

*****PREPARE COMMUNION*****

March - David & Loretta Carson

April - LaRhonda Billingsley

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

TODAY - LaRhonda Billingsley * April 1 - Loretta Carson

FOOD PANTRY

MARCH ITEMS: Dried Beans/ Dry Spaghetti

OTHER NEEDS: Chicken noodle soup * boxed pasta * Vienna Sausages * Ramen noodles * snack or sandwich crackers * pork and beans

CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS

Dishwashing detergent * deodorant (non-aerosol) * instant rice * HE (High Efficiency) laundry detergent * muffin mixes * pickles

OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK

Attendance 123

Contribution \$3940



Happy Birthday:

March 27 - Mary Barnett

April 1 - Cassie Summers

Happy Anniversary:

March 30 - Ishmael and Angie Smith

31 - Gabe and Brooke Smith

Bible Trivia:

What was the name of the judge in Israel who was a polygamist?

Last week's Answer:

In Deuteronomy 21: 11, 12m brides are commanded to shave their heads and manicure their nails

SERVING TODAY

March 25, 2018

Song Leader.....Ronnie Mays

Opening Prayer.....Jeff Martin

LORD'S TABLE

David Carson.....Jacob Clayton

Justin Allen.....Mike Duley

Jeff McGowan.....Wes Howard

Scripture.....Jon Neely

Prayer.....Zack Tanner

Announcements.....Wayne Reams

Dismissal.....Darrell Zimmerman

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Joe Watson

Prayer.....Darrin Shipman

Scripture.....Sam Garner

Matthew 21: 4-6

Dismissal.....Elwood Rush

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams

Prayer.....Jerry McCoy

Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

April 1, 2018

Song Leader.....Wes Howard

Opening Prayer.....Tim Woods

LORD'S TABLE

Zack Tanner.....Darrin Shipman

Sam Garner.....Alex Garner

Rick Beaird.....Jerry McCoy

Scripture.....Rodney Williams

Prayer.....Ben Martin

Announcements.....Jon Neely

Dismissal.....Darrell Zimmerman

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams

Prayer.....Morris Karnes

Scripture.....Jacob Clayton

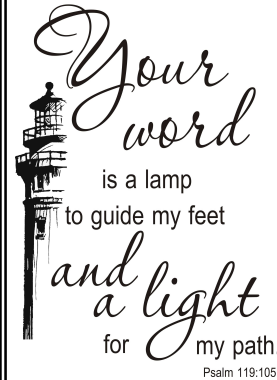
Matthew 21: 7-11

Dismissal.....Joe Watson

COUNT MARCH CONTRIBUTION

Rick Beaird.....Mike Duley

Ronnie Mays.....Rodney Williams



is a lamp
to guide my feet
and
a light
for my path.
Psalm 119:105

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30AM

Worship.....10:15AM

Worship.....5:00PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck

573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson

573-820-0329

David Carson

573-276-5567

Stan Dauck

573-293-5594

DEACONS

Wayne Reams

Joe Watson

Rodney Williams

Tim Woods

OFFICE: 573-293-5620

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TRUE LIGHT

March 25, 2018

Do we Really Only Want the Cross to Define Us?

We'd like to have a "Tinkerbelle Jesus - a Jesus who can fix all our problems in our personal lives, then when we die at a ripe old age in our sleep, can sprinkle a little fairy dust on us so we can fly home to God and Receive our eternal reward.

Now we really don't like to admit this truth, of course, at least not in those unvarnished and raw of terms. However, if we get really honest with our expectations, that's what we really want. We don't want to have to grow up and find a faith that sustains us through hard times because we live in a broken world where sin mars and bad things happen to perfectly good people. We love that Jesus is our Savior, Redeemer and Friend - and he is each of these and more! We just have a hard time with that "Jesus is Lord" part where the Cross became his destination and might possibly become our own!

We're not alone. Even Jesus' closest followers in the days of his earthly ministry wouldn't hear his message of the cross before it happened. Even though Jesus warned them three times in clear language, most didn't get it. Sure, some were fearful at what awaited in Jerusalem that final trip. Some even realized that danger and death might be lurking. Something tells us, however, that they really didn't believe Jesus would let that happen.

...it is not surprising to me today when folks want to hear the voice of the "Tinkerbelle Jesus" preachers who promise everything good and nothing bad. It's a watered-down Christianity without the Cross, an empty Easter without the Passion, and the promise of a Savior without the need to follow the Lord.

As Jesus moved ever closer to entering the Holy City for that last time, they jockeyed for position. Some wanted to be on his right hand and left hand when he seized power. The crowds, who welcomed him with palm branches and shouts of triumph, were expecting the Kingdom of God to break forth at any moment. Jesus seemed to have even stoked the fires of anticipation and conflict as he entered the Temple, ran out the moneychangers, took on the religion scholars, and made his presence boldly known.

None of Jesus' followers anticipated that the crowds' shouts of triumph would turn into calls for his crucifixion by week's end. Non expected that one of Jesus' closest followers would betray or that his most vocal follower would deny, with cursing, that he ever knew Jesus. None expected the rest to run away and hide in the room where they had just had the Last Supper with their Lord whom they believed to be the Messiah of Israel.

So it is not surprising to me today when folks want to hear the voice of the "Tinkerbelle Jesus" preachers who promise everything good and nothing bad. It's a watered-down Christianity without the Cross, and empty Easter without the Passion, and the promise of a Savior without the need to follow the Lord.

Continued on inside

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday Fellowship Meal: Soups, chili and hot dogs. Desserts will be needed.

April 1: 6 p.m. evening services begin

April 8: Youth Night at Crowley's Ridge College with guest speaker Chase Almond. The van will be leaving at 3 p.m. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you would like to attend. Deadline for registering is this Friday, March 30.

Looking Ahead

Singing at 2 p.m. April 8 at Ridgeview Living in Malden

Crowley's Ridge College Annual Bible Lectureship April 8-11 at the Carter Activities Center. The theme this year is "Ezekiel, the Watchman of Israel." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

Ladies Lunch Out April 9 at 11:30 at Little House in Bernie

Mary and Martha meeting April 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Marietta Reams

Nursing Home Crafts April 20 at 2 p.m. at Malden Nursing and Rehab

Work Day at BYC May 5 beginning at 9 a.m.

Ultimate Youth Rally May 25-27 at Germantown church of Christ

Battle of the Youth Groups June 13-15 at Crowley's Ridge College

Bootheel Youth Camp session 3 July 8-13

Continued from front: Dietrich Bonhoeffer's reminder of Jesus' words and Jesus' model sacrifice seem as drowned out today as they were in his own day - when the Nazi boot descended upon Germany and many of the religious leaders capitulated to Hitler's plans. Bonhoeffer said, "When Jesus calls a man, he calls a man to come and die." Ouch! Not a popular message in any era. Bonhoeffer's words were more than words: he proved he heard that call of the Cross in many ways, including his own martyrdom at the Nazi's hands.

The Cross, in Jesus' day, was an awful torture stick used by the ancient Romans to shame, wound, and kill through humiliation all in the name of preventative justice. Jesus' Cross, the real and awful Cross - not some token piece of jewelry or good luck symbol - extends its shadow over this week and our lives because of the coming Easter weekend. That Cross reminds us that without dying with Jesus and sharing in his Cross, there is no resurrection to Jesus' life.

So as we journey to the joy, the victory and assurance of this coming Sunday, let's not skip over the Cross which makes the resurrection so powerful, startling, and life-changing. As Jesus' words to his followers remind us, there is no shortcut for us around the Cross and there is no room for Christians who refuse to grow up, who want to cling to a Tinkerbell Jesus instead of the Lamb who was slain, who is also the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

More than anything, the church needs to remember that shadow of the Cross calls us to the life of Jesus, the sacrifice of Jesus, and the integrity to stand up for those everyone else ignores ... no matter the cost to us personally. Only then will Resurrection Sunday dawn with hope for changing the world by the power of God's grace and Jesus' love.

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

"...I was sick and you visited me..." Matthew 25:36

Remember:

David Terrill was released from Southeast Hospital Friday, following stent surgery Thursday * **Doris Williams** (Lana Shipman's mother) has been moved to the rehab unit in Poplar Bluff and is making some improvements * **Gaye Miller** is in room 106 at NHC Healthcare in Kennett for therapy following knee replacement surgery * **Trish Baldwin** is waiting on test results * **BJ Thomason** has been diagnosed with major depressive disorder and will spend a few more days in the hospital *

Continue to remember these members of our church family: John David Barnett * Elwood Rush * Sonja Mays * Grant Howard * Ida Roberts * Pam Claeys * Pansy Zimmerman * Betty Thurston * Billie Cooper * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Jerry Burleson * Leon Smith * Beverly Karnes * Louella Akers * Kathy Caudle * Alyson Mickey * Cindy Williams * Ashley Williams * Gayle Rodgers * Jack McGowan * Max Snyder * James Wood

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Marty Watson (cancer)

Diann Wilder (cancer)

(Joy Greer's sister)

Roxanne Carson (cancer)

Jackie Manches (cancer)

(Cathy Provance's sister)

Phil McKuin (cancer)

Kevin Flowers (cancer)

Beckie King (ms)



Beaver Blocker (Alzheimer's)

Traci Riley (poor health)

Liz Church (cancer)

(friend of Hannah Guntert)

Annette Lumsden (cancer)

(friend of Beckie Tanner)

Kathryn Howard (on hospice care)

(Marty's mother)

Bob Garner (hip surgery)

(Ron's dad)

***In Sympathy:** Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bud Mays, long-time member of the Malden congregation, who passed away Tuesday. Graveside services for Bud were held Thursday.*

It's a boy! Congratulations to Emily and Justin Beaird on the birth of Maddox Weston, who arrived Thursday, March 15. Maddox weighed 7 lbs, 4 oz. and was 21 inches long.

OUR SHUT INS

Ridgeview Living/Malden - Bertha Skidgell #201

Isaac Wheeler

Shirley Johnson

Max Terrill #207

Gideon Care Center - Sue Flowers #102

Winchester Place - Travis Cooper #7

Central Garden - Lois McKuin #117

AT HOME

Judy & Scott Flannery

Gayle Rodgers

Pam Claeys