATES' RECEPTION

May 5 after PM Service

Please bring sandwiches, finger foods, etc. Cake will be furnished.

Our 2019 Graduates are:

High School:

Aiden Davis
William Downing
Gabby Gellen
Joshua Luna
Wyatt Maples
Nathan Thompson

College:

Aaron Alexander
Briley Ewing
JeDonna Griter

- **Ladies class** will meet Thursday at 10:30 AM. "The Spread" will be taught by Ruth Essex.
- **Quilters/Sewers** meet each Thursday at 9 am.
- **Youth Retreat** with Mountain Home/May 3-5



THIS MORNING

Greeters: Jerry & Pat Milligan
Van Driver: Todd Kraus/417-207-7877
Nursery: Wanita Duncan/Donna Jordan

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Travis Morrison
Opening Prayer: Paul Lines
Lesson: Ron Brown/Chinese Agape Foundation
Closing Prayer: Jackie Buck
Communion: J. Stayton/G. Kenyon
Nursery: Alice Buckner/Kasey Sekulic

Wednesday, April 17

Scripture Reading: Jon Ewing
Song Leader: Tom Easterly
Prayer: John Hulett
Van Driver: Jason Luna/838-7152

NEXT WEEK, April 21

	AM	PM
Song Leader:	Kerry Cole/Jon Ewing	Travis Morrison
Opening Prayer:	Cambre Thrasher	Mike Ussery
Communion:	Andy McFarland	J. Stayton/G. Kenyon
Closing Prayer:	Brian Carroll	J. Pendergraft
Greeters:	Gene & Kelly Kenyon	
Van Driver:	Team Hulett/889-5344	
Nursery:	AM: Coyeatte Ewing/Christina Snitker	
	PM: Virginia Buck/Teresa Mahon	

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
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

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...6:30 PM

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! Psalms 105:4

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Deacons
Tim Buckner Russell Lilly
Tom Davis Aaron Morrison
Jim Elliff John Stayton
Matt Keener Mike Thurkill

Staff
Secretary Johnnie Elliff
Custodian Tim Bowling



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