



Order of Service

***Greeting/
Announcements***

Luke Lines

Children's Time

Justin Hatfield

Song Leader

Patrick Springer

#231 (v 1, 3, 5)

#273

Prayer

Randy Blackburn

#434

#161

The Lord's Supper

Mike Ussery

Contribution

Barry Hannah

#48

Message

Justin Hatfield

#407 (v 1, 3)

***Announcements/
Prayer***

Jerry Young

#463 (1, 3)

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matt. 5:15)

Increasing Faith

“Increase our faith!” and, “Your faith has made you well.” That’s sort of how our reading for this Lord’s day begins and ends (Lk. 17:5; 18:42). The first is the apostles’ appeal to the Lord; the second is his assurance to a blind beggar. Surely we identify with the former statement and long to hear the latter. If so, we might take what happens in between them as instruction about how transformation from one to the other occurs.

Faith increases as we are simply attending to our duty. The apostles’ exclamation was their response what Jesus commanded about forgiving (17:4). His answer indicates that even when they had done it, they would still only be unworthy servant who had done their duty, for they themselves had been forgiven many times (17:10).

It’s when what we do is compelled by gratitude that faith increases. One fellow, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and, praising God with a loud voice, fell on his face at the feet of Jesus and thanked him (17:15-16). He was exercising his faith; it could grow (17:19).

Increasing faith occupies itself with the rule of God in the ordinary events of everyday life. It sees that his kingdom is within us, among us in the person of Christ, in our midst wherever he is obeyed (17:21). Faith deepens as we’re following him rather than while we’re fascinated with times and events.

Faith increases in the lives of humble people who pray without losing heart. It was the persistent widow who had faith (18:8), and it was the tax collector humbly pleading for mercy who was justified (18:14). Contrary to what we’d expect, maturing faith receives the kingdom of God like a little child (18:17).

It’s when we’ll leave anything for the sake of the kingdom of God, with the conviction that it’s more than worth it, that faith has been increasing toward its object (18:29-30). We are, after all, following one who endured everything that can be endured before he arose (18:31-33).

Our faith will have made us well when we, as beneficiaries of his mercy, follow him in front of everybody, no matter what, honoring God through him (18:43). I am very thankful to be around a group of people like you who seeking to that very thing.

Bill McFarland



The next
Men's Fellowship will
be here at the building
Saturday, Dec. 11th,
from 8:00-10:00 AM.
Men of all ages are
welcome to come!

Stephen Ashcraft will be here the evening of December 12th to give a mission report on the work in West Africa.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

Ann Thiesen-Barganier's Mission Trip Schedule

- December 03 - visiting at Namikango
- December 04 - M leaders; shopping at Blantyre
- December 05 - Worship at Chilobwe-BT in the A.M.
P.M. traveling back to Lilongwe
- December 06 - flying back to the United States

OPPORTUNITY

Hillcrest High School has reached out to their community with a goal of giving all their staff and any students in need a card with a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card. If you would like to participate, buy a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card, place it inside a card with an encouraging note from the Water Mill church of Christ and turn it into our office between now and next Sunday, December 12.

Shut-Ins

- Barbara Barnes
- Pat Blackburn
- Ron Bower
- Mary Bratcher
- Don Essex
- Clarence & Ola Jean Feeny
- Wanda Frost
- Betty Grabber
- Doris Iorg
- Hazel McDonald
- Jim & Ruth Reaves
- Dennis & Carolyn Smith
- Doris Tobler

Nursing Homes

- Ann Freeze
- Wayne Harmon
- Virginia Morgan
- Sandra Pingent
- Nancy Snider

~ Appreciate Your Prayers ~

Carl Tindall is set to begin his treatments December 14. He will have 28 of them.

Marge Langston (Virginia Hayter's mom) is in the hospital.

Dwayne Williams (Nancy Snider's cousin) is in the hospital in West Plains.

Continued prayers for health:

Victoria Lacy (Don & Ruth Essex grand-daughter), **Gerry Tasset** (Lora Luna's mom), **Jim & Ruth Reaves**, **Jeff Barnett** (Nadean Green's nephew), **Ruth Raines**, **Meshell Fox**, (Coyeatte Ewing's sister), **David High** (Lucile High's son), **Robert Raines** (Denzil

& Ruth's son), **Don Todd and Ron Todd** (Connie Fortner's brothers), **Karen Duncan**, **Tom Meeks**, **Bonnie Cole**, **Vicky Thomas** (Tommy & Betty Grabber's niece), **Becky Marsoff**, **Pat Blackburn**, **Dennis & Carolyn Smith**, **Wanda Lou Hurd** (Nancy Snider's cousin), **Alice Daniels**, **John Alspaugh** (Ruth Lund's brother), **Linda** (Sue Aherin's sister-in-law), **Jacquelyn Raines** (Kim Maples grandmother), **Beverly Hammond** (Coyeatte Ewing's mom), **Sandie Shelby** (Lucile High's niece), **Sherrie Stern** (Shirlane Horton's sister), **Chris Low** (Sheryl Low's son), **Steve Barnet** (Kerry Cole's brother-in-law), **Ima Coleman** (Sara Keener's friend)

Thank You's

Thank you to the family at Water Mill for the many acts of love shown to my family in the passing of my Mother. Your prayers have meant so much for the past months. You have been such a source of encouragement since we have been at Water Mill.

God bless all of you.
The Harber & Bowling Family

I want to thank everyone for the birthday and anniversary cards. I have missed out on much these past two years. As soon as I can be up and about, I will be back to church.

In Christian Love,
Ruth & Denzil Raines

THIS WEEK...

- Sunday evening we will meet at 5:00 pm.
- Thursday Ladies Bible Class will meet on December 9th at 10:30. Jon Ewing will be teaching THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, lesson 3, The Helper.
- Quilters will meet at 9:00 am
- Card Makers will meet at 9:30 am

Happy Anniversary

- 12-07 Jackie & Virginia Buck - 63 years
- 12-10 Jim & Ruth Reaves - 56 years
- 12-20 Andy & Kirsten McFarland—13 years
- 12-22 Tom & Jammie Davis—27 years
- 12-27 Allen & Carol McCann—64 years
- 12-20 Barney & Debbie Crawford—49 years
- 12-31 Eddie & Linda Currier—50 years

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 12-06 Adam Barton
- 12-06 Nancy Johnson
- 12-09 Alyssa Snitker
- 12-11 Dennis Smith
- 12-13 Dovia Evans
- 12-13 Seth Sekulic
- 12-15 Josh Brumfield
- 12-15 Austin McCutchen
- 12-18 Anna Luna
- 12-19 Wyatt Brill
- 12-19 Aubrey Cobb
- 12-20 Shirlane Horton
- 12-21 Beverly McCormick
- 12-22 Jennifer Epperly
- 12-22 Sue Lewis
- 12-24 Linda Tracy
- 12-28 Eddie Currier
- 12-28 Justin Hatfield
- 12-29 John Dutton
- 12-30 Lynn Luallin