



The Weekly News of the Northeast Church of Christ

April 5, 2020



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INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

- ✿ Our weekly Sunday morning worship services are live streamed on our Facebook page at 10:30. They are saved on the page for you to view at a later time.
- ✿ Ron is conducting digital Bible studies on Wednesdays, using an app called Google Duo. This app limits calls to 8 people per group. **If you are interested in joining one of these groups PLEASE email Ron at olemissrebels87@gmail.com no later than Tuesday so we can get you connected to a group.**
- ✿ Our building will be open every Saturday from 12-6 to pick up communion supplies, paper bulletins or speak to or pray with an elder. If you wish to continue to keep up your contribution at this time, you can mail it to the building or drop it off on Saturdays from 12-6 or on Sunday mornings from 9-12.
- ✿ If you need help with shopping, errands, or anything else, call the office or an elder and we will find a way to assist you with your needs. If anyone is willing to

THANK YOU to Willis, Bill, & Ron for making our weekly live streams of our Sunday morning service possible. We hope everyone is taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity during this time of social isolation. We can still be together while apart.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Nick Brioc is receiving therapy four days a week at home to strengthen him for chemo.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for us and rose from the dead, making salvation available as a gift (John 3:16; Romans 6:23). In order to benefit from this great sacrificial love, one must receive God's grace through faith in Christ and obedience to him (Romans 5:1-2; Hebrews 5:9). To become a Christian, the Bible teaches that we must believe in and put our trust in Christ (John 8:24), turn away from a life of sin (Luke 13:3), confess Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16). If you would like to further study this question of "What must I do to be saved?", please see our minister or one of our elders.

SECRETARY

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NOTE FROM OUR ELDERS

On April 2, 2020, at about 1:20 in the afternoon, I find myself wanting to say something very heartfelt to not only those in the world but especially to those in the Lord's church. First and foremost is my profound gratitude that I have been blessed where others have not. I'm recovering from pneumonia and Covid-19. I have no reason to know why many others in my stead, including Christians, are dying and yet I have been graciously spared. Certainly, being Christians does not entitle us to be spared from trials and troubles by God; in fact, Scripture teaches us just the opposite. What I do know, not just because of my suffering but because of the suffering of other human beings, is that I will not squander my opportunity to serve God any longer. As horrible as this virus can be (and it is), it gives me strength and encouragement to know that if my family members died, as long as they died in Christ I would be able to handle it. The sad thing is how many people are dying who never had a chance to know Christ. I find it amazing, when we study the Old Testament, how we talk about Israel's "short memory", and how they kept messing up and they kept walking away from God; and yet we who live in the greatest country mankind has ever known, do the same thing constantly. We human beings have a very short attention span. We want what we want, when we want it, and that's all there is to it. Right now we're crying out, begging God to help us, and yet the moment a cure is found, we will all go back to our same old, same old. Some of us will even have the audacity to blame God or to rage against God, as if we had that right. We forget who the Creator is and who the creation is. We rage against God as almost cavalier. We seem to forget Job 38, when Job, who suffered more intently than any of us probably could or would, in his foolishness raged against God. Although we read of how God blessed Job more than He had blessed him before, it is certainly not God's intention to have us disrespect Him. When God answers Job out of the whirlwind He says, "Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man. Now I will demand of thee and declare thou unto me." If we, as humans, only knew how much God looks after us every day, we would be amazed!

This may seem like a very forceful letter but, during these times, it is important for us as a family of Christians to not lose our perspective of who we are and where we are heading. It is of utmost importance that your elders lead by example. Regardless of how this sounds, I would hope that we would never have anybody choose to miss Wednesday nights, Sunday nights, or even to complain about the length of a lesson, in light of how we have been pulled away from one another, unable to physically worship and commune together. However, God is not only good, but great, and He has blessed us with ways to use the internet to not only hear Ron preach but even to have Bible classes together. It is your elders' hope that everyone with internet access will take advantage of these opportunities to remain in the Word.

Bill and I love each one of you more than you'll ever know. You see, it isn't just physically that we love you, but spiritually – wanting to be able to spend eternity with all of you, not just this life. We pray that this note finds each of you safe, both physically and spiritually.

Your elders in Christ, Bill and Joe