Sermon Notes

Colossians 2:13-15; John 3:16-18; Luke 15:24, 32; Colossians 2:11-12

The Messenger

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

The Lord's Day, May 25, 2025

Order of Worship

Greeting / Prayer: Rick Lowe

Scripture Reading: Scripture Reading: Colossians 2:13-15

Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt

Communion: Eric Wiwczaroski

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(Rooted in Christ / L4, A New Identity)

Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

During Sermon
Nursery: Sarah Day (Sub: Hanna Redden)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Renie Nalley

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

Polly Burchfield is in the hospital in Bloomington. Not sure what is wrong with her.
Frank Griffin, Karen DeFord's cousin, had surgery to repair his fractured heel. Everything went well.
Gary Hout, member at Central Church of Christ in Bedford, is having kidney dialysis after undergoing Car T-Cell Immunotherapy at St. Francis.
Pat Martin, Amy Wiwczaroski's dad, had cataract surgery and had a hole in his macula corrected. Everything went well. Amy is there helping him.
Larry Sawyer had cardiac tests on Friday.
Dawn Shimp, former member, is recovering from emergency colon surgery.
Wanda Weaver is having iron infusions done.

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); **Juanita Brunnemer** (Shut-in); **Polly Burchfield** (Shut-in); **Brandon Chance** (Edie Short's nephew, deployed to Poland), **Sharon Cooper** (Dementia); **David Craig** (stan's co-worker, prostate surgery on June 2nd); **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), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer); **Martin Julian** (Shut-In), **Pam Lasiter** (ongoing health issues); **Sharon Lasiter** (cancer treatments), **Lynn** (aunt of Lonnie & Sonya's daughter-in-law, breast and spine cancer); **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), **Blanche Taylor** (shut-in); **Phyllis Thompson** (Cindy Strope's aunt, recovering from gallbladder surgery); **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Mary Walton** (shut-in, Compass Park), **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 25	2Chronicles 26-28
Monday, May 26	2Chronicles 29-30
Tuesday, May 27	2Chronicles 31-33
Wednesday, May 28	2Chronicles 34-36
Thursday, May 29	Ezra 1-2
Friday, May 30	Ezra 3-5
Saturday, May 31	Ezra 6-8

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

28th Barbara Hagan
30th Marissa Westberry

Anniversary

None to Report

"Living with Loss Conference"

Hosted by the Central Church of Christ in Bedford (June 6-8) There is a flyer on the bulletin board with the times and topics.

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).

Men's Prayer Breakfast

All of our men are encouraged to join us for a meal, a time of devotion, prayer, and fellowship on June 28th at 9am in the fellowship hall.

Administration Record

2025 Budget: $178,787.94 Weekly Budget: $3,438.23
Last Week's Offering: $2,062.00
Attendance Last Week 81

Meditation of God's Word

Humble Yourself…

1Peter 5:6-10, *Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.* (NIV)

Life is filled with difficulties of various kinds—financial hardships, relational conflicts, health issues, stress at work, parenting challenges, feeling lonely or isolated, losing a loved one, and a wide variety of other situations that can be quite difficult to get through. And, of course, there's no shortage of ways in which our secular society often suggests that we seek to get through these difficulties, whether it's through seeing a therapist, replacing negative thoughts with positive thoughts, surrounding yourself with positive people, taking medication, joining a support group, and prioritizing various "self-care" activities such as going on a vacation, relaxing, and engaging in a hobby. These are the kinds of ways the world will suggest that we seek to get through difficult times. And I'm certainly not saying all of these suggestions are bad—though some of them obviously have more value than others.

However, the Bible offers us something vastly superior. Whereas the world offers us techniques, the Bible offers us truths—specifically, truths about God and who He is and what He does for us. Ultimately, the Bible gives us a way to get through life's difficulties that's far superior to anything else we might try.

In the Bible, we read that God is sovereign over everyone and everything. Nothing is beyond His power or outside of His control. Instead, He rules over everything and sovereignly orchestrates every detail of our lives to accomplish His perfect purposes. Not only that, but the God of the Bible is also a good God, who has blessed us with every good thing we enjoy, as well as a loving God, who loves us more than we could ever comprehend. This means He always acts with our best interests at heart.

According to our passage above, the first way we should respond to adversity is by humbling ourselves before God. Humility is a distinct Chrisian virtue that's based on the understanding that everything commendable about us and everything good we possess ultimately comes not from us but from God. So, humbling ourselves in the midst of adversity involves admitting two things. First, "I'm not in control." And second, "It's okay that I'm not in control, because I don't know what's ultimately best for me anyway—and God does." So, in what specific area of your life do you need to humble yourself today?

I also appreciate how Peter says not only to "Humble yourselves" but to "*Humble yourselves…under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you.*" This phrase "the mighty hand of God" is commonly associated in the Bible with God rescuing the Israelites from their Egyptian captivity. However, according to Peter, we as Christians can also count on God's "mighty hand" to one day deliver us from our trials and as well to, in Peter's words, "exalt" us "at the proper time." Keep in mind, our trials are momentary, but our exaltation will be eternal.

….Ronnie Hewitt