

UPCOMING WORSHIP INFO

We will be meeting **in person** for **Sunday morning worship** on **December 6**, at 10:30 a.m. with guidelines and parameters in place in order to keep us all as safe and healthy as possible.

The elders, deacons, and their wives who are attending will be wearing masks. The elders encourage you to wear a mask when you attend the Sunday morning worship service in person.

If you are sick in any way or running a fever, we obviously expect you to continue to worship with us online or on the radio. If you are especially vulnerable to the more drastic effects of Covid-19 and/or these safety measures will be difficult or impossible for you to follow, then we understand if you choose to stay home and worship with us online or on the radio.

CONSOLE and PROJECTOR OPERATORS

- Sunday, December 6: **Caleb Evans** and **Mark Evans**
- Sunday, December 13: **Ethan Hammond** and **Mark Miller**
- Sunday, December 20: **Ethan Hammond** and **Mark Miller**
- Sunday, December 27: **Russ Gallian** and **Joe Cook**

We are meeting **in person** for **Wednesday evening Bible classes**. Jacob is teaching the adult class in the auditorium. Everyone (adults and children), please remember to assemble in the auditorium FIRST to hear announcements and further information.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO:

- Enter through the open doors in the foyer.
- On Sunday mornings, pick up PCK(s) and mask(s) (optional, but strongly encouraged) as you enter.
- Find a seat for your family (every other pew is taped off).
- Maintain social distancing (e.g., no handshaking or hugging; no sitting next to another family on the same pew).
- Minimize use of nursery and restrooms.
- Refrain from using the water fountains (bottled water available).
- On Sunday mornings, deposit your contribution in a basket, and throw away your PCK(s) as you leave through the foyer.

REMOTE ACCESS

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Via Internet: Go to (1) **Pulaski Street's Facebook Page** or (2) **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel** at **10:30 a.m.**

Via Radio: The Sunday morning services will **air at about 6 p.m.** (6 p.m. is not an exact time; the broadcast should begin sometime between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.) on Sunday evenings at 106.1 FM (Lawrenceburg), 93.1 FM (Loretto), or 590 AM (Lawrence County) and via X Radio App on both Apple and Android.

Sunday Evening Bible Class Livestream: Go to **Pulaski Street's Facebook page** or **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel** at **6 p.m.**

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Class Livestream: Go to **Pulaski Street's Facebook page** or **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel** at **7 p.m.**

During **church office hours (Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.)**, you may pick up personal communion kits and/or drop off your weekly contribution. You may also mail contributions/donations to **247 Pulaski Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.**

November 25 and November 29, 2020

Mid-Week Bible Study.....	40
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	—
Sunday Morning Worship.....	86
Sunday Evening Worship.....	—
Contribution (2020 Budget \$10,635.48).....	\$8,441.00
Average (last available).....	\$9,806.94

Pulaski Street Church of Christ
247 Pulaski Street
Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

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PERMIT NO. 112

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHEDULE of SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....	10:25 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship.....	6:00 p.m.*
Wednesday night.....	7:00 p.m.
(*Each 4 th and 5 th Sunday evening service is at 1 p.m.)	

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

◆ On WDXE AM 1370/FM 102.5 ◆ 12:45 p.m. ◆ Monday – Friday ◆
The upcoming week of December 7 – December 11 will be hosted by the **CREWSTOWN** Church of Christ.

PANTRY LIST

- instant potatoes/8 oz. pkg. rice/1 lb. bag
- crackers/1 lb. box macaroni & cheese/7.25 oz. box
- quick oats/18 or 42 oz. OR boxes of individual packets
- dried beans/1 lb. bag ramen noodles/3 oz. pkg.
- cans of: tuna/6 oz. Vienna sausage/5 oz. salmon/ 15 oz.
- SpaghettiOs, ravioli, etc./15 oz. can
- fruit or vegetable juice/46 oz. can or bottle
- peanut butter/18 oz. jar soup/10.5 oz. can
- canned vegetables/14.5 oz. can...
- (corn, green beans, peas, baked beans, pork & beans, etc.)
- canned fruit/15 ¼ oz. (peach, pear, etc.)
- canned meat/12-24 oz. (Spam, Treet, Chicken, etc.)
- jelly, jam, or preserves/18-32 oz. jar

Monetary contributions are always welcome!
Make check payable to **Pulaski Street Church of Christ**,
and please indicate "PANTRY" on the memo line.
Thank you!

Some services and events have been altered, postponed, or cancelled due to recommendations regarding the current coronavirus situation.

PULASKI STREET BULLETIN

PULASKI STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

247 Pulaski Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-762-5161 fax 931-762-5269 pulstch@pulaskistreet.com www.pulaskistreet.org

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 47

December 3, 2020

Unanswered Prayer

Part One

While it is true that no prayer really goes unanswered, I think we all know what I mean by an “unanswered prayer.” It refers to those occasions when our heavenward petitions are not met with the desired earthly result.

If you were to survey Scripture, you would find a surprising number of unanswered prayers in the Bible. Moses asks to be allowed into the Promised Land, only to have God refuse his request. In a poignant scene, David prays for the life of his infant son and is denied. Moses, Job, Jonah, and Elijah all prayed to die, but God did not grant their requests. We often find the armies of Israel praying for victory, only to suffer defeat. Habakkuk prays for deliverance from the Babylonians who were coming against Israel. Jeremiah prays for the safety and deliverance of Jerusalem. Both requests were subsequently denied by God, and both prophets struggled to explain the reason for a defeated nation. “You have wrapped yourself with a cloud so that no prayer can pass through,” laments Jeremiah in a book aptly entitled Lamentations (3:44). Jesus prays that His cup of suffering might be taken away, but He ends up drinking it (Matt. 26:39). Paul prays to have his thorn in the flesh removed, but the thorn remained (2 Cor. 12:7-10).

As we pointed out in last week’s article, sometimes our prayers are hindered by sinfulness or a lack of faith, but there are other things to consider outside of our own failings when we come up against unanswered prayer. We will look at two of these considerations below, saving a third one for next week.

Consider God’s respect for a human being’s free will. I can pray all I want for somebody else to do something, but God has essentially said that He is not going to make anybody do anything. That sometimes complicates an affirmative response to our prayers. For instance, we might pray, “Lord, please make so-and-so become a Christian.” Is that a reasonable prayer? I don’t think so, because such would involve God overriding an individual’s own choice in the matter. Instead, we should pray, “Lord, provide us with an opportunity or an open door to share your Son with so-and-so.” Of course, we must be willing to seize that opportunity if or when it presents itself.

Consider the result of God answering every prayer in the affirmative. Imagine for a moment if God answered every prayer with a “Yes.” It would certainly create the kind of chaos that is depicted in the film *Bruce Almighty*. But such a phenomenon is ultimately impossible because people often pray for completely opposite things. An athlete might pray for no rain, while a farmer in the same community pleads for rain. The most devastating war in American history, the Civil War, had praying people on both sides. There were preachers in the North and the South praying for different outcomes. Both sides were claiming that God was on their side. So, there are instances in which God could not answer two prayers in the affirmative.

In his book on prayer, Philip Yancey says, “If God did answer every prayer in the affirmative, God would in effect abdicate, turning the world over to us to run.” I, for one, think we are inadequately prepared to run the world. Mahatma Gandhi was once asked, “If you were given the power to remake the world, what would you do first?” He replied, “I would pray for the power to renounce that power.” We might wish from time to time that we were God, having the power to determine everything, especially those parts that apply to us directly, but in our more objective moments, I think we understand it’s a good thing that we don’t have that power.

Jacob Evans

ELDERS: Tim Hammond, 931-852-4832 Biff Helton, 931-242-8785 Bob Markus, 931-242-3816 Eric Nutt, 931-242-3566

Please speak with the elder chairman regarding anything you'd like the elders to discuss or to arrange a time to meet with them.
The elder chairman for *October, November, and December* is **Bob Markus**.

DEACONS: Shayne Adams Joe Cook Jacob Cothren Jim Donnelly Mark Evans Scott Harris
Billy Helton III Reggie Holt Shane Hughes Andy Lee Mark Miller Brad Nielsen Caleb Shadrack

MINISTERS: Jacob Evans, 731-343-5325 Jeremy Gargis, 931-231-9557 Rodolfo Espinoza, 615-516-0650 (**Hispanic Ministry**) **AGAPE COUNSELOR**, 931-762-8502

DEHOFF'S RULES FOR LIVING

- I try never to say anything behind a man's back that would give embarrassment to say to his face (Psalm 5:6-9; Proverbs 11:3; 17:9; James 3:13; 1 Peter 1:15).
- I try never to speak to personal critics; they would not believe the truth, and my friends do not have to hear the defense (Psalm 31:13-18; Luke 6:27-28).
- Every day, I greet every person with a smile and make a special effort to do so if the person is poor or in unfortunate circumstances (Proverbs 15:15; Luke 14:13-14).
- The first thing in the morning, I plan my duty for the day and try to go beyond it (Ecclesiastes 9:10; 12:13).
- Every day, I read from the Bible and other good books; feeding the mind and soul is more important than feeding the body (Proverbs 15:28; 1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 2:15).
- I try to pay every debt I owe on time and always save something from every paycheck, however small (Romans 13:8; Ephesians 4:28).
- I like people and never harbor malice toward any person. I like various places and have yet to be anywhere that I do not like. I go there with the intention of liking the place (Matthew 7:12; Luke 6:31; Hebrews 13:5).
- I am a confirmed optimist, believing that even in this life, evil men will be punished by their own unhappiness, and good men will be rewarded. "It's better farther on" (Luke 6:22-23; Galatians 6:9-10).
- I try to close each day as if it were the last day I'd be on earth, closing the books on all regrets, worries, and annoyances (Psalm 55:22; Matthew 6:25-31; Philippians 4:6; 1 Peter 5:7).
- The last thing I do at night is count the day's blessings. This makes me so thankful that I soon drift into pleasant sleep. In this spirit, I hope to close life's journey and drift into eternity (Ecclesiastes 5:12; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1; 4:4-5; Revelation 2:10).

—George DeHoff, 1913-1993
via *House to House Heart to Heart* (online)

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

YOUTH NEWS

December 12th – Virtual Erupt! This is for the teens. We will meet in the fellowship building at 6:00 p.m., and supper will be provided. Make sure to be there, as this is going to be a fantastic event!

December 13th – Indoor Bible Class for teens and families! We will meet in the fellowship building at 5:00 p.m., and Daniel Ross will be speaking on "His Indescribable Gift!" Supper will be provided. We will also play Dirty Santa this evening, so teens need to bring a \$15 gift that they wouldn't mind taking home with them. Make your plans to be with us, and hang out for a while after supper and the lesson.

December 20th – Christmas crafts and movie for 6th grade and down (and anyone else who wants to come, I suppose)! We will meet in the fellowship building at 4:30 p.m. Supper will be provided.

This year has caused many of us to sacrifice things that meant much to us. All of life involves having to do this in regard to certain wishes or expectations that we have, but 2020 has likely increased that necessity for many of us.

The idea of "sacrifice" has both positive and negative connotations. On the one hand, we immediately think of the sacrifice of Jesus in our place on the cross that took our sins away. While it saddens us, there is undoubtedly more joy brought about by this than there is sorrow. Without this offering, we would be without hope. On the other hand, there are thoughts of pain and suffering when thinking about many sacrifices. People have had to give up their jobs, their homes, their plans, and their dreams for various reasons. Perhaps because of health conditions, you have had to completely change your diet, your lifestyle, or maybe even had to have a body part or organ removed because of the dangers presented by keeping it. Making such sacrifices is no fun, but sometimes necessary.

When we turn our thoughts to the idea of sacrifice in Scripture, the vast majority of what we read is found in the Old Testament. The first five books of the Bible are replete with examples of sacrifices and attending regulations. Performing these sacrifices was a meticulous process that was mandated by God and not subject to change. The Jews were required to offer a multitude of sacrifices on many different occasions, and there was nothing glamorous about it. A living animal would be brought to a priest, and the animal would be killed. While Scripture never provides a detailed narration of the sacrifices themselves, it would have undoubtedly would have been a very bloody, nasty affair. This should reinforce just how thankful we should be for our perfect sacrificial Lamb, Jesus Christ!

Finally, in addition to seeing the only Son of God being offered in our place as a sacrifice in the New Testament, we also find a challenge from Paul related to sacrifice. In Romans 12:1, Paul appeals to us to present our very bodies as a living sacrifice! Everything prior to this in the pages of the Bible related to sacrifice required a death, but this is different! Yes, in many ways it does still require a death. We must die to ourselves and our earthly desires and commit to living for God through Christ. This is what we must do if we want to be holy and acceptable before God! But we must be careful how we offer this sacrifice. Since sacrifices have always been extremely important to God, we need to consider how we are offering ourselves to Him. When considering some of the unacceptable sacrifices from the Old Testament (Cain, Nadab and Abihu, Saul, etc.), we can understand that the nature of the sacrifice is equally important to what is actually being offered.

Have you offered your life as a living sacrifice to God? Are you continuing to fulfill that commitment by daily choosing God over self? If we want to please God and be acceptable in His sight, this is necessary!

Until next time, **Jeremy**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

Addresses are included in case you'd like to send cards.

TONY ALLEN has been going through the process of being added to the heart transplant list. Tony and Pam are expecting to hear the decision this week. Please continue to pray for Tony and family. *77 Crawfish Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

ROBBIE GUTHRIE had an appointment on Tuesday, December 1, to receive results from the PET scan she had last week. We had no report by print time. *1804 Jean St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

DENISE HUGHES is recovering from Covid-19. She is at home and doing okay. *44 Beuerlein Lane, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

ANDY LEE's kidney surgery is scheduled for this Friday, December 4, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. The doctor plans to do a robotic partial nephrectomy, but, due to the location of the tumor, it is possible that Andy's entire kidney will be removed. The surgery is expected to last three to four hours, and Andy expects to be hospitalized one or two nights. Katie will be able to stay with Andy in the hospital. *400 Cherokee Hills Dr., Loretto, TN 38469.*

HOWARD NUTT has been having some ongoing health problems. He will be having more medical tests within the next few weeks. *618 Hwy. 64 W., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

JESSE SPRINGER was diagnosed with Covid-19 last week. He was examined at the ER at STRHS on Monday. As of Tuesday, December 1, he was back at The Summit with oxygen and hospice care. **Olen and Diane Springer** are able to be there with him. *c/o The Summit, 186 Prosser Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

RANDY COLE, brother of **Mary Alice Tidwell**, was feeling better and breathing better as of Monday, November 30. He is continuing to recover from Covid-19. Mary Alice sends her love and thanks to everyone for the prayers for her brother. *3202 Sunset Terrace, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

LINDA GATTIS, daughter of **Pat Gray**, is home after spending several days in Maury Regional with Covid-19. She came home with supplemental oxygen and medications, and she is slowly improving. *131 Hoyt Circle, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

PHILLIP GATTIS, husband of **Linda Gattis** and son-in-law of **Pat Gray**, is undergoing radiation in conjunction with chemotherapy for cancer. *131 Hoyt Circle, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

NOAH GINEZ-HERNANDEZ, 15-year-old son of **Tonya Ginez-Hernandez** who is a friend and former coworker of **Debra Fitzgerald**, is in St. Jude Children's Hospital undergoing treatment for cancer. He has had surgery and is continuing with additional treatment. Sadly, the cancer is widespread. Debra has requested prayers for Noah and his family. *1009 Smith St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED, continued

BETH MCCORD, mother of **Cara Robertson**, tested negative for Covid-19 after several days of sickness. As of Monday, November 30, she was awaiting more test results. Beth is also being treated for eye problems that she is having due to Graves' disease. *308 Ellingson Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

LARRY MURDOCK, preacher at Gandy and radio evangelist for Spirit of Truth, and his wife, **IVA NELL MURDOCK**, are both recovering from Covid-19. As of Monday, November 30, both were feeling better. *53 Long Branch Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

GAIL STANFORD, member at Leoma and frequent visitor here, was able to return home on Tuesday evening, November 24, after a hospital stay with Covid-19. She is regaining her strength each day and making progress in her recovery. She appreciates the continued prayers. *723 Toben Terrace, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

Please continue to pray for Louise Bates, Kym Bilbrey Brown, Lorene Chandler, Jami Haislip Dixon, Carolyn Frazier, Donna Helton, Jeffrey Hughes, Pistol and Donna Marston, Michael Mashburn, James and Thelma McCloud, Darrin McKamey, Brenda Owens, Dot Alley, Susan Hughes Carvell, Phillip Gattis, Wanda Gist, Terry Hickman, Steve Higginbotham, Scot Hughes, Gail Kincade, Sharon McNatt, Chris Morris, Johnny and Elaine Rollins, Mary Rose, Jay Thomas, and all those recently mentioned.

SYMPATHY

We extend Christian love and sympathy to **Joan Childress** on the death of her sister, **MARGIE FISCHER**. Mrs. Fischer passed away on November 24. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to Joan at *619 Ethridge-Red Hill Rd., Ethridge, TN 38456.*

We extend Christian love and sympathy to **Pam White** on the death of her father, **HARVEY HOWARD CAIN**. Mr. Cain is the grandfather of **Maliq McDowell**. The funeral was held on Tuesday, December 1, at Loretto Memorial Chapel.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the gift in honor of my dear sister, Elaine. My church family means so much. **Becky Holder**



From its chamber comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering winds. By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen fast.

Job 37:10-11