# Larry's Lines

# The Bright and Morning Star

As a child I didn't know about air-conditioning. Folks just didn't enjoy that luxury. But don't pity me, because sometimes mother would let my brother and I sleep out in the backyard to escape the heat of the house. It was always a wonderful and awe inspiring occasion.

Lying on one's back, looking up, is an experience never to be forgotten. As the darkness slowly settled and hovered over the earth, one by one the stars, God's soldiers of the night, marched forth. When there was no other light, their brightness and beauty cheered me up. And to this day I count stars among the loveliest of nature's beauties. I remember, too, waking up before daylight and looking out toward the east, where "the bright and morning star" was shining. How clearly it stood out in the spacious firmament. It had a glory and majesty all its own.

It is against this background that I hear Jesus say, "I am... the bright and morning star." How naturally He bears witness to Himself. "I am the way; I am the truth; I am the life; I am the bread of life; I am the true vine; I am the good shepherd; I am the bright and morning star." These are profound statements which from the first to the last speak of His deity. But why is He "the star"?

The bright and morning star speaks of hope. It is the harbinger of dawn. Soon the light will stream in from the East and disclose all the beauties of the world. That which has been clothed with darkness will be clearly revealed. When Christ was born the world was shrouded in darkness, but the Morning Star arose to give hope. How appropriate that Jesus should be compared to such a star!

The bright and morning star speaks of guidance. Jesus promises, "He who follows me will not walk in darkness" (John 8:12). With our eye fixed upon the Star we can safely steer our vessel to the harbor. He shows us the way to heaven and guides our every step.

The bright and morning star speaks of joy. One of the poets has said: "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." And the morning star is one of the most beautiful objects in the sky. Look carefully at Christ. You will find no stain of sin, not one ounce of selfishness, no earthly defilement. He is altogether lovely and once we see Him, and know Him as our "bright and morning star" we will know, "the joy of believing."

Have a Great Week, Larry

# **SAVE THE DATE**

Jim and Sharon Olmstead will celebrate 50 years of Happiness and Joy, Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Johnson Church of Christ from 2:00-4:00pm. Please RSVP to Jaclyn at 479-234-0018.

# **Upcoming Events**

Today at 3:00pm, Kevin will teach Civilian Response to Active Shooter and Stop the Bleed class. This is for everyone and we will be finished in time for the other events starting at 5pm.

The Ladies Retreat will be at Lake Fort Smith at the Wild Turkey Lodge March 27th-29th. A detailed informational packet and sign up sheet is available in the foyer. For questions see Lauren Mayhew, Diane Murray or Janet Jones.

Youth Led/LTC Service will take place, Sunday, March 29th. So boys be getting ready and tell David Shew or Jeremy Myers what you will be doing.

## **SENIORS**

The Seniors' Group will be going to Branson, MO on April 4, 2020 to see "Magnificent 7 Variety Show" that starts at 10:00 AM.We need to leave the Church Building at 7:00 AM.We will NOT stop for breakfast.We will stop somewhere for lunch and try to be back by 4:00 PM Signup sheet is in the foyer. Please sign up by March 25, so I can make reservations.Cost is around \$35.00 (Church can help if needed)-Contact Steve if you have questions

The Seniors' Group will be going to see the dogwoods in Siloam Springs and azaleas in Muskogee, OK, April 17, 2020. We will leave the Church building at 8:00 AM and have breakfast at Mama Z's. We will try to be back by 5:00 PM. Signup sheet in foyer. Contact Steve if you have questions

Our Honduras Mission trip has been cancelled for this spring but will hopefully be rescheduled in July. We will keep you posted.

Please do not clutter up the downstairs as we need to keep it tidy for events and funerals.



Pantry Items:
Pancake Mix and Syrup

### JAR Youth

The next refuel will be March 18, 2020 at Wrights. Sherry McCoy will be providing cake for our March Birthdays.

# LTC practice schedule. Sunday Nights

March 15 & 29

4:00pm Drama

5:00-6:00pm Bible Quiz

March 8th & 22nd

3-4pm Song leading

4-5pm-Chorus

5-6pm Bible Quiz

### **Wednesday Nights**

5:30pm Puppet Groups Menu for:

March 18th TBA March 25th TBA

# **Sympathy**

Our Sympathy to the Phillip Curlee Family on the loss of his mother Hilma Curlee. Hilma passed a way, Monday March 9, 2020 and was laid to rest Saturday, March 14, 2020.

Our Sympathy to the Kenny Bohannan Family. Kenny passed away March 5, 2020 and was buried March 10, 2020. Kenny is the nephew of Tommi Ball.

# **Those Needing Our Prayers & Visits**

Those with recent health issues: Janice Thomas is recovering after having pacemaker and a defibrillator surgery at Edgewood Rehab, **Darla** Trolinger recovering from surgery, **James Allen** is having back surgery in March18, 2020, **Kaileigh Shefelbine** had surgery and is recovering at home, **Kerry George** has been moved to Shiloh Nursing and Rehab, **Jeff Huffmaster** awaiting a kidney transplant.

Those fighting Cancer: Kim Williams, Van Simpson, Rachel Myers, Nathan Pirtle, Oma Leta Smith, Elaine Nicklas, and Eddie Thomas.

Those who have lost loved ones: The Phillip Curlee Family, The Tommi Ball Family and The Tommy Stilwell Family,

Our Expectant Mother: Holly McCoy.

Our New Mothers and babies: Megan/Ella and Rachel/Emory & Ada

Shut-Ins who need your continual prayer and consideration! Oma Leta Smith, Lenora Sutton, Emmett Windham, Shirley Bates, Roger and Shirley Gross, Norma Williams, Roy Howard, Betty Jordan, Genevra Montgomery, and Kendra Phillips.

Remember in Prayer: Our Children working on Leadership to Christ, Our Election process, Our Military Service Men and Women deployed overseas and protecting our country abroad and at home. The leaders of our Church, our community, our state, and our country. Also, please pray for all of those in Nashville suffering from the deadly tornadoes.

# OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN THE MONTH OF March 2020

Lord's Table
Caden Scott
Jared Cobb
Adam Rowe
Roy Lewis
Corbin Cobb
Liga Stamps

Lord's Table
David Cherry
Adam Rowe
Roylery
R

<u>Greeters</u>

Charles Couch Donna Baker Chesley Martin Betty Bailey Announcements

Kovin Murray

Kevin Murray Jim Olmstead John Cobb

Deliver Communion
Jared Cobb

Prepare Communion
Tracy and Jordan Scott

Nursery Attendants Lisa Lewis

P.A. System Larry Lloyd

Song Leader
Justin Goforth

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**

Kevin Murray

**Song Leader** Justin Goforth

Hymn #

Hymn #

**OPENING PRAYER** Matt Bassing

Hymn #

## **COMMUNION SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 53:3-6 Heath Huffmaster

**Communion Prayer** Terry Huffmaster

**LORD'S SUPPER** Offering Hymn #

# **SERMON SCRIPTURE**

2 Timothy 1:6-12 **Brad Harriman** 

FEAR

OR

FAITH

**Invitation Hymn #** 

**Announcements Kevin Murray** 

Closing Hymn #

**Closing Prayer** David Shew

#### 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



#### March 15th

VBS Planning Meeting 5pm

March 21-28

Spring Break

March 22nd

4th Sunday Devo/Mexican Food/60's &70's

# March 23rd

Threads of Love

March 26th

Elders Meeting

March 27-28

Ladies Retreat

March 29th

**Building Fund Contribution** Youth Led Services

# **April Events**

**April 5th** 

LTC Preview 4pm

**April 8th** 

Youth Girls Led Ladies Class

April 10-11

LTC Conference

April 12th

Easter Egg Hunt

April 24th-26th

**ARK Retreat** April 26th LTC Banquet

## **AM OUTLINE**

- . The future has two handles, one is fear and the other is Faith.
- a. Not all fear is bad Proverbs 1:7 and
- b. Some fear is unhealthy 2 Timothy 1:7 The Destructive Power of Fear Fear of Forgetfulness. 1 Timothy 1:6 Fear of Failure. 1 Timothy 1:8 Fear of Frailty. 1 Timothy 5:23 The Dynamic Power of Faith

Love

Undestanding

Johnson church of Christ

PROOF OF OUR LOVE March 8, 2020

Welcome Johnson church of Christ it makes things possible, not easy "Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9 March 15, 2020