

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.
Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves
be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1 NIV

The Herald

From the Pastor's Desk



What is that!? This year we have had very little “routine” to life. COVID certainly destroyed our normal routines several months ago. All of us found ourselves doing life different than we had ever expected. At home parents found themselves as teachers in more ways than they had ever expected. Those who were already home schooling still had numerous changes. Many lost jobs or hours, businesses faced huge changes to their routine including the stress level they had never experienced before. At Church we changed, well we changed pretty much everything in just a few days. Oh, and then summer comes, when routines for all of us change anyway but now its not a usual summer routine but a new summer routine.

Are any of you tired yet? Have you noted how wearying it is to always figure out new ways to do so many normal activities? So just for a moment, take a deep breath and realize you are doing ok. God is still in control and with his Spirit you and your family will create growth out of all the changes. We are learning, growing and even thriving with our new routines.

Have you managed to create or maintain your routine for meeting with Jesus each day? For many of us, the other changes over the past months, has placed new challenges into this routine as well. Some of us have discovered even better ways to connect with Jesus, found good ways to be in the Word. For some our added concerns has improved our prayer time, even when it is part of our drive time. You know living in the Hills it is difficult to be on the phone for any length of time, but the pray connection never results in a dropped call.

Keep making space for God and He will guide and strengthen your day. A routine you don't want to change.

Pastor Dennis

Christ is all, and is in all. Colossians 3:1

What makes the fellowship of the church stand out as different or 'holy' is a twofold reality: (1) Jesus Christ means everything to all the members; and (2) He comes by His Spirit to dwell in each of the members. Other kinds of fellowships are united by different principles. There we are everything, or what we do is everything. But in the church family Jesus Christ is everything all of the time, and He indwells each and all of the members.

This creates a double unity. Grasp this principle and our church fellowship will be transformed: holiness in our mutual devotion will mark it out. There is no intimacy in the world deeper or closer than this: there is only one Christ — and He dwells in each believer. We cannot get closer to each other than this! Here, then, is the often undetected secret of a fellowship that is growing in grace: the Christ who is all to each one is also the Lord of glory who indwells every one.

What is the first thing you see when you think about the Christian fellowship to which you belong? What is the first thing you look for? Is it this? What an enormous variety there is here. But in all the variety there is something — no, there is Someone we have in common: the same Christ who indwells him also indwells her, and indwells me, too! And He is everything to each of us!

If we really thought this way about our fellow believers, and saw them as people in whom the Lord Jesus dwells, would we not treat each other differently? Surely this perspective would evoke love for them and a desire to serve them? That is why Paul sees this as one of the great features of a Christian fellowship that grows in holiness and consequently makes an impact on the world.



Between the BookENDS

.....Paul is saying something about the 'third race' — the fellowship of the church. When we are in Christ it should be natural for our eyes to focus first on what we have in common, and especially on the fact that Christ indwells each of us. If this is so — if the Lord Jesus indwells other believers in love — should we not love them too? If Christ is really everything to us then of course we will.

But, we may say, 'Not all Christians are equally easy to love!' Not so. It is more accurate to say 'Not all Christians are not equally easy to like'. But the sanctification of our relationships is not a matter of liking; it is a matter of loving. We may like other Christians because of what they are in themselves (and perhaps because they are like us and like us in return!). However, we come to love our fellow believers not because of what they are in themselves but because of what Christ is in them and to them and because of what they have become and will become in Christ. This is where we begin. If the Lord of glory is prepared to live in them with love, should we not be prepared to live with them in love too?

Quoted from *Devoted To God — Blueprints for Sanctification* by Sinclair B. Ferguson

"Christians are transformed by the renewing of their minds. They understand that, in large measure, how they think about the gospel will determine how they live for God's glory. They learn to allow the Word of God to do its own work, informing and influencing the way they think in order to shape the way they live." (Back of the book)

Shared by Bonnie McCaskell

We are so blessed

July Librarians:

Cindy Dusing & Georgie Neff

Focus on Missions– Cornerstone Rescue Mission

Cornerstone Rescue Mission and Cornerstone Women & Children's Home are continuing to practice preventative measures and checking on the welfare of staff and guests, and maintaining social distance while constantly keeping a clean environment. The Women & Children's Home has had a few women test positive who have been moved elsewhere to heal, and after mass testing, all other residents and staff are healthy. With consultation from medical authorities we are still limiting the number of people allowed in both facilities. Cornerstone Rescue Mission has not had any positive COVID-19 cases, yet we have closed our public soup kitchen and are handing out sack meals for those in need of food. We are still feeding those that live there three meals a day from our kitchen. We continue to monitor all of our facilities and make changes as needed to provide health, safety and care to our guests and staff.

Thank you Little White Church for providing monthly meals, prayer, financial support and being such loving friends to the homeless and to all of the Cornerstone facilities.

Lysa Allison, MSW, CSW-PIP, QMHP
Executive Director
Cornerstone Rescue
Mission



From My Files: Echoes of God's Glory

Roseanne Hilton

Part II, Worshipping God When He Seems Absent

When the writers of the Psalms were in distress, they did not ignore God, even though they expressed their thoughts that He was ignoring them or worse, was actually absent.

Asaph, sleepless in Psalm 77: “I am too distressed even to pray! Has the Lord rejected me forever? Will He never again show me favor? Is His unfailing love gone forever? Have His promises permanently failed? Has God forgotten to be kind? Has He slammed the door on His compassion?”

Asaph is discouraged because he sees the successes of those who are insolent, proud and cruel. In Psalm 73 he realizes that he has become bitter; that he is himself foolish, ignorant and senseless. AND YET, “I still belong to You, You are holding my right hand. You will keep on guiding me with Your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny....My heart may fail and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; He is mine forever.”



The New Testament writers point us to Jesus, who has experienced all the griefs and sorrows of human existence. We keep our eyes on Jesus on whom our faith depends from start to finish. We gaze at the One who created all things and holds the universe together by the word of His power. He is the Holy One spoken of in the ancient Scriptures designated to give aid to us. He is the One who holds us by our right hands.

Let us boldly seek the help that He offers us.

Church Body Updates



Birthdays

2nd Kathy E.
2nd Shelby S.
9th Steven S.
10th Kathy S.
11th Angie R.
15th Mur A.
18th Bonnie S.
18th Ben L.
27th Alan C.
31st Sam B.



Anniversaries

14th Buzz & Mary Ann G.
(30 years)

17th Sam & Linda B.
(27 years)

19th Jeremy & Laura D.
(16 years)

26th John & Mary S.
(40 years)

28th Roger & Kathy E.
(41 years)

30th John & Jan B.
(37 years)



BOLT—New Wednesday Afternoon Children's Program



For this coming school year we are changing our program from Awana to a Pioneer Club called BOLT.

BOLT is an acronym for Bible, Outreach, Life Skills, and Transformation. We chose this program for its emphasis on scripture learning and also on learning new Life Skills throughout the year. This program will continue to promote our strong desire to disciple young hearts and also be an outreach to our community.

The Little White Church could not do it without your support. Would you consider sponsoring a student for \$25 (1x gift) and/or volunteering once or twice a month?

Let Stephanie, Becki, or Sarah know IF that is something you feel led to do or email us at: boltlwc@gmail.com.

CARING for the Family of Believers

CARING for the family of believers: Larry and Darlene Kvanvig (former members, living & going to church in Box Elder). She was diagnosed with Alzheimer's about 1 & 1/2-2 years and Larry has been dealing with this by himself. He has no help with errands/housework or any of the daily needs. Darlene is usually fine earlier in the day but problems begin in the evening.

Lifting up our brother and sister Larry and Darlene in love:

First, please continue to **pray** for Darlene and for Larry – strength and encouragement.

Second, let's provide some assistance.

We are creating a LOVE BASKET. Please bring items for the love basket by July 10th. The basket will be at the church on the sign-up table:

IDEAS: Gas or grocery gift cards, essential items, cards/letters, or anything you think might be helpful.

HELP: Assist with housework; keep Darlene company when Larry needs to run errands or just go out for awhile.

If you would be available for any of this, please put your name and phone number with what you could do and days/times of availability in the basket, or email Lynda (lpblue67@gmail.com).

Announcements



Annual Meeting—Sunday, July 19th
after the Worship Service.



SHE-brews: A fellowship & coffee time for women! Join us
on Saturday, July 11th from 10-11 am. SHE-brews will be held
the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10-11 am.



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“Donate” button to get started! It’s easy and secure to use!

Newsletter Newsletter

The “wow!” factor

After the final notes concluded at a recent symphony performance in Boston, the conductor hadn’t yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, “Wow!” The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn’t upset the participants or audience, however. Instead, several later said it brought them great joy. One even called the moment life-changing.

The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9-year-old named Ronan, has autism and is generally nonverbal. Music, his family says, tends to attract his interest and make him happy. When symphony officials learned Ronan’s identity, they arranged a private performance so he could meet some musicians.

How often do you shout “Wow!” — in a good way — at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so on vacation or while observing God’s natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you encounter and their talents — and your own. When have these sparked a “Wow!” of thanks to God?

Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment — a gift from God that warrants our praise.

—adapted from HomeTouch Ministry



How will we use our freedom?

In 2000, Cornealious Anderson was sentenced to 13 years for robbery. The 23-year-old was released on bail and told to await orders to show up to prison. But due to a clerical error, those orders never came. Some people might have taken advantage of such freedom and committed more crimes. But Anderson started a business, coached youth football and volunteered at church, earning respect in his community.

Thirteen years later, when Missouri officials discovered the error and put Anderson behind bars, an online petition called for his release. A judge agreed that Anderson was a changed man and, again, he was freed.

What would *you* do with such undeserved freedom? What *do* we do with the unmerited freedom God grants us despite our sin, and with the freedoms we celebrate on July 4? May we follow Anderson’s example and use our freedoms — social *and* spiritual — to serve others.

—adapted from *Homiletics*

DO THE MATH

By BJ Reese

At some point during the quiet solitude of the COVID-19 crisis, I found myself reflecting. As I did, I made an amazing discovery: “Nothing is wrong!” Yes, there are many assorted things going wrong in the world around me. This thought wasn’t about *that*; it was about my own personal life.

My husband and I are happy and healthy. Our kids and their families are healthy and doing well. We have a safe place to live, vehicles to take us where we need to go, and we are financially provided for. We belong to a wonderful church with an amazing body of loving believers. We have a great relationship and we laugh often. Life is good.

As I sat there, digesting that thought, I found it to be a difficult concept to accept. It seemed as though there had been SOMETHING to be concerned about for most of my life. That the sense of “all is well” was relatively new. Suddenly, I wondered: was *there REALLY something wrong most of those years. Are you sure?*

So, I got out a piece of paper and started ‘doing the math’. How much time did we live with my abusive stepfather? How long did my marriage to an abusive alcoholic actually last? Down the list I went, documenting every painful experience I could remember. Then, I added them all up.

What I found was eye-opening. Despite my perception that most of my life had been filled with problems, the actual trouble/trauma only accounted for 14 years of my life. Since I am currently 66, that means that only one fifth (1/5; 20%) of my life was filled with problems. The other 4/5 (80%) were happy, peaceful years filled with love, wonder, and safety.

Psalm 27:12 warns of ‘false witnesses’ rising up against us. The misconception regarding how much of my life was traumatic is definitely a false witness. It is a lie I bought into, discoloring the very fabric of my memories. By focusing so much mental energy on that lie, I was giving a majority of the power in my mind to a memory that occupies a small minority of the time. Newsflash: we ALL do this!

One small, isolated incident becomes a dominant memory, drowning out the good ones. “One bad apple spoils the whole barrel,” right? No! Not at first, anyway. But, over time, the rot spreads to more and more of the apples. The same is true of that one bad memory. Over time, it becomes all we can remember. We can’t remember the good things, even though there are **more** of them!

I share this with you in order to encourage you to examine your own life. Take a good look at the memories and perceptions you’re holding onto. Do the math on your own “bad memories”, as compared to the years when nothing was actually wrong. Then, take back your power. Realize that you have a **choice**: “*Do I hang onto the bad memories, or cherish the good ones?*”

Do the math. Then, choose wisely.

To His Glory . . . BJ



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

Week 1 ☐ Genesis 1-2; Psalm 19; Mark 1
☐ Gen 6-8; Psalm 104; Mark 3
☐ Gen 12-15; Psalm 148; Mark 5

☐ Gen 3-5; Mark 2
☐ Gen 9-11; Mark 4

Week 2 ☐ Genesis 16-18; Mark 6
☐ Gen 21-23; Psalm 107; Mark 8
☐ Gen 26-27; Mark 10

☐ Gen 19-20; Psalm 1; Mark 7
☐ Gen 24-25; Psalm 4; Mark 9

Week 3 ☐ Genesis 28-29; Mark 11
☐ Gen 32-34; Psalm 145; Mark 13
☐ Gen 38-40; Mark 15

☐ Gen 30-31; Psalm 11; Mark 12
☐ Gen 35-37; Psalm 12; Mark 14;

Week 4 ☐ Genesis 41-42; Mark 16
☐ Gen 45-46; Psalm 108; Gal 2
☐ Gen 49-50; Gal 4

☐ Gen 43-44; Psalm 24; Galatians 1
☐ Gen 47-48; Psalm 25; Gal 3

Mixed messages

For their summer offering, Sunday school students donated money to a missionary family. Before teachers sent a care package overseas, they asked students to write short notes, letting the recipients know they were in children's prayers.

"The family is pretty busy," one teacher mentioned, in case the kids hoped to become pen pals. "You might not get a response, but it's kind of you to write."

When teachers collected the messages, they chuckled at what one brutally honest child had written: "We're praying for you, but we don't expect an answer."



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