

Giving Ourselves First to the Lord

Christ gave Himself up for us, and so, we live this life in our flesh by faith in the Son of God (Eph. 5:1); Gal. 2:20) to the service and blessing of one another. As husbands, we give ourselves up for our wives (Eph. 5:25). As fathers, we give ourselves to the nurturing and admonishing of our children in the Lord (Eph. 6: 4). As wives we give ourselves up for our husbands (Col. 3:18). As mothers and grandmothers we give ourselves up for our children (Prov. 31:28; 2 Tim. 1:5). Finally, as Christians, we give ourselves to the service of one another for the sake of Jesus and His purpose in us.

We look and long for ways to give ourselves in service to others. We want their hearts and minds to be blessed by our service to them. We want the world to see our deeds of service, so that they may be able to praise our Father in heaven (Matt. 5:16). However, there are times when we either do not have or are not prepared for the opportunity to serve. We do our best service, teaching, and giving when we follow the example of the Macedonian churches, who gave themselves first to the Lord and then to others in keeping with God's will (2 Cor. 8:5). Giving themselves first to the Lord enabled them to do even beyond what they had the ability to do (2 Cor. 8:3). Giving themselves first to the Lord they were blessed with, eager for, and successful with the opportunity to give of themselves for others. We give of ourselves first to the Lord to prepare our hearts and minds for service to others (Ezra 7:10 KJV), so it glorifies Him, not us.

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Please continue to keep all that have been affected by the recent flooding in your prayers.

Happy Fourth of July!

News and Notes

Church Camp - Barbour Church Camp is scheduled for July 17th through July 22nd. We are in dire need of folks who will be willing to help out in the kitchen. If you or someone you know is available to help, please see Kevin.

Blood Drive - Our annual Blood Drive will be July 25th from 1:00 PM - 6:30 PM in the Upper Fellowship Hall. See Kevin for more details. There is a sign up sheet on the back table.

Ladies Brunch - There will be a Ladies Breakfast Brunch on Saturday, July 23rd at 10:00 AM in the lower fellowship hall. Please bring your favorite breakfast dish and join the fun and fellowship! All ladies are welcome!! Questions, see Marsha Sparks or Dianne Tonkery.

Save the Date

Friday Night Sing - Whitehall will be hosting the Friday Night Sing on Friday, August 26th from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Prayer Requests

- ♥Edith Gull has requested prayers for Dorothy Fortney, who had surgery this past Wednesday for cancer.
- ♥Kaylyn Lipscomb could certainly use some encouragement. Remember her, her mother (Susan) and the entire Lipscomb family in prayer and cards.
- ♥Pray for Jeremy Lanning (Tommy & Karen Tucker's son-in-law) as he struggles with Celiac disease.
- ♥Continue to pray for Darrell Freeman as he has suffered a series of mini strokes. Pray also for Doris as she needs strength to care for him.
- ♥Buck Osborne had cataract surgery this past week.
- ♥Jensen Smallwood, Kyle Smallwood's newborn son, is doing better and should get to go home soon.
- ♥Hazel Mock, Jean Phillips' mother, is doing well after her recent stroke.

Thank You!

Thank you to all that took time out of their busy schedules to go and help with clean up in the flooded areas this past week. Thank you to each and every one of you that have helped in various ways. You are all greatly appreciated!