



First Christian News

*We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.
As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.*



THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE



As we approach Father's Day, I want to speak directly to those who are or have ever been in that role. We all look up to our fathers for leadership, guidance and wisdom. For a Christian father, God has provided many examples of that that looks like. Take Moses for an example. He had led the people to the brink of the Promised Land, yet due to a lapse in his judgment and through disobedience to God, he would not be the one to lead them into the land. A time for leadership change had come, and Joshua was now leading the people. One can only begin to imagine how difficult this was for Joshua, as well as the people. Change in leadership is challenging for everyone but following a legend of a leader is difficult on another level!

Joshua had witnessed terrible behavior in the wilderness by people who had rebelled against Moses' leadership many times. He had also been one of only 2 out of the 12 spies (along with Caleb) who had initially said they would be able to go in and take the land. Yet, because of the unbelief of the people, he would wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Their courage had failed them right at the time of testing, and even Joshua and Caleb had to endure the penalty to a degree. *Joshua 24:15 (NKJV) 15 "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."* The scriptures go on to read that the people responded in the affirmative. *Joshua 24:16 (NKJV) 16 So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods."* We know that we are living in a day now, more than ever that courageous leadership is needed. Fatherhood is leadership, yet there are times it must go beyond "ordinary" leadership into the realm of "courageous" leadership.

We want to take this day to encourage every Father who loves and honors Jesus Christ to stand and be counted "courageous." It takes courage to stand up in this day we live and say those words; "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Who knew that we would be facing the challenges we are facing today in the world, such as a global pandemic, racial tensions, lawlessness, and a host of other issues? Well, let me remind you that God knows, and is merely looking for men of faith to stand up and be counted in a day the world tells you to sit down and be quiet!

Think about this. In all the times of history, God chose YOU to be a parent at this time. That means if He chooses you, He WILL also equip you to stand and be strong in your personal life through Godly character. He has also equipped you to be strong and courageous in your family as you lead them in times of prayer and intercession for our Nation. We must remember this battle we are involved in is not with "flesh and blood," but against the enemy of all that is good and right! When you think you're not up to the task, again, remember that God thought of you so much that He chose "this day" for you to be a Dad! This scripture is still as true today: *Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) 13 I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.*

We give tribute and honor today to the Dads who are standing strong! We give tribute and honor to the Dads who are just looking for the opportunity to stand up and be counted! Listen to this Scripture: *Ephesians 6:13 (NKJV) 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.* Let's pray for courageous leadership and for Fathers to be encouraged today!

In Christ,
Pastor Doc

UPCOMING events

- Children's Sunday School - during service
- Adult Sunday School - 10:15 am
- June 20 - Father's Day Celebration
- July 3 - Weston 4th of July Parade 10am

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MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

We honored all the mothers in our congregation on May 9, 2021.

Thank you for all you do!



SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR JUNE

June 6: Batteries Not Included: #1 Hope
 June 13: Batteries Not Included: #2 Peace
 June 20: Batteries Not Included: #3 Joy
 June 27: Batteries Not Included: #4 Love

1 Kings 19:4
 Mark 1:1-8
 1 Thess 5:16-24
 Luke 1:26-28

FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 20th is Father's Day! We will be honoring all the fathers in our congregation.

"Direct your children onto the right path,
 and when they are older, they will not leave it."
 -Proverbs 22:6



MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

Life can be challenging, but God is always good! We often hear people say they would like a little “peace and quiet.” I think we as men can all say a hearty “amen” to that, especially with all that is taking place in our world right now. Yet, I wanted to take a few moments to encourage you today on this thought of “peace.” At times, we have wrongly concluded that peace is simply the absence of conflict of any kind, yet we forget that Jesus came into a world that was filled with political and moral turmoil. Yet, He was, and IS the Prince of Peace!



As Jesus walked the dusty roads, followed by his disciples, everywhere he went benefitted from the peace he brought into the situation. Political and religious leaders may have struggled with having a sense of peace because He came to restore hope and dignity to society's downtrodden and forgotten. As He did this, the religious leaders felt their control of the people slipping away. Yet, all this time, Jesus knew a day would come that He would be taken out of this world, and His mission would be left in the hands of the disciples. He gave some comforting words to them at the time, and I believe these words still apply to us today. John 14:27 (NKJV) 27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. The peace that the world gives is temporary and governed by the events surrounding us, yet the peace the Lord gives is one that comes from our innermost being because of His presence.

Here is a beautiful story that illustrates the kind of peace Christ gives:

Two painters were asked to paint a picture illustrating peace. The first painted a beautiful evening scene in the foreground of a lake, it's surface calm and unruffled. Trees surrounded it; meadows stretched away to the distant cattle gently browsing; a little cottage, the setting sun—all spoke of perfect rest. The second painter drew a wild, stormy scene. Heavy black clouds hung overhead; in the center of the picture, an immense waterfall poured forth vast volumes of water covered with foam. One could almost hear its unceasing roar, yet perhaps the first thing to strike the eye was a small bird, perched in a cleft of a huge rock, absolutely sheltered from all danger, pouring forth its sweet notes of joy. It is the second painter who could describe the peace that passes all understanding, which is the Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God in the heart of the redeemed. One can only have peace with himself if he has peace with God.

Remember that the circumstances around you should not dictate your peace. HE is our peace!

WESTON 4TH OF JULY PARADE

The Weston 4th of July parade will be held on **SATURDAY, July 3, 2021** so as to not conflict with church services. The parade will begin at 10:00 am and we will have a float that you can ride on. Thank you to Marilyn and Danielle Chamberlin for overseeing our float decorating this year! Make sure to mark your calendars for this fun event!



APRIL TREASURY REPORT

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$5,477.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00
 Special Offering: \$45.00
 Miscellaneous: \$1.87

Monthly Total:
\$5,523.87

Expenses

Salaries: \$3,700.00
 Utilities: \$151.19
 Supplies & Food: \$137.17
 Insurance: \$0.00
 Miscellaneous: \$13.90
 Taxes: \$0.00
 Maintenance: \$130.00

Monthly Total:
\$4,132.26

JUNE CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

06/05 Jerry Smith
 06/07 Susan Mitlyng
 06/08 Andy Dimock
 06/12 Scott Tingle
 06/14 Gloria Kautz
 06/16 Tessa Jacques
 06/21 Marge Massey
 06/27 Larry Lambert
 06/27 Tara Tisserand

Anniversaries

06/02 Daniel & Kimberly Tisserand
 06/03 Mike & Janet Rippy
 06/07 John D. & Alyssa Tingle
 06/08 Brad & Karen Chilton
 06/10 Danny & Debbie Terra



HYMN OF THE MONTH - "WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN"

The author of this text, Eliza Hewitt, was a school teacher in Philadelphia and a Christian lay worker who was deeply devoted to the Sunday school movement. Like many of the other gospel song writers during the latter half of the nineteenth century, Eliza's goal in writing her songs was to reach children and teach them the basic truths of the gospel. She dedicated this particular song to her own Sunday school class in Philadelphia.

Philadelphians Eliza E. Hewitt (1851-1920) and Emily D. Wilson (1865-1942) combined as poet and musician respectively to give us a gospel song that captures the revival spirit of the late nineteenth century in a uniquely American way.



Many readers may have grown up singing this and other songs on a similar theme during Sunday school gatherings, Sunday evening services, or revivals. Related songs include "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder" (1899) by James M. Black (1856-1938), "Shall We Gather at the River" (1865) by Robert Lowry (1826-1899), and "O that Will Be Glory for Me" (1900) by Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932). Make no mistake, hymns that addressed heaven were nothing new. Many eighteenth-century hymns by Charles Wesley and others referenced heaven as our ultimate destination. The nineteenth-century gospel song, however, added a spiritual fervor undergirded by a musical vitality that gave these songs a sense of imminence and urgency that had not been experienced heretofore.

The stanzas of "When We All Get to Heaven" are replete with biblical allusions:

In stanza 1, the phrase "in the mansions bright and blessed, / he'll prepare for us a place" is a rephrasing of John 14:2: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." (KJV).

Stanza 2 reminds us that in heaven, light replaces "shadows": "and the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (Revelation 21:23, KJV). Furthermore, the "sighs" of sorrow and pain will be left behind: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Revelation 21:4, KJV).

In stanza 3, the poet notes that, "just one glimpse of him in glory / will the toils of life repay"; this phrase paraphrases I Peter 4:13, "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy" (KJV).

Stanza 4 references "the pearly gates" and "streets of gold," images clearly drawn from Revelation 21:21: "And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass" (KJV).

Eliza Edmunds Hewitt lived in Philadelphia her entire life. She was the valedictorian of her class at the Girls' Normal School, where she taught for some years. Hewitt was prominent in the Sunday school movement, devoting time to youth at the Northern Home for Friendless Children; at Calvin Presbyterian Church, she served as the Sunday school superintendent. In spite of a spinal illness that kept her homebound for some years, she studied English literature and authored several hundred texts.

Emily Divine Wilson (1865-1942) was also a life-long Philadelphian. The wife of a Methodist minister, John G. Wilson. She was beloved by the congregations of the churches served. Her musical ability was a great contribution to the local church, together with her ability in dramatic art.

Of this tune, Carlton R. Young notes, "The Sunday school marching tune portrays the church, its mission, and the role of the faithful Christian progressing towards a goal. . . It is a useful genre of Christian music whereby the faithful are assured the church is on the move, irrespective of reality" (Young, 699-700).

SPRING LUNCHEON - MAY 16TH

On May 16, 2021, we came together for our first church luncheon in over a year. What a blessing it was to be able to gather together for wonderful food and fellowship!



MAY BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- The minutes from the April board meeting were approved via email three days after the April board meeting. Kimberly Tisserand printed copies and placed them at the entrance of the church for congregation members to take if they so wish.
- Mike Rippy emailed the financial report to the board prior to the meeting. Income was \$5,523.87 and expenses were \$4,132.26 for the month of April.
- Our water heater has been ordered and should be delivered in approximately 3-4 weeks. All plumbing equipment is backlogged due to the winter storm we had which is causing the delay. The board hopes to have the new water heater installed by the end of May.
- Mike Poen's crew will come to the church and begin cleaning up the fence area sometime in mid-May. The board will assess the next steps for the fence repair at the June board meeting.
- Our front flowerbeds were cleaned up and new mulch put in by Brice Lambert and Josh Babb. They look wonderful and we thank both Brice and Josh for doing that for the church.
- Dawson Bean and his family are moving to London with the Center for Mission Mobilization. They are looking for funding for this endeavor. They chose London because that area has become a melting pot of immigrants. They feel they could recruit a good amount of missionaries there. Daniel Tisserand asked if the board wanted to have Dawson Bean speak to the board or speak to the congregation. They are members of the Redeemer Church in Lubbock. The board will invite Dawson Bean to do a presentation to the board and then the board will decide if a presentation to the congregation is needed.
- Scott Elliott with Community Lifeline of McKinney had the dates incorrect. Daniel Tisserand will reach out to Scott Elliott to see if he can attend our June board meeting.
- Mother's Day Gifts have been purchased and will be presented to the moms during the service on May 9, 2021.
- Our Spring luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Weather permitting, the luncheon will be outside.

First Christian Church of Weston

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Find us on Facebook!

Service: Sundays at 11:00 am
Sunday School: 10:15 am

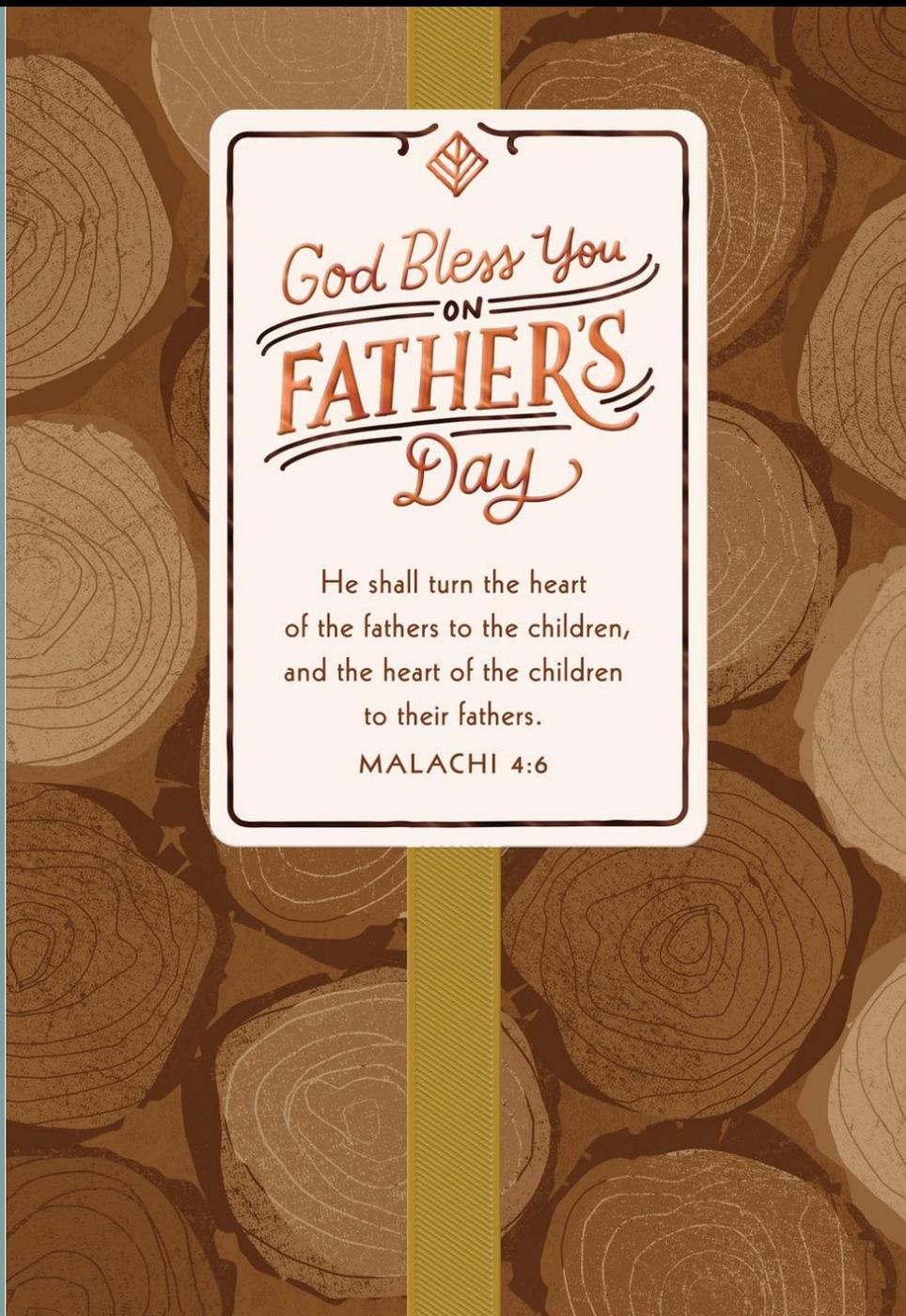
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NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION NEEDED

To make the newsletter more personal, please send pictures or information on achievements, births, awards, or anything else of interest to Kimberly Tisserand at tisserand@outlook.com



Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Michael and Linda Waco, Nancy Neill, Louis Cave, Tralyn Tadlock and Doc & Ginger Gardner in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a pew card or let Kimberly Tisserand know.