



Prayer Requests:

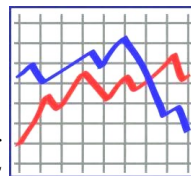
"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Michael Baldasaro (Wayne & Jan's son in law) successful surgery on 9/21 addressed cancer of the tonsils; has completed chemo-therapy treatments and will continue to be monitored; grateful for continued prayers for the family ☺
- Louis Bureau - facing yet another surgery on his left shoulder in order to repair a damaged tendon, obviously missed in previous surgery
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Diane Cote - left leg amputated up to the knee as a result of diabetes; now using a temporary prosthesis and undergoing prosthetic rehab
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Linda Gloman - colon cancer was detected in a colonoscopy; laparoscopic surgery successful; chemo ended on 1/25; having a CT scan on 2/22 and then every 6 months for 5 years; *"Chuck and I would like to thank everyone for their continued prayers. They are appreciated more than we can express in words."*
- Molly Urghart (mother of Wayne & Jan's granddaughter, River)- her stage 4 esophageal cancer is growing again and is affecting other organs; now undergoing a different kind of aggressive chemotherapy; radiation will be a last resort; prayers needed and appreciated
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today — the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling

"Pray without ceasing." — 1 Thess 5:17

The Troublesome Ups & Downs of Life



Most likely, many are familiar with the children's game *Chutes & Ladders*. Starting at "square one" at the bottom of the board, players are required to work through over 90 spaces to reach the last square at the top of the board to win the game. However, at various points, one could land on a ladder (moving his piece upward & forward many spaces ☺), or one could encounter a chute (sliding his piece downward & backward many spaces ☹). So, throughout the game, nothing is certain! And with a simple roll of the dice or spin of the needle, one can quickly find himself either winning or losing. Those lagging behind could land on a ladder which could catapult them to the lead. And those who were in the lead did not have the luxury of bragging because they could be sent backward by landing on a chute at any given time.

This enjoyable child's game seems to mirror the troublesome ups and downs of life which are inevitable and often unpredictable. And much of the time, these vicissitudes of life do not seem fair, nor do they make any sense. We see good things happening to bad people, and bad things happening to good people. There seems to be no real rhyme or reason to this puzzling, frustrating phenomenon. When times are good, there is the human propensity to forget God. And when times are bad, there is the carnal temptation to blame God. What are some helpful, biblical ways you and I can respond during these difficult times when we find ourselves tossed about by tempestuous waves on the capricious sea of life?

First, we can realize that, no matter how bad things seem God is still in control. He is sovereign. That is, "He works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Eph 1:11; Col 1:15-17; 1 Tim 6:15-16). Second, we can remind ourselves that our Lord is constant and changeless. With Him "there is no variation or shadow of turning" (Jas 1:17), and He "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb 13:8). Third, we can take courage in the fact that "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Cor 1:9; 10:13; 2 Thess 3:3). He is dependable and

trustworthy for He has said, "I will *never* leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb 13:5). Finally, we can rejoice in the knowledge that our Lord Jesus Christ is victorious! He saved us and called us with a holy calling ... "our Savior Jesus Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Tim 1:9-10). Yes, "thanks be to God, who gives *us* the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 15:50-57).

Jesus acknowledges that in this world we will have problems, persecutions, trials and tribulations. Then he lovingly adds: "But be of good cheer (take heart!), I have overcome the world!" (John 16:33). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍



"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31
Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;
Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;
1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; Rev 2:10

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☺ Welcome Visitors ☺

We are glad you have come to worship with us today. We want you to know that you are welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or if we can help you in any way. Also, please fill out one of our visitor's cards before you depart.



Have a great week! ☺



David Judkins — February 17th



We will enjoy our potluck meal today after services. We hope you will stay for this special time of food, fun & fellowship! 😊

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.” - 2 Cor 4:16-17 📖

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 9,180
This Month: 14,776



SNACKS!

Feb 11: Paula
Feb 18: Betty

Attendance & Contribution
for February 4, 2024

Attendance — 20
Contribution — \$570

Order of Worship

February 11, 2024

*“Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good:
sing praises unto His name;
for it is pleasant.”*

📖 - Psalm 135:3 - 📖

Song Leader: *Terry Schmidt*

Song—6

Opening Prayer: *Jim Miller*

Song—19

Scripture Reading: *Louis Bureau*
~ Genesis 3:16-19 ~

Song—289

The Lord’s Supper
Wayne Sampson (lead) & Jason Kennedy

Song—241

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
“Why is Life So Hard?”

Song—240

Announcements & Closing Prayer
George Cuvellier

Lord’s Supper Prep: *Betty Schmidt*

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*We love Him, because
He first loved us.
- 1 John 4:19 -*

February 11, 2024

Meeting on the Lord’s Day:

9:30 am — Bible Class
10:30 am — Worship

*“Let us consider one another in order
to stir up love and good works, not
forsaking the assembling of ourselves
together, as is the manner of some, but
exhorting one another, and so much the
more as you see the Day approaching.”*
- Hebrews 10:24-25 -

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