

## *REMINDERS*

### *Ephesians 1:3*

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.*

Tuesday was going great. I was blessed to be able to meet Rick Acklin for lunch at a barbecue joint, imagine that. It was a bright sunny day and all was going well.

That changed instantly on the way back to the office when, without warning, my automobile engine overheated. I was able to get the car off of the road very quickly so no permanent damage was done. While I waited on the tow truck, I had a few minutes to reflect and was given some reminders.

It was annoying to be stranded on the side of the road. However, I do have two cars AND a truck. Those vehicles, necessities to me, are unaffordable luxuries to many people in this world. I was stranded, what a nuisance. Yet I was not going to have to walk any number of miles to get help. I sat comfortably waiting for the tow truck and, thanks to an AAA membership, I wouldn't have to pay the driver one cent. I had a cell phone to use to call AAA, talk about a blessing!

The car was going to have to be fixed, that would cost money that I didn't want to spend. Fortunately, at least at this point in my life, the repairs would not break the Harper family budget. How annoying, I was wasting valuable time sitting on the side of the road. Yet that time alone gave me an opportunity to thank God for the blessings He gives. I'm not hoping you have car trouble but, maybe we all need some reminders of how blessed we are.

**--Ron Harper--**

## *Put Sprinkles on It*

***“And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.”***

***Revelation 21:21***

Don't ask me why but I have never been a huge fan of Christmas. I don't care for cold weather, I am a terrible gift giver, and the same songs play repeatedly from Halloween until New Year's Day. However, there is one thing I do like about the holiday season...the food! Sure, the ham and turkey are great, and the mac and cheese and pinto beans fill the house with a pleasing aroma, but let's be honest, we're all waiting for the dessert.

A few days ago, I spent some time with my girlfriend making Christmas cookies. We (and by “we” I mean she) made the dough from scratch and decorated each cookie in its own individual, unique way. Some were covered in icing while others only had a few dots of icing. Some looked like they had survived a disaster (mine) while others looked like they came straight out of a culinary textbook (hers). Personally, my favorite ones were the cookies smothered in a thick layer of icing and doused with sprinkles and sugar. Don't ask what my blood sugar was the next day.

In some ways, I think we view Heaven like a Christmas cookie. That is, we desire to go to Heaven because of its beauty and majesty. Sure, the apostle John says that Heaven is paved with gold and the river is like crystal, and the gates are even like pearls! But we should be cautious here. If our desire to go to Heaven is only for the tangible things that John describes, we are really missing the point. Throughout the book of Revelation, the scene of Heaven is described in many ways; however, one thing remains the same. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are there. They are the center of attention, not the streets of gold or pearly gates.

I truly hope you have a desire to go to Heaven. I can't think of a greater reason to want to go than to see Jesus Christ, God the Father, and the Holy Spirit all together in one place for all eternity. Let's not get wrapped up in the “sprinkles.” They certainly add to the wonders of Heaven, but even God thinks so little of gold that he paved his streets with it.

**Joshua Houston**

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Hazel Carey** is now at Northside for rehab.

**Ken & Barbara McPeak** are at home recovering from the flu.

Selma Boyd, Pat Davidson, Nora Fann, Odell Grissom, Sue Reeves, Ernestine Taylor, Carolyn Thomas, Laura Wiser, Joy Puckett, Nell Jernigan

### **SHUT INS:**

Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Oleta Bullard, Houston Henry, Dan Stephens, Richard Jones, Wayne Mobbs, Carolyn Thomas, Mabel Robertson, Louis Wilson, Melba & Jeanie Young

### **NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:**

#### **\*MEMBERS**

**ADAMS PLACE:** Nora Fann\*

**NHC:** Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves\*, Ernestine Taylor\*

**STONES RIVER MANOR:** Laura Wiser\*, Virgie Leonard\*, Margaret Davidson\*

**SMYRNA:** Geri Melton\*

**WOODBURY:** Jeweldean Hall\*

**TN VETERAN'S HOME:** Edna Vance\*

### **NEWS & NOTES**

- **Welcome New Members:** Darrell & Margaret Watson, David & Glenda Stiles
- The Stones River Manor Activity Department is collecting items for their **Santa Store**. All donations are due by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please donate **new items**. Copies of the suggested list of items are on the table in the foyer.
- Every year we remember our **shut-ins by taking them a gift bag**. This year we are asking members to bring in items from a suggested item list anytime up to December 9<sup>th</sup> when we will fix a bag for each shut-in. All ages are welcome to meet at the church building on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am to pack a bag for each shut-in and deliver them. Please see Larry Benson with any questions. Copies of the suggested list of items are on the table in the foyer.
- In preparation of the **2018 Membership Directory**, please check your information for any corrections or additions. A printed copy of this list is located in the foyer. Also, there are **volunteer opportunities** for the upcoming year, please sign-up on the lists provided in the foyer.
- If you are interested in applying for the position of **church secretary**, please submit a resume to the Elders by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Salem Creek church of Christ  
2525 Salem Creek Drive  
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We're on the web!  
[www.salemcreekcoc.org](http://www.salemcreekcoc.org)

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

### Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

### ELDERS

B.K. Ham  
Jim Hatfield  
Jon Holland  
Andy Mitchell  
Randall Phifer  
Keith Short

### MINISTER

Ron Harper

### ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

### DEACONS

Rick Acklin	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

### FOR THE RECORD

*November 19, 2017*

Sunday	AM worship	241
	Bible classes	191
	PM worship	147
	Contribution	\$6,304.00

Wednesday PM Bible classes

Wednesday AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)

\*When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be canceled\*

### *To Our Honored Guests...*

*We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!*

*We were honored by your presence!*

### GREETERS

*Please be at the door  
30 minutes prior to service*



### November 26

Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

### December 3

Dean Thompson      Ashley Hurt