



APRIL 8, 2019

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Lenten Lunches are every Wednesday at Noon through April 17th.

The Leadership Table will meet April 16th at 6:30 am.

Duncan High School Student Lunch will be April 17th at 11:15 am.

UMW will meet April 25th at 6 pm.

The Fellowship Meal will be April 28th at Noon.

This is the last week to order dressed Easter Lilies in honor or memory of a loved one. The Lilies are \$35 each. They will be available to take home after Easter Service on April 21st. If interested, please contact the office.



Palm Sunday Service –
April 14th @ 11:00 am
Lenten Lunch –
April 17th @ Noon
Maundy Thursday Service –
April 18th @ 6:30 pm
Good Friday Service –
April 19th @ 6:30 pm
Holy Saturday Service –
April 20th @ 10:00 am
Easter Sunday Service –
April 21st @ 11:00 am



APRIL –
1 – Dwight Freese
1 – Sue Pray
12 – Terri Gibson
15 – Denise Tinney-Clark
16 – Mary Jo Randolph
20 – Donna Frye
24 – Michelle Rue
27 – Tierney Rue Hodges
28 – Lauren Frye Merritt



2 – David and Jana Gardner

Hailey Henry's Baptism

Visitors

Lenten Luncheons



Pastor David Gardner

Our text this week talks about a time for everything. The following piece is about someone going through a REALLY tough time. Erick Erickson writes for www.townhall.com:

“For the last three weeks, my wife battled pneumonia. She finally got over that only to wind up in an urgent care facility this past Saturday. A weakened immune system had left her vulnerable. The urgent care doctor called up an ambulance and sent her to an emergency room to be admitted to the hospital.

The emergency room doctor not only did not admit her but sent her home with medicine for a migraine and without antibiotics for the infection she had. On Sunday, I had to call the urgent care facility. They were shocked she was not in the hospital and angry she had no antibiotics. On Monday, we spent all day in a different emergency room and, ultimately, got discharged because there was no doctor available to do a procedure. On Tuesday morning, we got up and went to a different hospital, where there was a doctor who could do the procedure.

I find myself at times like this wondering if God has forgotten about me. Most of me knows he has not. But it is after midnight, and I have been in a hospital all day watching misery all around me. I have had nothing but coffee all day, so I am hangry, and I understand that a lot of people see the misery and conclude there must not be a God.

The mental exhaustion of a day like today lets the worries flow freely, and my personal motto is ‘Why pray when I can worry?’ Having children to tend to, a wife to tend to and a job to do at the same time makes it all overwhelming. I turn on the Christian radio station, and some upbeat song is singing ‘my fear cannot stand when I stand in the presence of the Lord’ or something like that. All it does is make me feel guilty because I am worried for my wife and fearful for the future, so I guess I am not in the presence of the Lord. Thanks, upbeat Christian song!

If I were to write a Christian song right now, the lyrics would be something like this: ‘Here we are again, God. I keep asking for something else to worry about instead of this, and time and time again, here we are. Are you even listening? Are you even real? Because this kinda sucks right now, and I really could use a break.’ No, it doesn't rhyme, but it rather captures the moment. Life does not always stay in upbeat contemporary Christian music mode.

Times like this are when doctrine matters and shallow faith either gives way or grows deep. Theology eventually meets reality, and people are left to wonder where God is and why we cannot get a break. If we think outside the hangry frame of mind, we do get a real answer. God is there the whole time. He got no break on the cross; we do not get a break from life. Sometimes, we have to get on our knees and force ourselves to pray just to force ourselves through our own moments of doubt and unbelief. It is the natural path of the sinner.

In the quiet moments, we may see the smile of the elderly lady as her husband touches her hand. We may see the nurse doing more than is expected just to provide someone comfort. We may see the woman offering prayer for the stranger she just met. And in all these things, we see the face of God. He may not stop the waves from crashing over us any more than he prevented Christ from dying on a cross. But he keeps us standing firm or picks us back up when we tip over. Belief is no easy thing in a world that drowns out God. Just because we are stressed, overwhelmed or frazzled does not mean He is not there.”

Here is Isaiah 54:7-10, and an explanation from The Voice:

Eternal One: *Yes, I was angry* for a moment, and I rejected you,
but My love endures, and I want you back.

For that moment, when I was so mad,
I made it impossible for you to see Me, to find Me,
But with great tenderness, I will take you back in love.

I think this is like the time when Noah lived.
I promised that I would never again destroy the world by a flood.
So now I am promising never again to be so angry
and punishing as I was when I sent you away.

Even if the mountains heave up *from their anchors*,
and the hills *quiver and* shake, I will not desert you.
You can rely on My enduring love;
My covenant of peace will stand forever.

So says the Eternal One, whose love won't give up on you.

This promise stands to God's covenant people: nothing can happen to them unless God wills it and makes it so. Only if they invite it will destruction come. Throughout this time of rebellion and punishment God makes it clear that they hold their fate in their own hands. And if they haven't understood the message, God tells them who will do the nation-building—an unworldly restoration. He says that He provides the raw materials; He creates the tools and provides the skills with which the builders build. He alone is responsible for restoring the nation. And no matter what charges the adversary may concoct, God will not be put off. Even though Israel rebelled and was unfaithful at one time, that is in the past. The future is sure: God's faithfulness to His covenant, His enduring love for His people, will stand for all time. So, the challenge goes out from the prophet to God's people—speaking on God's authority—to align themselves with God, accept Him as God, and they will surely win.

God, we are not a people in exile, but sometimes we can feel cut off from You. Even in the silent, dark and dry places, we still need to praise You. If all of our faith walks were beds of roses, we might consider Your extraordinary Free grace - as cheap. We never want to take for granted what Jesus did on the cross. Amen



Jo Ann Pierce – Recovering from Knee Surgery
Pat Weber – Recovering from Foot Surgery
Marian Chessmore’s sister with Heart issues
Peggy Harper – on Hospice
Della Henry – Heart Surgery
Kathy Allred – Continued prayers for healing and to be healthy
Thomas Bradberry
Trish Lister – Continued prayers for her and her family
Carla Johnson – Shoulder still hurting
Family and Friends of Oleta Little
Allred’s – Travel Mercies
Family and Friends of Cookie McCullough
Marcia Haskins – On going foot sores
Rebecca (Victor Morton’s girlfriend)– Broken Wrist
Noel Clark
John Stuever – Recovering from Shoulder Surgery
Ross Pipkin – AF technical training
Dorrie Pipkin – Strength and Confidence
Drew Cole - Cancer
Junior Brown - Cancer
Connie Green – Cancer
Courtney – Continued prayers for the Allred’s 11 yr. old grandchild with neurological issues.
Stacy Mettler – Cancer
Ann Johnson – Continued prayers for healing on her hip
Addie McMurrin
Jason Poorman – (Edith Suiters nephew) Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma
Karen Gibson – Cancer
Gary Gibson – Cancer
Jan Smith – Cancer
Iva Johnson – Hospice
Rebecca’s cousin has eating disorder, liver failure and on transplant list
Kathy Bridges – Cancer
Joe Perry – Kidney cancer
Margaret Averre – Throat cancer
Daniel Whittney – Cancer
Jennifer Allred – Spinal pain and fibromyalgia
Melinda Douglas – Lung Cancer



It is time to start thinking about Lilies for the Easter celebration. If you wish to give a Lily in honor or memory of someone special in your life, please use this form to do so. The cost of each dressed plant will be \$35.00. The Lilies will be in place for Worship on Easter Sunday, April 21st and you may take your plant after the Service.

Number of plants: _____

ORDERED BY: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

Please attach payment and put in offering plate or return to church office.