

Noteworthy

Kid's Review Class: Next Sunday (July 5th) shortly after the PM service we will review with children (and reinforce) what they've been learning in their Bible classes.

Prayer Requests: *Our brethren:* Marian Church, Mildred Church, Reagan Cunningham, Betty Eubanks, Mary Henderson, and Cindy Hicks. Please remember also Linda James, Leon Miller, Butch Morgan, Danielle Sheffield, and the Wharton family.

⇒ *Jim Abram may need assistance in getting to some appointments while Denise (his sister) goes back to Indiana for a couple of days. If you can be of service, please let Denise, the elders, the deacons, or me (Ian) know. They are very thankful for all of the help and encouragement received!*

Our friends and family: Continue also in prayer for Diana Anderson, Elnora Bennet (Moses Stevens' sister), Hal Lewis, Joan Mott (A friend of the Days), Heather Tyre, Waylon Townsend, and Canera Wisdom (Larry Wisdom's mother).

Group Meeting: Group (1) meets tonight after worship.

Traveling/Out of town: Audrey Davis, Betty Eubanks, the Goodalls, the Groenhofs, Ken & Diana Jordan, Yvonne Jordan, the Marschalls, and Paula Sullivan. Kelley Cochran will be out of town this Wednesday and next Sunday. The Rice family will also be traveling this afternoon, and will be back on Saturday.

Fourth Sunday: Today is the 4th Sunday of the month, and Sherman Johnson will present the sermon for this evening's worship service. Let us encourage and thank him for his example (*Phil. 3:17; 2 Tim. 2:2*).

Good News: Kelly Cochran (Wayne & Christine Ryland's daughter) was restored last week, and she would like very much to thank the congregation for all of the cards and words of encouragement she has received since!

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 7/1/15

Song Leader: Eddie Lawson
Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall
Invitation: Ronnie Henderson
Announcements: Larry Wisdom
Closing Prayer: Clay Sadler
Parking Lot: Larry Hicks

Sunday Evening: 7/5/15

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
Opening Prayer: Colby Sadler
Lord's Table: Charles Rawdon
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Jim Elliot
Parking Lot: Larry Hicks

Sunday Morning: 7/5/15

Lord's Table: Charles Rawdon (B)
Ben Cunningham (C)
Serving: Eddie Lawson
Trent Stevens
Song Leader: Larry Wisdom
Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall

Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Clay Sadler
Parking Lot: (9:00) David Williams
(9:50) Mike Sadler



**Lakeland Hills
Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

2510 Lakeland Hills Boulevard Lakeland Florida 33805 (863) 688-4336

www.lakelandhillchurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311
Leon Miller (863) 640-6378

SERVICES

Sunday
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday
Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
Charles Rawdon
Michael Sadler
Moses Stevens
David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

Today is Today

Jesus said in His mountain message, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (**Matt. 6:34**). What a telling statement. I've been thinking a lot lately about the value and beauty of a single day.

Each day has its own sunrise, its own sunset. No two are exactly alike. Every day is different, with its own weather, its own wind and temperature, its own warmth or lack of it. Every sunrise is special in its own way; so with every sunset. They are all similar, but no two are the same.

What a joy to see a new day born. Every sunrise speaks of a new beginnings—a new slate, a new page. No matter how bad last night's nightmare, or yesterday's bad weather, with the first splash of sunshine across your quilt, everything is washed clean and you can start over.

A new day is a resurrection of sorts, too. With each new day we are raised up to new possibilities, new perspectives, new opportunities to serve and glorify God.

Sunsets serve a purpose, too. They remind us of what we did or didn't do that day. As the sun disappears each evening, we look for rest if we've used the day well. And it brings us little twinges of conscience if we didn't. If you're right with God, you can look forward to the sunset.

Each day has its own thoughts. The thoughts that accompany each new day relate directly to neither yesterday or tomorrow; they belong peculiarly to today. You can't do tomorrow's thinking today. Sure, you can plan for tomorrow; but the thought you used to do so is today's thought, not tomorrow's. And you can relate back to yesterday in your mind, but the very thoughts you used are today's thoughts, not yesterday's. "As a man thinks in his heart so is he" (**Prov. 23:7**). Today's thoughts belong to today.

Every day brings new circumstances and new possibilities. Circumstances have to be handled. So do possibilities. You have to choose every day what you'll do with them. That means you have to meditate, contemplate, discriminate, then decide on what actions you will take about what's happening around you. Oh, you can put off thinking about it, but procrastination seldom serves anybody well, and you'll likely be sorry if you put it off till later.

Good and evil thoughts battle one another every day. We all have some of both. You have to choose which you will allow residency in your mind. "...give no place to the Devil," Paul said (**Eph. 4:27**). Someone has said "you can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from making a nest in your hair." It's that way with evil thoughts. They're going to race through your mind every day—count on it—but you don't have to give them a place to stay.

Each day has its own joy and its own sadness.

Information—both good and bad—travels quickly this day. And each day you'll find some good news and some bad, some joy and some sadness. Both, it seems to me, are necessary to the good life. The joys bring us encouragement and give us pleasure. Sadness brings us to a realization of who and where we are, and the fragileness of time. Just as joy encourages and makes our disposition sanguine, so sadness brings us stamina, teaches us patience, and keeps us courageous as we struggle through the vicissitudes of life.

Solomon said, "in the day of prosperity, be joyful, but in the day of adversity, consider" (**Eccl. 7:14**). Did you notice that there is a day of prosperity and a day of adversity? The actions for each are recommended. When the day is good we should rejoice and be thankful; when it is not, we should give due consideration to the fragileness of life. Furthermore, we are told by the wise man, "Surely God has appointed the one as well as they other..." If you use each day to serve God, the adversity will be of as much benefit as will the joy. That's if you serve God.

Each day is a gift from God.

Every one of them lasts 24 hours. It's up to us what we do with them. We can use them to glorify Him, or we can waste them with inordinate pleasures, worldly ambitions, and illicit thoughts. It's up to each one to decide what this 24 hours will mean in his life. And no matter how many of those 24 hours we still have, each one is its own, and each one will be used as we see fit to use it.

I read somewhere that "yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift, that's why we call it the present." "It is not the care of the day, but the cares of tomorrow that weigh man down. For the needs of today, we have corresponding strength given. For the morrow, we must trust. It is not ours yet" (George MacDonald).

"Today, if you will hear His voice..." (**Psa. 95:7**).

By Dee Bowman