



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men—Galatians 6:10

Are We Not Instruments of Destiny?

By Mike Riley

In looking at history, we see that great events have occurred around some person of great influence, i.e., Harry Truman, Douglas MacArthur, Winston Churchill, Dwight D. Eisenhower. In times of great national distress, it is nothing short of providential that certain people have been placed in certain places with certain qualifications, i.e., George W. Bush and 9-11 attacks.

As Christians, our influence also has far-reaching results (1 Thessalonians 1). We may not even realize the small part that we play in the process, but to the extent that we influence history, we are instruments of destiny.

A case in point is the providence found in the story of Esther. At the beginning of the story, we see the wife of King Xerxes (Vashti) being ousted because of her stubbornness and refusal to attend a royal banquet (Esther 1). Because her defiance was looked upon as a threat to the king's supremacy and authority, a decree was put out against her and fair young virgins were sought to replace her. The king was smitten with Esther's beauty and as a result, was made queen in place of Vashti (Esther 2).

Esther disclosed a plot to exterminate all of the Jews and assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:21-23; Esther 3). Because of her position as queen, Esther was able to spare her people from disaster. However, there was a real danger, in that she herself might not survive when her real identity as a Jewess was discovered (Esther 4).

When Esther's relative, Mordecai, saw her unique position as queen, he urged her to reveal the plot to the king. He challenged her with the same haunting question which now lays claim on us:

"And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14 ESV) .

As lights shining in a world of spiritual darkness (Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:14-16), are we not instruments of destiny? (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; cf. 1 Corinthians 9:16-23).

Memory Verse

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. —

Romans 15:13

October 13, 2024

ELDERS

Mike Beard
Larry Fisackerly
Joe Moore
Rusty Rabb

DEACONS

Marty Baker
Seth Baker
Beau Beard
Ray Linder
Jason Meier
Jeff Newton
Joshua Pettigrew
Kerry Rice

Meeting Times

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE

Bible Class.....58
Sunday AM Worship.....73
Sunday PM Worship57
Wed. Evening.....65
Budget \$5,514
Contribution \$4,269.60

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

- ◇ **Margaret Harris** is still recovering from a fall resulting in a broken wrist.
- ◇ **Jerry Smith** needs continued prayers.
- ◇ Remember **Jerry Tolbert**. He is undergoing radiation treatments.
- ◇ **Janet Staudinger** had surgery this past Friday at Duke University Medical Center.
- ◇ **Ray Leonard** has some cracked ribs from a tractor accident. He is at UAMS. There is still a chance for surgery but he is able to eat and drink now.
- ◇ **Becky Rice** is traveling to Mayo Clinic in Minnesota today for tests concerning nerve pain in her face. Please pray for safe travel also for her and Kerry.
- ◇ Family of **Leo Wright**, an elder in Crossett church, passed away. His funeral was last Thursday. Pray for his family and the Crossett church.
- ◇ **Rita Stiles** needs continued prayers.
- ◇ **Suzette Russell** is having health problems.
- ◇ **Donnie & Janice Wright** need continued prayers for health problems.
- ◇ **John Rice** will be going to Mayo Clinic in November. Pray that the doctors can get him on a treatment plan that will work.
- ◇ **Acacia May**, niece of Becky Rice, needs continued prayers.
- ◇ **Charles Baldrige**, brother-in-law of Janet Staudinger, has prostate cancer that has spread.

HURRICANE RELIEF!

There will be a special contribution taken up for victims of Hurricane Helene today. This collection will go to Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Team to be distributed by church to the affected areas.



UAM TAILGATE!

We will be tailgating October 19 at 2:00. Game is at 4:00. This is the Pink Out / Parent & Family Day.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 Sandra Baker
- 16 Rusty Rabb
- 17 Joel Thompson
- 19 Sara Newton

CONTACT US OR FIND US ONLINE-



Facebook.com/montcofc

Youtube.com/monticellochurchofchrist

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Jean Enlow Judy Purvis Lyndell Baker
Laverne Potter Betty McGuire Pat Turner

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY

Group 2 (Marty & Sandra Baker) - Return cards today.

Todd McMillen will be our Bible Class teacher and preacher today and tonight

THIS WEEK

Ladies Bible Class Wednesday at 10:00
Wednesday nights we will be studying the Sermon on the Mount
19 - Men's Breakfast 7:00 a.m.

THIS MONTH

REMINDER!!!

Compassion Cards Group 3 (Ray & Kathy Linder) needs to pick up cards in Evangelism room on Wednesday evening to be brought back for mailing next Sunday.

FALL FESTIVAL!

Fall Festival and Chili Cook-off is scheduled for October 26 at 10:00. Meal at 12:00 noon. There is a sign-up sheet in foyer for the Festival and Chili Cook-off. See Jason or Lydia Meier if you have any

DAILY BIBLE READING

MONDAY	<u>Heb 11-13</u>
TUESDAY	<u>Deut 1-3</u>
WEDNESDAY	<u>2 Chron 21-24</u>
THURSDAY	<u>Ps 120-121</u>
FRIDAY	<u>Prov 31</u>
SATURDAY	<u>Nah</u>
SUNDAY	<u>Acts 7-8</u>

LADIES' DUTIES

Communion Prep

- 13-Oct Angela Naron
- 20-Oct Barbara Newton
- 27-Oct Barbara Newton
- 3-Nov Sara Newton

OCTOBER

CARDS

Jessica Pettigrew

FOOD

Becky Rice
Jennifer Knight

PENCILS/CARDS

Terry Boykin

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