



# WATERMILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

May 10, 2020

## THE MANNER OF A MOTHER

When Paul, having been treated harshly and unjustly at the first city he went to in Macedonia (Acts 16:22-24), came to his second stop in that province in behalf of the gospel, Thessalonica (Acts 17:1), he surely faced a choice in how to approach people. Had his goal been to make things easier for himself, he might have used words of flattery to get on the good side of people. If he had been willing to merely have people submit to his authority, he could have made demands as an apostle of Christ. What he wanted, however, was their hearts, so he later described the approach he chose like this: "But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us" (1 Thes. 2:7, 8).

Think of it. The soldier of Christ Jesus, fulfilling a mission that had often required strength in the midst of conflict, deliberately conducted himself among them after the manner of a mother. He could say so, and they could understand what he meant, and remembering it lent authenticity to the work he had done while he was there.

It would be wonderful if everyone in our own culture could as easily grasp what it means to do something with the manner of a mother. We are perilously close to the place where coarseness and cruelty, worldly sophistication and insensitive shallowness, may exclude such a concept from our imagination.

In the apostle's view, the manner of a mother includes at least these qualities: 1) a gentle tone in heart, touch, and word; 2) tender care which makes the one cared for feel cherished; 3) an affectionate desire which delights in relationship with her own; 4) an unselfishness which will share life and soul with her child; and 5) a regard for the child as her beloved, no matter what. While any of us may recognize what these qualities are and how indebted we are to the one who has shown them toward us, only a mother will realize what they may cost.

It would also be good if we allowed this to be a reminder of what strength in our dealings with others in behalf of the gospel really is.

--Bill McFarland



**GRADUATES:** We are hoping to have a Graduates' Reception at the building to honor you sometime in August. [We will start featuring Graduates in the bulletin beginning next week, so please at least send a picture to the office or contact Carrie at \[Carrie.Lines@health.mo.gov\]\(mailto:Carrie.Lines@health.mo.gov\).](#) **High School:** Josiah Downing, Kameron Epperly, Anthony Kraus, Gabe Mahon, Ariel Valeika, Logan Winters. **College:** Jedonna Griter- MSU/Masters, Jared Duncan/OTC, Adam Barton/MSU, Luke Lines/Harding. If you are not included in this list, please contact Carrie or the church office. Congratulation to all!





- **Oran Green** is at home being cared for by Nadean and the family. He is holding his own.
- **Julie Alexander** has been in and out of the hospital last week.
- **Connie Thompson** as she deals with complications from throat cancer.

- **Carolyn Young** and **Shirlane Horton** are waiting to be scheduled for knee replacement surgeries and **Marty Long** will need hernia surgery as soon as the hospitals start scheduling again.
- The Essex's granddaughter, **Victoria Lacy**, has stage 3 aggressive breast cancer. She is doing chemo every 3 weeks.
- Elizabeth Lilly's dad, **Frank Cunningham**, as he goes through radiation treatments.

**Continued prayers for health concerns: Connie Westerman, Marlene Matthews, Russell Harber, Betty Grabber, Ruth Raines, Dennis Smith, Sandra Pingenot, Lynette Schreiwes, Barney Crawford's sister, Kathy Farris, Rachel Lilly, Orvella Blackburn's son-in-law, Josh's father, Barry DeWeese**

Continue to **PRAY FOR OUR ELDERS** in the days and weeks ahead.

Pray for **our congregation while we are apart!** Pray for all **healthcare workers!**

Pray for the **leaders of our country.**



**Debbi Ratterree** has moved to the Residence Inn St. Louis Downtown, Room 212, 525 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63103. We are still needing volunteers to go to St. Louis to stay with Debbi so that David can come home for a few days. Contact Scott or Melinda Barton if you would be able and willing to help the Ratterrees.



We extend our sympathy to Christy Young and family and friends of Sherry Sherman, who passed away last week. Christy plans to have a singing memorial service for Sherry sometime later in the year. Christy's address is 1643-C E. Caravan St., Springfield, MO 65803.



Words cannot express the feelings in our hearts. Thank you for the prayers, love, and support during Mom's illness and her passing. For the past 60 years, this church family has been a huge part of her life. Your thoughts, generosity and words of kindness are greatly appreciated. **The Family of Frances Grann**

Thank you for all the birthday wishes for Don. He so appreciated them. Also the family is so grateful for all the encouragement and prayers for Victoria. Love you. **The Essex Family.**



### Birthdays

- 10 Jared Duncan
- 13 Elizabeth Lilly
- 14 Jeremy Thurlkill
- 15 Barbara Barnes
- 16 Kim Maples
- Bryan Hannah
- 17 Coyeatte Ewing
- Mike Jackson
- Mackynzi Sekulic
- 18 Haden Brill
- 19 Danielle Horton
- 20 Nickolas Thornhill
- Ron Taylor
- 21 Chris Andrews
- 22 Marla Wuench



### May Anniversaries

- 10 Jason/Lora Luna 23 yrs.
- 12 Jerry/Pat Milligan 58 yrs.
- 14 Cambre/Chelsea Thrasher 9 yrs.
- 16 Gene/Kelley Kenyon 39 yrs.
- 19 Rosalie/Charlie Cruse 48 yrs.
- 19 Bill/Kay McFarland 46 yrs.
- 25 Keaton/Kylie Galindo 1 yr.
- 27 Aaron/Stephanie Schwartz 14 yrs.
- 28 Barry/Cindy Hannah 43 yrs.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

- ◆ Worship live on our Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday.
- ◆ Wednesday Bible class live on FB at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Prepackaged communion cups available at the office.
- ◆ CONTRIBUTION: Mail to 3020 N. Barnes, 65803; drop it by the building; for on-line giving, go to our website, [www.watermillchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watermillchurchofchrist.org) and click on the GIVE link.

### Shut-Ins

- Ron Bower
  - Mary Bratcher
  - Don Essex
  - Clarence Feeny
  - Ola Jean Feeny
  - Cecil Frost
  - Wanda Frost
  - Doris Iorg
  - Debbi Ratterree
  - Jim Reaves
  - Ruth Reaves
  - Doris Tobler
- ### Nursing Homes
- Ella Mae Findlay
  - Ann Freeze
  - Jerry Gillespie
  - Wayne Harmon
  - Virginia Morgan
  - Sandra Pingenot
  - Nancy Snider



### Expectant Moms

- Chelsea Thrasher**  
Girl/August 10
- Alison Thurlkill**  
Girl/August 31

### Health Care Workers:

- Deana Asher
  - Vickie Baker
  - Audra Bowling
  - Morgan Burdette
  - Susan Crum
  - Gaitha Downing
  - Josiah Downing
  - Megan Hollingsworth
  - Mike Jackson
  - Andrea James
  - Kelli Kirk
  - Elizabeth Lilly
  - Luke Lines
  - Lori McCall
  - Kim Maples
  - McKensi Maples
  - Pam Morrison
  - Aaron Morrison
  - Shawn Sekulic
  - Julie Taylor
  - Brittany Springer
  - Lisa Stokes
  - Dustin Stokes
  - Kevin Westerman
  - Terri Wilson
- Family:** Ashley Hopper
- Brandon Snider
  - Allison Snider
  - Connie Snider
  - Elaina Stockstill