



Weekly Newsletter

June 7, 2020

## Together Again, Sort Of

We've been so looking forward to this! Sunday will be the beginning of a beginning for us, one step in our coming back together as we all want to be. It will not be perfect, not the normal we are all hoping for. After all, it will be hard to feel all together when not everyone can be yet, or to enjoy smiles behind masks, or to know a loving touch from six feet away. But it will be good—good to be with our brothers and sisters, good to be serving the Lord together, good to be making a transition to better days, as we all hope.

We'll be dealing with things as well as we can. I am grateful to our elders for having made so much of an effort to respect what the Lord wants for us, what our public health officials have asked of us, and what the best interests of all of us are. I appreciate their example of respect and I hope to emulate it. I know that none of us mean to endorse any of the all-over-the-ballpark opinions that are battling for playing time these days, I thank them for taking responsibility seriously.

How can we make the best of this first day back? Within the last few days, I've read a thoughtful article on this question by John Dobbs of the Forsythe congregation in Monroe, LA. He offers three suggested priorities, each drawn from Colossians, that seem valuable to me. One, *give thanks* that we can renew our meeting together, and the we can be joined by those who shouldn't assemble via technology (3:17). Two, *commune together* in the moment of prayerful devotion that remembers the body and blood that unites us in peace (1:19-20). Three, *promote harmony* by doing what leads to peace and by setting aside every attitude and thought except love for God and each other (3:14-15). That's great guidance for all of us. Let's ask the Lord to help us give more attention to these three actions than to any of the unusual rules we're asked to observe for the time being. There will be blessings in this Lord's day for all of us if we look for them.

We'll be very mindful of you who won't be able to be with us physically yet. We thank you for your thoughtful efforts to be safe and respectful too. Please continue to be in our services by livestream and to be as connected as possible to our congregational life. Thanks to everyone for your interest, prayers, best wishes, and noble intentions. Our love to all of you.

—Bill

We extend a warm welcome to the HATFIELD FAMILY! We are so excited that you are finally here and blessed to have you as part of "our family!"

### Order of Worship

#### 10 AM Service

*Song Leader*  
Kerry Cole

*Opening Prayer*  
Kenneth Bowling

*Scripture Reading*  
Justin Hatfield

*The Lord's Supper*  
Tom Davis

*Message*  
Bill McFarland

*Announcements/  
Closing Prayer*  
Scott Barton

#### 4 PM Service

*Song Leader*  
Briley Ewing

*Opening Prayer*  
Patrick Springer

*Scripture Reading*  
Justin Hatfield

*The Lord's Supper*  
Byron Nichols

*Lesson*  
Bill McFarland

*Announcements/  
Closing Prayer*  
Barney Crawford

# Lord, Hear Our Prayer

- **Debbi Ratterree** is now home with hospice care. Keep Debbi and this family in your prayers constantly.
- **Connie Westerman** is in Mercy Hospital, room 4168, for tests on her heart. She had an angiogram on Friday. Feel free to call or text her.
- **Truman Coltrane** had a mini stroke Wednesday but is home with constant care from Helen and Scheryl.
- **Oran Green** is at home with family.
- **Sandra Pingnot** had outpatient surgery last Wednesday. She is waiting on pathology report. Cards of encouragement can be sent to Spring Valley, Rm. A-5, 2915 S. Fremont, Springfield MO 65804.

- **Ron Stokes** has chronic lymphocytic leukemia in addition to his MS and that is what has progressed to requiring treatment.
- **Colton Orum** broke his arm last week at football camp. No surgery required but will take about six weeks to heal.
- The Essex's granddaughter, **Victoria Lacy**, as she deals with chemo treatments.
- **Carolyn Young's** knee surgery has been postponed.
- **Julie Alexander's** stomach surgery will be July 27 at Cox South. She has an appointment in St. Louis on July 16.
- **Don Essex** as he continues to deal with irregular heart rate issues.
- **Shirlane Horton** will have dental surgery on 6/22; knee surgery is scheduled for August but she does not have an exact date at this time.
- **Gregory Johnson** as he recovers from a fall that injured his leg.
- **Connie Thompson** as she deals with complications from throat cancer.
- **Marty Long** will need hernia surgery as soon as the hospitals start scheduling again.

Continued prayers for health concerns: **Frank Cunningham, Marlene Matthews, Russell Harber, Betty Grabber, Ruth Raines, Dennis Smith, Lynette Schreiwes, Rachel Lilly**

- Shut-Ins**  
**Ron Bower**  
**Mary Bratcher**  
**Don Essex**  
**Clarence Feeny**  
**Ola Jean Feeny**  
**Cecil Frost**  
**Wanda Frost**  
**Doris Iorg**  
**Oran Green**  
**Debbi Ratterree**  
**Jim Reaves**  
**Ruth Reaves**  
**Doris Tobler**  
**Nursing Homes**  
**Ella Mae Findlay**  
**Ann Freeze**  
**Wayne Harmon**  
**Virginia Morgan**  
**Sandra Pingnot**  
**Nancy Snider**



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

**If you are attending worship services Sunday, plan to arrive early. You will have your temperature checked with a temporal thermometer and answer a series of questions. For those attending, your name will be recorded allowing us to communicate necessary procedures if someone were to get sick.**

Our Wednesday evening summer series got off to a great start last week with Bill interviewing Justin and Kari. We're trying to address one of the biggest things we've all been missing through the stay-at-home time, and that's knowing what's going on in each other's lives and being able to encourage each other and build each other up. Our theme is "We're Part of the Family." Bill will be interviewing several of our people who've been through things during this time about what we've laughed and cried over, and about what our dreams are now. We'll live stream for now, of course. Please join us Wednesday at 6:30.

- June Anniversaries**  
**8-15**
- 8 Kevin/Marla Wuench 24 yrs.  
 9 Dewayne/Carol Jackson 48 yrs.  
 9 Mike/Glenda Thurlkill 42 yrs.  
**10 Van/Barbara Barnes 64 yrs.**  
 11 Les/Shirlane Horton 37 yrs.  
 11 Ty/Melissa Girdley 9 yrs.  
 12 Tucker/Megan Jobes 10 yrs.  
 14 Russell/Elizabeth Lilly 34 yrs.  
 15 Tony/Diana Compton 50 yrs.  
 15 Kerry/Sandy Cole 46 yrs.  
 15 Mike/Lisa Putnam 29 yrs.



**On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. - Acts 28:15**



- Birthdays**
- 7 Brendan Carroll  
 Josh Luna  
 8 Virginia Morgan  
 Scott Barton  
 9 Marty Stockstill  
 10 Lisa Putnam  
 13 Diana Compton  
 17 Tina Orum  
 Brandi Kraus  
 18 Leona Snider  
 20 Scheryl Larimore  
 20 Autumn Wuench  
 20 McKinley Morrison