



Volume 40

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No. 16

Thank You

People who live for God are amazing. They are a joy to be around. They lift you up. They help you strive to be better just by being themselves.

We have been dealing with this virus concern for about 5 or 6 weeks now. And yet, the conversations I hear and read about are filled with optimism, patience, and concern for others.

Every person who comes by the office or calls is seeking an opportunity to serve in some way, or making a contribution or checking to see how others are doing.

There is no telling how many masks have been made by our mask crews.

Countless numbers of cards have been written and mailed.

Bible correspondence courses are going out in increasing numbers.

Prayer warriors are praying daily.

Calls are being made just to see how people are doing.

When needs are known, needs are being met.

It is such a tremendous blessing to be a part of the Riverchase family and especially to be a part of God's wonderful, loving people.

-Dewayne

Upcoming Events:

**RCOC Virtual Game Night
Saturday at 7:00 p.m.**

Contact David Dorantes, jdave.dorantes@gmail.com for more information. We will be playing Bible Trivia on the book of Titus! Test your knowledge!

Bedtime Prayers

Eric Gott

Pillows. Windows. Machines that turn on.
Knees. Narwhals. Beds.
Clothes. Dogs. Tacos.
Baths. Bicycles.
Sidewalk chalk. Eyes. Playing. Food.
Blankets. Dinosaur. Scooters.

This is the list our kiddos provided last night when we asked them what they were thankful for as we were preparing to say our bedtime prayer. Sometimes their thankful list makes perfect sense to Leah and I, and other times we have no idea where they come up with their ideas, but it is still important.

And so we pray for it.

Every night a prayer of thanksgiving is led by one of our kids and they are the sweetest prayers. They are prayers filled with giggles and smiles as we reflect on the fun we experienced during the day. They are prayers that also include request and concerns—scratched knees, daddy's head to feel better, biological family to be ok.

Our kiddos have opened mine and Leah's eyes to the repetitive, incessant, dependence I have for my Father. In their beautifully, sweet prayers they lay everything before God. They give thanks for EVERYTHING. Nothing is too foolish for my kiddos to pray for. They like narwhals- let's pray for narwhals. They saw caterpillars- Thank you God for caterpillars!

Today take time to make a list of everything you can think of that is worthy of praise. Allow yourself room for laughter and silliness as you make your list. You may find that you too are thankful for narwhals, dinosaurs, sidewalk chalk, and scooters.

Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 106: 1

Transition

Scott Pruitt

² *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. (Rom. 12:2 NIV)*

¹⁰ *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Eph. 2:10 NIV)*

²⁸ *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. (Matt. 11:28-30 NIV)*

³³ *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Matt. 6:33-34 NIV)*

We are all in a state of transition. We plan. We adjust. We schedule. We adjust. We establish goals. We adjust. We monitor. We adjust.

Life is a bunch of adjustments, and with the challenges of life, we tend to establish new routines. I've been challenged as I've been thinking heavily about how fast life's circumstances have adjusted all around us. The challenge has come from slowing down and being steadfast as I focus on the life of Jesus and what was constant for Him in the midst of new days, new ways, and new strategies.

He remained constant in His **focus on Home**.

He **made time** for His Father.

He was **creative** in His interaction with people.

His **love** was constant and consistent.

He **encouraged** others constantly and consistently.

He **challenged** others to set our minds on things above and beyond this world.

Life can be frustrating for us all from time to time, but don't let it be a joy sucker. As life throws us curve balls, let us ask ourselves the following questions:

**Am I reflecting Jesus in my attitudes and actions?
Is this what Jesus would do** (knowing what He did each day, no matter the circumstances)?

Would my decision be different if my Heavenly Home was the focus?

When This Is Over

When all of this is over, the pandemic, the stay at home quarantine, what are you looking forward to "getting back to normal?" I hope that you are looking forward to something other than just food or attractions or places to visit. I hope that by now you have established a deeper relationship with God through reading, praying and fasting. I hope that when this is over we don't go back to the same things we used to do. I hope that our faith has been renewed and keeps getting stronger as the years go by.

We need to use this time as a spring forward to make needed changes in our lives. It takes about 21 days to form a habit, and about 40 days to break a habit. When we are done with all this chaos, don't be the same person you used to be! Don't go back to being a comfortable Christian. Give everything you got for the Lord! Give Him your time, give Him your money, give Him your life! This is us in the belly of the whale, what are we going to do with our time? Are we going to despair? Are we going to complain? Or are we going to pray? As soon as this is over be ready to take action and change direction in your life, move towards God!

David

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to **Bryan and Mim Ritenour and their family** in the death of Bryan's father, Bill Ritenour. The family will have a Celebration of Life Service at a later time.

For the Record

Sunday, April 19, 2020

Bible Study	---
Early Worship	---
Late Worship	---
Total Sunday Morning	---
Sunday Night	---
Contribution	\$28,712.51
YTD Average	\$35,673.04
Budget	\$37,500.00



Online Giving

We now have the ability to give on-line.

Go to our website:
www.riverchasechurch.org

and click on the graphic that says "online giving".

Dear Riverchase Church of Christ,

This is an unprecedented time we are experiencing with the coronavirus pandemic as we are being instructed to stay home and shelter in place with social distancing.

As healthcare professionals we do not have the liberty to stay home as we must care for patients. It is so refreshing to know that during this time you all were thinking of us! Having a supply of masks to serve as face coverings is imperative and greatly appreciated!!!

The donation of cloth masks is even more special because they were made for our use!

Your kindness during this time reflects the highest sense of community with "neighbors helping neighbors."

Thank you,

Grandview Medical Center
Pharmacy Staff

Vanessa Seals Gray, Director

GRIEF AND LOSS SEMINAR

The grief and loss seminar has been postponed until a later date.

A Message From One Of Our Elders

Adam Creel

As have many of you, I have been working from home for almost a month. We have played board games, enjoyed the beautiful weather and done a whole lot of yard work. While working in the yard, we decided to prune the tree at the front of the house. As I got on the ladder with chainsaw in hand, I could see the look of concern in my dear wife's eyes. With classic schoolteacher sternness and her hands on her hips, she cautioned me not to get hurt. Now in position, I noticed a small bird very close to my head and chirping loudly. I also noticed she had food in her mouth. Thinking nothing further, I cut the dead limb. It crashed to the ground. Only then, as I was cleaning up, did I realize why the mother bird had been so brazen. Four brand new baby birds no longer had a home. As we continued to clean up, the mother bird continued to call for her babies. Boy did I feel bad.

It was at this point I was reminded of Jesus' words to his disciples in Matthew 10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care." I was also reminded of Jesus' words to all of us in Matthew 6:26 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Although I was saddened by my inadvertent destruction, Jesus' words help me put the entire ordeal we are all going through in perspective. If we have truly given ourselves to Him, there is no doubt He will take care of us.

Love and peace to all.

Agape Run for a Mom

We are excited to announce that the **10th Anniversary Run for a Mom 10K, 5K, and Fun Run is still on!** We will now be hosting a VIRTUAL race so that you can still participate from wherever you are located. Join or create your own team now and save \$5 per person. Use promo code **Riverchase** to save 10% off your total until April 24. For more details and to register go to runforamom.org or email 5k@agapeforchildren.org



Electronic Bill Board

We now are advertising Riverchase Church of Christ on the electronic bill board just in front of our building. This was suggested by several in our outreach meetings.

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This week at Riverchase:

All Events Have Been Cancelled Until Further Notice

Please continue to remember in prayer:

Patricia Anderson (former member), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother), **Joan Harris** (Betz's friend), **Richard Howe** (Steve's dad), **Martha Manwarring** (former member), **Jay Odom** (Kevin Arvin's brother-in-law), **Claudia Sibert** (John's mother), **Barbara Stetler** (Howe/Sims mother), **Kristy Tatum** (Rardin's neighbor).

Please pray for our active duty deployed military:

Riverchase Family:

John Bearden (#2) in Room 542 at UAB West with heart related issues and pneumonia.

Judy Masoner (#4) breast cancer. Will begin chemo on Thursday, April 30.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:

FTG #1: Rejetta Balentine, Lynda Cardwell, Angie Dickinson, Keith Dunn, Ollie Scott, Michelle Whitaker

FTG #2: Glenda Arnold, John Bearden, Victor & Glinda Boone, Vonda Cook, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing, Bob Smith

FTG #3: David Bath, Ruth Bath, Becky Carter, Billy Gaines, Angie Guffey, Martha Johnston, Nona Miller

FTG #4: Jeff Carroll, Elaine Evans, Gary Evans, Bill Hester, Alan Jackson, Ruby Lakeman, Everleigh Self, Cindy Snider

FTG #5: Beverly Strange, Ron Waddell

FTG #6: Zane Armstrong, Erick Boggs, Michelle Dichiara, Don & Shirley Genry, Don Greer, Addie Jackson, Grover Jackson, Sarah Wolford

FTG #7: Don & Jan Haefner, Peggy Hendley, Lori Lambert, Candy Parker, Tim Parker, Jerry Sharp

ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Gladys Akers (David Akers mother) health issues.

Noreen Anderson (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.

Alice Ball (Michael Ball's mother) acute myeloid leukemia, chemo.

Joe Belmont (Johnny's father) lung cancer.

Toby Blackwood (friend of Ollie and Mary Scott) cancer.

Joy Borland (Twila Bedgood's sister) cancer.

Jessica Brown (Glenda's daughter in law) breast cancer.

Patsy Burks (Rhonda Ball's mother) eye issues.

Randy Chew (Missy Wright's dad) heart related issues.

Cathy Crittenden (Dee Davis' friend) brain tumor.

Jerry Earnest (Handley's friend) cancer.

Bob Edwards (Ron Steen's cousin) MDS.

G. Estes (friend of Pitchford's) chemo.

Jan Hall (Helen Haskew's sister - in - law) health issues.

Eli Hairston (Teen in Chelsea) brain trauma from a golf cart accident.

Jane Harrison (Peggy Hendley's sister in law) heart issues.

Bob Hull (Howe's brother-in-law) cancer.

Valari Lagrone (Cindy Thompson's cousin) 3rd degree burns on both hands.

Becky Morris (Rodney Morris' sister in law) cancer.

Myra Myrick (Pam Wampol's aunt) ovarian cancer.

Lauren Orth (David Orth's sister) health issues.

Cecil Parker (Rhonda Ball's grandfather) liver disease.

McKenzie Ray (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.

Ronnie Rogers (CJ Rogers father - college student) brain cancer.

Pattie Ryan (Sarah Pate's mother) melanoma.

Margaret Seagrest (long time visitor) health issues.

Mary Ella Sirmon (The Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.

Lisa Wallace (Bath's niece) breast cancer.

Carol Watson (Fred Langdon's sister) lymphoma.

Raymond White (Cindy Thompson's cousin) health problems.

Ann Winsett (Brett Moran's grandmother) heart issues.

Joseph Wright (Stephen Wright's father) health issues.