

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Kay Kessler (Ken's oldest sister) passed on May 10. Her funeral was on May 12. Our sympathies and prayers go out to her family.

Darryl Grimes (Ken Roosa's son-in-law) has an additional diagnosis of cancer in his back. He is scheduled to begin chemo therapy on Monday (5/24). Your prayers are needed.

Edwin Parnell (Mike's brother) is suffering from cancer and is having problems with his chemo therapy medication. Please pray for Edwin and his family.

Charlie Henard's mother has Alzheimer's that is progressing. Prayers are needed.

Derrick Burdsall is tired but no plan for treatment yet. He is at home.

David Cook (Shirley's son) is back at work but still not fully recovered from his aneurism surgery.

Dave and Tina Knoy have requested your prayers for their granddaughter McKeneie Ritter.

Ray and Liz have requested prayers for their Granddaughter Taylor and their Great-Granddaughter Harmony.

Clay Sturgill (Ray's brother) continues rehab in Whitesburg, KY. He is doing well. Prayers for Clay and the family are appreciated.

Jeff Sturgill's back problem is better though it is ongoing.

Stephanie Sturgill has received her last Chemo treatment and is doing real good.

Kern Shoopman (Jesse Riddle's Brother-in Law) is suffering from stage 3 Cancer and had his last chemo treatment. Per Jessie, Kern is doing OK.

Delores Hendrickson is experiencing some dizziness and difficulty sleeping.

Karen Sproles is having problems with a place on her back and one on her foot. Her thyroid problem is being watched. Karen was ordered to receive home care for these issues as well as home occupational therapy. After the heart monitor results she will be doing a stress test. Karen is in a lot of pain.

Iris Hash has been weak lately and suspects that she may be anemic. She started therapy for acid reflux in the week of 3/28. Also, she is having some leg cramps. Iris is to see a Dr. regarding her cramps and weakness on Wed. (5/19).

Ada Hamm has been diagnosed with lung cancer and made the decision not to have treatments for lung cancer. She is doing fine.

Sean Mathews – Stomach problems (ongoing). Prayers are appreciated.

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: Men's Business Mtg. at 5:00PM on Wed. (6/2).

Pitch-In: First Sunday in June (6/6) after AM service.

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. **Faithful Christian Living**, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

May 23, 2021

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

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



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM

Radio Program:

“Preparing For Eternity”

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

Psalms 46:1 “*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*”

A while back I was talking with someone who struggles with many mental issues. His medicine helps. It's hard for me to understand the road he travels. He loves the Lord. After that, I was talking with someone who just had a funeral in their family. There were many similarities to what I have just gone through. I could understand the feelings and found many things in common. Both people needed Jesus. One struggle I could relate to. The other, I had no clue.

That made me think of this verse. God is help in trouble. Here are some thoughts:

First, all of us have trouble. It may not be at the moment, but sooner or later, trouble always finds us. Health issues. Financial issues. Family problems. Church problems. Stress at work. Tired, twisted and rung out is how we often feel. We gather on a Sunday, smile at each other, but deep within so many of us are hurting. We do a pretty good job of covering up our hurts and pains. Most never know, but we do. And, then the song leader joyfully leads us in “I'm Happy Today.” That, for many, is more of a wish than a reality. We can think that we are the only one that is hurting. Truth is, more are hurting than not hurting. We just don't know that.

Second, our troubles are so different. James tells us that there are various trials. There's not just one kind of trouble. Now, I might think that my troubles are a lot worse than yours are, and, they just may be. And, we can focus on our troubles to the extent that others feel neglected or ignored. We pray about our troubles and we can forget about praying for the troubles of others.

Third, God is the help for all of us. That clicked for me the other day when I was having all of those discussions. Different people. Different troubles. Same God. The person with family problems doesn't need one kind of God, while the guy with financial troubles needs yet another type of God. One God for all. We've learned to navigate this world by finding those who know what to do. Experts. Experienced. Spiritually, our Lord can do it all. It's the same Jesus for the family that is grieving, as it for

the man who is struggling with debt, as it is for the person who needs to forgive. Different troubles, same God. That's amazing to me. God can handle any and every problem. There is no trouble, whether it's the weather, it's wars, it's personal, it's church related—God can do it all. God has the answers for all. He is the help that we all need.

You and I may not understand where some people are coming from. They may have problems that we have never heard of before. We may not even know where to begin to help them. But God does. God is always the answer. God is always first.

Fourth, we find that we have a common bond with each other. All of us have been helped by God. Not all of us have been helped by the church, or by the family, or by our friends. But God is there for His people. If you have sought Him out and humbled yourself, He has and He will help you. And, that connects us together. Maybe what God did for you was different than what He did for me, but we both have been helped. We both have been blessed by God. Together, we can join our voices in praise and thanksgiving to the God who has wonderfully made things better. I may not know your pain and you may not know my pain, but together, we understand pain. And, I may not have been blessed as you have and you may not be blessed as I am, but together, we have been blessed by the Lord. God hasn't favored one over the other. God hasn't specialized in just one type of problem. He's seen them all.

And, to how our verse ends, God is a present help in trouble. God doesn't make things worse. He makes them better. What He wants and expects, may be hard. It may not be our choice of things to do. But, following Him is always the best thing to do. Many a person has regretted not listening to God and walking away from God. I've yet to meet the person who felt like following God was a waste of time. Nope. God is good. God is help. God is there.

Great reminders as we journey through this crazy world we live in.

Roger Shouse