

LIVING WATER

"Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst"
John 4:14

At Just the Right Time

Mother's Day was approaching, but this mom from Virginia was not feeling very joyful. Mary Alexander had two sons, but one was no longer living and the other lived in Norway.

To pass the time, she decided to clean out her closet. But as she did, her mind kept going back to her deceased son, Jason.

Jason had always given her special attention on Mother's Day. As a child, he would make cards for her. As he grew older, he would take the time to pick out the right card that expressed to her how much she meant to him.

Because her other son, Brian, lived in Norway, Jason had made extra effort to stay connected with his mother. He had a routine of visiting with her every Wednesday night for dinner. She recalled his last visit. As he was about to leave her home, she recalled how she felt compelled to hug him a little tighter and a little longer, even becoming tearful.

Early the next morning, about 4 AM, there was a knock at the door. Four police officers were present to tell her some tragic news: Jason, age 39, had died of a massive heart attack. Later, an autopsy revealed that he had an enlarged heart.

And his mother's heart was broken with the loss of her son.

Mary went back to her task of cleaning out a box in her closet when she came across an unstamped envelope that was addressed to the local newspaper. The address was written with a child's handwriting. She opened it up and discovered that it was a letter submitted to the newspaper for a contest. The essay contest was for the best answer in completing this statement: "My mother is the best mom because..."

Here is what had been written about her: "She's always there when I need her the most. Even though I can make her real angry sometimes, she always understands because she's so caring and understanding ... That's why she'll always be No. 1 to me and her family."

It was signed by Jason. He was 12-years-old at the time. The letter had likely not been mailed because he didn't secure a stamp in time.

Yet, for his mother, the letter had come at just the right time. *

You may not have yet seen it, but God has a message for you. His message is found in the Bible. It tells of how He created each of us (Genesis 1:26-27) and how each of us has strayed from Him because of our sinful choices (Romans 6:23). Yet, God's message is that He still loves us, desires to save us from sin, and has made provision for reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

God gave His one and only Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Romans 5:8). Because Jesus paid the price for our sins, we can be reconciled to Him, if we will accept His offer on His terms.

God will save and give eternal life to those who place their **faith** and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in **repentance** (Acts 17:30-31), **confess** Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are **baptized** (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His word (1 John 1:7-9).

Please, open up the Bible and read God's message to you. It will change your life – now and forever – if you will read it, embrace it, and obey it.

My prayer is that when you read it and heed it, that you'll consider that this wonderful news came at just the right time for you.

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from "For Mother's Day, a Virginia mom's stunning discovery reminds her of God's loving presence" by Fox News Staff in relating an account from Godwinks creators, Squire Rushnell and Louise DuArt, www.foxnews.com.

Creekwood Church of Christ

"Conservative in Theology • Liberal in Love • Progressive in Ministry"



Minister David A. Sargent	Associate Minister Tucker Presley	Youth Minister N/A	Family Enrichment Minister Ricky Butts	Missionary (India) Jaya Paul	Missionary (Ghana) Michael Fordjour	
Ricky Butts	Michael Eddlemon		• ELDERS • Greg Hall	Chris Presley	Glenn Sargent	
	Joey Adams Jonathan Brooks Bruce Englund		• DEACONS • Lyndell Farmer Glen Hall Scott Hardy		Terry Livingston Sammie Morris John Sims	
			• SERVICES •			
Sunday	Morning Worship	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Class	10:15 AM	Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday	Morning Bible Study	10:00 AM	Evening Bible Study	6:30 PM		

May 19, 2024

WELCOME TO CREEKWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST

We would like to welcome all our visitors to Creekwood! Please sign the guest register in the foyer. We also invite you to stay for our Bible classes immediately following morning worship services.

TODAY'S MESSAGES:

AM – "The God Who Sees"

PM – "When Good Things Happen to Bad People"

Listening Devices for the Auditorium are available in the Control Room.

For information regarding on-line contribution, please visit creekwoodcc.org/contribution

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Web site: www.creekwoodcc.org • E-mail: creekwoodchurchofchrist@comcast.net

Know Your Bible on the WHBR station on Mediacom channel 13/Comcast channel 7; Sundays at 6:00 PM CT.

Getting To Know Your Bible on Sunday on DirecTV-Uplift Channel 379 10:30 a.m. & Dish-Folk TV Channel 218 8:30 a.m.

Both of these broadcasts are co-sponsored by the Creekwood Church of Christ.

Please remember those listed below in your prayers and with other expressions of love (Cards, Phone Calls, Visits)

OUR COUNTRY & THOSE SERVING: **Chris Campbell** - Navy, **Nick Marcet** - Air Force, **Lt. James Chapman III** (Kuwait), **Harry Lehman** – Coast Guard, **Mitchell Englund** – Marine Reserves, **Dylan Butler** – Navy, **Jacob Jones** – Navy, **Pam Bradshaw** - Air Force, **Charley and Necy Burch** – National Guard, **Kelly Leverett** – Army, **Parker Abila** (Cassie Devitt's grandson) – Air Force

EXPECTING MOTHERS: **Britney Mitchell (boy) July**, **Haley Presley (boy) September**

OUR MISSIONARIES: **Jaya Paul (India)**, **Michael Fordjour (Ghana)**

PLEASE PRAY FOR UKRAINE & THE WAR IN ISRAEL!

PRAYER REQUEST for **Ryan James** who is scheduled to undergo hip replacement surgery on May 29 at UAB.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY is extended to the **family of Carolyn Parham** who passed away last week. Carolyn was Susan Thomas' cousin. Funeral arrangements are set for Tuesday, May 21, with Visitation starting at 10:00 AM at Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, followed by the funeral service at noon.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Janet Oglesby** who is recovering from a recent hospital stay and doctor visits. Let's keep praying for answers.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Bernice Fables** who is at home and continues to struggle with her knee.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Bennett Gibson** as he recovers from surgery for an aneurysm on his aorta. He is at home and doing well.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Lester Sellers** who battling some health issues. He will need surgery to correct a blockage in his carotid artery on June 10.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Rick Gray**, son-in-law of Bob & Alona Gobble, who suffered a stroke recently and is suffering effects on his right side. Rick is under hospice care.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Jeremie Benzinger**, son of Gayle Benzinger, who is struggling with a back injury.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Pam Davis**, the daughter of Nancy White, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Surgery and a treatment plan are being formalized. Let's pray for strength and success!

PRAYER REQUEST for **Sandra Dowling** who is now staying with her daughter, Dione Heusel, as she continues to regain her strength.

PRAYER REQUEST for **Rowena Leekley**, who is undergoing chemo treatments. Please pray for Rowena and Phil.

MEMBERS: Carol Easterwood, Makenzie Hall, Betty Nichols, Bob Gobble, Ryan James, Sara Sargent, Bernice Fables, Dawn Sims, Kitty Morris, Betty Gunnells, Esther Boulanger, Nancy White, John & Sharon Bogle, Valary Smith, Tom Busby, Patti Mitchell, Kathy Stacy, Ken Grisham, Richard McDonald, Pat Parenteau, Martha & Bill Franks, Jeannie Aldred, Betty Thompson, Bennett Gibson (Omak, WA)

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS: **Sandra (Ryals) Shell; Madeline Petite & baby** (friend of the Buzbee's), **Jimmy Linder** (father of Angie Bacon), **Marie Waters** (aunt of Kristy Adams), **Julie Todd** (friend of Brook Oglesby Grice), **Diane Glover**, **Logan Moore**, **Kruz Kohrumel** (1st grader at Mobile Christian), **Rick Gray** (Penny Davis's brother-in-law), **John & Betty King Fuller**, **Daniel Mitchell Brabham** (the brother of Stephanie Hulon), **Lisa & Albert Andrews** (sister and brother in law of Sheila Marcet), **Barbara Bradford** (grandmother of Erin Cunningham), **Larry Tart** (brother of Jerrol Sawrey), **Betsy McCaskill** (friend of Larry Duncan), **Nelda Carr** (former member), **Dawson Moorer** (former member), **Diana Pierce** (Shawn Cobb's mother), **Vic Johnson** (friend of John Bogle), **Donna Lucas**, **Sally Tindell** (sibling of Nancy Moorer), **Boots Carson** (mother of Gina Englund and Ka Kinman), **Alona Gobble** (Penny Davis' mother), **Kellen Franks** (grandson of Bill & Martha Franks), **Don White** (brother of Celeste Chandler), **George Smith** (friend of John Bogle)

SHUT-INS – **Martha Irvin** **Esther Boulanger** **Barbara Roley** **Hurley Crews** **Betty Wheeler**

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEALS ON WHEELS RECIPIENTS. Many are struggling with health issues.

NURSING HOME DEVOTIONAL – We host a devotional on Sunday afternoons at Mobile Nursing & Rehab at 2:30 p.m. Please come and visit with the residents, sing a few songs, and have a brief Bible study.

SUMMER KICKOFF FOR THE KIDS, Thursday, May 30, at Creekwood parking lot, 6 to 8 PM. Bring water clothes for some water fun: giant water slide, splash pad, and more! Dinner provided: hot dogs, chips, drinks. Please bring drinks and desserts! All ages are welcome!

READING GLASSES NEEDED. Beth Brooks is collecting reading glasses to take to Honduras. Many adults there haven't been able to read anything (including the Bible) in many years because they simply don't have reading glasses. Please give your donations to Beth or Jonathan.

"LET THE GAMES BEGIN!" Come have a night of fun with your church family. It's a night of **cornhole** and **fellowship**. Mark your calendars for **June 7, 6:30 – 9:00 PM**. Bring your cornhole game and snacks. Drinks provided.

MOBILE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL will be holding the **annual Corporate Meeting** on Tuesday, June 18th at 6:00 pm in the Mobile Christian Library (in the High School Building). During this meeting, a brief update on the school/school year is planned.

SUMMER EVENTS FOR THE KIDS

- **May 30** – Summer Kickoff
- **June 6** – Story time at West Mobile Public Library and lunch at the park
- **June 18** – Swimming at the Presley's
- **June 29** – Make & take at Magnolia Soap Company and Lunch
- **July 9** – Get Air
- **July 14-17** – VBS
- **July 30** – End of Summer Bowling Bash

FROM THE FAMILY ROOM (5/19/24)

Certainty versus Uncertainty

"I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance." -- John 10:10; see also Eph. 2:4-5

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
-- John 16:33

"And we know with great confidence that God, who is deeply concerned about us, causes all things to work together for good for those who love God..."
-- Romans 8:28; see also Romans 8:35, 37-39

"In Him [Christ] all things hold together."
-- Colossians 1:17

Watching the news on television can be stressful. Things are being done today that would have never even been thought about just a few years ago. Changes are enormous and happening quickly. What is going to happen in the future? Life has always been filled with uncertainty as for as events on earth are concerned. Such is life. Always has been. Always will be here on earth. Life is sometimes like driving on the interstate in a heavy fog. Sometimes we just don't

know what may be 50 feet in front of us. Driving in a dense fog like that is miserable and tiring. Sometimes we may have to pull off of the road and stop our trip for a short period of time. Living life like that can wear us out.

Today we stand looking forward into a fog of future uncertainty. What will our daily lives be like next year? We just don't know. Some people react to this uncertainty by stopping where they are. We must not let uncertainty of the future cause us to stop in our journey of life. There are some facts of life that we can know are certain.

There is a God. He loves us. He makes all events in the lives of His followers work together for our good. He gave us His son for our salvation and for our abundant life. Jesus loves us. Nothing can separate us from His love. In His love we overwhelmingly conquer the uncertainty of this life. In Christ all things hold together. As children of the King with these certainties before us at all times, we should live joyfully, peacefully, fearlessly and blessed amid the uncertainty that surrounds us in the world. I pray that we will focus on the certain facts of life and live boldly to the glory of God. I pray that we will let our lights shine so those around us who have weak or no faith will see the certain God in a dismal, foggy, uncertain world.

Let us also remember the certainty of heaven and our reward waiting for us. One day we will live in the light of His love eternally. There will be no more tears. There will be no more fog. There will be no more uncertainty. The certainty of God should motivate us live by faith and not by sight.

Ricky Butts
Family Minister
Creekwood Church of Christ