

BERKSHIRE COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

BULLETIN

10/08/2023



If you won't go with me to heaven, I won't go with you to hell

"O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled. My soul also is greatly troubled...Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping. The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer. All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled; they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment (Psalm 6:1-10). We do not know the occasion of David's languishing, but he certainly believed that he was under God's rebuke. God's discipline was not for the sake of wrath but rather an act of great love. Heb. 12:5-7 has this to say about God's punishment, "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?"

God also disciplines us because we are His children, and He loves us. It gives Him no pleasure, but it is necessary to get our attention and redirect us. Like David, we sometimes lament, blaming others and maybe even God Himself for our situation, when instead we should be looking inward. Just like an addict must first admit their addiction before healing can occur, we too must utter those words for ours to begin. We must realize why we are in the "pickle" we are in, and if we are to blame, it is our responsibility to correct it. Sometimes it takes physical and spiritual trials to make us come to our senses.

Then, when we arrive at that place, we need to utter the words, "Depart from me, you workers of evil," and banish those sins (or people) from our lives. It may be challenging, but we have to decide what's more important – those earthly friends and sin or God.

PTO...

James 4:4 states, *“You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”*

Choose your friends carefully, because it has everlasting consequences. Be like the boxer in Halifax, England, as told by Edwin Orr at the turn of the century. He was a champion and wanted to convert to Christianity, but his friends ridiculed him. They told him he would have to choose Christ or the championship belt. This was his reply, “I’ll both give it up and you up! If you won’t go with me to heaven, I won’t go with you to hell!”

The choice should be a simple one. Realize your mistakes, cast away your bad friendships and sin, repent, and be reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, His Son. It is worth it in the long run.

<u>AM ORDER OF WORSHIP</u>	<u>PM ORDER OF WORSHIP</u>
<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> - Cleve Stafford	<u>ANNOUNCEMENT</u> - Cleve Stafford
<u>SONG</u> - 682 - To God Be the Glory	<u>SONG</u> - 714 - Trust and Obey 1,3,5
<u>PRAYER</u> - Benjamin Twumasi	<u>PRAYER</u> - Douglas Roy
<u>SONG</u> - 667 - There is Power in the Blood 1,2,4	<u>SONG</u> - 717 - Victory in Jesus
<u>COMMUNION</u> - Mark 14:22-25 Douglas Roy	<u>SERMON</u> - “The Church That Lost It’s First Love”
<u>SONG</u> - 684 - This World Is Not My Home	<u>SONG</u> - 730 - What a Friend We Have in Jesus
<u>SERMON</u> - “Choosing Grace over Retaliation”	<u>COMMUNION</u> - Douglas Roy
<u>INV SONG</u> - 694 - To Canaan’s Land I’m on My Way 1,3,5	<u>INV SONG</u> - 732 - We Praise Thee, O God 1,3,5
<u>CLOSING PRAYER</u> - Emmanuel Twumasi	<u>CLOSING PRAYER</u> - Jeffery Tarmey



ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS



Please silence your phone by placing it in airport mode.

We ask all visitors to please pick up a visitors card and fill it in.

- Bulletins are on the fireplace table and sermon notes are inside when available.
- Please put your offering in the provided envelope (don't write anything on it)..
- If you look on the back of the visitors card you will see space to right a prayer request if you have one - feel free to do that and hand it in to us so we can pray about it.
- Our next Potluck Luncheon will be on 22 October following morning service, invite a friend and bring a dish to share (serving 12 people).
- No Movie night this month.



PRAYER REQUESTS



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- Melinda's mom Isabel du Toit is going for a MRI on monday to see how the cancer has responded to the chemo.
- Prayers for all our service people wherever in the world they have been deployed to.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

- Praise God for our sponsors.
- Praise God for the privilege to worship in safety
- Praise God for the measure of health and wealth we enjoy

BIRTHDAYS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

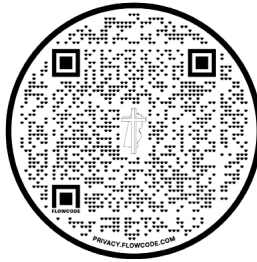


1 October - Nancy Demers

Sunday morning Bible Class - 9:00AM
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 7:00PM
 Personal Bible Study (Convenient time)



Web Page



WiFi



Facebook

Word Search



Word List

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| ALTAR | AVENGE | CLOAK | ENEMIES |
| EVIL | EYE | FOOT | GIFT |
| GOOD | GRUDGE | LOVE | LUKE |
| MILE | PERSECUTE | PROSPER | RETALIATION |
| TOOTH | TUNIC | VENGEANCE | WRATH |