



# The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

May 2022

Dear Southwest Family,

*“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. “Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is!”* (Matthew 6:19-23 NLT).

Those words were part of my daily bible reading this morning. It’s a very familiar passage to me, yet it spoke to my heart in a fresh way. That may be because I have been using a different translation than I normally use for my devotional reading—the New Living Translation, but more likely it’s because God was saying something to me that I needed to hear. He has a way of doing that when we search for Him in His Word!

Matthew chapter six is a part of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount; a message that teaches His followers what it looks like to live as citizens of His Kingdom. In these verses, He’s talking about more than money. He is teaching His followers about how we should view possessions in general—how much we accumulate, how much we store up, and ultimately how we should approach the treasures of this world. As I read His words this morning, the question that continued to probe my heart was “Nathan, where is your focus?” That is, “What is it you’re really looking for in life? What are you focusing on?” And the insight Jesus made me powerfully aware of was: ***The things I am focusing on are the things I am moving toward.*** (Make sure and read that twice).

So often, we focus on the “stuff” we possess in this life. The “stuff” may not be inherently bad, as a matter of fact it may be quite necessary and good. However, if our posture toward that “stuff” is to focus on it too much or to hold onto it too tightly, it can distract us from our mission and purpose while we’re here on earth. That’s why Jesus warns us: *“Don’t store up treasures here on earth,”* because where *“your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”* Jesus is warning us about where we are placing our focus. Am I focusing on the transitory and unstable things here, or am I focusing on the eternal and firm things of Christ’s Kingdom?

Yet it was Jesus’ next words that spoke to me the most poignantly: *“Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is!”* Without our eyes, we’re in the dark. It’s only when we see well that light fills us. The point of the metaphor is all about having the right spiritual vision. If our vision is cluttered by materialism and greed, or anything else for that matter, we’ll be spiritually blind. It’s only when we focus on what matters to God, that we’ll be focused on what matters the most. ***The things I am focusing on are the things I am moving toward.***

What are you focusing on? Are your treasures transitory and unstable or are they eternal and firm? What or who has your heart today? What are you moving toward?

Beloved, make Christ the treasure you desire, because then He will give you the desires of your heart.

Peace and Goodwill,  
Nathan Robinson

## Events & Information

### Monthly Figures

In- Service Attendance:

3/27	4/3	4/10	4/17	4/24
78	79	114	115	90

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”* (Acts 2:42). Thank you for your faithfulness church! We continue to have several folks watching online each week. Please continue to pray for our church family – both those in corporate worship and those being reached by our online ministry.

#### Deacon’s List:

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

We are continually blessed by the generosity of God’s people. Thank you for your continued financial support so that we may meet the needs of our ministry staff, missionaries, benevolence ministry, and the general ministry of the church. For your convenience, we would like to remind you that online giving is available 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:**            **Weekly Need:**  
 General: \$3,600            Missions: \$442

**Graduation Sunday:** Save the date- June 5<sup>th</sup>. More information to come. See the Sunday bulletin or talk to Cindy Weaver in the church office.

**VBS is coming soon!:** Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> through Friday the 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be two meetings in May right after church: 5/1 and 5/22. Let Dan know if you’re interested in volunteering. All help is welcomed!

**B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item for May:** Canned ravioli, beef stew, or chili with meat. Place items in the kitchen inside the BACM box.

**Scrapbooking:** The group will not be meeting for the month of May. Check back for information regarding next month.

**“Senior Moment”:** The May “Senior Moment” will be a potluck at noon at our church on May 17<sup>th</sup>, followed by a slide show presentation by Annette Palmer called, “Trees, God’s Hint to Humanity”. If you are 55 or over, please join us and bring a covered dish to share. Questions? See Karen Rummer.

**Soup Kitchen:** Southwest members will be helping on Tuesday 5/31. Thank you for your willingness to serve for Christ’s kingdom! Any questions, see Terry Trump.

**Wednesday Night Live:** Coffee and fellowship begins at 6pm, and studies at 6:30pm. All ages are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to bring your friends, family, or neighbors and get them plugged into learning God’s Word. Our current series for the adult group is “The Prayers of Paul” led by Nathan Robinson.

**Tuesday Morning Ladies Study:** Tuesday mornings at 10 am. We are using Jean E. Syswerda’s book “Women of the Bible”. Cost of the book is \$12. Questions, call Karen Rummer 330-671-7463.

**Rahab Ministries:** They are a faith-based ministry devoted to rescuing and restoring victims of human trafficking. Please consider supporting this ministry financially. Checks may be sent to: Rahab Ministries, One Center for Leadership, 901 Tuscarawas Street, E. Canton, OH 44707

**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. In addition, if you are sick or unable to make it to worship due to your health concerns, we would love to bring communion to you and have someone pray with you. Please contact the church and let us know how we may serve you.

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 VBS Meeting  Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	2	3 Women's Bible Study	4 WNL	5 National Day of Prayer	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10 Women's Bible Study	11 WNL	12	13	14 APS "Walk for Life"
15 Youth Group trip to Round Lake	16	17 Women's Bible Study  "Senior Moment"	18 WNL	19	20	21
22 VBS Meeting  Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	23	24 Women's Bible Study	25 WNL	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31 Women's Bible Study  Soup Kitchen	<p><i>"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17</i></p>			

BIRTHDAYS:	
5/1	Eli Giovanni
5/6	Woody Wilson
5/9	Garland Carr
5/10	Chrissy Roy
5/11	Bourne Phy
5/15	Darlana Wise
5/16	Dan Washburn
5/17	Karen Mercer
5/18	Sally Weber
5/20	Tyler Roy
5/20	Ethel Steele
5/23	Cassidy Washburn

ANNIVERSARIES:	
5/6	Craig & Debbie Easterday
5/8	Ken & Treasure Kriston
5/25	Aaron & Kayla Elliott

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](mailto: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

*“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?”*

*Matthew 6:26*

Spend time with the Lord each day this month by reading the following scriptures. To help commit them to memory, write in a journal or notepad and review daily.

MAY 1: Colossians 1:3-7  
 MAY 2: Colossians 3:15-17  
 MAY 3: I Thessalonians 5:15-22  
 MAY 4: Deuteronomy 6:4-9  
 MAY 5: John 14:1-4  
 MAY 6: John 14:15-21  
 MAY 7: Psalm 27:1-5  
 MAY 8: Psalm 27:6-14  
 MAY 9: Psalm 91:1-8  
 MAY 10: Psalm 91:9-16

MAY 11: Psalm 23:1-6  
 MAY 12: Psalm 121:1-8  
 MAY 13: Psalm 67:1-7  
 MAY 14: Isaiah 55:1-7  
 MAY 15: Isaiah 55:8-13  
 MAY 16: 2 Corinthians 5:11-14  
 MAY 17: 2 Corinthians 5:15-21  
 MAY 18: John 15:1-5  
 MAY 19: John 15:6-11  
 MAY 20: John 15:12-17

MAY 21: Psalm 126:1-6  
 MAY 22: Psalm 19:1-6  
 MAY 23: Psalm 19:7-14  
 MAY 24: Psalm 73:21-26  
 MAY 25: Isaiah 40:1-6  
 MAY 26: Isaiah 40:7-11  
 MAY 27: Isaiah 40:12-17  
 MAY 28: Isaiah 40:18-21  
 MAY 29: Isaiah 40:22-26  
 MAY 30: Isaiah 40:28-31  
 MAY 31: Isaiah 41:1-4

Scripture list courtesy of [www.swtblessings.com](http://www.swtblessings.com)

## Kids Korner



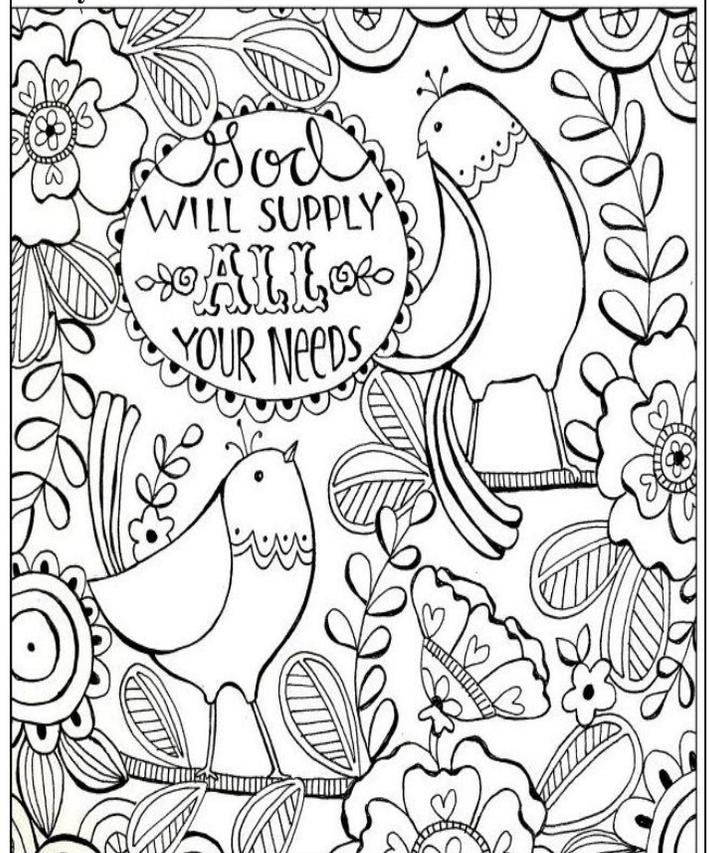
**“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”**

**Philippians 4:19**

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

G	L	A	S	N	B	D	F	H	A	J
K	O	N	M	E	E	T	O	P	C	S
T	G	D	Y	E	4	H	U	W	C	R
A	L	L	Z	D	1	E	A	C	O	I
E	O	G	I	S	4	Y	O	U	R	C
K	R	M	O	L	R	S	V	T	D	H
A	Y	H	L	Y	B	4	1	9	I	E
P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I	A	N	S
E	W	S	J	E	S	U	S	N	G	K
I	O	C	H	R	I	S	T	D	U	B

For you to color:



## Connect with Us



*Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus*

Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister  
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister  
Dan Conway, Youth Minister  
Cindy Weaver, Secretary  
(330) 825-7263  
[www.swccbarberton.com](http://www.swccbarberton.com)  
[www.facebook.com/swccbarberton](http://www.facebook.com/swccbarberton)

### WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 10am

## Youth Ministry

**Zip-lining on May 15th:** We will leave Southwest at 4:30pm to head to Round Lake Wilderness Camp. \$10 for anyone going under the age of 21.

### **Message from Dan:**

I think you've heard them on the last Sunday of the month during service. You've seen them on Sunday mornings running throughout the building, or drawing a crowd of middle school and high school girls. But no doubt you are aware, we are getting much younger in the youth program. At the end of the school year and towards the beginning of the next school year, the oldest in Junior Church will be 8 and the only one that knows how to read sentences. Junior Church will be completely different, and while that is a great thing, it means I need more teachers. Teachers like you potentially?

If you are good with little kids (Ages 4-8), I have a challenge for you. Come and teach those high energy littles about Jesus while Nathan is preaching. For those bold enough to take on this endeavor, remember this- there is a special crown of righteousness and a heavenly reward for those willing and able to teach children about Jesus. I'll give you materials, coloring books, crayons, whatever you need to be a success, just teach. You want volunteer helpers? This high school class specializes in that.

I'll end the begging part with this- the man who made the biggest contribution in my life growing up was an engineer. Jared was his name and his claim to fame was he taught Sunday School, and was just there. Jared is an amazing listener, one of the smartest and most patient men I know (he worked with me as a middle schooler and high schooler, the guy breathes patience and calm). Be someone's Jared. Teach them about Jesus, talk to them about their hobbies, and be in their lives. When Jared gets to Heaven God is going to say, sorry I made you work with Dan, but your patience paid off.

Proverbs 22:6 "*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*" - Teach them about Jesus early and they will stick with them long after they leave Junior Church.

3 John 1:4 "*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.*"

### **Student Highlights:**

They don't get the credit they deserve, but Liz Busch and Madison Tully (Mad-Tully) are two students who have stepped up big time. Both of them are over 18 and will both be over 19 when this is published. These two have stepped into the role of half-student and half-adult leader. Both of them were put to the test at Ohio Teens for Christ, and they aced that test. Their teams were where they were supposed to be, and when they were supposed to be there. They took their leadership responsibilities seriously and succeeded! Liz is faithful to bring friends and is almost always the first person to Youth Group. Maddy has invited both of her sisters, and has been valuable about staying late to protect me from being alone with a student. She has stayed late so it was more than just myself and a middle school girl. I am so proud of them and can't wait to see how they grow in their love for Christ and what God has in store for them in the future.