



Prayer List

PRAY FOR VICTIMS OF COVID-19 & THEIR FAMILIES

PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE & THE MIDDLE EAST

Sharon Smith - surgery on her hand 8/20

Jerry Smith - carpal tunnel surgery 8/12

David Edwards - upcoming surgery and continued treatments

Jan Day - surgical biopsy of breast (controller at WV Glass)

Family of Steve Davenport - grieving (friend of Eve West)

John Michael - in BARH due to several health issues (friend of David Robinson)

Michael White - debilitating arthritis

Mark Thompson - stage 4 cancer, pray for healing and salvation (relative of Ann Snyder's daughter-in-law)

Geneva Daniel - severe nosebleed (employee of Steve & Rhonda Smilek)

Nadine Jaap - not having as much pain as before

Christy Phares - needs hip replacement surgery

Don & Deanna McClung - both very ill (David & Wanda Edward's neighbors)

Michael Oluwagbemiga - asks for God's grace in all he does

Family of Susie Loranger - grieving (friend of Susan Phinisey)

Family of Jennifer Coffman - grieving (friend of Susan Phinisey)

New-born daughter of Willy Bitson - born prematurely; must be in incubator

Tyrone Anderson - injured on job (employee of Steve & Rhonda Smilek)

Connie White - kidney cancer

Butch Kessler - out of hospital, but not well (Wayne Cox's brother-in-law)

Stagnation vs. Growth

In Revelation, chapters 2 and 3, we can read letters that, by the hand of the Apostle John, were sent by our Lord Jesus to seven churches in Asia. Some of these letters were letters of encouragement to persevere, while others called churches to repent of some things. Some of the letters include a mixture of both commendation and rebuke. Two churches come to mind when thinking about stagnation vs. growth: the church at Ephesus and the church at Laodicea.

In Revelation 2:4-5, Jesus told the church at Ephesus, "Nevertheless I have this against, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place – unless you repent." While mentioning several good qualities that the church at Ephesus had, Jesus stated that the church had left their first love. What could this mean? Could it mean that the church was simply following orders without passion to please God? Could it be that supreme love for God and love for others had somehow eluded this church? Do we see how a lack of love can quickly stagnate spiritual growth? Evidently, it was severe enough for Jesus to sternly warn this church, "Repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place – unless you repent."

In Revelation 3:14-22 we can read Jesus' message to the church at Laodicea. This church had become lukewarm. Jesus said, "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of my mouth" (Rev. 3:15-16). I find a couple of things startling in this passage. First, that lukewarmness, apathy, indifference, and complacency make Jesus sick ("I will vomit you out of my mouth."). Second, Jesus would rather someone be obviously against Him ("I could wish you were cold...") than to have someone who was lukewarm. Could spiritual stagnation be the road to this kind of apathy and lack of concern?

Christian brethren, there is a genuine danger and threat of becoming stagnant in our spiritual growth! When we lose sight of the Christ that we serve, forget His great mercy and love for us, and forget that the most important thing in life is a relationship with God, we quickly stagnate in our faith. When this stagnation occurs, it is easy to then fall for anything. Peter once wrote, "You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:17-18).

How do we ward off spiritual stagnation and grow? Practice what are often referred to as the spiritual disciplines: read the Word of God, meditate on the Word of God, pray, fast, worship, be of service, fellowship with other Christians, take time to be alone with God, confess your sins, as well as other ways. The point is, let us draw near to God. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8).

– Jason P. Smith

If you wake in the morning and feel a bit blue,
And wonder whatever's the matter with you.

Don't go on grouch the rest of the day
And make other people your penalty pay.

Just try to suppress it and put on a grin,
And no one will know what has happened within;
Just speak a kind word and do a good deed,
And others your action will certainly heed.

It was said long ago and today it's still true –
As you measure to others, it's given to you.

– Author Unknown
church bulletin bits

Family News

SERMON - The title of Jason's sermon is "Grow" Eph.4:16).

LADIES BIBLE CLASS - The monthly Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tues, Aug 13, at 6:30 p.m. Raymona will teach the class and Vonn will be responsible for the cards. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for food for the supper.

BAGS FOR BABIES - The sign-up sheet for Bags for Babies for the month of August is on the bulletin board.

ACCOUNTING REPORT - The accounting report for the month of June is on the bulletin board.



August 11, 2024

FALL FESTIVAL - There will be a fall festival at Potter Children's Home on Sat, Sept 21. There is more information on the bulletin board.

WATCH OUR WORSHIP SERVICE - If you are unable to attend our Sunday morning worship service, you may now "stream" it live on your computer or phone by going to:

Facebook.com/northbeckleycoc

Eternal Book

We search the world for truth, We cull

The good, the true, the beautiful
From graven stone and written scroll

And all old flower-fields of the soul;

Then, weary seekers of the best,
We come back laden from our quest

To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read.

—John Greenleaf Whittier

North Beckley Facts & Figures

Sunday, Aug 4

Bible Class - 19

Sunday Morning - 27

Sunday Evening -

Wednesday, Aug 7

Bible Study - 18

Weekly Offering:

\$1,565

Budget Goal:

\$2,000

Worship Schedule

Sunday Bible Study: **10:00 AM**
 Sunday Services: **11:00 AM & 6:00 PM**
 Wednesday Bible Study: **7:00 PM**



Steve Smilek (304) 573-3760

Deacons

Dennis Hawks (304) 890-2826
 Jeff Phares (304) 575-8089

Preacher

Jason Smith Home (681) 238-5053
 Cell (681) 220-4812

Secretary

Rosemary Biggs (Office) (304) 253-0446

Place
Stamp
Here

Caring Christians Committed to Christ

NORTH BECKLEY
Church of Christ



August 11, 2024

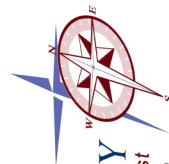
*“The vision must be followed
by the venture. It is not enough
to stare up the steps - we must step
up the stairs.”*

Vance Havner



August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug 3 - Ralph Marlow	Aug 19 - Jeffrey Webb
Aug 5 - Edward DeAlmo	Peyton & Halee
Aug 9 - Ralph & Raymona Marlow	Richmond
Aug 12 - Raymona Marlow	Aug 22 - Krysten Fernandes
Jeff & Christy Phares	Aug 24 - JaLynn Gill
Aug 13 - Carrie Jaap	Aug 29 - Kevin Taylor
Aug 17 - Shauna Richmond	Doretha Banks
Mark & Edna Jaap	Aug 30 - Charlie McKinney



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 Visit Our Website: www.nbeckley.org Connect With Us At: www.facebook.com/NorthBeckleyCOC

MISSION STATEMENT

North Beckley Church of Christ desires to glorify God and worship Him in spirit and in truth. We are committed to:

- Carrying the good news of Jesus Christ to the lost of our community and the world (Mark 16:15-16).
- Caring for those in need (Galatians 6:10).
- Creating a Christian fellowship that promotes spiritual growth and love for one another (John 13:35).