



Order of Worship

**Greeting/
Announcements**
Travis Morrison

Children's Time
Justin Hatfield

Song Leader
Briley Ewing

#40 (v. 1, 3, 4)

Prayer
Josh Luna

#238 (v. 1, 4)

#267

The Lord's Supper
Elijah Morrison

Every Time
(I don't know why...)

#299 (v. 1, 4, 5)

Message
Justin Hatfield

#125 (v.1, 3)

Prayer
Jon Ewing

#660 (v. 1, 3, 4)

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



Tears and Laughter

It was but six months ago when, in the midst of global catastrophe and chaos, my father-in-law announced by means of the annual Christmas card that 2020 had actually been one of the happiest years ever experienced by the Valeika family. The same year that brought Covid-19 and all of the death and devastation in connection with it, had also brought the high school graduation of Tom and Cheryl's youngest daughter, the engagement and marriage of their oldest daughter, and the news that their oldest son and daughter-in-law were having a baby. Joy in the midst of suffering; laughter in the midst of tears.

Our congregation is entering into a time of joy and laughter now as we will soon witness the wedding of Briley Ewing and Kara Klein before our young people embark on a summer of spiritual growth and friendship-building. As we are all aware, these occasions for happiness and celebration are occurring at a time of great pain and sadness for our congregation. However, this does not mean that joy should not and will not be experienced. We should not deem it inappropriate or distasteful to enjoy a time of laughter and joy though we are experiencing a time of darkness –we should embrace it. Just as Mercedes' family witnessed achievement and excitement in the midst of global suffering, we too will see growth and happiness in the wake of tragedy: such is the nature of life.

I am reminded of a piece of writing by Kahlil Gibran entitled "Tears and Laughter:"

"The water disappears and ascends until it turns into clouds that gather upon the hills and valleys; and when it meets the breeze, it falls down upon the fields and joins the brook that sings its way toward the sea. The life of clouds is a life of farewell and a life of reunion; tears and laughter.

Thus the spirit separates itself from the body and walks into the world of substance, passing like clouds over the valleys of sorrow and mountains of happiness until it meets the breeze of death and returns to its starting place, the endless ocean of love and beauty which is God."

-- Josh Luna

In Need of Our Prayers

- ◆ **Sheryl Low** is working hard on her therapy everyday.
- ◆ **Marlene Matthews** is in Cox South, please no visitors or phone calls.
- ◆ **Julie Alexander** is doing a little better every day.
- ◆ Ruth Lund's brother, **John Alspaugh**, has Parkinson's and is not doing very well.
- ◆ **Jacquelyn Raines** (Kim Maples grand-mother) is doing a little better.
- ◆ **Nancy Snider** is still having some health concerns.
- ◆ **Hasseltine Pendergrass** (Helen Harbor's mom)
- ◆ **Robert Raines** (Denzil & Ruth's son) is still in Cox South, the doctors are running tests.
(Please keep these families in your prayers.)

Sunday, May 23rd at 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Youth Led Service

This month's theme for our Youth Led Service is **WORRY**.

Please join us as we train and encourage our young people in service and worship to our lord.



THIS WEEK ...

- ◆ **Thursday Ladies Bible Class** will meet on May 27th at 10:30 am. /Gena Ussery will be teaching Chapter 9 of the book, "From Bethlehem To Golgotha," by Hillard Story.
- ◆ **Quilters** will meet at 9 am; **Card Makers** will meet at 9:30.

Dear Water Mill church family,

Kara and Briley here! We want to tell all of you that we will be placing membership at Sunset church of Christ once we are married. This is a bitter-sweet moment, but we want to take this time to thank you for everything you all have done from being there for us while we prepare to get married to being there for me (Briley) in my growth as a Christian man! We have heard it said that membership does not mean friendship and in our case it should be said that membership does not mean exclusive family. You all will always be family to us as well as our family at Sunset. You all have a very special place in our hearts and you always will. We will be in Springfield for the foreseeable future so we will not be strangers. We love you all so very much and we are thankful for you all too!

Love, Kara & Briley

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

Wednesday, June 30th

The church will be hosting a Blood Drive.
More information to follow.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Please join us Wednesday at 6:30 pm in person or via livestream (YouTube) Justin will be teaching Bill's series:

Tell Me a Story of Jesus - Parables for Us

Happy Anniversary

- 5-25 Keaton & Kylie Galindo ~ 2 years
- 5-27 Aaron & Stephanie Schwartz ~ 15 years
- 5-28 Barry & Cindy Hannah ~ 44 years
- 6-01 Josh & Lauren Brumfield ~ 19 years
- 6-02 Tim & Alice Buckner ~ 31 years
- 6-03 Jon & Makesha Davis ~ 21 years
- 6-04 Mike & Gene Ussery ~ 17 years
- 6-04 Haden & Lexie Brill ~ 5 years
- 6-05 Matt & Julie Kelley ~ 17 years



We extend our sympathy to the **Snitker Family** in the loss of Brock's grandmother, Janie Snitker, who passed away last week.



Thank you for the nice birthday cards for my 88th birthday. Also, we want to thank you for the special anniversary cards for our special day. We appreciate you all. The cookies were great, as always.

In Christian Love,
Clint & Betty Holden

Shut-Ins

Pat Blackburn
Ron Bower
Mary Bratcher
Don Essex
Clarence Feeney
Ola Jean Feeney
Wanda Frost
Doris Iorg
Jim & Ruth Reaves
Doris Tobler
Dennis & Carolyn Smith

Nursing Homes

Ann Freeze
Wayne Harmon
Virginia Morgan
Sandra Pingenot
Nancy Snider

Birthdays

- 5-25 Brittany Morrison
- 5-27 Tim Buckner
- 5-28 Melinda Barton
William Downing
- 5-30 Sydney Murphy
- 5-31 Deana Asher
Aaron Loomis
- 6-02 Ty Girdley
David Nimmo
- 6-03 Camden Kelley
- 6-05 Virginia Hayter

We rejoice with the family of **Shawn & Kasey Sekulic** over the baptism of their son **Seth** last Sunday morning.



Please welcome the **Graber's** who placed membership with our congregation last Sunday, May 16th. **Joe, Kim, Jeremy and Preston.** Please take an opportunity to welcome them.

Their address is:

**712 S. Peach Brook,
Nixa, MO 65714**
Joe's #573-578-0293
Kim's #573-308-6067

Dennis & Carolyn Smith's home phone #417-866-6918 is now operable if you would like to call them .

Contact Information

Phil and Pam Decarlis
7607 N. Devonwood Lane
Fair Grove, MO 65648

Phil's #417-343-0628
Pam's #417-379-4826