# Announcements and Church News Our Stelz Activities

<u>Wayne Bishop</u> for Bell's Palsy; <u>Winston</u> <u>Sandlin</u> In hospital; <u>Dick Harris</u>-In Harbourwood Rehab; <u>Lori Williams</u>-eye surgery; <u>David</u> <u>Jones</u>- shoulder injury; <u>Sandy Caldwell</u>-/pain; <u>Teresa Broyles, Alison Harris</u> and <u>Vicky Lube</u>cancer trmt; <u>Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Fran</u> <u>Barclay, Nancy VanWinkle</u>, health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Samantha Jones brother. Eddie/rehab and son Joshua; Carol Mitchell- tumor on liver; The Stewart's-brother-in-law Russell Holt/ injuries; Clifton Reynold's son Bryce; Susan Villoch's dad James/heart issue; The Stewart's neighbors Rich & Betty Folger/health issues; The Kozola's son Tim; Carol Untied's-dad, Tony recent bypass surgery; daughter Kayla/diverticulitis and Uncle David/health issues; Sam Yorkrecent surgery; David Sain's-wife Phyllis; Yllka Bejo's-mother; The Bernhardt's-relative Rustin Osburn: Van Stewart's -aunt, Linda Par-Dianne Stewart's-brother, Bobby sons: Goodfield; The Stingles-niece's baby; Paula Davis'-niece/ lupus; Darrell Broking/health issues;

### **PRAYERS FOR CANCER:**

<u>John Benson's</u>-grand nephew Nick Clinkscale; <u>Ranny Reeves</u> neighbor, Linda Wall; <u>Linda</u> <u>Hadsock's</u> niece, June McCray; <u>Carol Untied's</u> stepmother Emily; <u>Debbie Methvin's</u>-coworkers father Vasilos and Michele Fuguero; <u>Deb Adams</u> friends son, Jason; <u>Van Stewart's</u> sister Tracey and cousin Paula; <u>Ronnie Sommerville's</u> dad, Ron; <u>Mattie Simmons</u> friend William; <u>Sandy Caldwell's</u> bro-in-law Larry; <u>Kay Jessup's</u> friend, Lou Fiores and wife Rose **INMATES:** Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

**OUR SERVICE MEN:** <u>Sam Wagner</u> and cousin <u>Mark Wagner</u> (Navy) <u>Austin Reyes</u> (Marine) <u>Matthew Holleran</u> (Army)

**OUR SHUT-IN AT HOME:** Winston Sandlin

**NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS**— Will meet on Friday, September 2nd at 1:00pm in the small building.

**YOUTH SEMINAR**—At the South Florida Ave. church of Christ in Lakeland from September 16th to 18th with guest speaker Joe Wells. For more information flyers are in the foyer.

<u>LADIES DAY</u>—At the Orange Street Church of Christ in Auburndale, FL on September 24th. The title is <u>Rise Up and Build</u> with guest speaker Lauren Bynuw. For more information please pick up a flyer in the foyer.

<u>SYMPATHY</u>— Our deepest sympathy is extended to past members <u>Vincent and Carol Mitchell</u>. Carol's mother, Mary passed away last week. Remember the Mitchell family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their dear loved one.

## **Bits of Wisdom**

The person who bows humbly before God is sure to walk uprightly before men. Keep your head and your heart going in the right direction and you'll not have to worry about your feet.

**<u>REMINDER</u>**—Weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and livestream on Facebook and YouTube Sundays at 10:30 & 5:00pm and Wednesdays at 7:00pm. If you need the Bulletin, Christian Service List, Calendar or Directory call the office at (727) 446-4808.

Those Serving TodayAnnouncements—Joe BonelliSong Leaders—James George/Matt PryorOpening Prayer—Van Stewart/James GeorgeLord's Table—Mark BernhardtClosing Prayer—Bob Hadsock/Kerry WygalBITGHCLAYSTMISWQQK

Teresa Broyles—August 21st Linda Hadsock—August 21st Katie Richmond—August 25th



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on Facebook Live and

YouTube Live!

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#### From the Preacher's Pen

# THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

### Keith Mosher Sr.

As I write this article, the news media are reporting that a young man with a gun had killed 16 school children and two adults in a school in Texas. The killer was shot dead by police in order to stop the carnage. And the left is

yelling for gun control as the problem, when in fact, the true doctrine about God and creation that is not allowed to be taught in public schools in too many communities, if not all, is the real problem. The heart of the problem of evil is the problem of the heart. A majority of American citizens have lost sight of the fact that we are all made in the image of God and that we are valuable in His sight and are accountable to Him (cf. Gen. 1:26-27). As a result, the majority of Americans are without God and without hope in a nation that was originally founded on biblical principles. The gun is not the problem, but the mind of the one holding it is. He was taught that he is no more than the accidental combination of chemicals that by chance evolved from a one-celled "thing," and this process, supposedly, took billions of years. Yet when he acts as taught that he is a mere animal, those who believe in such nonsense act shocked as to the cause! No, the lack of God and His love in the life of the killer is always the reason (Eph. 2:12).

The world before Christ was lost in sin and fell short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23), and look at all of the killings then! The whole world lay in wickedness when John wrote and still does (1 John 5:19). The world of turmoil needs peace from God and ignores such an offer (James 4:1-4). [Even within the church, there are discord in marriages, relationships, and hearts.] Paul had the answer to it all when he wrote of Jesus our hope (1 Tim. 1:1). The only way out of wickedness is through the Christ (John 14:6), and only He can change a bad heart into a good one (John 8:12-24; Mat. 11:28-30).

The Old Testament prophets were inspired by the Holy Spirit to foretell that the Messiah was the only hope the world would ever have in order to climb out of the slime of sin (Gen. 3:15). Only the virgin conception would crush the power of Satan, and Messiah would come through the seed-line of Abraham, a non-Jew (Gen. 12:1-3), and Jacob, the "father" of the twelve tribes of Judaism (Gen. 49:10). Moreover, Moses pictured Messiah as a prophet and Jew (Deut. 18:18), and the great Messianic prophet, Isaiah, wrote of His church (2:2-4); saw Him in His pre-existence as the Second Person of the Godhead (6:1-11); knew He would be born as a Son to the Godhead (9:6); postulated His coming out of Judah (11:1-2), and wrote specifically about His suffering (53:1-12). Such explicit and ancient evidence should convince a thinking individual that Christ is the only hope.

Yet, heaven's angels spoke of Him as the Savior of the world (Mat. 1:18-23), and announced His birth to shepherds as recognition of peace to all men (Luke 2:1-15), and told Mary she would be the one to give birth (Luke 1:35). Whom heaven know was the only hope of this world?

Jesus said that He came so that the world would have abundant life, even though the earth's population, then and now, was/is lost (John 10:10; Luke 19:10). He was wounded for our sins because we had all gone astray (Isa. 53:5-6). Yet, he knew why He came here to this hopeless hemisphere, and He came anyway, to bring hope to the hopeless (John 18:37).

He has left His followers an example to follow in reaching this lost world (1 Pet. 2:21). Perhaps we can reach a young man before becoming so hopeless that he devalues human life, even his own. Is it not the case that Jesus taught us to teach the world (Mat. 28:18-20). He is hope. He is our hope. He is the world's only hope (1 John 2:2). His death, burial, and resurrection give us hope (Rom. 1:4). The hopeless can have a "living hope" in Him and at death have great comfort because they died in faith, not in a hail of bullets (1 The. 4:13-18; Rev. 14:13).

He is King of kings; He reigns supreme, and those who obey Him are the only hopeful persons on this entire planet. Do not be shocked when the world shoots each other when it is without God and without hope.

# WHY DON'T I READ MY BIBLE?

# by Bill Jackson

Some time back, we began the procedure that once was a "standard" thing in most congregations: counting the number of daily Bible readers. It is one of the matters fixed firmly in my mind from childhood, as then a good brother, after the classes, would give announcement regarding the attendance and the number of daily Bible readers. More than anything else, I was impressed with the fact that spiritual men thought the matter most important, and the best people I knew – members of the body – were participating in the daily reading.

As we take that into account, it is still alarming to see the number of saints who do not read the Word daily. They do not read that which is given to the sustaining and nourishing of their souls! (1 Peter 2:2; Matthew 4:4). And, we wonder why. It certainly is not due to illness and/or bereavement, for many certainly turn to the Bible during those times. It is not that too much work has been done in other spiritual matters, is it? Let's face it, folks. I do not read my Bible because I value the world, its things, its connections, its activities, etc. as being more important! For shame!

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# "Он, No! Not A 1931 Ban!"

# David Sproule

There is a battle going on right now in the courts over one state's 1931 ban on abortion. Can't you hear the arguments in your imagination? "Oh, c'mon! That is ancient history! We've grown as a nation since then! We are so much more advanced now! We've got move on beyond our foolish, closed-minded past!" Is a 90-year-old ban on abortion all that naïve?

What about a 2,000-year-old ban? Jesus banned abortion in the New Testament (Mark 7:21; 10:19; Rom. 1:29; Gal. 5:21; 1 Pet. 4:15). What about a 3,500-year-old ban? God banned abortion in the Old Testament (Ex. 20:13; Deut. 5:17; Prov. 6:16-17). "If men...hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely...if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life" (Ex. 21:22-23). What about a 6,000-plus-year-old ban on abortion? Murder has been prohibited from the beginning, with the "blood" of those who are killed "crying out to God" (Gen. 4:8-10).

Whatever a state or nation or individual decides about abortion, God has already ruled on it!