

PRAYER REQUEST

Members & Faithful Attendees

Pat Abbitt, Frances Butler, Kenneth Carwile, Maxine Clements, David Dudley, Helen Dudley, Linnie Dudley, Wyndol Ewers, Vivian Hamilton, Gayle Lauenders, Becky McFall, Dewey McIvor, Phyllis Minnick, Doris Sechrest, Patsy Smith, Brenda Young.

Friends, Relatives & Community Concerns

Grayson Albritton (Algers) Hannah Boni (Phyllis Minnick), Gloria Cannady (Paul Stober), Ruby Cash (Pam Hubbard), Joe DeCeasar (Kristen Tatlock), John Davis (George Harris), JoAnne Doyle (Pat Abbitt), Tristan Dunning (George Harris), Serena Diehl (Aaron Bruce), Beth Ford (Rick Hubbard), Teresa Goode (John Jennings), E.W. Grubbs (Joe Hedges), Stephanie Grubbs (Joe Hedges), Tracey Hamilton (Vivian Hamilton), Evelyn Harmon (Brenda Harris), Charles Hubbard (Rick Hubbard), Ednee Irving (Lewis Noel), Beau Johnson (Kanzada Phillips), Jessica Kraus (Carla Reichard), Lascari Family (Paul Stober), Sharon Laughlin (Pam Hubbard), Larry Lawhorne (Eddie Wieringo), Avis Lovell (Pam Hubbard), Marvin Manning (Pat Abbitt), Janet Marling (Sue Christian), Andy Mays (Jana Terrell), Warren Mitchell (Brenda Harris), Mary Murphy (Joy Flowers), George Murray (Paul Stober), Bill Nicholas (Lewis Noel), Martha Noel (Lewis Noel), Anita Price (Jana Terrell), Sarah Saunders (Warren Childress), Larry Short (Eddie Wieringo), Bobby Spencer (Kanzada Phillips), Kim Stewart (Carla Reichard), Sandy Thornsbury (Jan Hawkins), Robert Thornton (Paul Stober), Frank Tomlin, Jr. (Marie Murphy), John Ward (Sue Christian), Linda Wingfield (Kanzada Phillips), Patricia Young (Allena Tarvin).

Military & Support Personnel

Sarah Harrell, Sarah Sullivan (deployed), Michael Grubbs, Jr., Matthew Minnick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Cheer Helping Hands-May

Canned meat, tuna, salmon, peanut butter

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Non-perishable items, hygiene items

Daily Bread Box-outside church

Non-perishable food items, snack items

Please join us in person for Sunday school and worship or on Facebook live at 11:00 am on Sunday mornings.

A special thank you to Chris Harris for his donation of a printer stand, wooden file cabinet and office chair.

Craig Springs summer camp forms are available in the church office for interested youth. Please check out their website at craigsprings.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pentecost, also called **Whitsunday**, (Pentecost from Greek *pentecostē*, “50th day”), is a major festival in the Christian church. It is celebrated on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus and it marks the beginning of the Christian church’s mission to the world.

PENTECOST WORD SEARCH



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

AMAZED	LANGUAGES
APOSTLES	MULTITUDE
DAY OF PENTECOST	SITTING
HEAVEN	SPEAKING IN TONGUES
HOLY SPIRIT	TONGUES OF FIRE
HOUSE	WIND

A POEM FOR PENTECOST

Unless the eye catch fire,
The God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire
The God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire
The God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire,
The God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire,
The God will not be known.

William Blake (1757-1827) from Pentecost



MADISON HEIGHTS MESSENGER

No. 9

May 18, 2021

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Pam Hubbard
Music Director

Brenda Harris
Administrative Assistant

The Encounter

Saul was dedicated in his mission to destroy the early church. He approved of the stoning of Stephen and participated in going from house to house and dragging Christian men and women to prison. The Christians of the day were threatened with arrest and death so they scattered from Jerusalem throughout Judea and Samaria. After some time of leading the persecutions, Saul sought authority to travel to Damascus in order to arrest the Christians that had settled there.

While Saul was on his way to Damascus, he was surrounded by a bright light which blinded him and knocked him to the ground. He heard a voice saying "Saul, Saul, Why do you persecute me" (Acts 9:4 NRSV). Saul had a personal encounter with the post resurrected Jesus. This event is a game changer, it virtually changed everything in regards to the growth and spread of the gospel. This is a very significant event in the life of Saul and in the life of the church. Jesus told Saul what to do and what would happen next. From this point forward Saul became the Apostle Paul and instead of persecuting the church he became persecuted for his role in spreading the good news of the resurrected Jesus.

After many days of powerful preaching in Damascus the Jews sought to kill Paul. He escaped and fled to Jerusalem. The disciples were highly suspicious of him until Barnabus interceded on his behalf. The Grecian Jews in Jerusalem also tried to kill him and he escaped once again and sailed to Tarsus. Paul traveled extensively preaching the good news and establishing churches. His call to preach was never thwarted by the physical or emotional resistance that he received on his missionary journeys. When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, he cited a number of hardships including beatings, prison, riots, hunger, and other harsh circumstances that he and his companions endured for their faith.

I am reminded of the movie Amistad. It is a historical film that is based on Mende tribesmen that were abducted for the slave trade in 1839. One significant aspect of the movie shows one of the tribesmen as he studies the pictures of an English Bible. Another tribesman tells him to stop pretending that he can read it. He explains to the other tribesman that he is beginning to understand it. Then he proceeds to explain that he sees that the people in the Bible have suffered more than the captive tribesmen have and when he (Jesus) was born everything changed. He understood that Jesus healed people with his hands, protected them, cared for children, and walked across the sea. But then he was captured, accused of a crime, and his hands were bound. They killed him by putting him on this thing (cross) and then his friends took him down and put him in a cave and wrapped him in cloth. Then he appeared to his people again and talked to them. Finally he rose into the sky. The tribesman found hope that in this world they had the same glorious future from a similar desperate situation. When the tribesman encountered Jesus, his whole life changed. He connected his suffering with that of the suffering Savior. No longer was he depressed and upset from being victimized by the evil of the world, he now had the hope that God provides through Jesus. The Apostle Paul, the Mende tribesman, and our encounter with Jesus are each unique to all of us. However, there are some aspects that are the same. For each of us it is a matter of awakening and revelation and our encounter with the post resurrected Jesus provides us with a life changing experience that is much better than anything else that life has to offer.

George