



Prayer Concerns

Karen DeFord fell and sprained her ankle and broke a toe. She is doing well.

Cindy Dussia is in Johnson Memorial, room 325, and has been placed on hospice and resting comfortably.

Angie Hewitt is still dealing with migraines. She has a follow up with her doctor on the 27th.

Lonnie Hewitt will be having an aortic ablation on Monday.

Angie Parrott had knee replacement surgery last Monday and is now at home recovering.

Tim Scott, Cindy Strobe's brother, had another scope following his surgery for squamous cell carcinoma, and had to have his tonsils removed.

Virginia Short's stress test came back in the normal range. She is to have a heart cath on the 28th.

Melanie Stafford, friend of many here and a member at Greenfield, has had several major strokes. She is currently at Community South Rehab off of Emerson in Greenwood.

Shut-In's / Long Term Prayers

Juanita Brunner (shut-in); **Polly Burchfield** (shut-in); **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie's Sutton's sister, Parkinson's), **Cindy Dussia** (cancer), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's brother, bone & liver cancer), **Moe Handy** (arthritic & sciatic pain), **Rex Hembree** (Della's brother, lung cancer), **Marilyn Hiser** (radiation), **Ted Houchin** (leukemia); **Martin Julian** (shut-in); **Sharon Lasiter** (cancer treatments), **Noah & Gay Logsdon** (shut-in); **Terry Morgan** (Huesman's brother-in-law, radiation - bladder cancer), **Andy Mytides** (Cindy Davis's friend, kidney failure), **Juanita Rodman** (dementia); **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Bob Stewart** (Angie Hewitt's dad, dementia); **Vonnie Stonebraker** (Sowder's neighbor, chemo - colon cancer), **Barb Surber** (shut-in); **Nancy Vermillion** (Burris' friend, breast cancer), **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Don & Mary Walton** (Compass Park Masonic Home).

Missionaries

Fiji Bible Institute (Jason & Devin Pierce family); **India** (Jerris & Juanita Bullard, Steve & Renee Gaudreau); **Shults/Lewis Child & Family Services** (Staff & Residents); & **Caleb Pierce** (Bear Valley Bible Institute)

You can find Mission Update Letters on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, August 18	Jeremiah 33-36
Monday, August 19	Jeremiah 37-39
Tuesday, August 20	Jeremiah 40-42
Wednesday, August 21	Jeremiah 43-45
Thursday, August 22	Jeremiah 46-48
Friday, August 23	Jeremiah 49-52
Saturday, August 24	Lamentations 1-5



Celebrations This Week

Birthdays

18th Mickey McDaniel

18th Kaitlynn Parrott

19th Virginia Short

22nd GayLee Sutton

Anniversary

18th Ed & Lavana Tichenor



All men are invited to join us on Saturday, August 24th at 9am for a meal, fellowship, devotional, and prayer time.



Everyone is invited to celebrate Briar Day's 1st birthday on Saturday, August 31st from 11am 1pm, here at the building in the fellowship hall. Please let Sarah know if you can make it.



You are invited to attend a gospel meeting at the Morgan St. Church of Christ (540 E. Morgan St.; Martinsville, IN), September 6-8. The speaker will be Tom House from the Plainview Church of Christ in Fulton, MS. There is an advertisement for the meeting with the times on the bulletin board in the foyer.



Attention Ladies!! You have another opportunity to join women throughout the brotherhood at Harding St. Church of Christ for their annual ladies' day on September 28th, starting at 9am. Their theme is "What Are You Dealing With?" using Matthew 9:20-22. There will be a luncheon at 12:30pm. Speaker is Sister Janelle Smiley. There is an advertisement on the bulletin board in the foyer. If you are interested in going and would like to carpool, please see GayLee.

Meditation of God's Word

Purer In Heart

We sing a song that says, "Purer in heart, O God, help me to be; may I devote my life wholly to Thee." In Matthew 5:8, Jesus extols this virtue of purity: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Jesus was emphasizing the inner person, the motive, the "heart." A pure heart can only be achieved through God. He cleanses our consciences through the blood of Jesus. But it is also a goal for which we should strive as a Christian. God's word is entirely directed toward this goal, and purity of heart is a constant challenge to every Christian. God desires for each of us is totally realistic.

Generally, we think of purity as cleanness. However, there is more to be considered regarding the meaning of purity. Consider some alternative definitions of the word: not mixed, free from impurities, full-strength, free from foreign elements, containing nothing inappropriate, and of unmixed blood or ancestry. So "pure" can refer to that which is clean, unmixed, or unadulterated. This is what God wants for our hearts! So, how can we develop pure hearts for the Lord? There are three points that I'd like to consider.

First, keep your thoughts clean. The key to accomplishing this is by keeping a tight rein on what is allowed into our minds. (Phil 4:8 "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things.") Those instructions sound simple enough, but the weakness of our flesh makes it a challenge to follow. The world wants us to warp our minds with things that are false and impure. God wants us to focus our attention on good, wholesome thoughts. It's our responsibility to choose what we allow in our minds.

Second, keep your motives pure. We must not pretend to love God; we must actually love Him. We must not pretend to be compassionate and friendly; we must genuinely love our neighbors and want to do good for them. We must sincerely love our spouse and children and serve them faithfully. We must endeavor to obey God for reasons that are entirely right, rather than letting ulterior motives creep in (cf. Matt. 22: 37-40; 23:5-7; Phil. 1:15-17). A good test of motive is to ask the question: What good things do I do when there will be no knowledge of it by others? We must try not to let our love for God be stained with love for the praise of men. To be complemented and encouraged is fine, but such must not be the reason why we seek to do good. We should do good that they may glorify our Father in heaven (cf. Matt. 5:16).

Third, keep yourself committed. To be genuinely committed to something requires mental devotion and not just a certain physical action that is practiced as a habit. Our desire should be to uproot any weeds in our life that might compete with our dedication to the Lord (cf. Matt. 13:22). The Lord must be our chief priority if we expect Him to accept us! (Matt. 22:37-38). There is no other way to purify self than the way of absolute commitment! When our dedication to the Lord waivers, our purity becomes tainted. To be holy for God demands that we be wholly (entirely) His!

I believe the key to a pure heart is keeping one's thoughts clean, motives pure, and staying committed to the Lord. My prayer is that we strive daily for a pure heart and petition God for His help.

....Ronnie Hewitt