

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 18 FEBRUARY 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Deb Haley** continues to recover from her procedure to install a pain pump. Much of her pain has been relieved, but some remains. Thank God for success and pray for **Deb's** strength!
- **Bob Stark** continues to recover from his heart transplant, and was able to make it out for worship last Sunday. Keep praying for him and **Erma**, and check to see how we can help them!
- **Leah Foy** had surgery this week as well; surgery went well, but she is in a lot of pain. Pray for recovery and relief!
- **Muffy Garrett's mother, Beverly Berthold**, received a diagnosis of cancer this week. She had surgery on Friday, and awaits results of testing as to possible spread. Muffy is up there in Louisville until Thursday.
- **Mike and Linda Pharris** are in Dallas for the weekend.
- As of Saturday afternoon, **Bethany Moon** has not had her baby yet. If she doesn't, they will induce Monday. Pray for her, as well as **Josie Haley** and (former member) **Lauren Underwood**, who is also due any day now.
- Don't forget those rebuilding and recovering from Harvey: **Banks, Benthalls, Haleys, Starks, Stechs, and Washington**. The **Banks** and **Benthalls** have moved back into their homes, but even for them there is a lot of work still to do!
- Keep praying for those with on-going health concerns: **Pat Butler, Laura Claburn, Jan and Richard Cooper, Mike Flinn, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Johnny Martinez, Anna Mickle, Bob Stark, and Curby Stech**.
- **Sermon Title: Wired to Give**

WHO ARE WE?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Haley
Mitchell Howell
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
John Moon
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

CONTACT US

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DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:
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SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - H. Banks
Song Leader - M. Krueger
Opening Prayer - B. Ward
Communion Talk - J. Knapp
Lesson - S. Garrett
Announcements - B. Haley
Closing Prayer - D. Haley

BIBLE CLASSES

Isaiah (Auditorium)

- Daniel Broadwell

1&2 Peter/Jude (Back)

- Mark Mann
- Harrison Banks

Classes for children

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No Other Entrance

by: Gary Henry (wordpoints.com)

“. . . strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, ‘We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God’” (Acts 14:22)

IT IS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED THAT WE WILL MEET RESISTANCE IN OUR PROGRESS TOWARD GOD. Satan will surely try to defeat us with problems and pains, and God knows that it's better to allow these difficulties than to prevent them. “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God,” said Paul and Barnabas as they encouraged certain new converts to remain steadfast.

In the Homilies of Pseudo-Macarius, there is this observation: “We read in the Bible about some people who pleased God. They are considered God's friends and favorites. We miss one important detail. They suffered for God . . . We applaud them and wish we could be honored in a similar way, but we ignore the cost.”

Not only do we ignore the cost, some of us avoid difficulty so often that a pain-free life almost appears to be our main priority. But why should we want to be exempt from the hardships that so many of our brethren have suffered? How fair would it be for us to be granted the special consideration of an easier path to God? Do we not remember that old hymn “Am I a Soldier of the Cross?” The second stanza should prick our conscience: “Must I be carried to the skies on flow'ry beds of ease, while others fought to win the prize and sailed through bloody seas?”

The matter really comes down to a simple question: do we really want our hearts to be adjusted to God's holiness or not? If we do, there is a price to be paid and a discipline to be submitted to. Jesus' glory was on the other side of His suffering, and so it must be with us (Mark 8:34). Paul wrote that he was glad to have made sacrifices in order to know Jesus Christ: “that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead” (Philippians 3:10,11). The crown of Christ is for those who, with Him, have borne the cross.

We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom. There is no other entrance.

“Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired, and success achieved” (Helen Keller)