Sermon Notes

Col 2:9-12; 1Peter 5:8; Romans 2:25-29; Philippians 3:1-11

The Messenger

Weekly Newsletter of Whiteland Church of Christ
Loving God / Loving People

The Lord's Day, May 18, 2025

Order of Worship

Greeting / Prayer: Scott Anderson

Scripture Reading: Scripture Reading: Colossians 2:9-12

Worship Leader: George Hewitt

Communion: Rex DeFord

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(Rooted in Christ / L3, Our Union with Christ)

Announcements / Prayer: Ed Tichenor

During Sermon
Nursery: Kayla Stanton (Sub: Debbie Smith)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Angie McDaniel

Schedule of Services

Bible Studies: Sunday 9:30am & 5:00pm / Wednesday 7pm
Worship: Sunday 10:30am

Connect with Us

Church Office	(317) 535-1627
Church Text:	(317) 953-5095
Website:	www.whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Email:	info@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Prayer:	PrayerRequest@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Social Media:	www.Facebook.com/WhitelandCOC
	www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC
	www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC_Youth
	www.X.com/@Whiteland_COC
Online Worship:	www.YouTube.com/@WhitelandCOC

Mail In Contributions
Whiteland Church of Christ / PO Box 85 / Whiteland, IN 46184

Leadership

Elders
Stan Davis (317) 507-1936 / Ed Tichenor (317) 412-2416
Minister
Ronnie Hewitt (317) 966-2029

Prayer Concerns

David Craig, Stan's co-worker, is having surgery on the June 2nd for prostate cancer.
Missy Gillespie, former member, had a procedure for the heart issue she is having. Everything went well.
Frank Griffin, Karen DeFord's cousin, fractured his heel and needs plates to hold it together. Surgery is on Monday.
Gary Hout, member at Central Church of Christ in Bedford, is undergoing Car T-Cell Immunotherapy at St. Francis.
Lynn, aunt of Kelcey (Lonnie & Sonya's daughter-in-law), has stage 4 breast and spine cancer.
Pat Martin, Amy Wiwczaroski's dad, is having cataract surgery on Tuesday and to correct a hole in his macula. Amy will be with him for a couple of weeks.
Gina Sowder has a detached retina.

Long Term Prayers for Family and Friends

Samantha Brazel (GayLee's granddaughter, residential hospital); **Bob Braun** (Stan's co-worker, prostate cancer); **Bernice Brown** (former member, breathing issues); **Brandon Chance** (Edie Short's nephew, deployed to Poland), **Sharon Cooper** (Dementia); **Susie Crecelous** (GayLee's friend, bone cancer & lupus), **Cindy Davis** (chemo treatments), **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie Sutton's sister, Parkinson's), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's nephew, bone & liver cancer), **Missy Gillespie** (former member, aortic dissection); **Donna Hall** (dementia); **Moe Handy** (shoulder, back & sciatic pain), **Angie Hewitt** (migraines), **Marilyn Hiser** (cancer treatments), **Ted Houchin** (former member, lymphocytic leukemia), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer); **Martin Julian** (Shut-In), **Pam Lasiter** (ongoing health issues); **Sharon Lasiter** (cancer treatments), **Leah Raker** (David & Janice Kent's great-granddaughter, Rett syndrome, seizures), **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Megan Setser** (Wanda Weaver's neighbor, brain tumor); **Lonnie Shoopman** (non-Hodgkin lymphoma); **Barb Short** (Edie Short's sister-in-law, cancer), **Vonnie Stonebraker** (Sowder's neighbor, palliative care), **Barb Surber** (dementia), **Phyllis Thompson** (Cindy Strope's aunt, recovering from broken femur); **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Mary Walton** (recovering from back surgery), **Tiffany Watcom** (Crystal Miller's co-worker, cancer has spread to lymph nodes); **Wanda Weaver** (stage 4 kidney disease and lupus), **Joel Westberry** (neck & spine), **Jimmy Wooten** (Parkinson's), **Kevin & Mary Wooten** (Kevin - Cardiac Amyloidosis, chemo; Mary - Alzheimer's).

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, May 18	2Chronicles 1-4
Monday, May 19	2Chronicles 5-7
Tuesday, May 20	2Chronicles 8-10
Wednesday, May 21	2Chronicles 11-14
Thursday, May 22	2Chronicles 15-18
Friday, May 23	2Chronicles 19-22
Saturday, May 24	2Chronicles 23-25

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

18th Heath Reeves, Lougene Wooten
20th Pat Stinson

Anniversary

18th Adam & Megan Johnson (11yrs)

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The next prayer breakfast will be Saturday, May 24th at 9am in the fellowship hall.

Gospel Singing (5:00-6:30pm) & Ice Cream Social

June 7, 2025
Franklin Road Church of Christ
(950 N. Franklin Road; Indianapolis)

Love Feast Fellowship

June 8 is our next Family Fellowship Meal following our worship service. Everyone is encouraged to bring your favorite dish and/or dessert. Following our meal, we will be having our evening Bible Study. There will be no 5pm service.

Sister's Saturday of Service

The ladies will be making fidget blankets on June 14th in the fellowship hall from 10am-4pm. These will be handed out at a facility for Alzheimer's and Dementia patients. Items they are collecting until June 8th are shoestrings, zippers, buttons (medium and large), fringe, snaps, clasp or buckles, D-rings, lace trim, stuffing and/or cotton balls, small stuffed objects that can be put in pants pockets, unused textured dust mop (loop fringe) old pant pockets (especially jeans).

Administration Record

2025 Budget: $178,787.94 Weekly Budget: $3,438.23
Last Week's Offering: $3,365.00
Attendance Last Week 88

Meditation of God's Word

Members in God's Kingdom

Jesus said, "*Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.*" (Jn 3:3). Nicodemus, to whom Jesus spoke was puzzled for he wondered how a man could be physically reborn (Jn 3:4). Jesus explained, "*Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit.*" (Jn 3:5-8). The kingdom of God of which Jesus was speaking of is the church, the spiritual institution He was establishing.

Jesus said a new birth is absolutely necessary in order to become a citizen of the kingdom of God. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that we know what "being born again" is if we are to enter that kingdom.

This new birth is a birth of both water and the Spirit. In a birth, two things are necessary: 1) a begetting and 2) a bringing forth. What is born is first begotten through seed; later it comes forth as a new creature. This principle is just as true in the spiritual realm. In this "rebirth," one is begotten of God through His Word, which produces faith (Rom 10:17). The following passages show how people are begotten by God. James 1:18 says, "*He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created.*" We read in 1Peter 1:23, "*For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.*"

When the incorruptible seed (the word of God) is planted in the hearts of men and they believe, they are begotten of God. Since the word came by the Spirit (Jn 14:26) and is spoken of as being the "sword of the Spirit," (Eph 6:17), it may also be said, they are begotten of the Spirit. But this is only part of the new birth, for Jesus said one must be born of water and the Spirit. They are inseparable. An individual is begotten of the word when it is implanted in his heart preparing him to become a child, but the process must be completed.

To be born of water is to be baptized. Baptism is both a burial and a resurrection. By this act, one is placed in and is delivered (or born) from water. "*We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life*" (Rom 6:4). This new birth "of water and of the Spirit" is the process by which one is delivered from the world, the kingdom of darkness, and is translated into the church, the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col 1:13).

On the day of Pentecost, the kingdom of Christ was established, and, as Jesus promised, the Holy Spirit came to guide the Apostles into all truth (Jn 16:13; Ac 3:1-14). Peter stood and preached Christ to them and said, "*Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call*" (Ac 2:38-39). Then we read, "*Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day*" (Ac 2:41). They were now members of God's kingdom, having been delivered from the power of darkness, and raised a new creature in Christ.

....Ronnie Hewitt