

Weekly Newsletter April 5, 2020

Grace to You and Peace

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Some form of this greeting in the letter to the saints at Philippi is common to Paul's letters. It is also quite personal and meaningful, both for them and for us. It combines the Jewish greeting, "peace," with the Greek one, "grace," as if to extend to all the shared enjoyment of the favor and kindness of our Father that blesses us with a sense of wholeness and well-being in the Lord. I don't suppose there's any greater expression of the gift of fellowship than this.

I think of it with regard to all of you especially because of the way the letter continues: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Phil. 1:3-5). I'm sure I can't grasp all that their partnership may have required of them or meant to them. At least, though, I can understand the appreciation for it that is being expressed.

This week is the 35 year marker in the partnership this congregation and my family have had. We thank God in our remembrance of your kindness toward us and patience with us, and especially in our remembrance of your labor of love and work of faith for him. Not only do we thank him, we also thank you who have been so much a part of our lives through so much of this time.

So about the present moment in our story...I wonder what I would have thought if I had known that first Sunday when I spoke to crowd of about 400 that this Sunday I would be addressing just about 4? Well, maybe if you heard that beginning you're not surprised at such a result...but none of us could ever have guessed what has put us in this situation. I miss all of you!

Thanks to each one of you for what you are doing to help us continue to be a congregation. As we pray for a resolution of the crisis, and for all who are burdened with it, let us be steadfast because of the hope laid up for us in heaven.

--Bill McFarland



Thank you Bill and Kay for 35 years of dedicated service to the Lord's work and to this congregation. We love and appreciate you!





- Debbi Ratterree is in Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Cards can be sent to 1 Parkview PI, Room 8805, St. Louis, MO 63110. So far she has been tolerating the chemo which is necessary before the bone marrow transplant. **KEEP PRAYING CONSTANTLY!**
- Oran Green is now at home being cared for by Nadean and the family. Keep them in your prayers.
- Orvella Blackburn's son-in-law, Josh's father, **Barry DeWeese**, had a heart attack recently. Now he needs kidney surgery before he can have open heart surgery but is dealing with complications. He is in Cox South.
- Bob and Leona's grandson and his wife, Brandon and Allison Snider, are both medical healthcare providers in Oklahoma. Also prayers for Connie Snider who oversees some Mercy Medical Clinics in the area.
- The Essex's granddaughter, Victoria Lacy, needs major female surgery to remove tumors. In the meantime she has a major breast issue; they are waiting on results of an MRI. She is 26 years old.
- Elizabeth Lilly's dad, Frank Cunningham, has lung cancer; waiting on treatment options.
- Jenny Carroll's dad and stepmom have symptoms of the virus; they are being watched closely.
- Lucille High requests prayers for her great-granddaughter, **Ashley Hopper**, who is working on the front line at Cox South.
- Carolyn Young as she needs both knees replaced.
- Marlene Matthews as she continues to deal with ongoing health problems.
- Connie Westerman as she deals with her health issues.
- Shirlane Horton also needs knee surgery but trying other things right now.
- Beverly Hammond, Coyeatte Ewing's mother, is now home from the hospital.
- Joey and Tammy Treat (missionaries we support who are in Guam) are both suffering with "the virus".

Shut-Ins **Ron Bower Mary Bratcher Don Essex** Clarence Feeney Ola Jean Feeney **Cecil Frost Wanda Frost Doris lorg Debbi Ratterree** Jim Reaves **Ruth Reaves Doris Tobler** Nursing Homes Ella Mae Findlay **Ann Freeze** Jerry Gillespie **Frances Grann Wayne Harmon** Virginia Morgan Sandra Pingenot **Nancy Snider**

Expectant Moms Chelsea Thrasher Girl/August 10 Alison Thurlkill August 31

Continued prayers for health concerns: Bob Snider, Alice Daniels, Julie Alexander, Ann Fahr, Russell Harber, Betty Grabber, Ruth Raines, Marty Long, Connie Thompson, Dennis Smith, Sandra Pingenot, Lynette Schreiwes, Barney Crawford's sister, Kathy Farris, Rachel Lilly

PRAY FOR OUR ELDERS in the days and weeks ahead.

Pray for our congregation! Pray for all healthcare workers! Pray for the leaders of our country.



- ♦ Worship live on our Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday.
- ♦ Bill's Wednesday evening class live on FB at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.
- ♦ Prepackaged communion cups can be picked up at the office.
- ♦ OUR CONTRIBUTION: You can mail to 3020 N. Barnes, 65803 Drop it by the building For on-line giving, go to our website, www.watermillchurchofchrist.org and click on the GIVE link.



6 John/Lisa Stayton 24 yrs. 7 Gaylen/Dedra Jones 30 yrs.

11 Carl/Yvonne Tindall 66 yrs.

15 Brock/Christina Snitker 14 yrs. 17 Mike/Constance Jackson 21 yrs. 26 Byrle/Virginia Hayter 57 yrs.



🥍 🥦 I want to thank everyone for all thank the acts of kindness shown to me on my birthday. I'm afraid I'll miss someone if I start naming names.

You know who you are. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You are a wonderful Christian family. With Christian Love, Lucile High



Birthdays 5 Mike Putnam 6 Carl Tindall Jon Davis

Devin Nimmo 7 Matt Kelley 8 Ola Jean Feeney 10 Alison Thurlkill Madden McFarland 11 Jonathan Pendergraft 16 Russell Harber Darren Wake 19 Ayra Bowling 21 Michelle Hulett Alice Buckner