

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Ken Roosa continues to improve and is able to use his treadmill on M-W-F. His stamina is steadily improving.. Such wonderful news!
Jeri Adams (Tina's Aunt in Fla.) is home but in need of heart surgery (Waiting for an appointment to see a cardiologist).
Don Richardson – moved to Grand View Nursing Care and is receiving physical therapy
Ray Sturgill is resting at home due to severe back pain
Iris Hash – Improved but advised to stay in.
Delores Hendrickson
Deloris Hendrickson requests prayers for her brother.
Stephanie Sturgill – Cancer
Judy Merriman – Stage 4 Bladder Cancer
Carol Harris – Liver Cancer
Ernest Brown – Diagnosed with Cancer in his eye.
Teddy Burgess (friend of Evelyn Murphy)
Darryl Grimes, Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Chemo treatments completed 2 weeks ago and a full body scan on Monday (4-13-20). Great news, Rick is in complete remission!
Rick Skiver, Ken Roosa's brother, has completed radiation treatments. He has been told that there was no more they could do as far as chemo and they are setting him up for long-term Hospice care.
Sean Mathews – Stomach problems (ongoing)
Zachary Baxter, Susie Burdsall/Riddle's grandson, deployed in the U.S. Navy
Edwin Parnell, cancer (Mike Parnell's brother)
Al Reynolds is back home with Gertrude
Melani Dodge – In need of our prayers and encouragement
Guyten Montgomery's mother is thankfully recovering from the corona virus.
Dean and Shirley Cook are back home and doing well.
Lori Bowlen is self-quarantined for Covid-19 – No symptoms now.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale

Pray For The Work We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia)
Charles DiPalma (Mission work in Australia and New Zealand)
Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies

Upcoming Events:

No Pitch-Ins until the Coronavirus Crisis is past

All Services are Suspended Temporarily!

Tomorrow with **all** of its Blessings!

God's Plan For Our Salvation:

1. **Hearing** the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
2. **Believing** what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
3. **Repentance** (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
4. **Confession** (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
5. **Baptism** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3,4).
6. After the above five steps, **Faithful Christian Living** (I Peter 2:11, 12; Revelation 2:10).

April 26, 2020

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM (Service Suspended)

Worship – 10:30 AM (Service Suspended)

(6:00 PM Service Suspended)

Wednesday

Bible Study – 7:00 PM (Suspended)

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM (Suspended)

Radio Program:

“Preparing For Eternity”

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

Acts 16:6 "And they passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia."

The current social distancing situation has really made many people and families alter and change their plans. Funerals have been held with only ten people in the audience, wedding plans had to be changed, showers (wedding and baby) have been cancelled or changed to "drive-by" only. High School and College Seniors are unable to have a traditional graduation and, of course, worshipping together has certainly been changed.

Our verse is a great reminder. Paul was traveling and preaching. His plans were to go up into the Asia region. God had other plans. The Holy Spirit, our passage tells us, forbade Paul from going. Bluntly, God said, "No." It was after this that Paul had the vision of Macedonia and it was there that he went and preached.

There are some reminders and lessons for us:

First, we are not in control of life. What we are going through is a great reminder of this. A virus has brought the world to its knees. Across the globe, nation after nation, big cities and little towns, this invisible enemy has put a scare in us, crippled the world economy and changed the way we do life.

Second, although things are not the way we'd like them to be, at the end of the day, the couple are married, the student has graduated, and the dead are buried. The timing isn't ours, but life can go on.

Third, years from now, this will be a special memory. Old timers still talk about the depression or the great war. That generation was called the "greatest generation" for the way they pulled together and how they endured things. And, families and faith survived. So, will we. Decades from now folks will talk about the year they didn't have a real graduation or a wedding with just ten people in the audience. It will be something to talk about. There will be lessons that we can teach others. For a couple of months, or even longer, we worshipped in our homes. We still prayed. We remembered the Lord. We read Scriptures. We did what we had to do. Faith is forged upon difficult times. We like luxury. We like things to be just the way that they are supposed to be. But those times can make us soft. They can lead us to parking our faith and not using it. During

hardships, inconveniences and trials are the days that we really dig deep into our faith. We pray more and trust more. We actually become a stronger people during hardships. Someday, this will just be a memory. Had it not been for this epidemic, some would have never learned these things.

Fourth, through all of this, God has remained right where He's always been. He hasn't moved. He's still running the universe. He still displaying His wonder every day. His word remains true. His promises He has not forgotten. His will is still being accomplished. And, even through tough times, God is still good. Understanding history, especially Biblical history helps keep everything in perspective. We see through the pages of the Bible how the people of God got through tough times. There have been famines, wars and captivity. Some surrendered their faith. Some complained to God. But there were always those who, even in the darkest of nights, held on to a deep faith and trust in the Lord. The Lord saw that. We see that. So, we are having to stay home. It's still home. We are not being carted away to Babylon. We are not facing lion's dens, fiery furnaces, armies chasing us or spears being thrown at us. All in all, this isn't as bad as it could be. Perspective. Look what our forefathers went through with a Civil War. Look what some of the reformers went through in the Middle Ages. Look at the end of Hebrews 11. And, God has remained right where He's always been.

Finally, all of this puts two expressions before us: First, "If the Lord wills," from James and second, "Thy will be done," from the garden prayer. Jesus wanted the cup of suffering to pass. It wasn't to be. It was not the will of the Father. Did that mean that the Father didn't like Jesus? No. Did that mean that Jesus had done something wrong? No. The plans of God are often hard for us to see. God's will brings honor and glory to Him and it fulfills His eternal purpose. We often don't see that.

Life does change. The Lord is the only thing certain. So, be flexible. Don't complain. Use your imagination and find safe ways to adjust. Things can still be special. And, someday, all of this will pass. It comes to pass, it never comes to stay.

Hope these reminders are helpful for us.

Roger