

# Announcements and Church News

## Our Sick

Lydia MacClain & Penny Bevaqua—out sick; Kelly Sarver— injured her foot; Marta Core— completed radiation trmths; John Benson— recovering from hip replacement surgery; Tim Miller—doing better; Shirley Lydic—able to be out; Delia Schlachter back issues; Teresa Broyles cancer treatment; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

### PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Charles Broyles— mother Joyce for mild stroke; Jackie Clark's—daughter Faith—recently in the hospital; Bill Ingram— recent MRI; Les Vasterling's—brother James/rehab; Lexi Cahill's— mom Kelly/chemo trmt; Molly Burgess's—daughter, Carrie/kidney transplant; Dottie Curls— son Douglas/serious health issues; Jackie Clark's mother Dorothy and grandmother Gayle/health issues; Patrick Pinto's—sister Angelina & nephew Joshua for prayers; Lexi Cahill's—grandfather/lung cancer & prayers for brother Jacob; Paula Davis— friend Tracey; Carol Mitchell— tumor on liver; The Stewart's—bro-in-law Russell Holt; The Kozola's son Tim; David Sain's—wife Phyllis; Van Stewart's— aunt, Linda Parsons; Dianne Stewart's—brother, Bobby Goodfield; The Stingles'—niece's baby; Paula Davis'—niece/lupus; Darrell Broking—health issues.

### PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Deb Methvin's—cousin Melissa Clark; Charlotte Bytheway's cousin Janet Chaney; Tim Martin of Pinellas Park church of Christ; Dyianna Thompson's brother-in-law, Rodney; Ranny Reeves neighbor, Linda Wall; Linda Hadsock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Mattie Simmons brother Joe Hooks and friend William; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friends, Pete Pepjess and Marie Woleck.

**INMATES:** Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

**OUR SERVICE MEN:** Austin Reyes (Marine) Matthew Holleran (Army)

**SHUT INS:** Wayne Bishop (Coral Oaks), Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley and Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

## Activities

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS**— This Friday, December 1st at 1:00pm in the small building. All ladies are invited.

**NEXT MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS**—Thursday, December 14th at 7:00pm in the small building.

**HOLIDAY DINNER**— Mark your calendars for our Holiday Fellowship Dinner on Saturday, December 16th at 5:00pm.

**NEW ADDRESS**— Kimberly Crosby has recently moved to: 10302 Blossom Lake Dr., Seminole FL 33772-7409. Please add her new address to your directory.

**BAPTIZED**— We rejoice with the angels in heaven as Yvelise (Eve) Chandler was baptized on Saturday, November 18th. Eve is the niece of Rob and Delia Schlachter and has been attending services here with her son Zai. Please add Eve's information to your directory: 1612 Dartmouth St, Clearwater, FL 33755-6401; Phone:(727) 278-0968.

*Christ is the way; our Bibles, the roadmap;  
heaven, our destiny!*

### THOSE SERVING TODAY

*Greeters— Joe/Mary Bonelli  
Announcements—Joe Bonelli  
Song Leaders—James George/Joe Bonelli  
Scripture Readers—Randall Deily/David Jones  
Opening Prayer—Mark Bernhardt/Rob Schlachter  
Lord's Table—Van Stewart  
Closing Prayer—Bob Hadsock/John Core*

## Birthdays This Week

*Deborah Adams—November 27th  
Sandy Caldwell—November 28th  
Van Stewart—December 2nd*

## Anniversaries This Week

*Charles and Dottie Curls—December 1st*

**CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Office: (727) 446-4808  
1454 Belleair Rd. Clearwater, FL 33756-2357

November 26, 2023  
centralcofchrist@gmail.com  
www.centralcofchrist.com



Gospel Broadcasting Network

http://gbntv.org YouTube

https://spiritualsword.org/



SEARCH  
OF THE LORD'S WAY

TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday YouTube watch & hear Phil Sanders



YouTube (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey



fsop.net



soaringforsouls.com



Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL  
www.childhaven.com



Fairhavenchildrenshome.com www.christiancourier.com

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking  
Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance  
South Anchorage Church of Christ—Michael Dale  
Czech Republic Missions — Tony/Heidi Orellana

### Elders:

Joe Bonelli Charles Broyles  
James George

### Deacons:

Max Herman  
Van Stewart

**Preacher: Charles Broyles**

Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

**Sunday Bible Class—9:30AM**

*Charles Broyles*

**Book of Revelation-Chapter 4**

**Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM**

*Charles Broyles*

**Brotherly Love**

*1 Peter 1:22-23*

**Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM**

*Charles Broyles*

**Whispering Hope**

*Ephesians 2:12-13*

**Men's Bible Study—Thursday**

**December 14th at 7:00PM**

**Ladies Bible Study—Friday**

**December 1st at 1:00PM**

**Wednesday Bible Study—7:00PM**

*Charles Broyles*

**The Problem of Sin**

All services are available!

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**From the Preacher's Pen**

**“WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH REGARDING GUARDIAN ANGELS?”**

Most scholars believe that the doctrine is plainly and indisputably taught therein. Jesus said, “See that ye despise not one of these little ones: for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven.” (Matt. 18:10.) The writer of Hebrews informs us that angels are “ministering spirits, sent forth to do service for the sake of them that shall inherit salvation,” (Heb. 1:13), and David declared that “the angel of Jehovah encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.” (Psalm 34:7.) Acts 12:15 and 27:23, are also often cited in support of the view that each disciple has an angel assigned to him for guidance, protection and encouragement. Practically all denominational writers defend the doctrine of “Guardian angels;” and various brethren among us (though by no means all), endorse the view. B. W. Johnson says that “the doctrine of guardian angels is emphatically taught in the scriptures,” and J. W. McGarvey wrote that the phrase, “their angels,” in Matt. 18:10, refers to “the angels especially charged with ministering to them individually.” A current writer has asserted that “the New Testament teaching of angels, and particularly the providential care which they exercise over individuals, is too plain to be disputed by informed Bible students.”

In spite of these strong affirmations by great and good men, I can only state that, in my view, the premises do not fully support the conclusions they have drawn and that the doctrine is beset by much difficulty. (1) Neither in the foregoing passages, nor elsewhere in the scriptures, is it said that each person has a guardian angel. (2) Neither here, nor elsewhere is it affirmed that there is actually present with each disciple an angel; “their angels,” are said to be “in heaven,” where they “always behold the face of” the Father. Inasmuch as angels serve in the administration of God’s plan to save (Heb. 1:13), “their angels” belong to all who inherit salvation.

Angels were indeed actually engaged in influencing people in ancient times, but it must be remembered that these were miraculous actions performed in lieu of the inspired written record which we today have. An angel appeared to Philip in Samaria, and to Cornelius in Caesarea, but these were instances of a type not today possible. (Acts 8:4, 26; 10:3.) Undoubtedly, in the operation of God’s marvelous plan to save, angels are participants, but this is far, very far, from saying that they direct, control, and overshadow their earthly wards as the doctrine demands. When Peter was miraculously released from prison, and appeared at the gate of the house where the saints were assembled, the report of Rhoda of the apostle’s presence there, was assumed by them to be “his angel.” (Acts 12:15.) But, all this can possibly mean is that they concluded Peter had been killed by Herod and that it was his spirit which had come. There is nothing here to support the doctrine of Guardian angels; indeed, the implication is quite the reverse, inasmuch as the conclusion which the disciples drew was that Peter had been killed.

The doctrine, in my view, involves difficulties which cannot be resolved either in scripture or by experience.

(1) It cannot be reconciled with the clear, explicit teaching of the scriptures regarding the free agency of man. Those who subscribe to the doctrine believe that the angel exercises watchful care and divine protection. Protection from what? Illness, injury, violent death? Many of the Lord’s finest people today languish on beds of affliction, their every wakeful hour in agony. Where is the “guardian angel” during these interminable days of pain and lonely sleepless nights? Not infrequently, Christian people, perhaps at the moment on a trip motivated by the desire to be engaged in service to God, die violently in automobile accidents. How can the theory be harmonized with these recurring and all too common tragedies involving the best of Christians? A theory in conflict with known and demonstrable facts cannot be true.

(2) Matt. 18:10, positions the presence of “their angels,” before the face of the Father in heaven—not here on earth. Many scholars believe, and I think correctly, that this is a figurative statement alluding to the Oriental view that those who are deserving of high honors and great favors are most often permitted in the king’s presence. The plural form (their angels) is suggestive of all angels who serve for all the saints in God’s great plan—not, that each has a separate angel. Taught metaphorically then is the fact that faithful saints, even the most obscure of them on earth, are honored and highly regarded before the throne of God.

(3) The doctrine of the “guardian angels,” as popularly believed, involves many of the same errors as the current theory of direct, independent operation of the Holy Spirit, apart from the Word—the New Testament. It necessitates the conclusion that there is immediate, personal direction by the angel on his ward. How is this accomplished? By means of the implantation of thoughts in the heart? How can the recipient of such alleged suggestions determine whether they originate with the angel or are prompted by other influences? By the Bible? If so, why may not the Bible be appealed to always and everywhere for such direction, since it is the monitor by which the “leading” of the angel is determined? What possible suggestion could the angel make contributory to the well-being of the disciple which is not already set out in the scriptures? Is the angel’s direction irresistible or dependent on the will of the disciple? If the former, is the disciple responsible for his failure to follow the angel’s leading? There are many formidable difficulties associated with the doctrine of “guardian angels.” We ought to be very cautious about accepting a view which conflicts with both reason and revelation.

—Guy N. Woods, Questions and Answers- Open Forum, 1976, pp. 263-265.

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