



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

August 2020

Dear Southwest Family,

Over the past couple of weeks, I have spent some much-needed time reflecting on and praying about something that recently happened. I feel at liberty to share the generalities of what happened, because I was not informed of the identities of those involved. Nevertheless, I recently shared my personal feelings of annoyance about wearing masks using tongue-in-cheek language, followed by biblical reasons why I would submit to wearing one, and keep with our state mandate. I admit that I was opinionated and the forum in which I shared my thoughts may have been inappropriate, and because the issue has become so impassioned and divisive, I was interpreted as being insensitive and uncaring.

Beloved, I hope you know I never intended to be insensitive and uncaring, and for those I offended, I apologize. However, after spending time reflecting on the attitude of my own heart, what I'm truly repentant of is the attitude that festered in my heart. In the moment, I could not comprehend how I could be misinterpreted. I was frustrated that I had been mischaracterized, and more than that, I was offended that my opinion was being invalidated.

"In 1882, a New York City businessman named Joseph Richardson owned a narrow strip of land on Lexington Ave. It was 5 feet wide and 104 feet long. Another businessman, Hyman Sarnar, owned a normal-sized lot adjacent to Richardson's skinny one. He wanted to build apartments that fronted the avenue. He offered Richardson \$1000 for the slender plot. Richardson was deeply offended by the amount and demanded \$5000. Sarnar refused, and Richardson called Sarnar a tightwad and slammed the door on him. Sarnar assumed the land would remain vacant and instructed the architect to design the apartment building with windows overlooking the avenue. When Richardson saw the finished building, he resolved to block the view. No one was going to enjoy a free view over his lot. So seventy-year-old Richardson built a house. Five feet wide and a hundred and four feet long and four stories high with two suites on each floor. Upon completion, he and his wife moved into one of the suites. Only one person at a time could ascend the stairs or pass through the hallway. The building was dubbed the 'Spite House.' Richardson spent the last fourteen years of his life in the narrow residence that seemed to fit his narrow state of mind."

Max Lucado shared that story in *The Lucado Encouraging Word Bible*. His conclusion is spot on: "The Spite House was torn down in 1915, which is odd. I distinctly remember spending a few nights there last year. And a few weeks there some weeks back. If memory serves, didn't I see you squeezing through the hallway?"

He did indeed. I was tempted to take up residence in the "Spite House". No wonder God commands his people to "*see to it that... no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many*" (Hebrews 12:15). This is a message the church desperately needs today. As the world rages about politics, racism and a pandemic, Christians are being caught up in the storm and divided. Hate and vitriol abound, hurtful words are being spoken and hateful attitudes are being calcified. As the Bride of Christ, we need to be reminded that all those who follow Christ desperately need to obey His command: "*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.*" For all the commands "*are summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'*" (Romans 12:8-9).

I challenge you to take some time and reflect on the attitude of your own heart. If you find yourself living in the "Spite House," looking for vengeance, unwilling to show mercy and succumbing to bitterness, heed the Word of the Lord, "*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*" (Colossians 3:13). Not only will you be so glad you did, but your relationships will be healed, the Church will be united, and Christ will be honored. I love you Church! And thank you for "bearing" with me!

Peace and Goodwill,
Nathan A. Robinson

Events & Information

Monthly Figures

In- Service Attendance:

June 28	75
July 5	58
July 12	60
July 19	55

The monthly figures include only those of our church family who have returned to corporate worship. These numbers do not include those who need to stay home due to their higher vulnerability of contracting COVID-19. For those of you who are watching online – we miss you and cannot wait for the opportunity to worship together! If we include those dozens of you who are faithfully worshipping with us remotely, our attendance is easily higher than ever before! And we praise God for that! Stay faithful Church!

Your continued financial support is also vital to our church body. Not only are we obligated to provide financially for our ministry staff, but also for our missionaries and benevolence ministry recipients. Prayerfully consider mailing your weekly offering to the church at the address provided at the end of this newsletter, dropping it off at the church's mailbox, or giving through our secure internet portal at <https://swccbarberton.com/giving>.

Thank you church family for your ongoing support of Southwest Church of Christ!

Weekly Need:

General: \$3,300

Weekly Need:

Missions: \$442

Church Directory: Updates are being made to our church directory and we need your help. Please check the main directory in the foyer for your information and verify that it is current. Any changes can be made directly on that paper copy, or you can call the office with any corrections or additions. Thank you!

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item: canned soup, ramen noodles

Soup Kitchen: Southwest members served our community on 3/5. Currently there is not a schedule for the month of August. Information in regards to the next opportunity to serve will be announced at a later date.

Rahab Ministries: Due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 concerns, instead of the donation of goods, please consider a financial donation instead. Checks may be sent to: Rahab Ministries, PO BOX 13866, Akron, OH 44334.

GROUP MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

“Senior Moment” Group Outing: The group will not be meeting for the month of August. Thank you for understanding.

Scrapbooking: The scrapbooking group has been cancelled for the month of August. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service, or by contacting the church office, to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.

Deacon's List:

Chair: Woody Wilson
Audio/Visual: Jared Friedrichsen
Secretary: Mike Bunn
Parsonage: Woody Wilson
Maintenance: Lynn Hounshel
Special Projects: TBD, Woody,
Lynn, and Phil Friedrichsen
Benevolence: Tony Storad
Church (Building): Lynn Hounshel



August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? Matthew 6:26-27</p>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

BIRTHDAYS:	
8/1	Missy Jenkin
8/2	Billi Cromer
8/5	Warren Hayes
8/7	Donna Raymond
8/8	Roger Durst
8/10	Betty Hayes
8/11	Regina Roy
8/13	Eddie Marie Friedrichsen
8/16	Dale Starcher
8/23	Linda Cucuz
8/26	Caroline Friedrichsen
8/26	Gene Ross
8/27	Bob Steele
8/31	Craig Easterday
8/31	William Robinson

ANNIVERSARIES:	
8/6	Bob & Heidi Klein
8/7	Warren & Betty Hayes
8/7	Gene & Cathy Ross
8/10	Mike & Debbie Bunn
8/11	Terry & Lynda Hoover
8/22	Gary & Sharon Weinsheimer

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to: kdbusch15@gmail.com, and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading *The HARVESTER*? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

"...say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."" Isaiah 35:4

The bible readings for the new year of 2020 are to focus on studying the bible in chronological order. As you read each day, meditate on God's words and His promises to us.

- AUG 1: 2 Kings 20-21
- AUG 2: 2 Chronicles 32-33
- AUG 3: Nahum 1-3
- AUG 4: 2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chron. 34-35
- AUG 5: Zephaniah 1-3
- AUG 6: Jeremiah 1-3
- AUG 7: Jeremiah 4-6
- AUG 8: Jeremiah 7-9
- AUG 9: Jeremiah 10-13
- AUG 10: Jeremiah 14-17

- AUG 11: Jeremiah 18-22
- AUG 12: Jeremiah 23-25
- AUG 13: Jeremiah 26-29
- AUG 14: Jeremiah 30-31
- AUG 15: Jeremiah 32-34
- AUG 16: Jeremiah 35-37
- AUG 17: Jeremiah 38-40; Psalm 74, 79
- AUG 18: 2 Kings 24-25; 2 Chronicles 36
- AUG 19: Habakkuk 1-3
- AUG 20: Jeremiah 41-45

- AUG 21: Jeremiah 46-48
- AUG 22: Jeremiah 49-50
- AUG 23: Jeremiah 51-52
- AUG 24: Lamentations 1,2 and 3:1-36
- AUG 25: Lamentations 3:37-66, 4, 5:1-22
- AUG 26: Ezekiel 1-4
- AUG 27: Ezekiel 5-8
- AUG 28: Ezekiel 9-12
- AUG 29: Ezekiel 13-15
- AUG 30: Ezekiel 16-17
- AUG 31: Ezekiel 18-19

Scripture list courtesy of www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html

Kids Korner

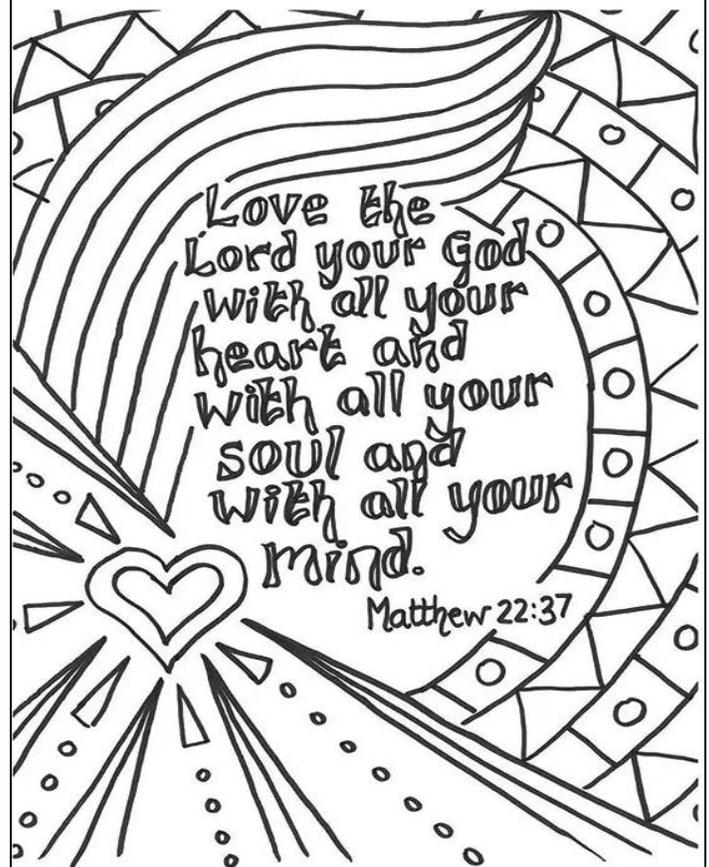


Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. John 14:1

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

G	O	D	W	S	A	V	E	S	I
Y	A	C	E	G	Y	O	U	H	N
L	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	K	B
O	Q	S	Y	T	U	W	Z	D	A
V	F	H	O	J	I	A	M	S	L
E	I	N	U	P	J	L	E	T	S
D	O	3	R	J	O	H	N	R	O
2	1	4	J	E	S	U	S	A	K
M	4	T	R	O	U	B	L	E	D
E	1	P	E	A	C	E	I	H	M

For you to color:



Connect with Us



Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus

Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister
Joshua Powell, Associate Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
(330) 825-7263
www.swccbarberton.com

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 10am

Wednesday Night Live: 5:30 to 7:30pm



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

