



Weekly Newsletter

September 13, 2020

The Increase

What, or who, makes the church of God in a real place grow? Is it professionally produced and presented services? Is it ingeniously and intricately organized activities and programs? Is it especially effective advertising, charismatic personalities, sophisticated methodology, and superior talent? I wonder.

And I've been thinking about it as we've read 1 Corinthians 3. The church of God at Corinth seems to have been having trouble remembering what made them God's church. Paul is offering them an important reminder when he writes, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (v.6). That's a principle for us to stop and think about, too.

Paul had planted. He went to Corinth first with the news that the Christ was Jesus (Acts 18:5). In this letter, he describes his teaching as "the word of the cross" and "Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Cor. 1:18; 2:2). His gospel was not a focus on the shape of the cross, nor a blow-by-blow description of the process of crucifixion, but an announcement of what God has done through it. He delivered to them the news that Christ died for our sins, that he was buried, that he was raised, and that God saves people this way (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

Apollos watered. He had gotten to Corinth next. If he did what he had at other places, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, showing by the scriptures that he was the Christ (Acts 18:25, 28). The identity of the Christ was the difference-maker, not the talent and eloquence of Apollos. And, both he and Paul were helped along and nurtured by a couple tent-makers who had been run out of Rome, Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:1-3, 26).

God gave the increase. Many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8). But only the powerful working of God could raise them up alive and Christ, forgiven, and add them to his own redeemed people (Col. 2:12-13; Acts 2:47). That is why this letter calls them the church of God (1 Cor. 1:2).

A group of regular, humble, faithful, loving, serving people can be built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit (Eph. 2:22). But if they are, it will happen in such a way as to exclude any better-than-you-ism on anyone's part. It's a need reminder in the religious environment of our time.

-Bill McFarland

Order of Worship

Greeting Bill McFarland

Song Leader Briley Ewing

#141

Opening Prayer Josh Brumfield

Scripture Reading I Cor. 2:1-5, 12-14 Devin Carroll

> "Make Me A Servant" #215 #345

Message Justin Hatfield

#5

The Lord's Supper Bob Aherin

#213

Announcements/ Closing Prayer Jon Ewing



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



- The Essex's granddaughter, <u>Victoria Lacy</u>, will have surgery on Wednesday. Victoria's address is 6915 Glenwood St., Overland Park, Kansas, 66204.
- Jim Elliff will have outpatient surgery on 9/25 to prepare for in-home dialysis.
- Carolyn Young will have knee replacement surgery on 10/6.
- Ruth Raines is scheduled for hip replacement surgery on 10/8.
- Barbara Barnes is now at home. Connie Westerman as she continues to deal with heart issues. Nolyn, David & Karen's Fair Haven son, is recovering from hip surgery. Gene Lund is awaiting results of his recent tests; Truman Coltrane is having a lot of bad days. Sue Davis as she continues to recover from surgery.
- Greg Larimore's mother Carol as she deals with COVID and the loss of her husband.
- Tony Compton is still recovering from dental surgery he had a couple of months ago.
- Doris lorg's niece & nephew, Linda and Bob Samuel, have the virus & Linda is not doing well.
- Gerri Dicken's friend, Jewell's 3 year old granddaughter Presley who has Acute Bal Leukemia.
- Continued prayers for health concerns: Shirlane Horton, Julie Alexander, Dennis Smith, Don Essex, Marty Long, Frank Cunningham, Russell Harber, Betty Grabber, Lynette Schreiwes

sending Impathy

We extend our sympathy to the following families in the loss of loved ones:

Greg Larimore and his family in the loss of his dad, Clarence, who passed away this past week.

Orvella Blackburn and her family in the loss of her step-mother, Marie.

Tom Davis and family in the loss of Tom's grandpa recently.

THIS WEEK ...

- Book Club meeting Monday at the Currier's. 6:30 - bring your own lunch or 7:00 - book talk on whatever you have been reading.
- Thursday Ladies Bible Class will meet on at 10:30 am. Virginia Buck will be teaching from their new book, "The Begging Place," by Becky Fowler Blackmon. The lesson title is "The Prayer of One Woman."
- Quilters will meet at 9 am and Card Makers will meet at 9:30.

There will be a meeting for Teachers Wednesday, September 23, in the auditorium to plan our return to in-person classes. We will begin with watching Justin's class at 6:30 PM and then follow that with our meeting.

Feeding the Homeless and Underprivileged SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 Immediately after the morning worship service/806 N. Jefferson Ave We need food as listed on the signup sheets and servers!! The meal will be served outside! SIGNUP SHEETS are on the Information Desk.

Thank you all for HANK* the cards, food, gifts, and prayers when Clara was born! We are blessed to be a part of a church family who loves our family well. Love, The Thrasher Family

Thank you to all the ladies that provided food after the funeral and thank you for all the love and prayers during Connie's illness. Vern Thompson & Family

The word Thank You is not enough to convey the gratitude I have for my wonderful church family. Thank you for the pravers that have been sent for me as I underwent stomach surgery and during my recovery and also after the passing of my Uncle Bobby in CA. I miss everyone so dearly. Love, Julie

HAPPY

September Anniversary 29 Paul/Carrie Lines 30

Birthdays 13 Vickie Baker Wyatt Maples 14 Leah Freeze Maddi Maples Kyrah McFarland 15 Eddie Sanders Linda Barnett 17 Susan Crum 19 John Hulett Susie Cox 21 Mark Friend Kenneth Bowling 23 Jim Reaves 25 Lukas Thrasher 27 Ruth Essex 28 Tim Stockstill



Backyard Bible Studies 5-7 p.m. Sunday evening at the Travis Morrison home.



Family Bible Time Sunday evening at 5 p.m. at the Aaron Morrison home.

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

WEDNESDAY **EVENING:**

Wednesday at 6:30 via FB livestream. Each Wednesday evening we'll post a class for adults titled "Wonderful: the Mighty Works of Jesus."

A class for second through sixth graders by Justin will be posted. The theme is "Think" (based on Phil. 4:8), and it includes ways for parents to help.

Schedule of Sunday Services

- In-Person Worship at 10 a.m.
- Worship live on our Facebook page at 10 a.m.

