### **\*\*\*PREPARE COMMUNION\*\*\***

September - Rodney Williams October - STILL NEEDED

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

TODAY - Marietta Reams \* September 8 - Millie Dauck

## **CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS**

Spaghetti Noodles \* Cookie Mixes \* Cooking Oil \* Cream of Mushroom Soup \* Butterscotch Chips \* Oatmeal Pick-up date: September 9

# **OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK**

Attendance - 166 Contribution - 4275

# FOOD PANTRY

SEPTEMBER ITEMS: SPAGHETTI NOODLES Canned spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, canned fruit (no applesauce). Cash donations also gratefully accepted



# Happy Birthday:

September 3: Jeanie Robinson Jane Smith September 4: Sonny Ingle September 6: Sonny Allen Katie Paige Williams Micah Woods September 7: Stan Flowers September 8: Darrell Zimmerman

# Happy Anniversary:

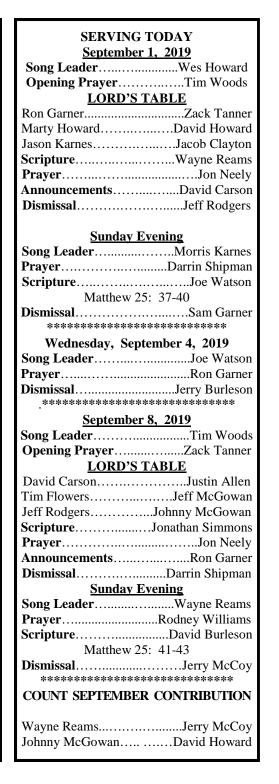
September 1: Ron and Julie Garner

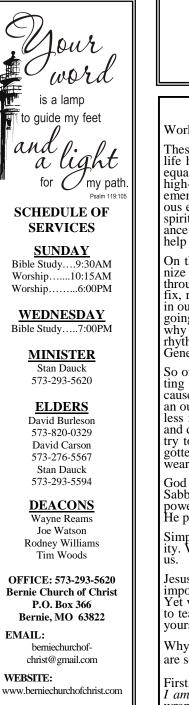


**Bible Trivia:** In what book of the Bible does it talk about camels wearing necklaces?

### Last Week's Answer: The famine in Samaria caused a donkey's head to be sold for 80 pieces of silver (2 Kings 6:25)

**GIVING OUR SUPPORT:** The Elders of the congregation have made the decision to help support Kason Lawrence while he is a Bible major at Harding University.





# TRUE LIGHT

September 1, 2019

### **REST FROM YOUR LABOR!**

Work. Labor. Endurance.

These are not wimpy words. They remind us of the grit and determination to make life happen in a fallen world. They are not particularly spiritual words. They apply equally well for the folks on the assembly line, the crew running optic fiber line for high-speed communication, or those managing the hurting and nervous folks in the emergency room line. Life lived productively requires effort; it often requires strenu-ous effort. The apostle Peter even suggested that we had to make the effort to see the spiritual growth in our lives (2 Peter 1: 5-8). Life involves work, labor, and endur-ance. As Christians, we believe our faith, hope, and love inspired by the Holy Spirit help us produce such needed effort.

On the other hand, we must also recog-

We cannot bootstrap our

on the other hand, we must also recog-nize that we cannot bootstrap our way through life. More effort isn't going to fix, repair, or even improve some things in our lives. Even our best efforts are not going to be enough to pull us through some binds in which we find ourselves. That's why God built into our world a rhythm requiring rest. In fact, if you listen to the rhythm of God's creation, it was rest first, then creativity and productivity - notice in Generate then were varies used than we part of each day. Genesis 1 there was evening then morning as part of each day.

So often in our busy culture, we feel that resting is a waste of time. We could be get-ting something done instead of wasting time resting. We could be advancing our cause instead of laying low and burning daylight on resting. We could be wringing an ounce or two more productivity out of the day if we could only get by with a little less rest. Rest is for down the road when we're older ... or when we go to heaven and don't have to worry about pleasing our manager ... or for when we don't have to try to keep our family afloat financially ... or for those days when we've actually cotten our "to dor" little finished. Our medarm minded is that rost is for when we're gotten our "to do" lists finished. Our modern mindset is that rest is for when we're weary or sick or have time to rest.

God didn't make our world this way. God rested on the seventh day. He called it Sabbath. He built that rhythm into our world. Surely the almighty, sovereign, and all-powerful God didn't NEED to rest. So why did He rest on the seventh day. Why did He put this imprint into our busy world of work, labor and endurance?

Simple! We needed to see God rest! We needed to know that God made rest a prior-ity. We needed to know that our rest is crucial to us, to our lives, and to those around

Jesus practiced the rest principle in his busy ministry. He taught his disciples the importance of rest. Jesus clearly had much to do and very little time in which to do it. Yet with all the pressures of the people and their needs, with all the things he needed to teach his disciples before his departure, he could say to them, "Come with me by vourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" (Mark 6:31).

Why is our rest so important to us? I can't pretend to know all the reasons, but there are several that are very clear.

First, we need to acknowledge that God is God and we are not. *Be still and know that I am God!* (Psalm 46:10). God said this to the busy nations, and especially Israel, wrangling and striving for superiority and preservation. God wanted the nations to know that He was at work while they rested. He would accomplish His will and keep Continued on inside

Today: Baby shower for Ashley Carson Hays at 2 p.m. at the Bethany Life Center in Campbell. Ashley is expecting a boy and is registered at Amazon and WalMart

**Today:** Fall teaching quarter begins. New materials are in the library. Teachers, please don't forget to return unused materials at the end of the quarter as we try to reuse as much as possible to help keep costs down

**September 6-8:** Gospel meeting at Essex with Willie Franklin. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nurserv

September 7: Ladies' Day at Mountain Home church of Christ. The theme is "Fixer Upper." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

# Looking Ahead

Children's Home Grocery Run Sept. 9. Let's get the cart filled up

Ladies Lunch Out September 10 at 11:30 at Huddle House in Dexter

Ladies Day September 14 at the Arnold church of Christ. The theme is "Lessons in Lyrics." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Mary and Martha September 16 at 6:30 p.m. Trish Baldwin will be the hostess

Nursing Home crafts September 20 at 2 p.m. at Malden Nursing and Rehab. Volunteer help is always appreciated

*Ladies Day* September 21 at the Anna IL church of Christ. The topic is, "Great is Thy Faithfulness." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Children's Home Homecoming/Fish Fry September 28. Let's get our change for children cans filled

Harding Lectureships Sept. 29 through Oct. 2. The theme is "Fan the Flame." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Gospel Meeting at Bernie Oct. 20-23 with Alex Bayes. Be praying for a successful meeting

BYC Ladies Retreat Oct. 25 & 26, hosted by the Advance congregation. The theme is "If the Shoe Fits." More information to follow

**Thomason "Farewell Tour"** Spooktacular Oct 25. This will be the final party before retirement!

Cont'd from front: His promises if they would rest in His will and trust in His providence. This kind of resting is not passivity: it is trust. We acknowledge that we cannot do everything needed and so we rest, trusting that God is at work doing only what He can do in our lives.

Second, we need to rest to restore and renew our physical, emotional and spiritual lives. Our bodies need rest to function properly. Our minds need rest to operate at peak efficiency. Maybe most importantly, our spirits need to rest in the presence of God. The Old Testament Sabbath rest was a time for God's people to open themselves to the presence, providence and protection of God. Setting aside time to intentionally be in the presence of the Shepherd of our souls allows us to be restored in our spirit as we are led by still waters and made to lie down in green pastures (Psalm 23).

Third, we need to rest to allow those around us to rest. When God called on Israel to keep His Sabbath, He reminded them that they were to let all their livestock and all their servants and workers, Israelite or not, rest as well. In other words, God's rest was not a time for His people to take off from work so others could work for them, but a time for them to rest and let those around them share in this blessing from God. God would take care of the land. God would take care of the harvest. God would bless His people and the people among them if they would rest in His care (Exodus 20:10).

As God's people, we never want to be lazy. On the other hand, we need to hear God calling us to a time of rest so we can receive His blessing, so others can share in that blessing, and so we can learn to trust God to work on things that we cannot do. In our busy world with all its demands, let's not let our first experience of genuine spiritual rest be the day we go home to God to rest from our labors. God wants to meet us, bless us, restore us, and bless others through us in our times of rest! Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

# Lifting up in Prayer...

# **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

\* Curtis McClard has been diagnosed with cancer and saw his oncologist Friday \* Trish Baldwin will have an MRI September 9 \* Jenny Hill, daughter of Doyle and Linda Burch, has a mass in her breast and will have a biopsy Tuesday \* Judy Duley has been sick and is waiting on test results \* Lola John-son's remaining kidney has started to fail \*

# **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

### (congregational)

(congregational) Louella Akers \* John David Barnett \* David Burleson \* Jerry Burleson \* Pam Claeys \* Billie Cooper \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Sue Flowers \* Grant Howard \* Curtis McClard \* Darlene McGowan \* Helen McGowan \* Jeff McGowan \* Donna McKuin \* Ida Roberts \* Gayle Rodgers \* Waynetta Rodgers \* Elwood Rush \* Jane Smith \* David Terrill \* Max Terrill \* Bettie Thurston \* Joy Watson \* Marty Watson \* Woody Wood \* Darrell Zimmerman \* Pansy Zimmerman \*

Welcome home! We are rejoicing with Patsy Hardy who, after being away from the Lord for many years, asked to be restored Monday evening.

A \$25 donation was recently given to the food pantry in memory of Max Snyder

# **OUR SHUT INS**

**Central Garden: Cypress Point:** Winchester Place:

Winchester Nursing Home:

Joy Watson #8 Travis Cooper, #7 Elwood Rush, #6

Lois McKuin #117

Sue Flowers #208

**Ridgeview Living:** 

Shirley Johnson #225 Bertha Skidgell #218 Max Terrill #207 Isaac Wheeler #201

Crowley Ridge Nursing: Fern Botsch, #103

**AT HOME:** Pam Claevs, Scott & Judy Flannery, Gayle Rodgers



**CONTINUING PRAYERS** (non congregational) Cancer

Pauline Bratcher Roxanne Carson Sherry Chambers Jackie Cooper Debbie Chrisman Bill Fitzpatrick Peggy Hampton LeAnn Jacques Tommy Jacques Lisbeth Jones Andy Kelley Connie Lemmons Annette Lumsden Phil McKuin Christy Mercado Betty Nicholson Donnie Rawlings Gerald Robertson Deanna Rogers Norman Swafford

### **Other Health Issues**

Megan Brenna (brain tumor/pregnancy) Amy Green (poor health) DeeDee Burch (auto accident) Mary Burke (poor health) Renee Goodman (serious health issues) Clyde Jacques Beckie King (MS) Nikki Lawrence (migraines) Sonja Mays (poor health) Alvin Miller (poor health) Tom Provance Gene Rowland Traci Suiter (poor health) Paige Tanner (congestive heart failure) Geraldine Tomah (poor health) Charles Walker