

LIVING WATER

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

Broken, But Made Whole

According to legend, Japanese shogun Ashikaga Yoshimasa sent a cracked chawan – or tea bowl – back to China to undergo repairs. Upon its return, Yoshimasa was displeased to find that it had been mended with unsightly metal staples. This motivated contemporary craftsmen to find an alternative, aesthetically pleasing method of repair. This method became known as Kintsugi.

An entry in Wikipedia describes Kintsugi as the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with urushi lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold, silver, or platinum.

Through Kintsugi, broken pieces of a ceramic object can be reconnected and remade into a beautiful piece of art.

The art of Kintsugi beautifully depicts what God can do with a broken life.

Our lives are broken by sin, and "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). But God loves us, and He desires to restore us and make something beautiful and eternal of our lives (John 3:16; Romans 6:23).

The process of restoration necessitated the death of God's Son, Jesus, on the cross to pay the price for our redemption from sin (Ephesians 1:7). When we submit the broken pieces of our lives through our trusting obedience, the Potter can restore and remake us into a beautiful object of grace (Ephesians 2:8-10).

God will forgive, restore, and give eternal life 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 and make whole" those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

*"Bring Christ your broken life, So marred by sin,
He will create anew, Make whole again;
Your empty, wasted years He will restore,
And your iniquities Remember no more."*

-- Thomas O. Chisholm

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from Wikipedia and Kelly Richman-Abdou, "Kintsugi: The Centuries-Old Art of Repairing Broken Pottery with Gold," *My Modern Met*, September 5, 2019, as quoted in www.illustrationideas.bible.

Creekwood Church of Christ

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



Minister David A. Sargent	Associate Minister Tucker Presley	Youth Minister Casey Crawford	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	
• SERVICES •					
Sunday	Morning Worship	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Class	10:15 AM	Evening Worship
Wednesday	Morning Bible Study	10:00 AM	Evening Bible Study	6:30 PM	6:00 PM

October 13, 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 – "Straying Sheep"

PM – "The Son of Encouragement"

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 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, Charlie and Neecy Burch – National Guard, Kelly Leverett – Army, Parker Abila (Cassie Devitt’s grandson) – Air Force

OUR EXPECTING MOTHERS: Courtney Barlow

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR UKRAINE & THE WAR IN ISRAEL!

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY is extended to Janet Oglesby and her extended family in the loss of her brother, Wayne Brown. Please pray for Janet and her family as they mourn the loss of this kind loved one.

PRAYER REQUEST for Bernice Fables who spent several days in USA Providence Hospital being treated for a blood clot in her leg and fluid around her lungs.

PRAYER REQUEST for Sam Childs who had a biopsy on the frontal lobe of his brain recently. He is awaiting the results. Please pray for Sam, Leslie, and the doctors.

PRAYER REQUEST for Kelly Troughton, Hilary Hardy’s father. He is scheduled for a medical procedure on Oct. 15.

PRAYER REQUEST for Jack Bryan a friend to many at Creekwood and longtime supporter of Mobile Christian School. He is suffering from a medical condition.

PRAYER REQUEST for Betty Carolyn Love. She is in Springhill Rehabilitation and Senior Residence, Room 135, for a period of rehab. She is feeling much better, just weak.

PRAYER REQUEST for Diane Glover (former sitter for Cecil Wiggins and member of Andrews Street church. Diane’s cancer treatments were not successful, and she is now under hospice care.

MEMBERS: Lester Sellers, Richard McDonald, Sheila Hudson, Gina Williamson, Betty Gunnells, Sandy Hall, Linda Baker, Jerrol Sawrey, Ryan James, Betty Nichols, Sara Sargent, Nancy White, John & Sharon Bogle, Valary Smith, Tom Busby, Patti Mitchell, Kathy Stacy, Ken Grisham, Jeannie Aldred, Betty Thompson, Bennett Gibson (Omak, WA), Charlie Burch, Sandra Dowling, Mike Powell, Alona Gobble

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS: Rick Gray, Susie Gobble, Pam Davis, Rowena Leekley, Valerie Thompson (friend of Nancy Lenoir); Bonnie Blair (friend of Gayle Lunsford), Keith Parker (Angela Tapley’s son-in-law); Amelia McGaughy (granddaughter of Cathy McGaughy Shelburne); Jeremie Benzinger (son of Gayle); Sandy Hunt (neighbor of the Fetners); Sandra (Ryals) Shell; Jimmy Linder (father of Angie Bacon), Marie Waters (aunt of Kristy Adams), Julie Todd (friend of Brook Oglesby Grice), Diane Glover, Logan Moore, Daniel Mitchell Brabham (the brother of Stephanie Hulon), Barbara Bradford (grandmother of Erin Cunningham), Larry Tart (brother of Jerrol Sawrey), Betsy McCaskill (friend of Larry Duncan), Nelda Carr (former member) Sally Tindell (sibling of Nancy Moorer), Boots Carson (mother of Gina Englund and Ka Kinman), Kellen Franks (grandson of Bill & Martha Franks), Don White (brother of Celeste Chandler)

SHUT-INS – Martha Irvin; Esther Boulanger; Barbara Roley; Hurley Crews

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

WELCOME TO THE CREEKWOOD FAMILY these two precious souls:

- **JANICE FRANKS.**
- **ROGER McCALEB.**

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.

WEDDING SHOWER: There is a shower gift table in the foyer for **Autrey and Victoria "Tori" Moorer**. We will keep the table out for a couple of weeks. They are registered at Zola.com -- <https://www.zola.com/wedding/toriandautrey/registry>. Please place your gifts on the table **TODAY**.

LAST CALL! BACK TO SCHOOL UNIFORM DRIVE for **Spencer-Westlawn Elementary School!** Donations will be available to families in need. Items needed: Sizes 4-12 red polo style uniform shirts, sizes 4-12 khaki uniform pants, socks, underwear and belts. These items are available at Walmart and Target. Used items are also welcome. Financial donations are also accepted to purchase uniforms. See Amy Owens for more information. **The Drive ends today. Thanks you for your help!**

MEN’S BREAKFAST October 19, 2024, at 8am in the fellowship hall. Bring your favorite breakfast dish with you.

TRUNK OR TREAT will be October 27th from 5-7pm! Mark your calendars! We’re conducting a “**CANDY DRIVE**” to help supplement those who will be sharing candy from their vehicles. We had a BIG crowd last year; we’re expecting the same this year.

GREETINGS to my Beloved Family at Creekwood:

The Blessings that came from being a part of this wonderful family are like unto the Stars in Heaven – too numerous to count. Many of you have been stars in my life through much joy and sorrow. I will surely miss your smiling faces, wonderful hugs, and the best cups of coffee, served by my “bestest” friends, Fred & Joey. They made me feel special.

Special is the operative word for the scrapbook, beautifully put together by Britney. Many of you helped fill it with kind words, letters, Scriptures, songs, and pictures of cherished Friends. These are only a few of the Blessings I received over the years. I treasure the Book! What an Amazing Gift – the memories and friendships will live on in my heart. I shall never forget you. May God’s richest Blessings be with each precious Family at Creekwood. My Prayers and My Love to you, Family. -- Always, Celeste Chandler

“NOT GOING TO GIVE UP ON ME”

Amanda Eller went missing when she was hiking in Maui. She survived for more than two weeks and was found alone in the jungle. Her original plans were for a short 3-mile hike so she did not take her cell phone with her. She stopped early in the hike to meditate and relax. She laid down on a tree and watched the sky. When she got up, she began to walk back to the car, she thought. But her sense of direction was leading her away from her car. She had no compass and everything in the forest looked alike. During the next confusing days, Amanda tried to find her way out of the forest. She survived by eating berries and plants, and drinking water straight from streams. She lost her shoes in a flood and suffered numerous injuries including a broken leg and an injured knee.

Thanks to the diligence of the search crew, the story has a happy ending.

At a joyful reception for her rescuers, Amanda expressed her thanks to everyone who searched for her. “The community showed up with so much passion. These guys were not going to give up on me. Thank God!” She is also quoted as saying, “There were times of total fear and loss and wanting to give up. It came down to lie and death and I had to choose. I chose life.”

Maybe you know someone who is lost spiritually in the jungle of the world. Maybe they have been gone for a long time. They may be so deep in the world that they have no sense of direction and no hope of finding their own way out. Jesus Christ came into the world to seek and save people who are separated from God and are living lost in the world (Luke 19:10). We are His search crew here on earth today. Like the rescuers of Amanda Eller, we must not give up on our efforts to teach them about the salvation found only in Jesus Christ. We must not give up on praying that they will choose life. When Amanda Eller was rescued, there was a great celebration in Maui. When a lost Christian is found, there is an even greater celebration (Luke 15).

We the church must show up with a passion to find those who are lost. We must not give up on them.

Ricky Butts
Family Minister