

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Ken Roosa continued improvement, able to get out some.
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 is some better, at home but not receiving phone calls at this time.
Rusty Knoy (Dave's brother) is to have By-Pass surgery on 6-12-20.
Vickie Mattingly (Cindy Murray's Sister-In-Law) passed and burial was 4-28-20.
Iris Hash – At home and improved but advised to stay in.
Delores Hendrickson
Delores Hendrickson's son's father-in-law passed on 5-12-20.
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)
Darrell Grimes, Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Chemo treatments completed and a full body scan on Monday (4-13-20). Great news, Darrell 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
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:

Sunday Morning Bible Study/Worship to resume on 05-16-20!

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

May 24, 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 (**Resumed**)

Worship – 10:30 AM (**Resumed**)

(6:00 PM Service Temporarily Suspended)

Wednesday

Bible Study – 7:00 PM (**Temporarily Suspended**)

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM (**Temporarily Suspended**)

Radio Program:

“Preparing For Eternity”

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

Revelation 4:3 *"And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance."*

The "spectroscopy" is the study of rainbows. There was a light rain coming down and the sun was coming out. This is the perfect combination for finding a rainbow. On rare occasions a person might catch a double rainbow. That's really special. From long ago, the rainbow belonged to God and it still does. The rainbow was a promise first given to Noah and his family and has been kept for all of these centuries. God always keeps His promises.

In our verse today, the rainbow is found in Heaven. Rather than the primary colors of red and yellow, Heaven's rainbow is green, the color of emeralds. And, unlike our rainbows, that require rain and sunlight, and they do not last very long, Heaven's rainbow is much different. There is no sun in Heaven. And, this rainbow isn't visible for just a few short moments. It seems to be a permanent fixture above the throne of God. It is a constant reminder that God has promises and He will keep them.

Let's consider a few of the promises of God:

We have a divine appointment with death (Heb. 9:27). Death comes and then the judgment. We've seen this promise fulfilled in every generation. Knowing that God keeps His promises, we ought to prepare ourselves for what we know is going to happen. We can spend so much time focused on this life that we forget that there is a life that lasts much longer on the other side of the door of death. For the child of God, we know there are other Heavenly promises connected to the appointment with death. If we are walking with the Lord, things are only going to get better once we pass through that door of death. An unbelieving generation sees death as the end of the journey. We know better. We have the promises of God that attest to this. God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able (1 Cor. 10:13). When a person says, "I just couldn't help it," that's not the right answer. Yes, they could. God doesn't put us in impossible situations. This same passage also promises that with temptation God provides a way out. There is an escape hatch. The temptation is not greater than you. There are certainly things we can do that will help us be stronger or they will make us weaker. Strengthening your faith will help you resist temptation. Having your mind set on things above will help you look for the door of escape that God provides. Sin is a choice. It's a bad choice. But it's a choice that we make.

God promises to never desert you nor forsake you (Heb. 13:5). God is with you, always. The only time God is not with you is when you turn your back to Him and walk away. The prodigal found himself to be all alone with the pigs. His father still loved him and wanted the best for him. However, his father was not in the pig pen with him. When you are alone, you are not, if you are walking with the Lord. He is with you. He promises never to leave you. And in this time of social distancing, stuck at home, you are not alone. God is with you. He deserves your best.

God promises to forgive those who walk with Him (1 Jn. 1:7). Our salvation is not wrapped around perfect church attendance, or a full knowledge of God's word. Our hope is in the love and grace of God. Our faith and His grace is what will save us. This is a pivotal point for so many of us to see. A person looks at his life and realizes that he just hasn't done enough. Who has? And, just what is "enough?" How is Heaven possible when we study the lives of Daniel, Joseph or Paul?

First, we must stop thinking that we have to do what they did. We must stop comparing ourselves to others. Two talents doesn't feel bad because he didn't do what five talents did. He did what he could do. Second, we must move past this idea of if I do "enough" God will open the doors to Heaven for me. That is salvation by works. And, in that system, you can never do enough. Our hope is in God. Saved by grace through faith is what the Ephesians were told. Do you believe? Are you truly trying? Are you making adjustments for the better as you journey through life? Stop beating yourself up and see Heaven's rainbow. God will forgive you if you keep up with Him. Don't stop until He stops you. Don't give up.

God promises to send Jesus (2 Pet 3:9-11). The day of the Lord will come. God promised. Things will change when He comes. The kingdom will be delivered to God. The dead, all the dead, will be raised. The judgment will take place. The earth will be destroyed. And, eternity in Heaven or Hell will be realized. That means, for the faithful, things are only bound to get better. For the unbelieving, things are destined to only get worse, much worse than they ever expected. God promised.

Rainbows are more than pretty sights in the sky, they are reminders of a faithful God who keeps His promises.

Roger Shouse