

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

We didn't start the fire...

A song made popular by pop artist Billy Joel in 1989 touts, “*We didn't start the fire. It was always burning since the world's been turning. We didn't start the fire, no, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it.*” The lunacy which exists in our world today is blamed on a variety of things: the latest presidential exchange, economic unrest, political upheaval, societal injustices, and abuses of substances, policies and aid programs. So many seem to have a finger pointed at something. Somebody; someone has to be blamed for all the craziness. Far too often we wrap ourselves up in the kingdom of this world and lose sight of the Kingdom of God. Dallas Willard asks a poignant question: “*why did early believers believe what they did? Was it because they HAD to? Was it because if they didn't they would be doing something wrong or bad? NO! They concluded that they would have been fools to disregard it! THAT was the basis of their conversion.*” While it's true that our world is in utter confusion, to blame that confusion on one person is absurd. Through the media, the “fire” of fear is spread by biased journalist who douse our minds with bizarre quotes which lead to societal unrest and concern. It's in times like these that we must remember who we are and WHOSE we are! Our life as God's people doesn't consist of us immersing ourselves in the kingdom of this world. This is Satan's domain! Our life as God's people should consist of us allowing the light of Christ to burn in us brightly. If you see our current political administration as those who are out to destroy the lives of innocent American citizens, go back to when David was King of Israel. Because of his lust, lies and corruption, Israel went through intense political unrest. When Judah was exiled to Babylon or Israel to Assyria did it change the fact that they were God's people called to do God's bidding? No! It's far easier to point a finger than it is to look in a mirror. Why are things unfolding as they are? Could it be that our Loving God doesn't want us to have attachments to this world as much as we do?

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!
Kevin

Prayer Requests

- ♥Alice "Loretta" Boyce (Tanya Robes grandmother) is showing some signs of improvement. After a bad fall she was unconscious for a while and incurred some serious trauma. The family is hoping to move her to a nursing facility in the near future.
- ♥Harold Phillips is in need of our prayers.
- ♥Joan Lough continues to suffer with dementia and sundowners. Please pray for Joan, and her daughters and sons as they care for her.
- ♥Please lift up Sharon Little in your prayers as she goes through her cancer treatments
- ♥Pam Jackson began her cancer treatments and things are progressing well. Pray for her, Tim and their children as she moves toward remission.
- ♥Brendon Crites and Kaylee Lanning (grandchildren of Tommy & Karen Tucker) are suffering with serious health issues and are in need of our prayers. Also keep Kaylee 's daddy, Jeremy Lanning in your prayers as his health continues to decline.
- ♥Paula Huber (Lindas first cousins wife) had surgery for thyroid cancer. She has to have another surgery because the doctor didn't remove her infected lymph nodes because he had severed a vocal chord during the first surgery and had to be repaired.
- ♥Noah Miller, son-in-law of Robert Tonkery, had surgery recently to remove his other foot due to complications from diabetes. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues to struggle with health issues.

News & Notes

MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers) will meet on Wednesday, February 8th at 9:00 AM. If you are interested, please see JoAnna Kirk.

Valentine Dinner – There will be a Valentine Dinner on Friday, February 10th at 6:30 PM in the Lower Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. Please see Phil Dotson for more information.

Elders, Deacons, Preachers & Ministry Leaders Meeting – This meeting will be held on Sunday, February 12th at 4:00 PM.

Marriage Retreat – February 24th and 25th. For more info, please see Kevin or Mary Lough.

Save the Date...Our Spring Friend and Family Day will be on Sunday, April 30th. Please mark your calendars!