# Larry's Lines

# The Strange Route To Happiness

There is a strange equation in the Bible. Suffering plus patience equals happiness. Who would think it? Not I.

Those who seek a direct route to happiness are in for a rude shock. Those who have pursued this course have often allowed themselves to sink into the mires of sin and have seen their lives smothered. There are those who know exactly where they can find happiness. It's in success which waits for them somewhere around the corner. Or they try pleasures which look like an oasis in a vast desert of monotonous living. Or they seek a life free from troubles and any deep concern which burdens the heart. But this kind of thinking is a false dream, an illusion. Happiness is not an illusion and it cannot be bought. Happiness is born with the heart. It does not come to us because of the absence of trouble... or the presence of friendly circumstance. Some of the most unhappy people have "happy" circumstances. And others, compelled to live in intolerable conditions, nevertheless are happy. James gives us something to think about. Over and over again he stresses patience and steadfastness. He even links suffering and patience with happiness. "Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it. You also be patient. As an example of the Lord. Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast. You have heard the Lord is compassionate and merciful" (James 5:7-11). The Scripture is constantly calling upon us to "wait upon God." He is compassionate and merciful! For us to wait is as much a sign of our faith as "works." We "endure, as seeing him who is invisible." And the end result? Happiness! "Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast.

> **Have a Great Week** Larry

### Congratulations to The Burns Family

Katie gave birth to a baby girl on Friday morning, February 9, 2018 at 1:10am. Carolyn Mae weighed 8 pounds, 6 oz and was 21" long. Grandparents are Ronnie and Cynthia Burns. Her dad is still deployed overseas but was able to witness her birth via computer. Baby and mother are doing well.

#### **New Class Begins**

Mike Mitchell will be teaching a Wednesday Night class downstairs for both men and women on "Life Passages". This will be a 10-12 week class. The class begins February 21, 2018 and it will be on Repentance.

#### Update

Although Kendra is still unresponsive, testing shows that she has full cognitive functions. The absence of motor function keeps her from moving. Her family has applied for some experimental studies of which only 4 universities in the US are conducting. So they are praying that they will be picked up by one of them soon. Her mother, Tamara, also said that when cards are read to Kendra that she will sometimes have tears streaming down her face. This has been a joyful and painful journey for this family, especially now that they know that she knows everything that is going on around her but is unable to respond. Please continue to send cards of encouragement to both Kendra and her family. Kendra Phillips 109589 Tony Mountain Rd.

Fayetteville, AR 72701

Our Sincerest sympathy to the Ron Parsley family. Ron passed away Friday, February 9, 2018 and was laid to rest Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Ron will be dearly missed by everyone who knew him.

#### **Upcoming Events**



(Single adults, college age, young families) Tonight following our worship is our next fellowship meal together. Soup and Chili will be served! \$3 a person or \$10 a family. We are asking you to bring items from home to tell us about your family. Bring a few portable things you have around the house to decorate maybe half a table that describes you. As we eat, we will go around the room and visit each table and let you tell us about you so that we can get to know each other better.

Ladies Retreat at Lake Forth Smith will be March 9-11, 2018. We will be staying in the Kingfisher Lodge. The cost for Friday and Saturday is \$25.00 and Saturday only is \$15.00. A sign up sheet is in the fover for those who are interested in attending.

#### **Leadership Training for Christ**

4th grade puppets will meet each Wednesday at 6:00pm for the rest of February.

# Happy Birthday February 18th

Eason Wolfe February 19th Caden Davis John Cobb Piper Witt February 20th Sílas Cherry Brianna McDowell February 21st

Kevin Murray

#### **Youth Notices/Events**



Pre-Game Feb 21st at the building \$3 for spaghetti. This is also the first monthly birthday celebration for all our Feb. birthdays! We are looking for people in the congregation to sign up to bring a cake, eat with us and then stay for class. This is one way we are mixing different generations.

Teen Devo is Sat. February 24th, 6:30-8:30 at the home of Chesley & Ashlev Martin.

> Happy *A*nniversary

February 20th **David and Melanie** Snawder

February 23rd Ron and Barbara Sellers

We still need 11 Teachers to Sign **Up** for the new quarter that begins in March. If you have already signed up, "THANK YOU." Your new teaching material is in the library.

Pantry Items needed: **MAC AND CHEESE and Cereal** 

More information about these and other events can be found on the Events board in the foyer.

## **Those Needing Our Prayers & Visits:**

#### Those with recent health issues:

Landon Wolfe is having an MRI, Howard Glenn is having health concerns, **Sonny Heldebran** (Friend of Paul Dickard's) is having serious health issues, Connie Harmon had surgery on Thursday to repair her wrist, Terry Wallis (sister of Patricia Fortenberry) is having health issues, Lucille (Beverly Cosby's mother) has a broken ankle, **Amy Allen** is having health issues, Dixie Higgs (Donna Baker's sister) had a stroke and is now in health south, Shirley Hester two stents put in on Thursday and one on Friday, Calvin Billingsly is having health concerns, Tommy Stilwell is in the VA hospital, Vada Loker is in Rehab at the Maples and is doing better, Lawson **Keeter** medical issues are getting better.

Those who have lost loved ones: Barbara Parsley

Those Who have been Deployed Overseas: Ron Burns and Jeremy Curlee

Those on Hospice: Millie Hood, Oma Leta Smith and Bessie Richey.

Those fighting Cancer: Keith Montgomery, Leslie Cones and Darvil Tester (Pam Hill's step-father).

Those who need your continual prayer and consideration! Arlie Pennington, Pearl Couch, Emmett Windham, Shirley Bates, Roger and Shirley Gross, Norma Williams, Roy Howard, Betty Jordan, and Kendra Phillips.

The leaders of our community, our state, our country, as well as our Military Service Men and Women deployed overseas.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018**

Lord's Table **Ushers** Marc Wolfe Paul Dickard Joe Harriman Ronnie Burns Steve Martindale Larry Dalrymple Bobby Hill Michael Marvin Gary Knapp Lincoln Phillip **Charles Couch** Jared Cobb Terry Huffmaster **Greeters Announcements** 

**Deliver Communion** 

Steve Martindale

Stefanie Curlee

Wilma Dickard

Rodney Friend

Phil Curlee

Jared Cobb **Prepare Communion** Mary Hutton

Christa Wolfe

Kevin Murray

Eric Keeter

**Nursery Attendants** 

Jennifer Fortenberry Julien Shew Madison Fortenberry Contessa Shew

P.A. System Dustin Mayhew

Song Leader

If you would like email reminders of your service assignment, please provide the office with your email address.

### THE LORD'S DAY **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

#### **WELCOME**

**Announcements Kevin Murray** 

> Song Leader **David Cherry**

> > Hymn #

Hymn #

**OPENING PRAYER Bradley Harriman** 

Hymn #

Hymn

**COMMUNION SCRIPTURE** Matthew 26:26-30 **Chesley Martin** 

**COMMUNION PRAYER** Alan Fortenberry

LORD'S SUPPER

**OFFERING** 

Hymn #

SCRIPTURE READING **Larry Scott** 



Invitation Hymn #

Closing Hymn #

**Closing Prayer** Ty Brunkhardt

Welcome Visitors!

We are so happy to have you, and consider you our honored guest. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to ask any of our members. We would love to help make your visit a pleasant one.

## **February Events**

February 21st

Pre-Game

February 22nd

**Elders Meeting** 

February 24

Teen Devo @ Chesley and Ashley Martin's

**February 25th** 

4th Sunday Fellowship 40's and 50's /Italian

February 27th

Threads of Love

#### **March Events**

March 4th

**New Quarter Begins** 

**Deacons Meeting** 

### **AM SERMON OUTLINE**

We Are Reconciled by the blood of Jesus

Ephesians 2:14-15

Romans 5:9

Ephesians 1:7

Hebrews 9:14

Hebrews 13:12

The Reason for Reconciliation

Evil In Deeds

Makes Us Blameless

Makes Us Un-reprovable

The Responsibility of Reconciliation

Must Remain Unmovable in our Hope

#### PM SERMON OUTLINE

and a persecutor, and injurious" **GREAT GRACE** 

**GREAT GRATITUDE** 

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Romans 2:25

Ephesians 2:13

1 John 1:7

Alienated

Hostil In Mind

The Results of Reconciliation

Makes Us Holy

Must Continue in the Faith

**GREAT GUILT** 

V-13 "Though I was before a blasphemer,

V-14&16 Provides pardon for the past and power for the present

V12&17 "I thank him that enabled me, even Christ Jesus our Lord."

MISSIONARIES
Marco Antonio

May you be blessed and may others be blessed by you

Welcome

Johnson church of Christ

February 18, 2018