

A Living Sanctuary

Our youngest grandson, Jonathan, is ten this year. When he was about two his mother called on the telephone and told us, "Jonathan has a song he wants to sing for you." I can still "hear" his pure, sweet baby voice singing a song I had not at that time heard before, *Oh, Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.*"

The song's scriptural basis is, "Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God" (1 Corinthians 6:19).

"Sanctuary" and "temple" are words for "The place where the Lord your God chooses to make His Name abide" (Deut. 12:11). From the time of Solomon the place where Israel met God was in the Jerusalem temple at the Holy of Holies. Now in Christ, God meets us in ourselves. He sends His Spirit to live in us when we obey the gospel.

Our church buildings are often erroneously spoken of as "God's house." So it is thought to be an especially horrible sin to vandalize, write vicious, hateful, or obscene things on our buildings. But the apostle tells us here that using our bodies for an immoral life style is the way *we* defile God's temple. "Oh, Lord, prepare *me* to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true."

"Pure and holy" is the key point. Our bodies must be pure and holy for God's spirit to dwell there. The apostle says, "Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God" (1 Cor. 6:18-19)?

It is one thing to be able to say just how the Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian's life, but the most important thing is to recognize that *He does*. Strive to keep His sanctuary pure. ~ Cecil May Jr.; Faulkner University (edited for space)

MINISTERS

Pulpit Minister
Paul Mowrer

Campus Minister
Brad Tolbert

Youth Minister
Jason Meier

Secretary
Cathy Mowrer

ELDERS

Mike Beard
Larry Fisackerly
Joe Moore

Deacons

Marty Baker
Chris Bryant
Ray Linder
Jason Meier
Jeff Newton
Josh Pettigrew
Kerry Rice
Jeremy Wilson

Assemblies

SUNDAY
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Assembly 10:30 AM
Assembly 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

September 5, 2021

THE UZZIAH SYNDROME

Many today want to worship in a way that strictly pleases them. Their theory is that if it is something they can do sincerely and to honor God, even if it is not found in the Bible, then God will accept it. This is erroneous thinking. I call this the Uzziah syndrome.

Uzziah was, in general, a good, God-fearing king of Judah. In fact, 2 Chron. 26:4 reveals that in the early part of his reign, he "did what was right in the sight of the Lord." The very next verse reveals that "as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper."

But one day he "transgressed against the Lord his God" (2 Chron. 26:16). What horrible thing did he do? Murder someone? Steal? Commit adultery? Worship idols? No, what he did was worship God his way. He entered the temple to burn incense to the Lord. I'm convinced that he was sincere and that he wanted to honor God. He just decided to do it in a way God had not authorized. The law of Moses had stipulated that only priests from the tribe of Levi could burn incense in the temple (2 Chron. 26:18). No one had the right to presume it could be done any other way, not even the king. As a result of his disobedience, Uzziah was stricken with leprosy (2 Chron. 26:19ff).

The point for us today is that God has specified how He wants us to worship. It is not up to us to change it because we feel like it. And it will not matter how sincere we are if we worship in ways God has not authorized.

Remember this: "**Great**" worship without God's will is genuinely worthless.

Edd Sterchi, Sept. 26, 2004

via Harrisburg church of Christ, Harrisburg, IL

One of the greatest joys a Christian has in his or her life is that of coming together with the saints to worship our heavenly Father together. "I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord" (Ps. 122:1). But let's be sure that our worship is always found to be "in spirit and truth" (Jn. 4:24), and always watchful, so as not to fall guilty to the Uzziah syndrome! ~P. Mowrer

"Before the reward there must be labor. You plant before you harvest. You sow in tears before you reap joy."

Ralph Ransom

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HEART-TO-HEART

Congratulations to **Carolyn Cook** on the birth of her great granddaughter **Sunny Gayle Cook** born Saturday, August 28. She weighed 9 lbs. 4oz. and 20 1/4 inches long. Proud parents are **Will & Krystal Cook**.

Congratulations to **Holly Dial** on completing her BSN in nursing with a 4.0 GPA!

Our sympathy is extended to **Barbara Dyson and family** on the passing of **Betty Henry**. Funeral services will be held Monday, September 6 at 10:00 in Prescott, AR.

Our sympathy is also extended to **Mandy Tolbert** on the passing of her aunt, **Sheila Riddle**, this past Wednesday. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Our sympathy continues to **Ray Leonard** on the passing of his niece, **Jackie McGough**, this past Thursday. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Our sympathy also continues to **Janet Staudinger** on the passing of her brother, **Ronnie Light**, this past Thursday. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Joe Moore is recovering at home following kidney stone surgery this past Thursday.

Rita Stiles is undergoing tests on her hip.

Deborah Green remains in a hospital in Little Rock with a brain bleed, but hopes to be moving to rehab in a few days.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today! - *Worship* livestreamed at 10:30
Small Group Bible Study @ 5:00
Sept. 6 - Happy Labor Day!
Sept.12 - Second Sunday Singing
Birthday/ Anniversary Fellowship

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members:

Tony & Judy Beard...Deborah Green...LaVerne Potter...Rita Stiles...Donnie & Janice Wright

Shut-ins:

Jean Enlow...Betty McGuire... Neva McKeown... Bob & Pat Turner... Marie Wooten

Serving in the Military:

Mollie Aldridge...Corey Bryant...Bradyn Curtis... Noah Draper... David Foret... Tucker Koonce... Matthew May... Neil Rampy... Christian Stepanovich Mathew Tannehill...Curtis Walker

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Christians in Afghanistan...Sherri Brown...Kathryn Burton...Terra Chambers...Levi Davis...Mike Frost. Terry Gibson... Gay Gunter... Tina Jacks... Mike James...Tina Jarvius...Johnny Jeter...the Family of Tim Knight...Jerry Lawrence...Kelly Owens...Bill Payne...Christy Rice...David & Loyce Ray...John & Christine Riddle...Suzette Russell...minister search... Homer Shirey... Elizabeth (Moore) Stepanovich (due in Dec.)...Katie Strickland...James Walton...William Woods...Sue Woodward

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Today!		Ione Easterling
Sept. 6		Gary Crook
10		Mari Beal
11		Beau Bryant
12		Brecklyn Dial
14		Marcia Mowrer
17		Sandra Higgins
20		Jacque Davidson
		Kristen Smith
23		James & Anna Miller
25		Kerry Rice

September Daily Bible Reading Schedule

6	Jeremiah 37-39
7	Jeremiah 40-42
8	Jeremiah 43-45
9	Jeremiah 46-48
10	Jeremiah 49-52
11	Lamentations 1-3
12	Lamentations 4-5

HEART-TO-HEART cont.

The WFC is in need of help with food for **Tuesday** night Bible studies. There are sign up sheets on the table in the foyer.

The **Change Cans for Children** are due back Sunday, September 5th.

The **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class** will meet at **Coffee Cakes (Market Place II)** for lunch Wednesday, September 8 at 11:30. All ladies interested in the Bible class are encouraged to join us for lunch.

Second Sunday Singing is next Sunday evening September 12 at 5:00. Our **Birthday/ Anniversary Fellowship** will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Rison** congregation is hosting their annual **Homecoming** Sunday, September 12 with Jim Buie as the guest speaker.

To find joy in work is to find the fountain of youth Happy Labor Day!



Attendance

Bible Class	81
Sunday AM Worship	104
Sunday PM Worship	76
Wed. Evening	77
Contribution	\$12,966

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MISSIONS

Truth for Today
In Search of the
Lord's Way
Ghana Radio

NURSERY

Communion Preparation

Sept 5	Sara Newton
Sept 12	Jessica Pettigrew
Sept 19	Jessica Pettigrew
Sept 26	Lori Rabb

Ladies September Duties

Cards: Barbara Newton
Food: Lori Rabb
Leah Bryant