



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

August 3, 2021

Your Heart's Longing

Tim Dooley

People are forever searching for peace, happiness, and comfort in the things this world has to offer. Yet, we are never truly happy with what this world is able to provide. It seems that the more material possessions we amass for ourselves the more dissatisfied and troubled we become. It seems so simple to choose the promises of peace, happiness, and comfort that God provides through His Son. Why is it then that so few of us make this simple choice?

The answer resides deep within each of us. Someone once commented, "It doesn't interest me what you do for a living. I want to know what you ache for, and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart's longing." Since this world is not able to provide us with what our hearts truly long for, doesn't it seem silly to put our time, energy, and resources toward the accumulation of worldly things?

God's Word tells us that the wise man builds his house on a rock, a solid foundation of hearing and obeying God's will for us in this life. This foundation provides for us peace, safety, and happiness. The foolish man sought to build his life ignoring the wisdom of God and brought only heartache and destruction (Matthew 7:24-27).

Jesus said, "*Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*" (Matthew 6:19-21). Then he asked, "*For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*" (Matthew 16:26).

So, I plead with you to look deep into your soul and ask, with all honesty, "what is the longing of my heart?" Peace? Happiness? Comfort? These things can only be found in Christ. "*And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you*" (Philippians 4:7, 9). "*If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you: on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified*" (1 Peter 4:14). "*Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you*" (2 Corinthians 13:11).

If you are not a member of the Lord's Church and your heart's desire is for peace, happiness, and comfort then obey Him today in repentance, confession, and baptism for the remission of your sins. If you are a Christian and have lost the peace, happiness, and comfort of God, repent and ask God to forgive you and be faithful to your calling. God loves you and will not let you down. Be Faithful!



BACK TO SCHOOL

It seems like it was just yesterday when you heard the last school bell ring letting you know that summer had officially begun. You traded in your backpacks full of books for suitcases full of summer gear. The sun's been out and the weather has been hot. VBS and summer vacations have come and gone. That can mean only one thing: time for school to start. Some have already started and others will begin their new school year this week. Moms and dads may be done with school but the thought of sending a child off to their first day of school can be very frightening. Schools today are a battleground of temptations. Will they remember everything we've taught them about friends, relationships, etc.?

Message to the kids/teens: This is a new year. A time to start fresh and start over. It's easy to get drawn into all the temptations that can be found on a school campus. Satan is prowling like a lion ready to devour you (1 Peter 5:8). But remember who you are. Remember that you wear the name of Christ proudly. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 11:1 to *"imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ."* Remember that our attitude and our personality should always imitate Christ's attitude. There will be times when it will be hard to do the right thing and you'll find yourselves between a rock and a hard place, but just remember *"if God is for us, who can be against us?"* (Romans 8:31). Remember that you have a family of Christians who are here for you whenever you need them. Don't be afraid to admit you need help.

Message to the parents: It's impossible to know everything that goes on while your child is at school. But the best thing you can do is give them a daily reminder of the Lord they serve. Pray with your children each morning before school. Read scriptures with them about temptations and how to overcome them. Write a scripture on a piece of paper or a napkin and put it in their lunch. If their mind is constantly on the Lord, guess who will be on their mind when a problem arises?

Message to the congregation: It is not just the parents' responsibility to raise these children in the *"training and admonition of the Lord"* (Ephesians 6:4). As a flock of God's people we are to look after each other. We are to set an example *"in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity"* (1 Timothy 4:12). Let us all take the responsibility to make sure that everyone continues to grow spiritually. It takes a village to raise a child. Whether you want to admit it or not, every child in this congregation is your own. Remember what it was like to be young? Do whatever you can to help these students succeed.

~copied & edited

Please pray for our students, teachers, and staff as they return to school this week.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Below is a list of activities/projects in which our Care Groups are involved. Our aim is to better serve our community and one another. We encourage everyone to help in any way you can, no matter to which Care Group you are assigned. You may contact the person(s) listed next to each activity for detailed information.

- Monthly collection of non-perishable, individually-wrapped items for children in need at Myrtle Attendance Center (Kurt Clayton)
- Supplies for Pine Vale each quarter: This quarter we supplied bottled water (Kurt Clayton).
- Coloring Books/Crayons for Le Bonheur: Coloring books/crayons or monetary donations are due by Sunday, November 14. Our goal is 100 (Andy/Victoria Brown or Kurt/Shelly Clayton).
- Snack bags and activity books for dialysis center (Brian Carpenter/Matt Jennings/Shane Crotts)
- Provide items for weekend feeding of needy children at West Union Attendance Center (Brian, Matt, Shane).
- Provide bags for foster children (Brian, Matt, Shane).
- Provide hygiene products for students. Each month, we will supply a different school. August-West Union; September-New Albany High School; October-Myrtle; November-New Albany Middle and NAES; December-East Union; January-Ingomar (Kevin/Stephanie Simmons).
- Caring for our church family: Collect donations to buy food for those grieving over the loss of an immediate family member; for our new mothers; for those in the hospital/having surgery; for families in quarantine due to Covid (Kevin/Stephanie Simmons).
- Assist our elderly and the sick with yard work (Kevin/Stephanie Simmons).
- Run errands for our shut-ins (Kevin/Stephanie Simmons).
- Prepare care boxes for our shut-ins (Kevin/Stephanie Simmons).

PRAYER LIST



Dixie White will have outpatient surgery Friday, August 13th. She will have a new pacemaker implanted, along with additional lead wires. Her doctor thinks the leaky valve will correct itself once the new pacemaker is in place.

Steve Hill, Clay Jennings and Halei Leahey are improving from Covid.

Andrea and Clayton Hill were diagnosed with Covid on Sunday.

David Lipe is improving from Covid. His wife, *Linda* has been diagnosed with Covid and is very ill.

Luke Jennings will have all day allergy tests on Wednesday, August 5th.

Arelus Dye, father of *Tim Dye*, is scheduled for outpatient back surgery August 6th.

April Ponders has a tentative surgery date of August 9th. She received good news from the genetic testing.

Sue Marques is scheduled for knee replacement surgery August 16th.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Lynda Ball, Mitchel Barton, Kathy Clayton, Larry Cobb, Shane Crotts, Prebble Foster, Donnie Golden, Eleta Grimmitt, Madison Hardy, John Haynes, Patrick Holmes, Caleb Jennings, Jason Jennings, Michele Kimsey, Myra Martin, Anderson Parks, Olivia Ponders, Joe Reed, Susie Roberson, Novene Robertson, Joanna Ross, Harold Russell, Bobby Sweat, Bella Taylor, Ansley Thompson, Tommie Whiteside, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

Helen DePriest, Kathy Dye, J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe & Benita Garner, Nancy Petrowski

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Bill Lyon

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the family of *Mike Whitaker*, who was the brother-in-law of Ricky Adams.

We express our sympathy to the family of *Chris Kidd*. Chris was a former member here.

I've Learned

Don't be afraid to stand for what you believe in, even if it means standing alone.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- August 05.....Martin Crotts
- August 06.....Ricky Adams
- August 06.....Joe Owen
- August 08.....Kathy Jennings
- August 10.....Sue Stroud
- August 13.....Ronnie Griggs



CHURCH CALENDAR

- **August 08** Elders/Deacons/Ministers Meeting 8:15a.m.
- **August 15** Care Group #2 meeting
- **August 20** The Yahhoo Group will meet at Coffey's Fish & Steak on Hwy 30 West at 5:30p.m. If anyone wants to meet at the church building, we will leave at 5:00p.m.
- **August 28-29** Widowhood Workshop
- **September 19-20** Church directory pictures

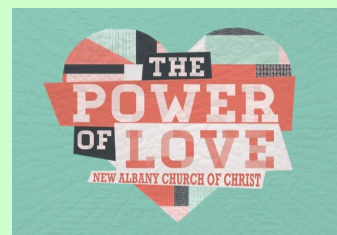
CARE GROUP NEWS

- Care Group #3, please bring your hygiene items by Sunday, August 8th.
- Care Group #2 will meet August 15th at the fellowship building after the morning service. Lunch will be potluck.

MASK RECOMMENDATION

The Mississippi Department of Health is urging everyone to wear a mask in all indoor public settings.

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Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Pew Packers/Afternoon Worship
1:15
 Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30

MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215
 Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office.....662-534-4649

ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....662-252-9762
 Tim Dye.....662-316-2527
 Richard Jennings .662-316-1305
 Troy Robertson 662-316-3163
 Phil Young.....662-316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....662-316-6420
 Shane Crotts.....662-266-0195
 Jason Jennings.....662-801-3260
 Mark Jennings.....731-609-3309
 Kevin Simmons.. 662-512-8451
 Randy Wall.....662-316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....Randy Wall
 Scripture.....Ruston Adams
 A.M. Prayer.....Richard Adams
 Closing.....Thomas Wall
 P.M. Prayer.....Dillon Clayton
 Closing.....David Clayton
 Lock.....Mark Jennings
 Usher.....Mark Jennings
 Security.....Greg Clayton
 Wed Open 11th.....Paul Ormon
 Wed Close 11th.Owen Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....87
 Sunday A.M.....122
 Sunday P.M.....72
 Wednesday.....71
 Contribution.....\$5,406.00
 Budget.....\$4,219.62

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Volume 31

THAT LITTLE EXTRA EFFORT

The difference between success and failure is often determined by the willingness to put forth that “little extra effort.” In many areas putting forth that “little extra effort” makes the difference between a good church and a really great church.

- ◇ That “little extra effort” gets us to Bible class as well as worship on the morning of the Lord’s Day.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” brings us back to the evening worship on the Lord’s Day.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” causes us to spend more time in private study of God’s Word.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” reminds us to frequently claim the privilege of prayer.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” helps us to be more sacrificial in our giving as measured by our prosperity instead of the attitude that says give as little as possible.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” keeps us at our home congregation except in cases of necessity.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” leads us into a compassionate concern for the lost and wayward and reminds us to speak to them about their spiritual condition.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” helps us engage wholeheartedly and attentively in all phases of worship.
- ◇ That “little extra effort” involves us in every activity of the work of the local church.

Of course, there is that “little extra” that we must avoid...even very small things which add to, take from, or in any way violate God’s Word (Revelation 22:18, 19). His Word alone will do its effective work when it is followed as God’s only revelation to man. It is the sole guide to our soul’s salvation (2 Timothy 3:16,17).

Beloved, let us diligently apply ourselves to give that “little extra” and make the Lord’s church the really great church the Lord deserves.

“And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain” (Matthew 5:41)

~copied

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