



BAKER HEIGHTS ON TEXAS AVE CHURCH of CHRIST



Sunday, May 03, 2020

Bulletin Volume 59, Issue 18

Today is a day the Lord has made,
let us rejoice & be glad in it.

➔ **Focus on the Positive** ➔
*** God is Good ***

“Pastor arrested after holding church services.”

The past few weeks our news feeds have been full of accounts of churches all over the nation struggling with the federal guidelines prohibiting large gatherings. Most churches have gone online to comply with those guidelines. I am thankful that our elders chose to do the same. Some churches, especially several “mega-churches” have revolted, calling for their members to meet – in spite of the regulations. Some have cited passages like “Not giving up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing . . .” Others have even likened the government regulations to steps taken in Nazi Germany, forbidding Christian assembly. Still others call for church meetings despite the regulations, stating that “God will protect us from the virus!” I would call most of these reactions “false bravado under the disguise of faith.”

During times like these, it behooves us to step back and take a prayerful look at the situation before reacting to the prohibitions. Throughout history there have been governments that have forbidden Christian gatherings. Throughout history, Christians have made the decision to “obey God rather than man.” And yet our situation is somewhat different, isn’t it? We are not being told not to gather because we are undermining the government, or because our government is “anti-religion,” as was the case throughout history. OUR government has chosen to shut down gatherings for our own personal safety and for the safety of others around us that we might unknowingly infect. I would add to that; we live in a time when we have the technological capability to share in worship online, or in small family gatherings at home. We continue to meet . . . we continue to worship. God’s people will never cease to worship. But during this time of trial, we would do well to protect ourselves, our brethren and those around us who we want to reach with the gospel.

Many people have told me in the past couple of weeks how much they miss their church family. I miss seeing you all face to face as well! What a great opportunity this is to grow in our individual faith, to strengthen our families and to reach out in what ever way we can to those around us!

Larry Sullivan

PANTRY NEEDS

Dried Red Beans, Spaghetti, Laundry Detergent, Cornbread Mix, Dried Black-Eyed Peas, Instant Mashed Potatoes

PLEASE NOTE: Until further notice the PANTRY is **by appointment only on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6 p.m.**

IF you need to utilize the pantry, please call the office for an appointment – 325-692-6974. (Mon – Fri, 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

Your generous help is needed: Please be aware that pantry needs are likely to increase in the next few weeks.

***** PRAY, PRAY, PRAY *** CALL & ENCOURAGE A FRIEND *** PRAY, PRAY, PRAY *****

Prayer List

BHCC MEMBERS:

- * **Jena Madeley** – good CT-Scan report, 1 chemo treatment left
- * **David Lee** – broken foot from fall Friday 04/24 at his apartment
- * **Leroy Mason** – HMC #5702 Rehab
- * **Larry Taylor** – finished his radiation treatments.
- * **Paula Weed** – eye procedure went well.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY:

- Calvin R. (email request) – God's forgiveness
 Ben See (father of **Terry McGaha**) – recovering at Silver Springs
 Betty Mast (mother of **Pam Sullivan**) – health issues
- ** Please welcome **Alexis Valverde** who was baptized 04/29 **
 (she is a friend of, & currently living with, **D & M Johnson**)

All Missionaries:

- Chipata Bible College and all the preachers in the field.
 All Military & First Responders
 All Patients and Workers in Nursing Homes & Hospitals
 Those infected by & loss of loved ones due to the COVID-19 Virus

SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF:

- Robert Simpson who died 04/18 (father of **Sarah Waller**)
Sherry Nelson who died 04/27 (aunt of **Tammy Tiner**)

THOSE BATTLING CANCER:

- Jena Madeley, Lewis Maness, Kay Procter, Larry Taylor, Jesse Thomas, Minnie Woody**
 All our family members & friends dealing with cancer & treatments.

OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:

- Brenda Amonett, Eldon Amonett, Phyllis Bonner, Janet Bruns, Mamie Crane, Norma Dotson, Leroy & Mary Mason, Jo Potter, Frances Pruet, Melinda Simmons, Dean & Nelda Stewart, Laveta Youngquist.**

Baker Heights Contribution Statistics

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average (per week)</u>	<u>Goal (per week)</u>
March	\$42,399	\$8,479	\$9,600
April	\$34,787	\$8,696	\$9,600

A THOUGHT ON PRAYER

“Pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). If friends invited you to their home for dinner, and you declined the invitation, and they invited you again, and you again declined, and the inviting and declining were repeated numerous times, two things would be clear. First, your friends really wanted you to visit them; second, you really didn't want to go to their home. Christ continually invites us to call on Him. “Keep on asking, and the gift will be given you; keep on seeking, and you will find; keep on knocking, and the door will open to you” (Matthew 7:7). God wants us to come to Him often in prayer, and when we decline His invitations, it grieves Him and robs us of blessings we might otherwise have enjoyed. I have to wonder if the present crisis is not an invitation to pray sent us by God? A second thought on prayer, Wilbur Smith tells a story about a winter day when he and his wife were out in the car. They came upon some boys who had received a sleigh for Christmas and were sliding down a short, but very steep hill. The ride down was a thrill, but the walk back up was a trudge. One small fellow really had a struggle up the incline; for every step forward, he would slip two steps back. Finally, in desperation, he dropped to his knees and was then able to make his way to the top. Things impossible for us to accomplish on our feet become possible when we're on our knees. Only on our knees can we learn the truth – “things impossible with men are possible with God” (Luke 18:27).

Kenny Chumbley

Gibson City church of Christ, Gibson City, IL

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 01 – May | Esta Scott |
| 04 – May | Will Claxton, Jesse Mullins |
| 05 – May | Preston Loudermilk |
| 12 – May | Ruby LaRoque |

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 01 – May | Morris & Margaret Chancey |
| 01 – May | Hank & Sylvia Davis |
| 05 – May | Rex & Pat Tidwell |
| 09 – May | Jesse & Chieko Thomas |

A note on the above Birthdays and Anniversaries: Because we are not meeting, we did not print a calendar etc.. So, for security and privacy reasons, we are only printing the date and name/s of the members celebrating. If you want to write/e-mail/call them, you will have to get the pertinent address info from the online directory.

DVD's & CD's of online sermons are now available on request by calling the church office, Monday – Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

Stop being impressed by people who can quote scripture ... Instead, be impressed by those who actually live scripture.

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (James 1:22)

ELDERSHIP: Richard Bower; Ed Cowart; Robert Dennis; Charles Goodnight *** ; Richard Oller; Larry Taylor; Stuart Tiner.

MINISTERS: Larry Sullivan (*Preaching*); Luke Bower (*Youth & Family*); James Sanderson (*Evangelism*)